

The Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St. Leonard's Lexden

Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2022

Priest in Charge
The Rev'd Matthew Simpkins,
2 Wroxham Close,
Colchester,
CO3 3RQ

Parish Office
St Leonard's Church,
Lexden Road,
Colchester,
CO3 4BL

Registered Charity number 1128302

Administrative information

The parish of St Leonard's, Lexden is part of the Diocese of Chelmsford, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Leonard's Church, Lexden Road, Colchester, CO3 4BL. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956 and Church Representation Rules 2017 and 2020). The charity number is 1128302.

Aims and purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Leonard's, Lexden is responsible for co-operating with the Priest in Charge, the Rev'd Matthew Simpkins, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church. The PCC is specifically responsible for the church building and the church hall and manages the day to day life of the buildings and congregation. The PCC employs a Parish Administrator. The parish serves a population of approximately 6,445 and is mainly residential with three care/nursing homes, three schools, and some retail outlets.

Objectives and activities

We put Jesus at the centre of everything that we do; we try to be a force for good in the world and we believe nothing is impossible with God. Our vision is to serve the community, to proclaim and teach the Gospel through worship and prayer and to be a welcoming and inclusive church where anyone and everyone can feel welcome and accepted. This PCC is committed to living out our faith, both corporately and individually, in ways which serve the local community practically and pastorally.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The COVID-19 pandemic subsided during 2022, allowing the workings of St Leonard's to experience some longer-term stability for the first time since 2019. In person worship, and the hiring of our public places was possible throughout the year. We strove to continue to have a mind to those who remain vulnerable to the infection. Throughout 2022, the Priest-in-Charge received treatment for cancer while continuing in post.

Mission and evangelism

We believe that every member of St Leonard's contributes to mission and evangelism, and we nurture and support them in this. Church members continue to be actively involved across Lexden and Colchester through their everyday lives as well as initiatives such as Colchester CAP Debt Centre, Colchester Foodbank, Dr Bike, St Cedd's Community Café and school governance.

The PCC is committed to supporting mission to young people in the parish. We have an active Junior Church at each Parish Eucharist. All-Age Eucharists usually happened on the first Sunday of the month with young people taking roles in those services. Messy Church resumed in person and continued to expand. Many of those attending this 'fresh expression' are not regular members of other congregations and it is an excellent bridge to our Baby & Toddler Group, schools work and Brick Club. Messy Church forms a significant part of our outreach and remains our second best attended regular act of worship with an average of 19 children and 23 adults in the autumn and winter of 2022.

The Baby & Toddler group continued to flourish during this year. Approximately 65 carers, babies and toddlers attended each week. This continues to be popular with the community of Lexden and beyond, and is of substantial missional importance, attracting many from beyond the church. This group holds services at major festivals and also connects people with our other activities such as Messy Church and Junior Church.

The ministry team is actively involved in all three of the parish's schools through assemblies, visits, and carol services. Our outreach Brick Club resumed in 2022 – on Tuesdays during the school holidays and proved an excellent way of encouraging the non-churched to spend time in our building and among our community.

Our buildings were used by local community groups for gatherings, rehearsals, concerts, carol services and other events in 2022. We hosted 6 regular groups, which formed a key aspect of our community engagement. In partnership with the ecumenical Colchester CAP Debt Centre, a number of CAP Life Skills courses continued across the town. The Bereavement Support Group continues to offer assistance to those living with grief. St Leonard's offered active support to the neighbouring Parish of Shrub End in continuing the St Cedd's Community Café – a community hub which meets twice a month. This includes the Dr Bike initiative, run by members of St Leonard's.

The Summer Fete resumed in time to mark the 200th anniversary of the building of our nave and was well received by the community, as well as raising funds. Our usual Remembrance Day service and Act of Remembrance was well attended.

Men's and Women's breakfasts continued to attract people from the congregation and beyond.

Other charitable service to the wider community involved church members in, and fundraising for, charities including Colchester Food Bank, Colchester CAP Debt Centre, Christian Aid, OMF international, Colchester YES, CYO, Colchester Refugee Action, English for Women, the Next Chapter, the Children's Society, Sheepfold Centre, Essex Integration, Beacon House, Colchester Korban Project, Operation Christmas Child, MacMillan Cancer Care, and the New Hythe parents and baby unit. The PCC aims to give a proportion of income to charities, donating approximately £10,284 during 2022.

St Leonard's also reached out through during 2022 using social media including such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and podcasts.

Worship and prayer

Our pattern of worship is shaped by the Priest in Charge in consultation with the PCC. We are committed to enabling worship which resources those who share in it to live lives of faithfulness and service, is welcoming and attractive to newcomers, and helps to make God known to those on the fringes of faith. We strive to offer a variety of inclusive, thoughtful and high-quality services. St Leonard's worship centres on the Eucharist, and we aim to provide engaging and relevant preaching and maintain a living tradition of choral music. A new music group was introduced alongside the choir at our All Age Services and proved a valuable way of engaging children in our worship.

Our worship draws people from beyond the parish. Our main act of worship is the Parish Eucharist each Sunday, with 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion twice a month, and Evensong and a Eucharist for Wholeness and Healing using once a month in the evening. On the first Sunday of the month there was usually an All-Age Eucharist. Eucharists also held at 10am on Wednesday, and at 8am on Thursday. The main Sunday morning service continued to be broadcast through Facebook.

2022's 'October count' of in-person attendance was 94 adults with 13 children and young people. This does not take into account the number joining us online. By the end of 2022, usually 4 or 5 people would watch the service live online, with many more being engaged after the service. During 2022 there were 21 baptisms, 3 weddings, and 17 funerals were conducted either in church or at local crematoria. The provision of baptisms, weddings and funerals for the parish and community remains a critical aspect of the parish's mission, with new relationships being established and nurtured. Many of those families who approach us for baptism are not yet regular members of our congregations and we are delighted to be able to respond to their desire to bring new family members into the Church. We offer opportunity for further nurturing into the St Leonard's community through our many other activities and fresh expressions including Baby & Toddler Group, Messy Church, Brick Club, and our annual Commemoration of the Departed.

On Sunday 3rd July the Bishop of Chelmsford, The Rt Rev'd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, visited St Leonard's and lead a Festival Eucharist to give thanks for 200th anniversary of the re-building of the church.

On the 8th September, Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II died. We were honoured to offer a number of services in her memory, to toll the bell for the parish, and to collate a Book of Remembrance from the residents of Lexden.

The Rev'd Viv Mendham continued to serve the parish as Associate Priest. Rev'd Jacquie Messinger and the Rev'd Maggie Whiteman continued to serve as Assistant Curates. Retired priest with PTO, the Rev'd Canon Hugh Beavan, and Readers Emerita with PTO, Rosemary Elden, continued to contribute to ministry at St Leonard's. Other visiting clergy and ministers, including the Rev'd Canon Martin Wood and Phyll Wood, made an important contribution during 2022.

Stewardship

During 2022 the PCC ran a Stewardship campaign. This received a positive response both in people contributing their gifts to the running of the church and in financial giving. This campaign resulted in a 14% rise in regular financial giving to the PCC.

Pastoral Care

Much pastoral care within our congregation is informal and mutual. Our team of Pastoral Visitors supports a growing number of individuals in need or with mobility difficulties, and has been increasingly involved in offering home communion, and- with others- in visits and monthly services in our four local care homes. Regular pastoral visiting was usually organised by the Pastoral Co-ordinator, and overseen by the Priest in Charge.

Buildings

The year of 2022 was an interesting one regarding the building. The lightbulbs were upgraded in the nave, which is now a much brighter, lighter building. Work was carried out on the heating system. The building continues to be used most days of the week, which is very satisfying. All the regular maintenance has been carried out with no nasty surprises, and the Quinquennial inspection was undertaken in June 2022.

Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod met twice during the year. St Leonard's was represented on Deanery Synod by four lay representatives and four clergy representatives.

Safeguarding

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church. At St Leonards we are committed to promoting a safer environment and culture, and supporting all those who come into our church. We ensure there is support for any member of the church who has particular responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults. The Parish Safeguarding policy is reviewed regularly and our Parish Safeguarding Officer ensures all those who need to have DBS checks are up to date, and that training for those who require this for their role is arranged. Safeguarding information is displayed in the hall and the church, and a safeguarding folder including the Parish Safeguarding Policy, the *Promoting a Safer Church* booklet and the *Parish Safeguarding Handbook* is available. As the above measures and ongoing practices and policies make clear, the PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Financial review

The annual accounts for 2022 record a total income of £133,351 compared to £214,767 in 2021. In 2021, a generous legacy totalling £95,710 was received which elevated income in that year. A successful Stewardship

campaign took place in 2022. Income from activities for generating funds increased as church hall and church room lettings were again possible. A very successful Summer Fete and a very successful Christmas Bazaar also took place. Tax recovered on Gift Aid, £16,824 in 2022, continues to be a significant area of income. Expenditure in 2022 was £172,410, up on the previous year. Higher energy costs and a higher parish share contribution were partly responsible: indeed, of the total expenditure of £172,410, over £104,000 was for our parish share due to the diocese. Additional expenditure was also incurred to repair the church heating system and to renew hymn books.

PCC donations to charity in 2022 totalled £10,284

On 31 December 2022, the principle balances were £220,106 (excluding the £684,319 value of the church hall) and £252,219 in the restricted and endowment funds. This year the accounts show a deficit balance of £44,912.

Structure, Governance and Management

PCC members are elected and appointed according to the Church Representation Rules 2017. All members of our congregations are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and to participate in the annual elections. As of 31st December 2021 there were 214 names on the Electoral Roll. PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including decisions about its finances. The PCC met six times in 2021. The PCC has a number of subcommittees (Standing Committee, Fabric and Hall, Mission and Outreach, and Children and Young Peoples' Group) which report to the main Council for decisions and approval of major issues. The Priest in Charge and Churchwardens are ex-officio members of all committees.

During the year ending 31st December 2022 the following served on the Parochial Church Council:

Ex-Officio Members

Priest in Charge	The Rev'd Matthew Simpkins
Associate Priest	The Rev'd Viv Mendham
Assistant Curate	The Rev'd Jacquie Messinger
Assistant Curate	The Rev'd Maggie Whiteman
Churchwardens	David Watkins
	Esther Hepstonstall
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Julie Hinchcliffe
Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Amanda Allston
Treasury Team	Clare Cleverdon
	David Burrows
	Adrian Steward
Representatives to Deanery Synod	Mrs Margaret Smith
	Mrs Maureen Watkins
	Mrs Julie Hinchcliffe
	Mrs Linda Firth (from May)

Elected members:

Judith Steele (Secretary)	Mike Firth (from May)
Chris Newton	Janice Cocks
Yvonne Romain	Ruth Windscheffel (until May)
Mary Hanmer (until May)	Matthew Brown (until May)
Nick Allston (from May)	Chris Andrews (until May)

The Standing Committee members are: Priest in Charge, Churchwardens, PCC Treasurer and Secretary.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	General Fund	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021
Incoming resources						
<i>Voluntary income</i>	2a	£111,281	£5,015		£116,296	£204,407
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>	2b	£10,861			£10,861	£4,665
<i>Income from Investments</i>	2c	£2,987	£121	£33	£3,141	£4,005
<i>Church Activities</i>	2d	£3,053			£3,053	£1,690
Total incoming resources		£128,181	£5,136	£33	£133,351	£214,767
Resources expended						
<i>Costs of generating voluntary income</i>	3a	£156			£156	£53
<i>Fund raising trading costs</i>	3b	£5,943			£5,943	£1,158
<i>Church Activities</i>	3c	£157,317	£7,931		£165,248	£144,677
<i>Governance costs</i>		£1,063			£1,063	£927
Total resources expended		£164,479	£7,931		£172,410	£146,815
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		-£36,298	-£2,795	£33	-£39,059	£67,952
<i>Revaluation gains/losses on investments</i>		-£2,528	-£3,325		-£5,853	£3,535
Net movement in funds		-£38,826	-£6,119	£33	-£44,912	£71,487
<i>Transfers between funds</i>	8					
Net movement in funds		-£38,826	-£6,119	£33	-£44,912	£71,487
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2022		£943,251	£248,046	£10,258	£1,201,555	£1,130,069
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2022		£904,425	£241,927	£10,292	£1,156,644	£1,201,555

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	£684,319	£684,319
Investments	6	£107,542	£28,242
Total fixed assets		<u>£791,861</u>	£712,561
Current assets			
Short term deposits		£335,253	£429,503
Debtors		£5,012	£4,665
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>£28,928</u>	£57,999
		£369,193	£492,167
Liabilities			
Agency collections		£1	£500
Accounts payable		<u>£4,410</u>	£2,673
Total Liabilities		£4,411	£3,173
Total assets		£1,156,644	£1,201,555
 Parish Funds	 7		
Endowment funds	8	£10,292	£10,258
Restricted funds	8	£241,927	£248,046
Unrestricted funds	8	£904,425	£943,251
		<u>£1,156,644</u>	£1,201,555

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on Sunday 16th April 2023 and signed on its behalf by

The Revd Matt Simpkins
Chairman

Clare Cleverdon
Treasurer

Matthew J Simpkins

Clare Cleverdon

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2005.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Parish funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds represent monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds are funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

d Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation to the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

e Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2003 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Subsequently all expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1,000 are written off in the year in which they were incurred.

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Income & Endowments

	General Fund	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	FUNDS 2022	FUNDS 2021
a Voluntary income					
Planned giving	£82,909			£82,909	£80,890
Collections at all services	£2,932			£2,932	£1,073
Sundry donations and appeals	£2,029			£2,029	£567
Stewardship Cheques					£1,000
Other funds generated	£2,136			£2,136	
Income Tax recovered	£16,824			£16,824	£16,130
Legacies	£451	£5,015		£5,466	£95,710
Non-recurring one-off grants	£4,000			£4,000	£9,036
	£111,281	£5,015		£116,296	£204,407
b Activities for generating funds					
Church Hall and Church rooms lettings	£7,018			£7,018	£2,301
Fundraising events	£3,842			£3,842	£2,364
	£10,861			£10,861	£4,665
c Investment income					
Dividends and Interest	£2,987	£121	£33	£3,141	£4,005
	£2,987	£121	£33	£3,141	£4,005
d Income from Church activities					
Wedding and funerals fees	£2,423			£2,423	£1,450
Toddler Group	£630			£630	£240
	£3,053			£3,053	£1,690
Total income & Endowments	£128,181	£5,136	£33	£133,351	£214,767

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Resources expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
a Costs of generating voluntary income					
Fees paid to fund raisers	£35			£35	£45
Stewardship costs	£121			£121	
Investment management costs					£8
	£156			£156	£53
b Fund raising trading costs					
Church Hall running costs	£5,747			£5,747	£1,086
Fund raising events:	£197			£197	£73
	£5,943			£5,943	£1,158
c Church activities					
Missionary and charitable giving:	£9,196			£9,196	
Overseas:					
Church Overseas					£1,000
Relief & Development agencies	£180			£180	£395
Home:					
Home missions	£548			£548	£7,695
CAP Partnership	£360			£360	£360
	£10,284			£10,284	£9,450
Ministry Costs:					
Diocesan Parish contribution	£104,932			£104,932	£100,057
Other clergy costs					£50
Church running expenses and administration:	£31,613			£31,613	£24,281
Church fabric and maintenance	£3,237	£635		£3,872	£3,361
Upkeep of services	£6,462			£6,462	£3,019
Training and Education					£100
Mission & Outreach	£289			£289	£3,402
Junior Church and Youth Ministry	£200			£200	£323
Toddler Group	£301			£301	£634
Church Major Repairs - Installation		£7,296		£7,296	
Governance	£1,063			£1,063	£927
Total resources expended	£164,479	£7,931		£172,410	£146,815

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4 Staff costs

2022 £	2021 £
£14,390	£13,422

During the year the PCC made payments to a choir director, organists, cleaner and parish administrator; all part time. These amounts are included in the charge for "Church running and administration". See Note 3c on Page 9

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Total Fixed Assets
Cost or valuation	£	£
At 1 January 2022	£684,319	£684,319
At 31 December 2022	£684,319	£684,319
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2022	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	-
Net book amounts		
At 31 December 2022	£684,319	£684,319
At 31 December 2022	£684,319	£684,319

The freehold land and buildings comprise the parish hall in Lexden Road, Colchester. For accounting purposes the historical cost of this property is unknown and was valued in March 2007 for insurance purposes at £684,319. The property has now been included in the accounts in order to comply with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

6 Investments

	CBF of C of E Investment Fund £	Sir Percy Sanders Trust £	Total Investments £
Market value 1 January 2022		£28,242	£28,242
Addition	£85,152		£85,152
Gain (loss) on revaluation	-£2,528	-£3,325	-£5,853
Market value 31 December 2022	£82,625	£24,918	£107,542

7 Parish Funds

Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Fixed assets for Church use	£684,319			£684,319
Investment fixed assets	£64,471	£7,895	£10,292	£82,658
Current assets	£155,635	£234,032		£389,667
Total funds 31 December 2022	£904,425	£241,927	£10,292	£1,156,644

7a Current Assets - Debtors

Total debtors	£5,012
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7b Liabilities - Agency accounts

	£1
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7c Liabilities - Creditors

	£4,410
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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. LEONARD'S, LEXDEN

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund					
General Fund	£247,587	£119,943	-£158,548	-£2,528	£206,454
Designated funds					
Hall Building	£684,319				£684,319
Church Hall	£2,010	£7,608	-£5,747		£3,872
Choir Robes	£285				£285
Parish Magazine	£1,301				£1,301
Youth	£45			-£45	£0
Toddler Group	£119	£630	-£185		£564
Former Lexden Sunday School	£7,586			£45	£7,631
Restricted Fund					
Fabric Fund	£9,067	£121	-£7,931		£1,257
NS&I Investment/ Papillon	£2,375				£2,375
ChurchWM - Bequest MB	£208,362	£15			£208,377
Sir Percy Sanders Church	£14,121			-£1,662	£12,459
Sir Percy Sanders C Yard	£14,121			-£1,662	£12,459
Religious and other charities		£5,000			£5,000
Endowment Fund					
Fabric Endowment	£10,258	£33			£10,292
Total funds	£1,201,555	£133,351	-£172,410	-£5,853	£1,156,644

The Restricted Funds comprising the Fabric Fund, the Papillon Bequest and the Sir Percy Sanders Trust may only be expended on the specific object for which they are given.

The Endowment Fund is a permanent endowment which requires the income to be spent on the church fabric.

The Hall buildings have been separated from the General Fund to give a clearer indication of funds available for running the Parish.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Leonard's, Lexden

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of St Leonard's PCC Lexden

Year Ended 31st December 2022

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.


Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.

PEYTON TYLER MEARS
Chartered accountant
Middleborough House
16 Middleborough
Colchester
Essex CO1 1QT



29th March 2023