



Stratford on Avon Methodist Church

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended
31st August 2018

Registered Charity Number: 1152323

C Wiltshire & Co
Chartered Accountants
17 Greenhill Street, Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6LF
E-mail: cw@cwiltshire.co.uk

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2018. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Mission statement, objectives and aims

Mission statement

Our vision is to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those around us and to provide a place of witness and worship for all people. Our aim is to have a dynamic, growing church with warm fellowship and outreach where people of all ages and backgrounds can meet the Lord Jesus Christ and feel part of a caring church family

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are set out in The Methodist Church Act 1976 and include the following:

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 connexial, 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 :
- Worshipping God through prayer, song and other acts of worship including the organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
 - The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
 - The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
 - Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
 - Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
 - Provision of chaplaincy services to Stratford upon Avon Sea Cadets, and Cedar Lawn care home.
 - The charity supports mission work in the UK and overseas including an Overseas Sponsorship scheme, Junior Missionary Association, Action for Children and Methodist Homes for the Aged. Additional support is given to Stratford Street Pastors, Stratford Churches Together, Stratford Ecumenical Homeless Project, and Stratford upon Avon Foodbank.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The Church provides services and organises events resulting in the provision of public worship for all and provides a facility for local groups and organisations to use our premises for the purposes of a wider witness within the Stratford-upon-Avon community.

Public benefit

In preparing these financial statements the Trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Income Trends

Church income is primarily drawn from the Sunday collections, Gift aid tax credit, donations, legacies, fundraising, and gifts from church groups and members (53%); and lettings income paid by external users of the building (43%).

Following redevelopment of church in 2014 our green features have enabled us to export energy to the National Grid yielding just under 2% of annual income

Expenditure Trends

The major cost is in relation to the assessment paid to the Stratford & Evesham Circuit. This amounts to 47% of our total expenditure. The Circuit assessment has not increased for the coming year. A significant amount of the Circuit assessment is used to pay the District assessment, stipends and related costs to ministers.

The other significant expenditures include employment of a Church Co-Ordinator, Family Networker, (14%), maintenance & cleaning of church premises (24%), and Utilities (5%).

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2018 the net current assets of the church were £53,887 giving just over six months' cover for expenditure.

Plans for 2018-19

Church financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis of increasing membership and welcoming more community use of our premises. We have embraced during the year, 'Five Practices of Fruitful Congregation'

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on the church building and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full expenses including the assessment payable to the Circuit.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

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

Organisational structure

The members of the Church Council of Stratford upon Avon Methodist Church are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Church office holders, Minister and representatives appointed by the Church at the annual general meeting.

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the church leadership team along with the minister.

The internal organisations linked to this Church are Everywomans, Avonside Players (drama), Wesleys (mother & toddlers), Men's Meeting Point, Traidcraft, Holiday at Home/Contact the Elderly, Singing Spirits, and Youphonix.

Induction, and continued training of trustees

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the church and the role of Trustees is given to the Church Trustees at various meetings

Wider network

The church is part of the Stratford & Evesham Circuit within the Birmingham District of The Methodist Church, and is accountable to the Methodist Conference.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management and safeguarding

Risk Management

Major risks have been identified and recorded by the Trustees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

The Stratford upon Avon Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Stratford upon Avon Methodist Church commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Stratford on Avon Methodist Church

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1152323

Principal address

Stratford upon Avon Methodist Church Centre
Old Town
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6BG

Trustees

Rev A Simpson
Miss B J Birnie
Mrs S Brown *from March 2018*
Rev J Dobson
D L Dumper
Mrs S A Dumper
Mrs G A Edwards
Mrs M Farmery
S Farmery
Mrs K M Fraser
Mrs S D Giles
W J Giles
Mrs E M Ho
Dr L C Ho
M B Ledgard
D J Loader
Mrs M E Newton
M D Smith
Mrs M J Smith
Miss S D Stroud *from March 2018*
Mrs M Taylor
Mrs J Taylor
Mrs E Walker

The treasurer, Mr David Dumper acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the Church during the year.

Independent examiner

C Wiltshire
Chartered Accountant
C Wiltshire & Co
Chartered Accountants
17 Greenhill Street
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 6LF

Stratford on Avon Methodist Church

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

HSBC
13 Chapel Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6ET

Advisers

Bankers

HSBC, 13 Chapel Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6ET

Investments

Central Board of Finance of Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18th October 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

D L Dumper

Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF STRATFORD ON AVON METHODIST CHURCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Stratford on Avon Methodist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Stratford on Avon Methodist Church (the Trust) for the year ended 31st August 2018.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the 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.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

C Wiltshire

Chartered Accountant

C Wiltshire & Co
Chartered Accountants
17 Greenhill Street
Stratford upon Avon
CV37 6LF

Date: 18th October 2018

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

		Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2018 Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
	Notes				
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	88,874	-	88,874	88,497
Charitable activities	4				
General charitable activities		17,781	-	17,781	16,111
Investment income	3	<u>188</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>134</u>
Total		106,843	-	106,843	104,742
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
General charitable activities		105,869	-	105,869	95,181
Other		<u>-</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>(789)</u>
Total		<u>105,869</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>106,789</u>	<u>94,392</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		974	(920)	54	10,350
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		<u>113,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>113,035</u>	<u>56,842</u>
Net movement in funds		114,009	(920)	113,089	67,192
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,003,694</u>	<u>920</u>	<u>3,004,614</u>	<u>2,937,422</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>3,117,703</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3,117,703</u></u>	<u><u>3,004,614</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Stratford on Avon Methodist Church

**BALANCE SHEET
AT 31ST AUGUST 2018**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2018 Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	3,063,816	-	3,063,816	2,951,665
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	1,631	-	1,631	5,093
Cash at bank and in hand		53,808	-	53,808	49,375
		55,439	-	55,439	54,468
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,552)	-	(1,552)	(1,519)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		53,887	-	53,887	52,949
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,117,703	-	3,117,703	3,004,614
NET ASSETS		3,117,703	-	3,117,703	3,004,614
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				3,117,703	3,003,694
Restricted funds:					
Redevelopment Fund				-	920
TOTAL FUNDS				3,117,703	3,004,614

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 18th October 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:

D L Dumper
Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

With the exception of office equipment, tangible fixed assets are revalued each year in line with the insured value of the Charity's property and other assets. Depreciation is therefore not provided on such assets as in the opinion of the Trustees, such amounts would not be material.

Office equipment is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years or the useful life of the asset if shorter.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Offertories	34,951	34,474
Donations	2,318	1,058
Gift aid	7,680	7,514
Legacies	1,000	11,000
Contributions for use of premises	<u>42,925</u>	<u>34,451</u>
	<u><u>88,874</u></u>	<u><u>88,497</u></u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2018	2017
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>188</u>	<u>134</u>

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		2018	2017
	Activity	£	£
Other income	General charitable activities	<u>17,781</u>	<u>16,111</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct costs (See note 6)	Grant funding of activities (See note 7)	Support costs (See note 8)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
General charitable activities	<u>59,995</u>	<u>44,000</u>	<u>1,874</u>	<u>105,869</u>

6. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2018 £	2017 £
Staff costs	10,483	5,010
Rates and water	324	311
Insurance	2,706	2,556
Light and heat	5,196	4,579
Telephone	930	529
Postage and stationery	1,434	1,349
Internal organisations, mission and outreach	12,070	6,489
Sundries	4,106	3,616
Repairs and maintenance	11,067	15,810
Cleaning	<u>11,679</u>	<u>10,468</u>
	<u>59,995</u>	<u>50,717</u>

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2018 £	2017 £
General charitable activities	<u>44,000</u>	<u>42,590</u>

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
Circuit Assessment	<u>44,000</u>	<u>42,590</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
General charitable activities	<u>1,874</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

8. SUPPORT COSTS - continued

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2018	2017
	General	Total
	charitable	activities
	activities	activities
	£	£
Independent Examiner	990	990
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>884</u>	<u>884</u>
	<u><u>1,874</u></u>	<u><u>1,874</u></u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st August 2018 nor for the year ended 31st August 2017.

One trustee received an honorarium of £1,128 in the current year (2017 £1,198) in their capacity as church organist.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st August 2018 nor for the year ended 31st August 2017.

10. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2018	2017
Lay employees	<u><u>2</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1st September 2017	2,643,889	200,000	110,820	2,954,709
Revaluations	<u>89,764</u>	<u>15,542</u>	<u>7,729</u>	<u>113,035</u>
At 31st August 2018	<u>2,733,653</u>	<u>215,542</u>	<u>118,549</u>	<u>3,067,744</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st September 2017	-	-	3,044	3,044
Charge for year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>884</u>	<u>884</u>
At 31st August 2018	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,928</u>	<u>3,928</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st August 2018	<u>2,733,653</u>	<u>215,542</u>	<u>114,621</u>	<u>3,063,816</u>
At 31st August 2017	<u>2,643,889</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>107,776</u>	<u>2,951,665</u>

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018 £	2017 £
Other debtors	1,631	1,998
Prepayments	<u>-</u>	<u>3,095</u>
	<u>1,631</u>	<u>5,093</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018 £	2017 £
Accrued expenses	<u>1,552</u>	<u>1,519</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.17 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.18 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,003,694	114,009	3,117,703
Restricted funds			
Redevelopment Fund	920	(920)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,004,614</u>	<u>113,089</u>	<u>3,117,703</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	106,843	(105,869)	113,035	114,009
Restricted funds				
Redevelopment Fund	-	(920)	-	(920)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>106,843</u>	<u>(106,789)</u>	<u>113,035</u>	<u>113,089</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.16 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.17 £
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	2,937,295	66,399	3,003,694
Restricted Funds			
Redevelopment Fund	127	793	920
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,937,422</u>	<u>67,192</u>	<u>3,004,614</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	104,738	(95,181)	56,842	66,399
Restricted funds				
Redevelopment Fund	4	789	-	793
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>104,742</u>	<u>(94,392)</u>	<u>56,842</u>	<u>67,192</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.9.16 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.18 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	2,937,295	180,408	3,117,703
Restricted funds			
Redevelopment Fund	<u>127</u>	<u>(127)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,937,422</u>	<u>180,281</u>	<u>3,117,703</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	211,581	(201,050)	169,877	180,408
Restricted funds				
Redevelopment Fund	<u>4</u>	<u>(131)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(127)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>211,585</u>	<u>(201,181)</u>	<u>169,877</u>	<u>180,281</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2018**

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st August 2018.

16. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is controlled by its trustees