

Dear District Leadership Team,

**APPLICATION TO THE SHEFFIELD METHODIST DISTRICT FOR A PROPERTIES FIT FOR MISSION GRANT FOR URGENT EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO THE SPIRE AT ST. ANDREWS PSALTER LANE CHURCH, SHEFFIELD.**

**Total cost of scheme: £135,000.**

**Amount requested: £12,000. (A similar amount has been applied for from Sheffield Circuit).** We already have permission in principle from the Circuit to proceed with the necessary work.

**Person to contact regarding this scheme:**

John Cripps 01142 588932, [cripps@uwclub.net](mailto:cripps@uwclub.net), Property Steward.

or Jenny Carpenter 01142 664532 [jennyc106@btinternet.com](mailto:jennyc106@btinternet.com)

**Description of the project:**

St. Andrews Psalter Lane Church (SAPLC) is a Grade 2 Listed Methodist building, housing an Anglican-Methodist LEP which celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The building, with its distinctive spire, is an impressive example of the Perpendicular Revival style, and is much loved and used within the community.

The spire, approximately 8m high, is mounted in a central position on the apex of the roof above the nave of the church. It is octagonal, consisting of a base clad in verdigris- covered copper, above which are eight louvred panels separated from each other by protruding buttress pieces. The upper part of the structure comprises a castellated crown with a raised central octagonal copper-clad fleche which tapers to a finial mounted at the top. A small parapet gutter to the rear of the crown discharges by way of internal lead pipes through the base of the louvred openings.

**High level surveys of the inside and exterior of the spire in 2022 revealed that, although the sub-structure is sound, the state of the exterior is much poorer than was apparent from the previous ground-based and drone inspections. Moreover, some inappropriate previous repairs have exacerbated the deterioration such that repairs are now urgently needed.**

Unfortunately, in the rainy weather in November/December 2022, the spire started to leak in a serious manner with water narrowly missing live-streaming equipment. Plastic sheeting has been placed in the roof space which it is hoped will divert the water away from the light fittings. The leak is new, as the internal timbers, though now damp, show no sign of deterioration. The concern is that, without repair, the spire could become more dangerous with large pieces becoming detached and damaging the roof or posing a hazard to those using the building or the grounds. Continued leakage will damage the spire substructure, IT equipment and the ceiling of the nave. Thus, the necessary repair work is becoming more

urgent as the health and safety concerns increase in the coming months. **The conservation specialist architect. Mr. Tom Crooks, appointed to advise on the project, has indicated that repairs should be carried out this year so that the structure doesn't suffer another winter.**

**The intention is to reinstate and restore most of the exterior in like-for-like fashion, with sustainably sourced hardwoods, lead and copper.**

**The advice we have received is that, on conservation grounds and because of the importance of the spire to the building – it is particularly mentioned in the listing citation - we would not be allowed to remove it and make good the roof. We must therefore replace it in a like-for-like manner. We have a letter of support from Joanne Balmforth, TMPC conservation expert, and Tom Rattigan (Mission Property Enabler) and Neil Harland (Mission Enabler) have given us valuable advice on grant applications.**

### **How the Mission Policy of St. Andrews Psalter Lane chimes with the District's Policy and its 'For Such A Time As This' strategy for resourcing mission.**

St. Andrews Psalter Lane Church is a joint Anglican and Methodist Church, serving as the Parish Church for Sharrow. Our mission policy is summarised by the strapline on our website: ***"Open Hearts, Open Minds – Exploring the Mystery of God"***. We seek to do justice to what is best in each of our traditions ***whilst building upon them in creative and relevant ways. We seek a unity which does not inhibit diversity.***

***The heart of our life is worship, prayer, fellowship and reflective practice, as we seek to understand how to fulfil the purposes of God's love in Jesus Christ, whilst embracing all the questions and insights of today.***

***We are seeking to create a community which***

- is unconditionally welcoming***
- aims to be inclusive and diverse***
- is happy with casual adherents, occasional attenders and critical questioners, but challenges and helps those who may be ready to move on in Christian discipleship***
- encourages participation by all in the ministry and leadership of the church.***

**The church wants to be outward-looking and to take an active part in the wider community, with a social concern for the less privileged. It aims to do this through dialogue, partnership and practical service, in which our spiritual motivation will not be lost to view.**

**While no-one can be certain what the future holds for any Christian congregation, there are strong grounds for believing that St. Andrews Psalter Lane will continue to be a thriving church for years to come, as long as that future is not jeopardised by the collapse of the spire and consequential damage precluding continued use of the building. We need to**

have a **PROPERTY FIT FOR MISSION**. We have healthy finances, and have already managed to reduce our use of gas (and to limit the steep rise of our heating bills) by fine-tuning the timing of the church's heating system. We are an **Eco Church** (silver grade and anxious to achieve gold if we can). Therefore we are installing more LED lighting, which will reduce our carbon footprint. The next project is likely to be installation of solar panels on Shirley House, the building in whose grounds first the church and then Southcroft MH were built. Shirley House is heavily used by the local community, including Nether Edge Quakers, and it is also a source of letting income.

The quality of **Sunday worship** is high, and usually achieves **PASSIONATE CONTEXTUAL WORSHIP**. We are still live-streaming our services, with a regular on-line attendance of about 50, and intend to continue to do so. There is a **Wednesday morning Communion Service** with discussion of a Bible or devotional passage. This is greatly valued as an opportunity to share faith at a deep level. In spite of losing the immense contribution of Imogen Clout, Reader and leader of Children's Work, when she and her husband moved to Wales last summer, new leadership has emerged. The exciting recently formed **Junior Church Team** is a very hopeful sign, with a mix of stewards, parents, musicians and older members of the congregation planning and leading appropriate activities in the context of Sunday worship. All this chimes with **GROWING DISCIPLES** and **TRANSFORMING MISSION**. House Groups meet in Lent and Advent in which seasons there are weekly Taize services. The 3 hours Good Friday observance has achieved a reputation for quality, including contributions from professional instrumentalists. There was a good response to our Christmas celebrations from delivery of an invitation to every house in the parish.

The church has excellent acoustics, especially for music, and is used both for regular rehearsals and concerts. There is scope to establish SAPLC as a go-to venue for conferences as well as concerts, maximising our live streaming facilities. This is being actively explored. There may be potential for partnering with organisations promoting children's activities using music and drama that fit well with the church's mission of exploring faith imaginatively. Attracting more people to enter, appreciate and use this lovely building is an important step in encouraging them to join us in worship with the congregation and discover new purpose and joy in learning to follow Jesus Christ (**TRANSFORMING MISSION and GROWING DISCIPLES**). SAPLC has a key role as the home (in Shirley House) of the InterFaith Centre. Increasingly, Christians need to understand their own faith and that of others. SAPLC intends to continue to host meetings where inter-faith friendships are made, perceptions widened and prejudices challenged. This is one of the ways we go about **SHARING STORIES** and **TRANSFORMING MISSION**.

At SAPLC we recognise that we have an obligation to give generously of our time, talents and money to afford dignity and practical help to those suffering from poverty and disadvantage. **We are re-opening our Dementia Cafe shortly**. We give generously to Baby Basics and a Food Bank as well as supporting Christian Aid, All We Can, the Children's Society and Action for Children. We think globally and act locally for justice.

## **Fundraising Progress**

As at 22 February we have raised 58.04% of the funding needed (see Table of Resources), but the Benefact Trust, Hunter Rowe Trust and TMCP expect to see evidence of Circuit and District financial support. Grants have already been pledged by the Church Burgesses and the Diocese of Sheffield. It would be embarrassing if the Circuit and District were not seen to be giving financial support to a Methodist Trust property!

We are launching our local appeal for £25,000 during morning worship on Sunday 26th February. We have £10,000 matching funding already pledged towards this. Leaflets will be distributed round the parish/neighbourhood with a QR code linking to the special page on our website. Donors are encouraged to Gift Aid their donations. All the groups using our building are aware of the need for the work to be done to safeguard a resource which they value and many of them have supplied letters of support for our grant applications.

**We trust that the District Leading Team will consider this request at its meeting on 9th March in the light of the recommendation of the Circuit's Mission Vision Team. As long as we have firm pledges from grant givers, we can place an order for the work to be started in June. We would not need the money to be handed over until August 2023.**

Yours in Christ,

John Cripps & Jenny Carpenter

**Attachments: Annual accounts 2021/2; Table of Resources for the scheme; Letter from Joanne Balmforth; Photos of the Spire.**

**SAPLC SPIRE APPEAL****Table of Resources**

	<b>Date Submitted</b>	<b>Date Decision Expected</b>	<b>Amount Requested £</b>	<b>Amount Awarded/ Recieved £</b>	<b>Date of Award</b>
<b>SAPLC FUNDING</b>					
SAPLC -From Reserves	N/A	N/A	35,000	35,000	
SAPLC Members Friends and Community Appeal (inc £10k Pledge)		N/A	25,000	10,853	
Gift Aid				2,500	
<b>Total SAPLC FUNDING</b>			<b>60,000</b>	<b>48,353</b>	
<b>OUTSIDE FUNDING</b>					
National Churches Trust (Cornerstone)	07/11/2022	Mar-23	30,000		
Wolfson Foundation	07/11/2022	Mar-23	30,000		
TMCP (Discretionary Fund)	02/12/2022	Jan-23	100,000		
Veolia Community Fund	05/01/2023	Mar-23	20,000		
The Garfield Weston Foundation	07/01/2023	May-23	20,000	15,000	17/02/2023
The Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust	07/01/2023	Jan-23	10,000	10,000	24/01/2023
Benefact Trust					
Sheffield Methodist Circuit	31/01/2023		12,000		
Sheffield Methodist District			12,000		
Sheffield Diocese	23/01/2023	Jan-23	5,000	5,000	25/01/2023
The Hunter Rowe Trust		Mar-23	2,500		
Listed Places of Worship (VAT)	tba	tba	23,500		
<b>Total OUTSIDE FUNDING</b>			<b>265,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>325,000</b>	<b>78,353</b>	
<b>Target</b>				<b>135,000</b>	
<b>SHORTFALL</b>				<b>56,647</b>	

**We are 58.04% funded**

The Conservation Office

Our Ref JB/JH

St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church LEP  
c/o Dr John Cripps  
Shirley House  
31 Psalter Lane  
Sheffield, S11 8YL

Central Buildings  
Oldham Street  
Manchester M1 1JQ

+44(0) 161 235 6722 (enquiries)  
[www.methodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.methodistchurch.org.uk)  
registered charity no 1132208

E-mail: [conservation@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:conservation@methodistchurch.org.uk)

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear John,

**ST ANDREW'S PSALTER LANE CHURCH – SHEFFIELD (25/1)**  
**Repairs to Spire (Project Ref. 48653) - Letter of Support**

We are pleased to be writing a letter in support of the proposal to repair the fleche at the aforementioned church, which is a Grade II listed building in a Conservation Area, being submitted to TMCP for consideration of a grant from their discretionary fund. We strongly support this grant application and the focus on undertaking essential conservation works to this significant part of the building, as it is current in a very poor state of decay and is a real Health and Safety concern.

We have been working alongside the church leadership team and your conservation accredited architect to ensure the works are carried out in a sympathetic manner. Indeed, we have indicated our approval of the schedule of works and confirmed that all statutory permissions are in place for this work to proceed. We wish to highlight the importance of this feature to the overall architectural narrative of this ecclesiastical building and to indicate our support for its retention. We have noted how unlikely it is that removal of the fleche would be supported if an application for listed building approval for this alteration were submitted to us. The fleche is certainly a feature of interest as noted in Dr Christopher Wakeling's (a member of our Listed Buildings Advisory Committee) book; *Chapels of England, Buildings of Protestant Nonconformity* where he refers to 'A fleche enlivens the roofline and stubby octagonal towers flank the broad west window'. Indeed the church itself is important in our understanding of the architectural legacy of Methodism at this time, and is an important example of 1920's Gothic architecture.

We also understand that the success of this funding application will bring a great relief to the Anglican/Methodist congregation at this church, as it will enable the church to continue their good mission and outreach work without the worry of having to find sufficient funds to carry out these emergency repairs. The TMCP grant will also allow breathing space for continued discussions with the District over how this mission and outreach work is enhanced further.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of this church as they seek financial assistance to support a program designed to sustain this significant historic fabric and the good work of this important church.

We wish you well with your request.

Joanne

**Joanne Balmforth BA (Hons), MSc (Arch Cons), IHBC |**

Conservation Officer (Manchester) | Connexional Team | The Methodist Church of Britain



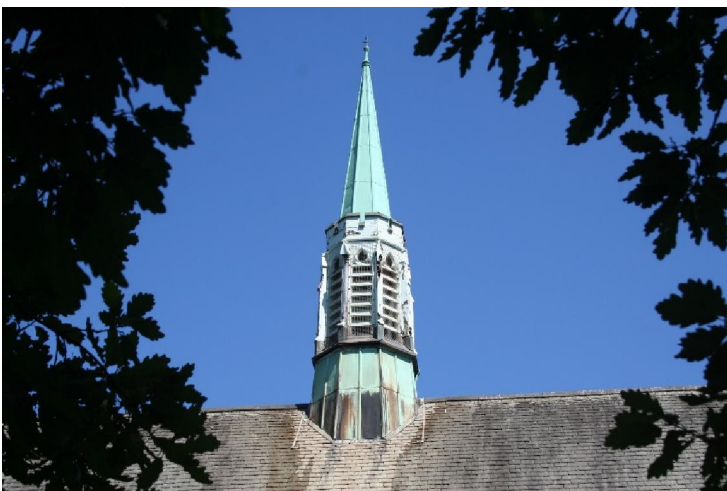
## St Andrews Psalter Lane Church – Pictures of Spire



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church – General view looking south.  
Spire forms a prominent defining feature of the building



Western side of St Andrews Psalter Lane Church including spire



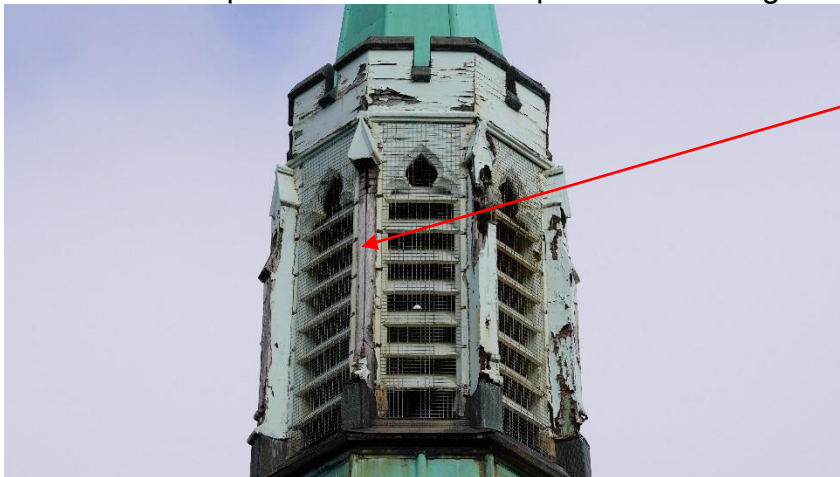
St Andrews Psalter Lane Church View of Spire



Missing section of corner buttress piece



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire in April 2022 – Note that parts of corner buttress pieces are rotten and parts are missing.



Missing section

St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire in April 2022 – Deteriorated condition of corner buttresses and some pieces have fallen off.



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire in April 2022 – Deteriorated condition of Castellated crown. Artificial lead has been used to repair the castellation valley





Missing section

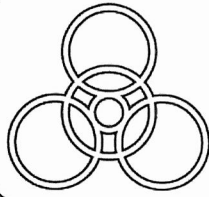
Copper insecurely held  
with iron nails



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire in April 2022 – Deteriorated condition of timber and buttress part that has fallen off. Insecure copper cladding



St Andrews Psalter Lane Church Spire in April 2022 Moulding is rotten and has become detached.



**St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church**

An Anglican Methodist Partnership

## **2022 CHURCH ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

# **St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church**

A JOINT ANGLICAN METHODIST PARTNERSHIP

## **Reference and Administrative Information**

### **Sheffield Methodist Circuit**

Circuit Number: 25/01

Charity Registration Number: 1137529

**Minister: Revd Naomi Cooke**

### **Church Stewards:**

Julie Jordan-Brown

Alastair Morris

### **Wardens:**

Caroline Cripps

Clare Loughridge

### **Treasurer:**

Joseph Dey

# St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

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## St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

### Receipts & Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Offerings & Tax Recovered	100,963	-	100,963	109,101
Legacy Received	-		-	10,000
Bank Interest	93	23	116	47
Lettings	61,698	-	61,698	44,060
Other Receipts	4,147	600	4,747	3,499
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>166,901</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>167,524</b>	<b>166,707</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Generous Giving	51,822	-	51,822	50,064
Common Fund & Mission Partnership Worker	18,585	-	18,585	16,385
Donations	7,055	-	7,055	7,475
Repairs & Maintenance	34,140	-	34,140	19,078
Utilities	28,328	-	28,328	22,643
Other Payments	28,836	-	28,836	27,549
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>168,766</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>168,766</b>	<b>143,194</b>
<b>NET (PAYMENTS)/RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(1,865)</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>(1,242)</b>	<b>23,513</b>
Brought Forward From Last Year	88,537	12,933	101,470	77,957
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>86,672</b>	<b>13,556</b>	<b>100,228</b>	<b>101,470</b>

<b>MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Balance brought forward	50	-
Offerings & Tax Recovered	2,439	4,233
Passed on to external organisation	(2,489)	(4,183)
<b>Balance</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50</b>



## St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

### Restricted Funds

	Opening Balances £	Receipts £	Closing Balances £
<b>Internal Funds</b>			
W Davey Bequest	11,866	22	11,888
J Simpson Bequest	767	1	768
Solar panels	-	600	600
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,633</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>13,256</b>
<b>Internal Organisations</b>			
Tuesday Cafe	300	-	300
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>12,933</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>13,556</b>

### Declarations

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and they include all funds under the control of the Ecumenical Church Council.

  
Joseph Dey FCA

Treasurer

Date 30.11.2022

### Presentation to the Ecumenical Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Ecumenical Church Council on ..... and were approved.

  
C Loughridge

Chair of the Meeting

Date 4.12.2022

## St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

### Statement of Assets & Liabilities

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</b>		
Cash in Hand	55	55
Bank Current Account	65,221	66,629
Central Finance Board Deposit Account	22,296	22,203
TMCP Account	12,656	12,633
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100,228</b>	<b>101,520</b>

#### Divided as follows:

Church Funds	86,672	88,537
Internal Funds	13,256	12,633
Internal Organisations	300	300
External Organisations	-	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100,228</b>	<b>101,520</b>

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Other Assets (Unrestricted Funds)</b>		
Debtors	14,583	19,941
Church Building (Insurance Value)	11,500,000	9,675,824
St Andrew's Church Centre (Insurance Value)	1,164,341	1,064,292
Shirley House (Insurance Value)	3,229,616	3,009,873
	<b>15,908,540</b>	<b>13,769,930</b>

#### Other Liabilities (Unrestricted Funds)

Creditors	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,000</b>
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## St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Andrews Psalter Lane Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 as 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.

#### 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 which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 1 the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 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 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 at the balance sheet date.



**S L Bladen FCA**

**Date** 2/12/22

Hawsons Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Pegasus House  
463a Glossop Road  
Sheffield  
S10 2QD