

Barton on Sea Methodist Church

Annual Report for the year ending 31st August 2020

1. Administrative Information

1.1. Barton on Sea Methodist Church is a registered charity (1135451).

1.2. The Managing Trustees of the charity are

Mr R Betts	Mrs C Doogan	
Mr D Hancock	Mrs W Hancock	Mrs M Havers
Miss S A Hewitt	Rev M Keenan(Chair)	Mr C Levett
Mrs V McCallum	Mrs R Moir	Mrs K Phillips
Miss J Stevens	Mr J Stopher	Mr M Stopher
Miss E Ward	Mrs A White	

1.3. The Custodian Trustees are The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

1.4. The Church's bankers are Lloyds Bank, 40 Station Road, New Milton and the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonehill Street, London EC2A 4PE.

1.5. The Church engages advisers for legal affairs and property services as required.

2. Structure and Governance

2.1. Barton on Sea Methodist Church was founded in 1934 with the present church building being erected in 1970. The ancillary premises have been added at varying times since the 1950's. The Church is part of the Christchurch and Wimborne Circuit. It is governed by the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church as set out in the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD).

2.2. The Church Council has 16 members and meets three times a year.

2.3. The Charities Acts require the managing trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the Church at the end of the financial year.

2.4. The Church Treasurer is responsible on behalf of the managing trustees for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Church and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. The Church Council appoints members to the Pastoral Committee and Finance & Property Committee.

- 2.5. The following Forums are open to anyone interested in an area of the Church's Work: Worship and Prayer Forum, Mission and Outreach Forum.
- 2.6. The Church Council is responsible for ensuring that proper procedures are adopted for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults associated with the church activities. A Safeguarding Co-ordinator is appointed to administer checking procedures, training and to act as point of contact.
- 2.7. The managing trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Property is overseen by members of the Property and Finance Committee whose members are appointed by the Church Council.
- 2.8. The following groups are associated to the church but operate separate bank accounts that are subject to independent examination: Barton Pre-school, Barton Short Mat Bowls Club, Social Club, Meeting Point, Parent, Toddlers and Babies Group, Revive Café.
- 2.9. A General Church Meeting is held in March/April each year. The Meeting did not take place in this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The meeting receives reports on the activities and achievements of the Church and affiliated activities and appoints church stewards and representatives to the Church Council.
- 2.10. The Church has 5 employees, responsible for running the Pre-school.

3. Objectives and activities

3.1. Church Mission Statement

To know Christ and to make Him known

We exist to encourage and celebrate a loving relationship with God

To that end we will endeavour to:

- *make followers of Jesus Christ by sharing our faith,*
- *be a good neighbour and share God's love,*
- *offer a warm welcome in a safe place,*
- *grow closer to God through Prayer, Bible Study and Worship,*
- *use our talents for God's purposes and*
- *challenge injustice*

3.2 The Church's aims are:

- the provision of regular public acts of worship, events and services open to all,
- to provide for all ages a sacred space for prayer, contemplation and meeting for the furtherance of God's work in Barton on Sea,
- local and international Christian outreach, teaching and support, pastoral work and contact with local community groups and care homes.

4. Achievements and Performance

- 4.1. From March 2020 all the regular activities of the church ceased as the premises were closed during the Covid-19 lockdown. During lockdown the church distributed a weekly service by email to over 100 people. Pastoral visitors kept in contact with many members of the congregation
- 4.2 **None of the activities 4.3 to 4.6 took place**, however the Barton Pre School opened in June in accordance with government guidelines
A full Covid-19 risk assessment was approved by the Church Council in August and Church services recommenced in September 2020, but other activities remained closed.
- 4.3. The Church holds regular public acts of worship on Sundays at 10.30am and once a month in the evening which is a joint service with the Parish Church. A service is held every Tuesday morning and once a month this is a prayer service.
- 4.4. Regular weekly activities include weekly Bible Study and special services for groups within the church.
- 4.5. The following church groups meet weekly: Barton Pre School, Meeting Point, Short Mat Bowls Club, Social Club, Parent, Toddlers and Babies Group, and Revive Café.
- 4.6. The Church is host to an Ecumenical Lunch Club held weekly catering for up to 60/70 elderly people.
- 4.7. The premises are used regularly by locally community groups, Rainbows, Barton Townswomen's Guild, Pilates, Milton Music Society, New Milton and Barton Flower Club and Western Line Dancing.
- 4.8. The Church's Outreach includes the support of: The New Forest Basics Bank, Lymington Hospital League of Friends, Christian Housing Association, New Milton Carers Group, Traidcraft.
- 4.9. The Church supports the following financially: Methodist World Mission Fund, Mission in Britain Fund, Methodist Homes, Action for Children and Christian Aid.
- 4.10. The Church buildings are well maintained, but there are two items of work required:
 - 4.10.1 Some re-felting of the roof covering the lounge, kitchen, vestry and meeting room. Further work will be required once funds are available.
 - 4.10.2 New carpeting was laid in the Welcome area and corridor
 - 4.10.3 The Quinquennial Inspection in August gave a good report. However there is a need to revise our fire strategy for the Church only.

5. Financial review

5.1. As at 31st August 2020, the cash and investments of the church totalled £130,306 (2019- £155,722) a decrease from the previous year of £25,416. This decrease was largely due to a £17,672 reduction in the value of shares and investments.

5.2. The above does not include the church buildings which have an insurance value of £2.3M.

5.3. Unrestricted Funds as at 31st August 2020 comprise:

General and Property Fund **£32,768** (2019 £40,952)

A reduction in general giving and fundraising of £9,083 and a loss of lettings income of £4,258 accounted for this loss. A reduction in expenditure of £5,157 helped to offset these losses.

5.4. Restricted Funds are

Flower Fund	£179	
Youth Work Fund	£497	
Property Development Fund	£2,307	
Benevolence Fund	£500	
Lounge Roof repairs Fund	£8,051	
Carpet Fund	-£3,168	
Audio Visual Fund	£1,000	
Total	£9,366	(2019 £8,924)

5.5. Designated Fund

Marjorie Spence Bequest	Cash	£49,113	
	Shares	£39,058	
	Total	£88,171	(2019 £105,843)

6. Reserves Policy

6.1. The Church aims to hold reserves of at least £37,000 being 6 months expenditure, currently the General Fund stands at £32,769

6.2. Designated Fund - Marjorie Spence Bequest. Used to support church mission and major projects.

6.3. Restricted Funds – Benevolence Fund
Property Development Fund
Flower Fund
Youth Fund
Lounge Roof Fund
Carpet Fund
Audio Visual Fund

All used for the purpose for which the money was given

.....  Chair – Rev Martin Keenan

..... 7th DECEMBER 2020 Date

Name of Church ...BARTON ON SEA METHODIST..... No...26/10.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date 19/09/20.....

Name and address of treasurer ...Michael Stopher...8, Mitchell Close, Barton on Sea, New Milton,
Hampshire Post Code BH25 7BX

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 ^{was} ~~were~~ ^{will be*} presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 14th OCTOBER 2020

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting ...REV. M. L. KEENAN... Date 14/10/20.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Barton on Sea Methodist Church

Charity Number 1135451

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Barton on Sea Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages 2 and 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church Barton on Sea Methodist..... No 26/10.

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.

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

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

Signature of independent examiner *ABoyce*

Name of independent examiner Alan Boyce

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address Sedges, Shorefield Crescent, Milford on Sea, Lymington, Hampshire

..... Post Code SO41 0PD

Date *9.10.20*

* delete or circle as appropriate