

St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton

Annual Report

and

Financial Statements

of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ending 31st December 2022

Registered Charity Number 1126349

Incumbent:

Rev Chris Routledge
The Vicarage
61 Ambleside Way
Nuneaton
CV11 6AU

Bank:

Cooperative Bank

Independent Examiner:

J S Farnell (FCA)
Burgis & Bullock
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Business Park
Nuneaton
CV10 7RJ

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Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church Council of St Nicolas Church, Nuneaton 2022

Aim and purposes

St. Nicolas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Routledge, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Centre complex of St. Nicolas.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Nicolas. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicolas and the Church Centre.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

For much of the year, St. Nicolas was without a vicar so the Sunday morning services are now led by a small leadership team, with one of the team taking responsibility for the service each week, coordinating the service planning, liaising with visiting preachers and preparing the PowerPoint. This has been successful as each of the leaders has increased their knowledge and become familiar with the planning process and the services are now running smoothly due to careful preparation and forward planning. It has been notable that the service leaders have grown in confidence leading the service. The team meet regularly to share ideas and experiences and to encourage each other. This has taken the form of regular monthly breakfast meetings, planning the rota for the upcoming period and discussing any concerns or suggestions for improvement. The team have also undertaken some training in terms of how to conduct a service and with regards to some of the practicalities involved in organising the service, as well as offering each other spiritual encouragement, praying and reading the bible together. The team hope to undertake further training going forward, to help them to grow as spiritual leaders, and are encouraging other people to get involved in the service leadership role, offering mentoring as appropriate.

How many church members do we have?

Year	Resident	Non residents	Total on roll
2019	62	31	93
2020	68	39	107
2021	69	39	108
2022	69	39	108

All are welcome to attend our regular services. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was about 50, but this number increased at festivals and Christmas carol services.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and through funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in this world and to commend the person into God's keeping. We have celebrated 8 baptisms and 1 wedding. There have been 8 funerals in 2022: 4 in church, and 4 at the crematorium conducted by ministers from St Nicolas. We also have occasional special services, often in the evening, to mark particular events or seasons. This year on Advent Sunday we hosted a Carol Service for the High Sheriff of Warwickshire.

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

St Nicolas Church office and centre

The centre is a very popular venue and used every day by a wide range of community groups in Nuneaton and beyond (church, social services, children, etc.) for functions, meetings, and classes. Feedback is always positive from users who value the social support and opportunity to meet likeminded groups of people.

Some of the long-established groups who use the centre include:

- Contact Centre – weekly group sessions for supported contact
- SWANS – Nuneaton based dementia group providing a fun outlet through singing for carers and those they care for.
- U3A – an association for people who have finished working full time or raising their families, who want to pursue other interests or try something new. Bridge Club
- GKR - Karate Classes
- Baby Hubs - play groups, baby massage, mummy meets, baby art sessions, etc.
- Sahil – Asian Community Support Group
- Royal Osteoporosis Society – Quarterly meetings, talks, etc.
- Yoga – Wednesday & Thursday
- Accord – Women's Specialist offenders support group

New groups in 2022

- Change Grow Live – Support Group. Weekly All-day Thursday
- Warwickshire Tai chi – Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings
- Paul Gannon Karate – Saturday afternoon
- SWFT NHS Child Health Clinic – Weekly Friday mornings

There are also rooms used for private parties and celebrations.

The centre is now thriving and in use most days and nights. This is very positive for the future.

The office is the initial contact point for all enquiries: in person; by telephone and email. It is where many church functions are arranged and organised (weddings, funerals, baptisms, etc.). It is also the administration hub for events, the centre, invoicing, bookings, resolving issues and generally responsible for all day-to-day activities.

Mission and Evangelism

Every year St Nicolas Church gives away a percentage of its income to charity, this is a part of the money given either on the collection plate or through people's bank accounts. It is 10% because there is a biblical precedent for a 10% 'tithe' to be made.

The nominated charities are chosen by the 10% group and then with the approval of the PCC, our treasurer sends the funds to each of those charities.

We have previously chosen 3 charities, one international, one national and one local which have a spread of interests both practical and spiritual and are representative of the mission of the Church.

In addition, we have a long-term commitment to support Evelyn, a student living in Peru, through the charity Compassion.

Working with other parishes

At St Nicolas Church we have had our problems resulting from the onslaught of the Covid pandemic and also being in interregnum. For my part, I believe that we have managed our worship and general administration remarkably well, all through the corporate efforts of church members. One way or another we have maintained the continuity of our services, both online for a time and now back in person again. We have remained undaunted.

This has not been the case with so many other churches locally, in particular the more rural parishes with smaller congregations and less resources than ourselves. They have been struggling to keep their worship going with any continuity and desperate for people to help with their services.

The supporting team at St Nicolas has been such a blessing to us all and it has freed me from some duties at St Nicolas to be of help to some of these struggling parishes, particularly in the leading and preaching at their services. Some parishes who are part of a benefice have held combined services to reduce the requirement for people to lead. Even then, it has been a major problem for the churchwardens to fill all the gaps. The whole situation has been exacerbated by there being numerous other vacancies in the deanery. The provision of Holy Communion has been especially difficult due to this shortfall in ordained clergy. From progress made so far, or lack of it, it seems that this is a situation for the long term and these parishes need our prayers and help where we can. I would find it no surprise to see a number of churches closing their doors in the not too distant future.

On a brighter note, these churches have dedicated members who work hard to maintain and bring their faith alive in their churches and communities and will be the core of any restoration and revival as we return to more 'normal' living and, hopefully, we will see the induction of more clergy to fill the vacancies within the Deanery. I have also learned that the 'St Nicolas way' is not the only way to worship. There is a refreshing variety of form and style in the worship of different churches. Bringing to mind the fact that our God is only interested in our true, heartfelt worship – it is us who pick the place and style. God will meet with us anywhere, anytime.

John Hitchcock

Ecumenical Relationships

The church is a member of Churches Together in Nuneaton, and is involved with the Saints project.

Financial Review

St Nicolas P.C.C Treasurer's Annual Report for 2022

I am pleased to say that 2022 was a better year than 2021; after the Covid restrictions were lifted we have been meeting in person at church and more activities have been resumed.

In financial terms we have still made a loss unfortunately, but it is significantly less than it was in 2021 and 2020.

Overall our income increased by £6,767. The hall income was £17,500 higher now that our user groups are all back with new ones starting too. Unfortunately giving has reduced by £7,616 mostly because of a reduction in our planned giving.

Our expenditure was £95,886, only £828 more than 2021. Our Parish Share was reduced in 2022 and this helped us to keep overall expenditure down.

Our energy bills rose sharply towards the end of 2022 and that trend has continued into 2023.

Looking ahead to 2023 we need to address how we can increase our income and manage our expenditure carefully.

Description	2021	2022	Difference	% Diff	Comment
Income					
200 - Planned Giving	£52,610	£44,926	£-7,684	-15%	Fewer regular givers than in 2021
201 - Collections	£1,406	£3,190	£1,784	127%	People now back in church
202 - Donations	£3,067	£2,484	£-583	-19%	A few more high individual donations in 2021
204 - Income Tax Credits	£12,602	£11,469	£-1,132	-9%	Reduction in line with reduced giving
210 - Church Hall Lettings	£6,259	£23,759	£17,500	280%	Lettings now higher than pre Covid
215 - PCC Fees - Retained	£2,180	£2,569	£389	18%	More services in church
225 - Clergy Expenses	£101	£0	£-101	-100%	No vicar's expense claims in 2022
230 - Interest Received	£27	£260	£233	877%	Higher interest rates in 2022
247 - HMRC Furlough Grant	£3,639	£0	£-3,639	-100%	Furlough finished in 2021
Total Income	£81,890	£88,656	£6,767	8%	Overall Income increased with much higher Hall Lettings but significantly less Planned Giving than in 2021
Expenditure					
500 - 10% Giving	£6,630	£8,694	£2,065	31%	10% Giving in 2022 includes some catch up from 2021
501 - Donations and Grants	£213	£811	£598	281%	Eco Church donations and welcome to new vicar
505 - Heat and Light	£4,318	£6,680	£2,409	56%	Steep increase in energy costs in late 2022
506 - Rates and Water	£40	£47	£-40	-100%	No water bill in 2022
507 - Insurance	£6,332	£6,997	£665	10%	General premium increase

508 - Church Repairs	£3,580	£2,502	-£1,079	-30%	Fewer repairs in 2022
510 - Cleaning	£1,622	£5,477	£3,855	238%	Contract cleaners instead of Caretaker from April 2022
511 - Caretaker	£5,026	£1,264	-£3,762	-75%	Caretaker left on 31 March 2022
521 - Weekly Service Costs	£3,360	£3,362	£2	0%	
525 - Clergy Expenses	£78	£0	-£78	-100%	No vicar's expense claims in 2022
527 - Salary Secretary	£5,933	£7,338	£1,406	24%	Increase in hourly rate and hours from April 2022
528 - Printing, Postage Admin etc.	£851	£1,046	£195	23%	Additional software support cost in 2022
530 - Telephone	£877	£739	-£138	-16%	Reduced vicarage telephone cost in 2022
532 - Computer related	£972	£0	-£972	-100%	No specific computer expense in 2022
535 - Parish Share	£54,315	£50,516	-£3,799	-7%	Reduced Parish Share requested by Coventry Diocese
550 - Outreach	£0	£55	£55	0%	Christmas Service cards in 2022
565 - Independent Examination Fee	£1,116	£1,164	£48	4%	Inflationary increase
567 - Recruitment Costs	£624	£21	-£603	-97%	Recruitment costs for new vicar in 2021
Total Expenditure	£95,886	£96,714	£828	1%	Total expenses close to 2021 largely because of lower Parish Share
Income - Expenditure	-£13,996	-£8,057	£5,939	-42%	Lower loss than in 2021, would have broken even if Planned Giving had been maintained at 2021 level

I would like to thank everyone at church and our PCC for their generosity and support during the year, and again we are grateful to Burgis and Bullock for completing their review of our finances.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider that the liquid unrestricted reserves required by the Church should ideally be equivalent to a minimum of 3 months operating costs to cover the costs of winding up that would be incurred in the case of the Church ceasing to operate.

Thank you

Jim Keeley Treasurer

Please ask me about the various ways that you can give to the church.
Email jimkeeleyhome@hotmail.com mobile 07906 220330 or ask me in church.

Optional Information

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to mention our churchwardens Garry Clark and Nick Shaw who have worked so tirelessly on our behalf and Jim Keeley who has helped us all to understand the church's accounts and its finances.

Structure, governance and management

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio*, co-opted to fulfil a certain role, or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules as revised in 2022. Elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members are the trustees of the Church, registered with the Charity Commission.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

PCC Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law, it has the power, delegated by the PCC, to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to directions given by the Council.

Members: Chris Routledge (Vicar), Nick Shaw (Warden), Garry Clarke (Warden), Peter Rogers (Deanery Synod member), David Bailey (PCC Secretary), Jim Keeley (Treasurer), Carole Harris (Lay Chair of PCC).

Administrative information

How you can get in touch with us:

The Church and the Office are situated on Vicarage Street. Please visit us on Sunday for any of our services

St Nicolas Church

Vicarage Street

Nuneaton

CV11 4AZ

You may phone:

Telephone: 02476 344553

Email: office@stnicolaschurch.org.uk

Website: www.stnicolaschurch.org.uk

St. Nicolas Church is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. Registered Charity Number 1126349

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

		Serving Until	
Chair	Rev Chris Routledge	Vicar (<i>ex officio</i>)	(from September 2022)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Shaw	APCM 2023	
	Garry Clarke	APCM 2023	
Deanery Synod Members	John Hitchcock	APCM 2023	
	Peter Rogers	APCM 2023	
	Dean Moore	APCM 2023	
Elected Members	Jim Keeley	APCM 2024	PCC Treasurer
	David Bailey	APCM 2023	PCC Secretary
	Dawn Beasley	APCM 2024	
	Lynn Keeley	APCM 2025	Safeguarding Officer
	Sally-Anne Veasey	APCM 2023	
	Carole Harris	APCM 2023	Lay Chair of PCC
	Jean Bailey	APCM 2023	
	Marina Betteridge	APCM 2023	
	Adam Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Helen Fielder	APCM 2023	
	Julie Bannister	APCM 2024	

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ST NICOLAS CHURCH, NUNEATON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination, I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 130 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J S Farnell FCA
BURGIS & BULLOCK
Chartered Accountants
1 The Courtyard
Goldsmith Way
Eliot Park
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV10 7RJ

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 December 2022

RECEIPTS	Note 2	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2022	Total 2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income		62,069		6,343		-		68,412	79,361
Income from investments		260		309		-		569	35
Income from Church activities		32,710		25		-		32,735	13,160
Other income		<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		758	2,171
TOTAL RECEIPTS			95,797		6,677		-	102,474	94,727
PAYMENTS	3								
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities		101,543		6,609		-		108,152	109,289
Governance costs		1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
Fixed asset costs		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		-	814
TOTAL PAYMENTS			102,707		6,609		-	109,316	111,219
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS) BEFORE TRANSFERS			(6,910)		68		-	(6,842)	(16,492)
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS			(46)		46		-	-	-
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)			(6,956)		114		-	(6,842)	(16,492)
CASH & BANK BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD 1/1/2022			29,720		33,090		567	63,377	79,869
CASH & BANK BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 31/12/2022			<u>22,764</u>		<u>33,204</u>		<u>567</u>	<u>56,535</u>	<u>63,377</u>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER
2022**

Cash and bank balances	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank current accounts	3,267	9,379	567	13,213	10,624
CBF deposit accounts	19,497	23,825	-	43,322	52,753
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-
Total cash and bank balances	22,764	33,204	567	56,535	63,377
Other monetary debtors					
Outstanding invoices and other debtors	4,616	-	-	4,616	1,870
Income tax recoverable	792	-	-	792	926
	5,408	-	-	5,408	2,796
Monetary liabilities					
Salaries and PAYE	(300)	-	-	(300)	-
Other creditors	(1,195)	-	-	(1,195)	(1,439)
	(1,495)	-	-	(1,495)	(1,439)
Total net monetary assets	26,677	33,204	567	60,448	64,734
Non-monetary assets					
	Original cost		Original cost		
	2022		2021		
	£		£		
Land and buildings - Church Centre	831,040		831,040		
Building improvements to Old Grammar School	53,908		53,908		
Fixtures and equipment (excluding moveable church furnishings held in special trust)	14,301		14,301		
Church AV system	41,153		41,153		
Computer	814		814		
	941,216		941,216		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the receipts and payments basis.

In previous years the financial statements were prepared on an accruals basis, however the Church can now take advantage of preparing financial statements on a receipts and payments basis and has accordingly adopted this basis.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted funds relate to funds which must be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the PCC for particular purposes. Details of the funds held are provided in note 4.

Other monetary debtors

Other monetary debtors include income tax recoverable and amounts invoiced by the PCC which were unpaid at the year end.

Other monetary liabilities

Other monetary liabilities relate to amounts actually owed by the Church at the year end (or best estimate).

2. RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary receipts								
Planned giving	44,926		-		-		44,926	52,610
Collections and other giving	3,190		343		-		3,533	4,800
Donations/Grants	2,484		6,000		-		8,484	9,349
Income tax recovered	11,469		-		-		11,469	12,602
	<u>62,069</u>		<u>6,343</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>68,412</u>	<u>78,361</u>
Investment income								
Bank and investment interest	<u>260</u>		<u>309</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>569</u>	<u>35</u>
Receipts from Church activities								
Church & Room Lettings/contributions	23,759		-		-		23,759	6,259
PCC & Assigned Fees	8,951		25		-		8,976	6,800
Clergy contributions	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	<u>1101</u>
	<u>32,710</u>		<u>25</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>32,735</u>	<u>13,160</u>
Other receipts								
Insurance claim	-		-		-		-	-
Salary recharge - St James Church	<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>758</u>	<u>2,171</u>
	<u>758</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>758</u>	<u>2,171</u>
Total receipts	<u>95,797</u>		<u>6,677</u>		<u>-</u>		<u>102,474</u>	<u>94,547</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

3. PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		Designated Funds		Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church activities								
10% Giving	8,694		-		-		8,694	6,629
Donations & special collections	811		429		-		1,240	354
Parish share	50,516		-		-		50,516	54,315
Assigned and service fees	5,235		-		-		5,235	4,688
Out reach	55		-		-		55	-
Water rates	47		-		-		47	40
Heat and light	6,680		-		-		6,680	4,318
Clergy, vergers and other expenses	-		-		-		-	78
Insurance	6,997		-		-		6,997	6,332
Repairs & maintenance	2,502		-		-		2,502	5,358
Cleaning	6,742		-		-		6,742	6,648
Hall/Office Refreshments	-		-		-		-	170
Music	-		-		-		-	-
Service costs	3,362		145		-		3,507	3,360
Printing, Postage etc	1,046		-		-		1,046	681
Office telephone	739		-		-		739	877
Computer costs	-		-		-		-	158
Education	-		-		-		-	-
Secretary salary	7,338		-		-		7,338	5,933
Secretary salary - St James Church	758						758	2,940
Recruitment costs	21						21	624
Music Missioner expenditure	-		6,035		-		6,035	5,786
	101,543		6,609		-		108,152	109,289
Governance costs								
Legal fees	-		-		-		-	-
Independent examiners fees	1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
	1,164		-		-		1,164	1,116
Asset purchases								
Fixed asset purchases	-		-		-		-	814
	-		-		-		-	814
Total payments	102,707		6,609		-		109,316	111,219

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Restricted Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Bells Fund	6,025	96	-	-	6,121
Restoration Fund	25,893	309	-	-	26,202
Flowers Fund	341	-	(145)	-	196
Choir Fund	484	-	-	-	484
Organ Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage Fund	93	-	-	-	93
Open Book Fund	108	-	-	-	108
Special collections	146	272	(429)	11	-
Music Missioner Fund	-	6,000	(6,035)	35	-
	33,090	6,677	(6,609)	46	33,204

5. DESIGNATED FUNDS

Designated Fund Movements

Designated Fund Movements	Balance at				Balance at
	01-Jan-22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31-Dec-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Lenton Family Fund	387	-	-	-	387
Ann Parkes for Childrens Activities	180	-	-	-	180
	567	-	-	-	567

5. CONTROLLING PARTY

St Nicolas Church is under the control of its PCC.