

Barton on Sea Methodist Church

Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2023

1. Administrative Information

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

1.2. The Managing Trustees of the charity are:

Revd. P Crispin (Chair)	Miss S A Hewitt	Mr J Stopher
Mr R Betts	Mr T Holden	Mr M Stopher
Mrs A Dean	Mr C Levett	Miss E Ward
Mr D Hancock	Mrs V McCallum*	Mrs A White
Mrs W Hancock	Mr A Moir	Mr Rob White**
Mr G Havers	Mrs R Moir	
Mrs M Havers	Mr C Slade	

* Resigned during year. ** Appointed during year.

Note: Consequent on the loss of a Circuit Minister who would have had pastoral charge of the church, the Revd. Pauline Crispin (the Circuit Superintendent) was de-facto in pastoral charge of the church during this year.

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 Bonhill Street, London EC2A4PE.

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

2. Structure and Governance

2.1. Barton on Sea Methodist Church was founded in 1932 with the present church building being built in 1970/71. 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 19 members and meets three times a year. It appoints the Church Treasurer and members to the Finance and Property Committee and Pastoral Committee.

2.3. The Charities Acts require the Church Council, as 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.

- 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 managing trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper procedures are adopted for the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults associated with the church activities. A Safeguarding Coordinator is appointed annually by the Church Council 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.
- 2.8. The following groups are associated to the church but operate separate bank accounts that are subject to independent examination: Barton Pre-school, Parents, Toddlers and Babies Group, Barton Short Mat Bowls Club and Meeting Point (which ceased to meet in July 2023).
- 2.9. A General Church Meeting is normally held in April/May each year. 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 3 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 The Church holds a public act of worship on Sundays at 10.30am. There is a small Music Group which frequently supports the congregational singing.
- 4.2 The church also distributes a weekly service by email to over 100 people. The email also provides updates and information on church events and activities. Pastoral visitors have kept in contact with many members of the congregation.
- 4.3 Regular activities include coffee mornings for members and the community, sessions of Bible Study and special services for groups within the church.
- 4.4 The following church groups meet regularly: Barton Pre School, Parents, Toddlers and Babies Group, Meeting Point (now ceased to meet) and Short Mat Bowls Club
- 4.5 The Church is host to an Ecumenical Lunch Club held fortnightly, catering for up to 60/70 elderly people. This was founded by the church in 1972 and was an initiative of the then minister Revd. David S James but is now run independently.
- 4.6 The premises are normally used regularly by local community groups, Rainbows, Barton Townswomen's Guild, Pilates, Milton Musical Society, and Line Dancing.
- 4.7 The Church's Outreach includes the support of: Fairtrade, New Forest Basics Bank, Methodist Homes, Action for Children and Christian Aid.
- 4.8 The Church supported the following financially during the year: Action for Children, Christian Aid and the Ukraine Appeal.
- 4.9 The Church buildings are well maintained. Major repairs have been carried out to the roof covering the lounge, vestry and meeting room. Sufficient funds have been made available from the Marjorie Spence Bequest Fund to completely replace the felt and, the roof tiles as well, together with associated insulation work.
- 4.10 Broadband/Wi-Fi has been installed in the church premises.
- 4.11 Audio visual facilities have been upgraded, ready for use in worship as required.
- 4.12 Bransgore Methodist Church having closed, the members (the majority of whom have transferred their membership to Barton) have gifted to Barton the church's electronic organ and also transferred to Barton the custody of a full set of handbells, which had originally been gifted to Bransgore by the Bell family.

5. Financial review

5.1 As at 31st August 2023, the cash and investments of the church totalled £ 127,757 (2022 £149,283), a decrease from the previous year of £21,526.

5.2 The above does not include the church buildings which have an insurance value of £2.9M.

5.3 Unrestricted Funds as at 31st August 2023 comprise: General and Property Fund £19,607 (2022 £19,472).

5.4 Restricted Funds are:

Flower Fund	£750	
Youth Work Fund	£404	
Property Development Fund	£2,307	
Benevolence Fund	£500	
Lounge Roof repairs Fund.	-£1362	
Audio Visual Fund	£519	
Parents, Toddlers & Babies Fund	£37	
Barton Short Mat Bowls Club	£303	
Total	£3,458	(2022 £26,620)

5.5 Designated Fund

The Marjorie Spence Bequest	Cash	£44,498	
	Shares	£60,194	
	Total	£104,692	(2022 £103,191)

6. Reserves Policy

6.1 The Church aims to hold reserves of at least £37,000 being 6 months expenditure, currently the General and Property Fund stands at £19,607

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

6.3 Restricted Funds - All used for the purpose for which the money was given.



.....Chair

..20 February 2024..Date

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Barton on Sea Methodist	Church
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2023**

Christchurch and Wimborne	Circuit	Circuit no.	26/10
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	1135451
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If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number	
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(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

NONE

Church Stewards:

Mrs M Havers
Mr C Levett
Miss E Ward
Miss S Hewitt

Treasurer:

Mr M Stopher

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	48,443	3,599	52,042	48,201
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	4,094		4,094	2,230
a4	Lettings	7,732		7,732	8,566
a5	Other receipts	6,219	1,228	7,447	3,517
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,488	4,827	71,315 (a7)	62,514

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	44,250		44,250	44,364
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	9,416		9,416	6,841
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	9,130		9,130	8,044
b6					
b7	Other payments	3,556	37,990	41,546	5,733
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	66,352	37,990	104,342 (b9)	64,982

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	135	(33,163)	(33,027)	(2,468)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	73,971	26,619	100,590 (c6)	93,673	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	74,106	(6,544)	67,563	91,205
c4	Transfers and adjustments	(10,000)	10,000		9,385	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	64,106	3,456	67,563 (c8)	100,590 (c6)

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			2,787	2,377
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			2,787	2,377
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Barton Pre School	39,806	29,584	10,222		5,090	15,312
e2 Meeting Point	2,128	2,370	(243)		243	0
e3 Parents and Toddlers	382	127	255		142	397
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	42,316	32,081	10,234		5,475 (e11)	15,709 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page totals column)	71,315 (a7)	104,342 (b9)	(33,027)	(c7)	100,590 (c6)	67,563 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	113,631	136,424	(22,793)		106,065 (x)	83,272 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	32	61
f2 Bank Current Account	28,438	2,971
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	17,622	20,033
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	54,498	44,498
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	100,590 (c6)	67,563 (c8)
f8 funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	5,475 (e11)	15,709 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	106,065 (x)	83,272 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	48,693	60,194
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re insurance value)	2,448,114	2,795,725
g3 Other Assets	114,935	131,255
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church . Barton on Sea Methodist Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 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..... 14/09/2023

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

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were ~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 17th October 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting PETER McNEILL Date 19/11/2023

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 2023 set out on pages 1 to 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 Church

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.

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 *Alan Boyce*

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 4/11/2023.

* delete or circle as appropriate