

Trinity Circuit – R H Goacher Bequest

The 'R H Goacher Bequest' is a Permanent Endowment of £10k left in 1997 where the income is applied for general purposes of Woodsetts Methodist Church. When the Church closed in the autumn of 2021 all its members were not transferred to a particular church therefore there is no successor, so it was assumed that this bequest, along with its other assets, would automatically be transferred into Circuit Trusteeship. TMCP have advised that that is not the case with respect to permanent endowments as they are governed by the Charities Act 2011 (as amended) and not by Methodist procedures.

The correct process would have been for the former Woodsetts Trustees to pass a resolution to enable an application to be made to The Charity Commission to amend the trust purposes in favour of the Circuit. As that did not happen the Circuit cannot pass the necessary resolution in favour of itself, therefore this has to be undertaken by the District.

The resolution below has been drafted in consultation with TMCP, the DLT is therefore asked to consider this resolution, and if passed to appoint two persons to sign a copy of the resolution which will be forwarded with the application to the Charity Commission.

Subsequent to the closure of Woodsetts Methodist Church, and having determined there is no successor church, the Sheffield District Leading Team acting as the District Trustees, resolves pursuant to section 275 of the Charities Act 2011 (as amended) to amend the purposes of the RH Goacher Bequest, a Permanent Endowment where the income is currently to be applied for the general purposes of Woodsetts Methodist Church. The new purposes of the endowment is for the income to be applied by the Trinity Methodist Circuit Meeting (25/19) for its general purposes following the closure of the Woodsetts Methodist Church.