



United Stockport Circuit, C/O Tiviot Dale Methodist Church, Tiviot Dale, Stockport, SK1 1TA  
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## Role Outline

Role title: **Church Council Member**

[NAME OF CHURCH]

[Name of Volunteer]

The Church Council is the governing body of the local Church and legally the members are the Managing Trustees. Only active Methodist Church members are eligible to sit on Church Council. Some roles in the Church give a seat on Church Council and in addition, the Annual Church Meeting elects others from the Church membership to sit on Church Council.

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### *Part 1 – The Role*

**The Church takes the safety of everyone within the church very seriously and expects that everyone will work within the church safeguarding policy. In particular, the Church expects anyone who becomes aware of a safeguarding risk or of actual abuse, to immediately raise this with the Safeguarding Officer or the Minister\*.**

The following duties will be undertaken as part of the role outlined above:

- To attend Church Council whenever possible and deal with the business of the meetings in a responsible manner. Meetings are generally quarterly. Additional meetings can be called as and when necessary.
- Responsibilities of The Managing Trustees include:
  - ✓ To ensure that appropriate action is taken so that the Church continues to be solvent and financially viable. (The church treasurer is responsible for managing the day to finances and advising Church Council of any problems).
  - ✓ To ensure that policies and procedures are in force to cover legal responsibilities e.g. Health & Safety and Safeguarding of children & young people and vulnerable adults.
  - ✓ To ensure that the property is maintained to a good standard. (The Property Stewards and Property Committee is responsible for day-to-day needs and highlighting issues to Church Council).
  - ✓ To ensure that arrangements are in place to provide pastoral care of Church members.
  - ✓ To look to ways of developing outreach and mission in the local community.
- To share pastoral concerns with the Minister\* and/or pastoral leader/s

### *Part 2 – Accountability*

This role will be accountable to The Church Council.

### *Part 3 – A Managing Trustee*

You may become a member of the Church Council on the nomination of the General Church Meeting or perhaps of one of the committees of the Church because it is thought that you can represent them well.

As a member of the Church Council, you will share in the responsibility for overseeing and leading the Church in:

- a) the care of its members
- b) its outreach, especially to those on the community roll
- c) planning its policy
- d) its financial commitments
- e) the care of its property (including money) (SO 603)

Naturally, some of those tasks will hold a greater appeal for you than others. Nevertheless, the whole work of the Church Council is shared by its members and provided you have reached the legal age of majority, as a member of the Church Council, you are a managing trustee.

Church Council members should read the following document:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/office-holders/managing-trustees/>

### *Part 4 – DBS*

**Has the Safeguarding officer confirmed that a DBS check is required?**

Yes (Please state the date received)

No (Please complete the self-declaration form [CSD/2](#))

### *Part 5 – Training Required*

Safeguarding (If yes, please indicate the date received)

Other –

\*Minister means Presbyter, Deacon, Probationer or whoever has pastoral care of the church.

# Volunteer Agreement

This is a sample agreement and should be altered according to the specific person involved. The agreement describes the arrangement between the volunteer and the local Methodist Church and should be used alongside the volunteer's work outline.

This Volunteer Agreement is a description of the arrangement between us, the [Name of Church] at [Location of Church], and you [Name of Volunteer] in relation to your voluntary work.

The intention of this agreement is to assure you that we appreciate your volunteering with us and to indicate our commitment to doing the best we can to make your volunteer experience with us a positive and rewarding one.

This agreement is binding in honour only. It is not intended by the parties to be a legally binding agreement nor to create an employment relationship between us but sets out expectations of The Methodist Church and the volunteer.

We, on behalf of [Name of Church] at [Location of Church], accept the voluntary service of [Name of Volunteer] beginning [Date]. We have agreed that you will work [X] hours over/on [X] days.

Your role will be [Name Role].

In addition to this agreement, you will receive key pieces of information including the role description and our policies and procedures which will provide important guidelines for your volunteering.

## Part 1 – The Methodist Church

We commit to the following:

- A full induction and any training necessary for the volunteer role.
- Provide a personal supervisor who will meet with you regularly to discuss your volunteering and any achievements and problems.
- To be treated with respect and in line with the organisation's policies on equal opportunities, health and safety.
- To provide adequate insurance cover for volunteers whilst undertaking voluntary work approved and authorised by us.
- To reimburse the following expenses you incurred in your voluntary work. All expenses must be submitted, with receipts where possible, to [Name Church treasurer and provide email or contact details] within [period]: Please only select the relevant section(s):
  - a. Travel to and from home to (the office) and during your work as necessary
  - b. Meal allowance to a maximum of £(x) with a receipt (to be eligible for lunch allowance you must work around meal times or for a minimum of (x) hours a day.)
  - c. Special clothing, where this is provided by you
  - d. Actual cost of crèche, childminding fees or other dependant costs incurred in order to be available for voluntary work.

## Part 2 – The Volunteer

I, ..... (Full name in CAPTIALS), agree to be a volunteer with the [Name of Church] and commit to the following:

1. To help the [Name of Church] at [Location of Church], fulfil its vision to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.
2. To perform my volunteering role to the best of my ability.
3. To follow the Church's procedures and standards, including health and safety procedures and its equal opportunities policy in relation to its staff, volunteers and anybody they work with.
4. To maintain the confidential information of the Church and of all who become involved with it.
5. To meet the time commitments and standards undertaken, other than in exceptional circumstances, and provide reasonable notice to make alternative arrangements.
6. To provide referees, as agreed, who may be contacted, and to agree to a police check being carried out where necessary.

My agreed voluntary time commitment is [Insert hours/days]

Agreed to: .....Volunteer signature

.....On behalf of [Name of Church]

.....Date

- Volunteer Contact details
- Emergency contact details