

Charity Number: 514361

**GREAT ECCLESTON FREE
METHODIST CHURCH**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2022**

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

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GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Legal and administrative information

Principal Address:	Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church Hall Lane Great Eccleston Preston PR3 0XN
Governing Document:	Trust Deed sealed on 21 April 1983 as amended by scheme dated 9 March 2000, this makes all members of the Official Board (now known as the Church Leadership Team) of Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church Trustees.
Objects of the Charity:	The furtherance of the religious and other charitable work of the Free Methodist Church of North America (United Kingdom District).
Specific Investment Powers:	The Church has a single, General Fund, deposit account with Virgin Money. During the year 2022 two bank accounts were held by the Church: <i>General fund current account</i> - Santander UK plc. <i>General fund deposit account</i> - Virgin Money
Bankers:	Santander UK plc Customer Service Centre Bootle L30 4GB Virgin Money Savings Operations Jubilee House Gosforth Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL
Independent Examiner:	CWR Chartered Accountants, 20 Mannin Way Lancaster Business Park Caton Road Lancaster LA1 3SW

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Trustees and Governance

The trustees legally responsible for the control and management of the charity during 2022 were as follows: (All trustees, with the exception of Mr B Gibbons, Mrs C Halsall, Mrs M Horrocks, Mr C Matthews and Mrs D Montgomery acted for the whole of 2022).

Rev. Stephen Dunn	(Chairman)
Mr. Brian Gibbons	(Resigned 26 th September 2022)
Miss Alison Groves	(Secretary)
Mrs Colleen Halsall	(Appointed 26 th September 2022)
Mrs Muriel Horrocks	(Resigned 26 th September 2022)
Mrs Christine E Kelsall	(Treasurer)
Mr. Christopher Matthews	(Appointed 26 th September 2022)
Mrs Donna Montgomery	(Resigned 18 th January 2022)
Mr. Robert Tomkins	(Church Delegate and Vice Chairman from 8 th September 2021)

Trustee selection method: Trustees are nominated by Members of the Society of the Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church. Those nominated are then confirmed or selected by secret ballot of Society Members at an Annual Society Meeting (ASM).

Charity's Custodian Trustees: Assets are held by the Trustees of the Church (the Trustees listed above.)

Activities and Achievements

The Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church is part of a worldwide network of "Free Methodist" churches and one of a number of Free Methodist Churches in the United Kingdom Conference. Each Church is an individual charity with its own Charity Document while the Spiritual ethos is laid down in the Free Methodist Book of Discipline.

The vision statement of Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church is 'To be a People Transformed by God's Love - Taking His Life Changing Presence into our Communities.' Our purpose statement 'To Love God and Love People'.

We seek to live out our vision through

- RENEWING hearts and minds - As a church, we have a passion for people to discover God's love, and through this love to know the renewing of their hearts and minds, and so experience God's transforming power in their lives.
 - We provide various opportunities for people to meet together in worship, prayer and in fellowship where preaching and teaching can be received in a welcoming environment.
- RESTORING hope - As a church, we desire to be rooted in the love of God and demonstrate this love to restore hope to lives where hope has been lost, and this in turn has the potential to bring restoration to our relationships and to whole communities.
 - We offer a number of ministries for most ages groups where friendships can be formed and supported.
- REBUILDING lives - As a church, we believe that we were made to be in loving relationship, firstly with God, but also then with one another. We believe that Jesus came to bring healing from past wounds and to rebuild healthy relationships into our lives.
 - We seek to be a community where people feel they belong and are safe.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Throughout the close year, we held the following regular events in addition to Sunday morning worship and young Church (previously called Sunday School).

- Tiddlers (parent and toddler's group).
- Kidz Club (school years 1 to 4).
- Kidz Club Plus (school years 5 and above).
- Connect Groups (for friendship, discussion and encouragement as we connect together).
- Free weekly Community Coffee Morning.
- Prayer and Praise on alternate Sunday evenings.

We have held several regular events across the community for the general public benefit:

- After 2 years of cancellations due to Covid, it was good to see a return of Great Eccleston Agricultural Show in July this year where we again hosted a tent providing a rest stop, children's craft activities a quiz and displays of church activities.
- In the Autumn, with concern over the increasing cost of living we opened up the Church for a weekly "Warm Welcome" event providing a safe, warm space with soup, crafts and board games.
- Autumn also saw us start a new work Church Orchard – to create the Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church Community Garden – a place for people to grow both physically and spiritually.

We have also sought to care for the local bereaved, sick and those going through difficult times by our flower, card and visitation ministries. At Christmastime, each home within the local community received a Christmas invitation to welcome them to join us for our Christmas events.

Throughout 2022 Steve Dunn has continued to serve as lead pastor, a role which was made a full time position from January 2022.

We are thankful to God for His continued provision of gifts, tithes and offerings for the work at Great Eccleston, the support of ministries and charities in the United Kingdom and across the world.

The Church benefits from many voluntary hours and unclaimed out of pocket expenses contributed by a significant number of people. It would be impossible to place a value on these gifts in kind for which the Trustees are extremely grateful.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

The attached Financial Statements show the Church's financial position at the end of 2022 which the Trustees consider to be sound.

Policies

Reserve Policy: That the balance of the Church's General fund is to be maintained so as sufficient to provide cover for 3 months typical expenditure – with this in mind the minimum reserve is currently set at £17,500.


Investments Selection Policy: A range of Building Society and Bank accounts available to charities, and therefore, tax free for tax exempt charities, were considered by the Official Board of the Church. Those chosen were those giving the highest rate of interest.

Signature and Declaration

Declaration: I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that:

- the trustees have approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature:


.....

Full Name:

Rev Stephen Dunn

Position:

Pastor and Chair of the Church Leadership Team

Date:

4/12/..... 2023

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF GREAT ECCLESTON FREE
METHODIST CHURCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

The charity's 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 accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is shown below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.


Phillip Dennison FCCA FCA
CWR
Chartered Accountants
20 Mannin Way
Lancaster Business Park
Caton Road
Lancaster
LA1 3SW

Date 5/12/2023

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022


	Note	General £	Unrestricted Funds Designated £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds For the Year Ended 31 December 2022 £	Total Funds For the Year Ended 31 December 2021 £
Incoming Resources						
Generated Funds						
Voluntary Income:						
Tithes & Offerings (including Gift Aid)	1	28,092	-	-	28,092	24,099
Income Tax Recoverable (Gift Aid)	1	3,512	-	-	3,512	2,882
Donations		2,240	-	-	2,240	390
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-
Gifts for Specific Purposes		-	430	561	991	652
Gain on disposal of Furniture		70	-	-	70	91
Investment Income:						
Bank Interest		442	-	-	442	94
Grazing Rent - Lodge Farm		-	7,489	-	7,489	6,761
Rent - Rehoboth		-	7,800	-	7,800	8,400
Rent - Great Eccleston Lodge		-	12,412	-	12,412	8,991
Charitable Activities						
Football Team Income		-	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources		34,356	28,131	561	63,048	52,360
Resources Expended						
Charitable Expenditure						
Charitable Activities	2	65,688	-	1,163	66,851	56,275
Governance Costs	12	1,926	-	-	1,926	1,776
Other	3	-	20,830	-	20,830	2,273
Total Resources Expended		67,614	20,830	1,163	89,607	60,324
Transfer Between Funds	15	6,586	(6,586)	-	-	-
Net Movements in Funds		(26,672)	715	(602)	(26,559)	(7,964)
Reconciliation of Funds						
Balances Brought Forward 1st January 2022		976,879	6,586	602	984,067	992,031
Balances Carried Forward 31st December 2022		<u>950,207</u>	<u>7,301</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>957,508</u>	<u>984,067</u>

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Land and Buildings	4	890,880	890,880
Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	5	5,136	2,641
Motor Vehicles	5	2,153	2,870
		898,169	896,391
Current Assets			
Debtors and Prepayments	6	7,914	9,394
Cash at Bank		53,956	82,306
Cash in Hand		-	-
		61,870	91,700
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,531)	(4,024)
Net Current Assets		59,339	87,676
Net Assets		957,508	984,067
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds:			
General Fund		52,038	80,488
Fixed Asset Fund		898,169	896,391
Designated Fund	15	7,301	6,586
Restricted Funds	8	-	602
Total Funds		957,508	984,067

These accounts were approved by the trustees on the 4/12/23 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Rev S Dunn

The notes on pages 10 to 15 form part of these accounts

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting basis

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

Going Concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Funds

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the Trustees & Church Leadership Team are responsible in law.

Unrestricted funds are those available to the Trustees and Church Leadership Team for general use without restriction, in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

Designated Funds (unrestricted) are those, where donors have expressed a preference, without imposing a trust, or unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes, details of which are given in note 15.

Restricted Funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. Restricted funds are detailed in note 8.

No accounts of informal gatherings of church members are included, as these are not under the direct control of the Church Leadership Team.

Incoming Resources

Tithes and Offerings are recognised when received by or on behalf of the Church. Income under gift aid is recognised only when received, and income tax recoverable is calculated on income actually received.

Gifts in Kind

The church benefits from many voluntary hours and unclaimed out of pocket expenses contributed by a large number of people. It would be impossible to place a value on these gifts in kind for which we are extremely grateful.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Freehold Land and Buildings

The church buildings have been included at their insurance valuation at 1/1/97.

Land and buildings at Lodge Farm, Hall Lane, Great Eccleston, have been included at probate valuation at 15 September 2005. Renovations and alterations to Lodge Farm are included at cost.

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment

Assets were valued by the Trustees at 1/1/97. Later additions are at cost, with items under £500 being written off in year of purchase.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of the asset as follows:

Land and Buildings	-	Nil
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	-	25% Reducing Balance
Motor Vehicles	-	25% Reducing Balance

Governance Costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts.

Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Funds accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds - these are funds which can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions apply when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further details of the purpose of each fund are included in the note to the financial statements.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1. Income Tax Recoverable

Income Tax recoverable includes a debtor of £5,869 in respect of tax to be claimed on gift aid for the 2021 to 2022 financial years.

2. Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total	Total
	General	Designated		For the year ended 31 December 2022	For the year ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Pastor Stipend	35,860	-	-	35,860	15,758
Church Worker	22	-	-	22	16,252
Manse running costs	621	-	-	621	625
Church running costs	9,639	-	562	10,201	10,632
Minibus expenses	2,548	-	30	2,578	734
Visiting preachers expenses	515	-	-	515	190
Outreach and Evangelism	2,302	-	50	2,352	2,124
Giving and donations	5,979	-	3	5,982	3,674
Childrens and youth work	1,280	-	518	1,798	1,720
Depreciation of fixed assets	2,429	-	-	2,429	1,837
Conference levy	2,679	-	-	2,679	1,840
Printing and stationery	769	-	-	769	330
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	-
Travel expenses and accomodation	1,045	-	-	1,045	559
	65,688	-	1,163	66,851	56,275

3. Other Charitable Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total	Total
	General	Designated		For the year ended 31 December 2022	For the year ended 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Lodge Farm Expenses	-	3,555	-	3,555	275
Rehoboth Expenses	-	17,275	-	17,275	1,998
	-	20,830	-	20,830	2,273

4. Freehold Land and Buildings

	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>Church Buildings</u>		
Hall Lane, Great Eccleston (At Insurance Cover Valuation 01/01/1997)	206,000	206,000
<u>Land and Buildings</u>		
Lodge Farm, Hall Lane, Great Eccleston (At Probate Value 15/09/2005)	500,000	500,000
Alterations at Cost	201,880	201,880
Disposal of Garage	(17,000)	(17,000)
	890,880	890,880

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

5. Other Tangible Assets

	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 1st January 2022	16,209	7,594	23,803
Additions	4,207	-	4,207
At 31st December 2022	20,416	7,594	28,010
Depreciation			
At 1st January 2022	13,568	4,724	18,292
Charge in period	1,712	717	2,429
At 31st December 2022	15,280	5,441	20,721
Net Book Values			
At 1st January 2022	2,641	2,870	5,511
At 31st December 2022	5,136	2,153	7,289

Church fixtures, fittings and equipment were valued by the Board and Trustees at 1st January 1997. Later additions are included at cost.

6. Debtors and Prepayments

	2022 £	2021 £
Tax Refund on Gift Aid	5,869	6,791
Prepayments	1,981	2,539
Other Debtors	64	64
	7,914	9,394

7. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	2,531	2,361
Other Creditors	-	1,663
	2,531	4,024

8. Restricted Funds Movements

	1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 December 2022
Football Team	240	-	(240)	-	-
Gift for Service Recording Ministry	362	-	(362)	-	-
Gift for Specific Purposes	-	561	(561)	-	-
	602	561	(1,163)	-	-

The balances at 1st January 2022 and 31 December 2022 are held in the Church bank accounts, as described in the Balance Sheet.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

9. Staff Emoluments

	Pastor	Church Worker	Cleaners	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gross Salary	33,860	-	1,077	34,937
Employer's National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Contributions	828	-	-	828
Life Insurance	1,172	-	-	1,172
	35,860	-	1,077	36,937

Total remuneration for the year amounted to £36,937 (2021: £33,927)
This was payable to the pastor and cleaners, this includes pension contributions,
Permanent Health Insurance and Sabbatical costs.

The average number of paid staff for the year was 3 (2021: 4)

No employees earned over £60,000 in the year

10. Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

The trustees of the Church include the Pastor under the terms of the Trust Scheme sealed on 21 April 1983 as amended by the scheme date 9 March 2000. The aggregate remuneration paid by the Church totalled £35,860, made up of stipend, national insurance and pension contributions. In addition, payments totalling £876 were made to the Pastor for the reimbursement of travelling expenses. Authority for these payments is included in the Trust Deed.

One or more trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from an employment with the Charity. The trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide as staff members under their contract of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

Mrs M Horrocks (Cleaner)	
Remuneration	980
Employers' Pension Contributions	-

No other remuneration or benefits were paid during the year.

11. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Net Current Assets	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	898,169	59,339	957,508
Restricted Funds	-	-	-
	898,169	59,339	957,508

12. Independent Examiners' Fee

Amount payable for the year was £1,926 including VAT.

GREAT ECCLESTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR END 31ST DECEMBER 2022

13. Control

The charity is controlled by the Board of Trustees (Currently known as the Church Leadership Team)

14. Taxation

Great Eccleston Free Methodist Church is a registered charity number 514361. All the charity's income is applied to its charitable objectives and the charity is, therefore, exempt under current legislation from most forms of taxation.

15. Designated Funds

During 2006 the Church received a legacy from the late Mrs M Porter consisting of the farm land and buildings known as Lodge Farm, Hall Lane, Great Eccleston. The legacy has been included in the accounts at probate value.

In accordance with the donor's wishes, the Trustees have decided that income from Lodge Farm will be set aside to meet expenses of that property in the first instance. The expenses for 2021 include electricity and council tax costs for Eccleston Lodge which is part of Lodge Farm. Any surplus will be available for the general purposes of the Church.

At a CLT meeting held in December 2012 it was agreed that any surplus from the balance of the Lodge Farm designated fund at the previous year end should be transferred into the general fund during the next financial year. The surplus for 2021 (£6,586) has been transferred in this accounting year.
