

Charity number: 1166061
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2019.

SECTION A: REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

LEGAL STATUS
Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church has been in existence since 1882 and operated as in unincorporated and unregistered charity for many years.

The current governing document of the church is the Church Constitution, as adopted on 27th January 2016. On 15th March 2016, the church was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and the charity number is 1166061.

CHURCH ADDRESS
91, The Avenue, Hetton-le-Hole, Tyne & Wear, DH5 9DH

CHARITY TRUSTEES
The governance of the Church is in accordance with the Church Constitution dated 27th January 2016 which is based on the Approved Governing Document agreed between the Charity Commission and the Independent Methodist Connexion of Churches.

The trustees of the church are the Elders and Deacons, who together are known as the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team is responsible for the spiritual direction of the Church, worship and prayer, discipleship and outreach, as well as the statutory obligation of overseeing the administration of the Church as charity trustees, outlined below.

Elders and Deacons are elected annually and may offer themselves for re-election at the end of the term with no limitation on the number of terms they may serve. No member of the Leadership receives payment other than the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.

Trustees at 31 December 2025 were:

Shaun Newton	Elder
Keith Robinson	Deacon
Gill Tweddle	Elder
Beryl Wakefield	Deacon
David Wakefield	Deacon
Ruth Wilson	Deacon
Paula Wright	Deacon

PROPERTY TRUSTEES
The Independent Methodist Association Incorporated, Fleet Street, Pemberton, Wigan, WN5 0DS is the holding trustee of the church premises located at The Avenue, Hetton-le-Hole, Tyne & Wear, DH5 9DH.

No professional valuation of these properties has been made in recent years and the values shown in the Accounts are the current insured values.

BANKERS	Barclays Bank, Fawcett Street, Sunderland
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Miss Moira Cansfield

SECTION B: STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. CONSTITUTION
Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church used a pre-approved document agreed by the Charity Commissioners and the Independent Methodist Connexion and then customised the document to reflect the practices and policies of the Church. This constitution was approved on 27th January 2016.

b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES
The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Charity Trustees who are elected under the terms of the Constitution that was approved at the Church Meeting on 27th January 2016.

c. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING
The Trustees usually meet on a regular basis to review the work of the Charity. The Trustees also meet with fellow Church members once a quarter for the Church Business Meeting. The Church Business Meeting passes day to day responsibility of the running of the church to the Trustees. For general decisions about the work of the Charity, the Charity Trustees research a given subject, and recommends specific course(s) of action to the next Church meeting. For major projects, the Charity Trustees will also look to the Church membership to sit on “sub committees” to bring specific knowledge and skill sets for the advancement of the committee. “Sub committees” report to the Charity Trustees who in turn bring recommendations to the Church meeting. The Church meeting then sets policy by voting on the recommendation(s). Church Members meetings are held quarterly.

d. RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS
The Church is in membership of the Independent Methodist Connexion of Churches, the North East Circuit of Independent Methodist Churches, Churches Together in Easington Lane and Hetton and also the Evangelical Alliance.

SECTION C: OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES
The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith through the spiritual and mission work of the Church. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

b. STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES
The strategy for achieving these objectives is by the provision and upkeep of premises that can be used as a place of worship as well as for other activities and the provision of religious, spiritual and social activities either on its own or with others that will vary from time to time. Some of these activities will be organized by the Church itself whilst others will be organized by the Church departments, which ultimately are also the responsibility of the Church.

c. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The Trustees are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of church life. The Trustees maintain an overview of all the activities of the church and make suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our community.

When planning any activities for the year, the Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church through:

- Worship, prayer and small groups
- Provision of pastoral care for people.
- Missionary and outreach work.
- A range of social activities to introduce as many people as possible with our church.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our premises.

Each department has its own activities that are relevant to the group's objectives and the policy/objectives of the church.

d. VOLUNTEERS
The charity is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its small army of volunteers who are involved in service provision. It is impossible to accurately estimate how many volunteer hours were provided during the year. The accounts attached would look significantly different if the volunteers had been paid employees. This time is given freely and willingly and does not appear in any financial accounts produced by Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church.

SECTION D: ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

a. REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES
The Charity Trustees review the work of the Church at their regular meetings as well as with other church members at quarterly church meetings.

All the departments provide an annual report for consideration at the Annual Church Members Meeting.

The Church continues to reach out into the community and welcomes all to its activities.

The Church has continued throughout the year to provide both morning and evening Sunday Services together with our Sunday School in addition to our regular young people's work and also Prayer Meetings, Bible Studies, Women's Meetings, Craft Clubs, Days of Prayer & Fasting and special evangelistic events.

Our Sunday Worship Services continue to be hybrid services using Zoom and our Prayer Meetings and Bible Studies continue to be online only.

Our links with the local schools continued with fortnightly assemblies in local Primary Schools and those same schools participated in Bible Comes Alive and visited the church as part of our Christmas Programme.

A great amount of time and money has been spent in updating the building and the equipment to ensure we keep everything well maintained and suitable for use.

The schoolroom and the church were both fully rewired together with a fire alarm system installed both in the hall and in the church. This came at considerable cost most of which was covered by grant funding.

During the year the church secured £33,040 in grant funding. This restricted funding supported our youth work and significant building and maintenance expenditure, including the major electrical rewiring project and associated works. Restricted expenditure during the year totalled £33,880 and was funded in part by £840 of restricted funds brought forward from the previous year.

The total income for the year was £62,939.72 and expenditure was £62,209.95, producing a small surplus of £729.77.

With the prospect of the need for a new church roof in the next few years the balance will be used.

SECTION E: FINANCIAL REVIEW

a. FINANCIAL REVIEW

2025 saw the primary source of income change from the giving of Church members and adherents to grant funding as the church undertook the major rewiring project.

With an overall income of £62,939.72 freewill offerings accounted for 32% of income at £20,297.09; gift aid at 9.05% (£5,698.53) and grant income of 52.5% (£33,040).

At £34,452.29 buildings and maintenance including the rewiring project accounted for 55.38% of the total expenditure of £62,209.95 and combined youth and event costs accounting for 18% of the year's total expenditure at £11,149.81 which are in line with the charity's strategy of the provision and upkeep of premises, the provision of activities and charitable giving to those in need.

The year end saw the church make a small surplus for the year. The church will continue to maintain the preventative maintenance programme whilst continuing its schedule of activities and events.

b. RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves Policy for Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church is to hold a sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on the premises and to be able to continue in the short term and funding planned activities in the event of the loss of a major source of income. £30k of the reserves is designated for a new roof fund which will be needed within the next five years

c. DEFICIT

The charity generated an overall surplus of £729.77 for the year. Restricted funds generated a deficit of £840.00, reflecting expenditure on the restricted youth and building projects in excess of restricted grant income during the year. This deficit was fully covered by the restricted balance brought forward of £840.00, resulting in a nil restricted fund balance at 31 December 2025.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	2025			2024
Income	**Unr**	**Rest**	**Total**	**Total**
Offerings - Gift Aided	11534.12		11534.12	11364.00
Offerings – Non Gift Aided	8762.97		8762.97	8341.05
Funeral & Wedding Fees	1630.00		1630.00	2275.00
Funeral & Wedding Offerings	206.32		206.32	149.71
Donations Inc. Flowers	902.20		902.20	1010.80
Event Income	592.00		592.00	958.35
HMRC	5698.53		5698.53	-
Bank Interest	573.58		573.58	645.91
Grants		33040.00	33040.00	11621.24
Total Income	**29899.72**	**33040.00**	**62939.72**	**36366.06**
Expenditure				
Ministers Expenses	1930.00		1930.00	2115.00
Energy & Power	4724.75		4724.75	3582.21
Donations & Gifts	5300.39		5300.39	4872.48
Administration	484.25		484.25	795.20
Events/Outreach	6230.91		6230.91	9543.17
Youth	1268.90	3650.00	4918.90	2976.27
Buildings & Maintenance	4222.29	30230.00	34452.29	13906.63
Household	70.64		70.64	131.29
Church Insurance	2191.04		2191.04	1980.16
Audio Visual	1052.78		1052.78	852.82
Memberships	854.00		854.00	780.00
Total Expenditure	**28330.00**	**33880.00**	**62209.95**	**41535.23**
Surplus / Deficit for the Year	**1569.77**	**-840.00**	**729.77**	**-5169.17**
Balance brought forward	**50795.82**	**840.00**	**51635.82**	**56804.99**
Balance carried forward	**52365.59**	**-**	**52365.59**	**51635.82**
Current Account			5613.77	
Tracker Account			44157.23	
Cash in hand			2594.59	
Total			**52365.59**	

SECTION F: DECLARATION

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Annual Report and the accompanying Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 were approved by the Trustees and the Church Annual General Meeting and we are authorised to sign the Report on their behalf.

Shaun Newton
Chair of Trustees
04/02/2026

Beryl Wakefield
Secretary of the Trustees
04/02/2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hetton-le-Hole Independent Methodist Church

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on page 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner
The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:
- examine the financial statements under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

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 financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustee 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 financial statements 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:
- 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 2011 Act; and
    - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

  have not been met; or
- to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

(Signed)

M. Cansfield

Moira Cansfield
31 January 2026