**Trinity Methodist Church – York Circuit *(29/33)***

**1. What is the present membership?**

20

**2. What is the number on the community roll?**

48

**3.  What is the average adult attendance at worship?**

Services have not taken place since March 2020 because of COVID-19 restrictions and the number of vulnerable individuals among the congregation.

Prior to March 2020 the average attendance at Sunday Morning worship was 18.

**4. What other activities take place on the premises?**

Before the onset of the Covid restrictions in March 2020, the Church functioned as a Distribution centre for the ‘Big Issue in the North’ magazine three days per week. This will not be re-starting.

Regular Coffee Mornings and various fund-raising activities.

Trinity Methodist Church has a Sharing Agreement with the Ark Church, who use the building for Sunday Worship and also for a number of other activities including a youth choir and a bereavement group.

**5. Provide a financial overview – e.g. income vs expenditure.**

**Income Expenditure**

Offerings and Gift Aid £19,906 Assessment £13,747

Rents, Fundraising & Interest £5,899 Repairs, Utilities and Insurance £9562

Other Payments/Donations £1576

**Total £25805 £24885**

**6. If a new building is not to be provided, what provision will be made for the present congregation and other activities?**

There are three other Methodist Churches within a radius of 1 mile (see below), together with a number of churches serving other Christian denominations.

‘Big Issue in the North’ distribution has now been re-organised to better suit the post-COVID situation and related restrictions.

The Ark Church is seeking alternative accommodation elsewhere in York.

**7.   What impact will the closure have on the local community?**

Most of the church’s congregation do not live in the immediate area. There are three other Methodist churches within a radius of one mile from Trinity (see below) and an Anglican church less than half-a mile away. There are also many other churches of various denominations a short walk away in York City Centre.

There are other community facilities nearby and it is likely that activites associated with the Ark Church will move with them to a new location.

**8.    What other Methodist Churches and Sunday Schools are there in the neighbourhood and what are their distance from the property to be sold?**

Central Methodist Church, St. Saviourgate, York (0.5 miles)

Heworth Methodist Church, Heworth Village, York (0.8 miles)

Clifton Methodist Church, Clifton, York (1.0 miles)

**9.    What initiatives have the membership tried, if any, to encourage the residents of the community to become part of the worshipping family?**

Extensive door-to-door leaflet campaigns have taken place over the years in the area known as ‘The Groves’ and beyond, including:

Christmas and Easter Cards giving details of services and other activities

Specific invitations to particular services such as Harvest.

**10.   Does the membership consider that their mission is complete from this building and why?**

In coming to the decision to close the members recognised that the necessary repairs to the building placed an unrealistic financial demand on a small number of people, and they came to the conclusion that yes, their mission as an existing congregation in this place is at an end.

**11. Who will offer Christian worship, mission and on-going pastoral care of the community?**

As noted above, there are three other Methodist Churches relatively close-by. The Anglican church of St. Thomas-with-St. Maurice is only 0.4 miles from Trinity, within the area known as ‘The Groves’.

**12.  What arrangements have been made for on-going pastoral care in the community?**

No specific arrangements have been made, but the three Methodist churches mentioned above are aware of our decision.

**13.Have discussions taken place with other denominations in order to maintain a Christian presence in the locality and what was the outcome?**

No specific discussions have taken place other than with the Ark Church, but there are a multitude of churches in the centre of York maintaining a Christian presence.

**14.   What is to happen to the building? If it is to be sold, how will the proceeds of the sale be used to promote an effective presence in the community the Church once served?**

The building will pass into the control of the Circuit Council. Consultations will be held with the Circuit and District to determine whether there is any Methodist use for the building, and if not, we will explore whether another Church might be interested in either purchase or lease.

**15.    Has the District Archivist been consulted regarding records and artefacts and records that might need to be conserved?**

Not yet, but they will be once the current lockdown is over.