

Ecumenical Partnerships, Sharing Agreements, and Ecumenical Areas

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Standing Order (SO) 334(5) requires all new schemes approved by the Synods under SO 412(2) and all Sharing Agreements authorised by the Ecumenical Officer (EO) to be reported to the Methodist Council.

Key

B	Baptist
CCP	Congregations in Covenanted Partnership
CE	Church of England
CM	Circuit Meeting
LEP	Local Ecumenical Partnership
MC	Methodist Church
MCC	Methodist Church Council
Mor	Moravian Church
URC	United Reformed Church

A: SCHEMES APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT SYNODS UNDER SO 412(2)

1 Ecumenical Partnerships in Extended Areas

The Ecumenical Officer has not received any reports of Synods establishing ecumenical partnerships in extended areas since the October 2017 Methodist Council.

2 Local Ecumenical Partnerships

The following list records those schemes approved by the Synods and reported to the Ecumenical Officer between the October 2017 and October 2018 meetings of the Methodist Council. It indicates which other Churches are involved and the nature of the Partnership. It also records those Partnerships in which a new constitution has been adopted and whether the Synod has issued or revoked a direction under SO 611. Some Synods are in a process of clarifying whether the Church Councils of local Methodist churches in single congregation LEPs are constituted in accordance with SO 610 or SO 611; those directions marked with an asterisk in the table below give the current position but the previous position cannot be implied from it.

Circuit No	Trustee Body	Other Church(es)	Single Congregation Partnership (SCP) or Congregations in Covenanted Partnership (CCP)	New Partnership (NP) or New Constitution (NC)	Direction issued (DI) or revoked (DR) under S. O. 611
7/7	Cirencester, Ashcroft MCC	URC	SCP	NC	DI
7/15	Linden Road, Christchurch	CE	SCP	NC	DI
7/17	Bournville MCC	CE	SCP	NC	DI
24/1	Torpoint MCC	URC	SCP	NC	DI

Circuit No	Trustee Body	Other Church(es)	Single Congregation Partnership (SCP) or Congregations in Covenanted Partnership (CCP)	New Partnership (NP) or New Constitution (NC)	Direction issued (DI) or revoked (DR) under S. O. 611
24/15	Pawlett MCC	CE	CCP	NP	n/a
26/4	Caversham Park Village MCC	B, CE, URC	SCP	NC	DI
36/1	Farnham MCC	URC	SCP	NP	DI
36/10	Cobham MCC	URC	SCP	NP	DI
36/13	Eastbourne MCC	URC	SCP	NP	DI

***RESOLUTION

21/1. The Council adopts the Report.

B: SHARING AGREEMENTS

The consent of the Ecumenical Officer is required for the making or amendment of any Sharing Agreement (SA) under the Sharing of Church Buildings Acts 1969 and to its termination (SO 334(3)).

The first list in section 1 below reports the Sharing Agreements authorised by the Ecumenical Officer and not previously reported to the Council or the Conference. Since not all Sharing Agreements so authorised come into effect, and some of those that do take a considerable time to reach that stage, further lists are provided to indicate those Sharing Agreements that have come into effect since the October 2017 Methodist Council.

The list in Section 2 reports those Sharing Agreements to whose termination the Ecumenical Officer has given consent during the past year and where notice to terminate has been received.

1 Consents

Circuit No	Local or Circuit Trustee Body	Building(s) to be shared and other details (including owner)	Other Church(es) party to the SA	Date of EO consent	Date of SA	Registered No	Date SA registered
6/4	St Andrew's MCC	St Andrew's URC Entwistle Road Rochdale OL16 2HZ (Church: URC)	URC	8/5/18			
25/10	Loundsley Green MCC	Loundsley Green MC Pennine Way Loundsley Green Chesterfield S40 4NG (Church: MC)	CE	7/7/17	14/11/17	39/301	14/11/17

Circuit No	Local or Circuit Trustee Body	Building(s) to be shared and other details (including owner)	Other Church(es) party to the SA	Date of EO consent	Date of SA	Registered No	Date SA registered
25/13 ¹	Tideswell MCC	Fountain Square Church Fountain Street Tideswell Buxton SK17 8JX (Church: M)	URC	12/12/17	25/1/18	39/302	26/1/18
35/26	Ruxley MCC	Ruxley Shared Church Ruxley Lane West Ewell Surrey	CE	03/09/18	27/02/13	39/306	04/09/18
36/10	Cobham MCC	Cobham URC 38 Stoke Road Cobham KT11 3BD (Church: URC)	URC	8/8/18	15/8/18	39/305?	05/9/18

¹ This relates to the amendment of an existing sharing agreement.

Sharing Agreements registered since the October 2017 Methodist Council to which EO consent was reported to that Council:

5/1 ¹	Birmingham City Centre MCC	The Church at Carrs Lane Carrs Lane Birmingham B4 7SX (Church: URC)	URC	22/9/17	31/10/17	39/300	2/11/17
5/1 ¹	Hall Green MCC	609 Reddings Lane Hall Green Birmingham B28 8TE (Church: MC)	Mor, URC	2/8/17	8/2/18	39/303	8/2/18
22/14	Wirksworth MCC	23 Nether Gardens Wirksworth DE4 4DW (Residential property: B)	B	14/3/17	8/2/18	39/304	8/2/18
22/14	Wirksworth MCC	17 Yeoman Street Bonsall Matlock DE4 2AA (Residential property: B)	B	14/3/17	8/2/18	39/304	8/2/18

¹ These consents relate to the amendment of existing sharing agreements.

Sharing Agreements registered since the October 2017 Methodist Council to which EO consent was reported to the 2016 Conference:

20/1	CM	3 Crompton Road Heaton Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 5QL (Manse: URC)	URC	8/7/14	16/8/18	39/308	9/10/18
23/29	Weedon MCC	Weedon Chapel Aston Abbots Road Weedon Aylesbury HP22 4NH (Church: MC)	CE	9/3/16	17/8/18	39/307?	1/9/18
23/29	Weedon MCC	St Mary the Virgin Lower Road Hardwick HP22 4DT (Church: CE)	CE	9/3/16	17/8/18	39/307?	1/9/18

2 Terminations of and Retirements from Sharing Agreements

Circuit No	Local or Circuit Trustee Body	Building(s) shared and other details (including owner)	Other Church(es) party to the SA	Date of notice given by EO	Date of SA	Registered number	Date of termination
2/16	CM	Abercynon MC Martins Lane Abercynon CF45 4RF (Church: MC)	URC	17/4/18	9/4/95	38/992	17/4/18
2/20	CM	Meyrick Street Pembroke Dock SA72 6AS (Church: URC)	URC	–	31/12/89	38/778	20/8/11
2/24	Sketty MCC	Bethel URC Sketty Park Road Sketty Swansea SA2 9AS (Church: URC)	URC	–	13/7/17	39/299	30/4/18
11/2	Murdishaw MCC	The Ridgeway Barnfield Avenue Murdishaw Runcorn WA7 6JW (Church: MC)	MC	31/5/18	6/7/87	38/611	31/5/18
11/2	Murdishaw MCC	SS Berteline and Christopher Parish Church Norton Hill Runcorn WA7 6QE (Church: CE)	CE	31/5/18	6/7/87	38/629	31/5/18

Circuit No	Local or Circuit Trustee Body	Building(s) shared and other details (including owner)	Other Church(es) party to the SA	Date of notice given by EO	Date of SA	Registered number	Date of termination
23/1	CM	8 Fry's Hill Cavendish Villas Greater Leys Oxford OX4 7GN (Manse: M/URC)	B, URC	18/10/17	30/11/03 30/8/12	39/148 39/256	6/12/17 6/12/17
23/19	Local	St Giles Parish Church Lower Street Desborough Kettering NN14 2NP (Church: CE)	CE	25/5/17	9/1/72	38/183	25/11/17
23/19	Local	St Giles Community Centre Lower Street Desborough Kettering NN14 2NP (Hall: MC)	CE	25/5/17	9/1/72	38/183	25/11/17
23/27	The Avenue MCC	Holy Trinity Church Path Lane End High Wycombe HP14 3HE (Church: CE)	CE	28/3/18	29/8/10	39/241	28/3/18
24/8	CM	Mayors Avenue Dartmouth (Church: URC)	URC	–	31/5/85	38/731	31/8/18
36/5	CM	Hanworth Road MC Hanworth Road Feltham TW13 5AB (Church: MC)	CE URC	21/3/18	4/12/78	37/450	CE: 31/8/18 URC: 21/3/18

*****RESOLUTION**

21/2. The Council adopts the Report.