

**Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Introduction

The Trustees of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit welcome readers of their annual report covering the financial year ended 31 August 2019

Aims and Organisation

Mission Statement: "To spread the Good News and show the Love of God to the people of Brighton and Hove by word and action, emphasizing inclusiveness and encouragement"

Review of the year

General Operations

The Circuit budgeted for breakeven and in the event there was a surplus of £5.9K.

Student work

Valuable work with students at both Sussex and Brighton Universities, is carried on with a part time lay employee. An application for grant funding is being considered.

The Circuit has supported Sussex Nightstop, a charity caring for homeless young people for the past 4 years during which we raised £10.7K.

Methodist Charities

The Circuit remitted £11.9K to other Methodist charities.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches.

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases.

21.4% (21.3%) of our expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2019 the net current assets of the Circuit were £236.1K (£251.5k)

Plans for 2019/20

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis of the ministerial oversight and pastoral care of three Presbyters (one of whom is engaged for 2/3rds) and one Non-Stipendiary Chaplain, a part time Student Development Worker, a part-time Children and Families Worker and a part-time Administrator at the anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district.

A provision for maintenance of manses at the recommended rate of £4,000 per manse is also incorporated.

Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit
Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Brighton and Hove for 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 discipline of The Methodist church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organization 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 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 the local university and other institutions.

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

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

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

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting.

Trustee Training

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

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the South East District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the Circuit:

- Dorset Gardens
- Hove
- Patcham
- Stanford Avenue
- Woodingdean

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	176,716			176,716	163,358
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	735	674		1,409	887
a5	Grants	11,114			11,114	9,619
a6	Other receipts					
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	188,565	674		189,239 (a8)	173,864

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	120,196		10,764	130,960	127,826
b3	Manse Costs	23,629			23,629	23,885
b4	Administration etc	9,708			9,708	9,299
b5	District Assessment	39,014			39,014	38,546
b6	Grants & donations	402			402	15,621
b7	Levy TMCP		3,379		3,379	4,322
b8	Other payments	779			779	4,495
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	193,728	3,379	10,764	207,871 (b9)	223,994

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(5,163) (a7-b9)	(2,705) (b9)	(10,764) (b9)	(18,632) (b9)	(50,130) (b9)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	134,484	109,487	19,572	263,543 (c6)	313,673
c3	Sub total	129,321 (c1+c2)	106,782 (c1+c2)	8,808 (c1+c2)	244,911 (c1+c2)	263,543 (c6)
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	129,321 (c3+c4)	106,782 (c3+c4)	8,808 (c3+c4)	244,911 (c8)	263,543 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					66
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				13,487	14,980
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				13,487	15,046
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any 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 and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

- (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;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

** Please circle as appropriate*

Name	<input type="text" value="Stuart J Neate"/>
Signature	<input type="text"/>
Relevant Professional qualification or body	<input type="text" value="FMAAT Retired"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="23 Surrenden Lodge, Surrenden Road
BRIGHTON"/>
Date	<input type="text" value="28.10.2019"/>