

January 2021

PROPERTY MATTERS

The Methodist Church 

Welcome to the January edition of Property Matters with a focus on updates on guidance during the Covid-19 pandemic. If you have any feedback, please email the [Property Support Team](#).

Covid-19 Updates

As you are aware, those in England have entered another lockdown. Guidance of what is allowed can be [found here](#). As well, it would be worth reading a reflection by the Rev Dr Jonathan Hustler on [Putting our hand into the hand of God](#).



Lastly, the government has changed the guidance in relation to singing in places of worship. [Click here](#) to read more.

Please note this is for England only and please check the websites for [Scotland](#), [Wales](#), [Isle of Man](#) and the Channel Islands ([Guernsey](#) & [Jersey](#)).

Empty Buildings

If a church building will be empty over the next few weeks, it is important to remember to continue to conduct weekly inspections and run the water in order to prevent legionella. There are 10 safety checks as well as tips for maintaining organs - all this can be found on the [Empty Properties](#) section of the [Maintenance](#) page.

Winter Hints and Tips

From burst pipes to blocked drains, winter and the cold weather brings with it a range of additional risks and related problems for churches and associated properties. [Methodist Insurance](#) has produced guidance that offers you practical advice for some of the most common issues. You can [download the guidance from their website](#).



For further advice and assistance specific to your church, Methodist Insurance customers can contact their risk advice line and talk to one of their risk experts on: [0345 600 7531](tel:03456007531).

Lines are open 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

Culture Recovery Funding - Second Round

The government is offering a [Second Round of Cultural Recovery Funding](#). This offering is for grants from £10k to £3m to support re-opening. The fund is administered by Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



Please note that this grant has a very tight timeframe for applications; **you can apply from 7 January and applications close on 26 January**. We have had some success with the first round of this funding, including one church receiving £78k so please do apply if you feel this is appropriate for your church!

[Click here](#) to find out more and you can contact the [Conservation Officer](#) for assistance with your application.

HSE Updates

The HSE have produced useful information on their website on [Making Your Workplace Covid-secure](#). Some topics that may be of interest include:

- [Covid-19 Spot Checks](#)

- [First Aid during the pandemic](#)
- [Protecting Vulnerable Workers](#)

Charity Commission Extension

Methodist charities with gross incomes under £100,000 are 'excepted' from registration with the Charity Commission. The Regulations which provide for this exception were set to end on 31 March 2021. The Charity Commission informed us that the deadline is being extended, which will be a great relief to many local churches. The Legal & Constitutional Practice team have updated their [Charity Registration page](#) on the website with more information.



New Contact Details for TMCP

As part of the upgrade of TMCP's IT systems, they have recently moved to a new email domain which will be consistent with their website address of tmcp.org.uk. Email is still being redirected from the old email addresses but you should note that emails for the teams should now be sent to the following addresses:



Legal: legal@tmcp.org.uk

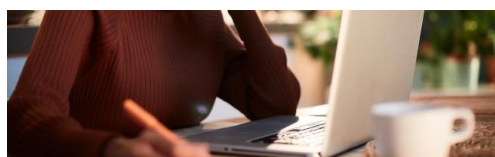
Finance: finance@tmcp.org.uk

Data Protection enquiries: dataprotection@tmcp.org.uk

General enquiries: admin@tmcp.org.uk

CHANGE OF DATE Managing Trustees' Training Session

The planned date for this training session has been **postponed until Thursday 4th February 2021**. The event will be hosted by Capsticks and led by TMCP. The session will



focus on the way TMCP and the whole panel of solicitors will be working together in the future to further streamline transactions such as the sale and purchases of manses as well as straightforward short-term leases. You will not only hear from TMCP and Capsticks but also the Connexional Team and Managing Trustees, who will give real life examples of their experiences of the panel. We do hope that you will be able to join us on the day. [Read more here](#).

Listed Building Advisory Committee

Meeting dates:

- **22 March 2021**- Deadline for papers - 26 February 2021

Property Matters is a monthly newsletter focused on giving updates on property related guidance and legalisation as well as providing information and links to related subjects. We cannot know about everything that's going on, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.

Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR 020 7486 5502
methodist.org.uk
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