

Trust 8669 (the Manse Maintenance Trust) - Bangor and Holyhead Circuit

Contact Name and Details	Joanne Anderton, Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice lcp@methodistchurch.org.uk
Status of Paper	Final
Action Required	Decision
Resolutions	89/1. The Council receives the report. 89/2. The Council agrees: (a) to relinquish the reversionary gift left to the Mission in Britain Fund under Trust 8669; and (b) to authorise the release of the capital from the Trust for the purpose of upkeep and repairs of the circuit manse in the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit.

- Trust 8669, also known as the Manse Maintenance Trust (**'the Trust'**), was established by a Dr and Mrs North in 1965, who left the money as a permanent endowment. The original purposes of this permanent endowment was for the income from the Trust to be applied for the upkeep of the Bangor (English) Circuit manse, which in 1965 was 3 Belmont Road, Bangor.
- The Bangor Circuit has since merged to become the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit and the managing trustees of the Circuit manse are the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit Meeting.
- As at 31 May 2021, the balance in the Trust was £16,474.76.
- The Trust contains a direction that, should the Bangor (English) Circuit cease to exist - which it has (*see para. 2. above*) - then the Trust fund is to be paid to the then Home Mission Fund. The Home Mission Fund was renamed the Mission in Britain Fund by the Conference in 2009. The Council administers the Mission in Britain Fund under Standing Order 362.
- Being permanent endowment, the trustees do not have recourse to the capital in the Trust fund, only the income. However, there are provisions in the Charities Act 2011 which permit charity trustees to release the capital from permanent endowments for the same purposes as apply to the income.
- In 2019 the managing trustees of the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit wished to sell the manse at 3 Belmont Road and agreement was sought from the Methodist Council that it would relinquish the reversionary gift left to the now Mission in Britain Fund so that the Trust monies could be used to help fund the purchase of a replacement manse at Hafod, Lon Y Ffrwd. This request was made on the basis that it seemed reasonable for the merged Circuit to be able to continue to use the Trust fund for the benefit of the manse in the new Circuit, as this purpose was clearly the original intention of the donors. In consultation with the then Conference Officer for Legal and Constitutional Practice, the Chair of the Council agreed on behalf of the Methodist Council that the Circuit could apply to the Charity Commission to amend the purposes of the Trust to allow for the purchase of this replacement new manse. This decision was reported to the Council in January 2020 in paper MC/20/19.
- For whatever reason, the managing trustees did not pursue the application to the Charity Commission, and the replacement manse at Hafod, Lon Y Ffrwd was purchased without using any capital from the Trust.
- The position has now changed again due to the curtailment of the current Superintendent Minister where the manse at Hafod is not suitable for the incoming Minister and is being replaced by 14 Coed Y Maes, Bangor. The managing trustees have now requested that the Council again relinquishes the

reversionary gift left to the Mission in Britain Fund, to enable the managing trustees to pass a resolution under section 275 of the Charities Act 2011 to have the purposes of the Trust amended by the Charity Commission so that the income can be applied for the *'upgrade and maintenance of the manse at 14 Coed Y Maes, Bangor or any replacement manse as required by the Managing Trustees of the Bangor and Holyhead Methodist Circuit or their successors in title'*.

9. Once the purposes of the Trust have been amended, it is the managing trustees' intention to pass a further resolution under section 281 of the Charities Act 2011 to have the capital from the permanent endowment released for the newly-stated purposes. The Council is therefore also asked to authorise the release of the capital from the Trust for the purpose of upkeep and repairs of the circuit manse in the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit.

*****RESOLUTIONS**

89/1. The Council receives the report.

89/2. The Council agrees:

- (a) to relinquish the reversionary gift left to the Mission in Britain Fund under Trust 8669; and**
- (b) to authorise the release of the capital from the Trust for the purpose of upkeep and repairs of the circuit manse in the Bangor and Holyhead Circuit.**