



Financial Statements & Review of the Year 2023

Parish Church Council of St Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield.

Charity Reg No 1128336



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The PCC present their report and the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The PCC have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial and Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Administrative Information

The Church of St Columba is situated on Manchester Road, Crosspool, Sheffield. It is part of the Sheffield Diocese.

The correspondence address is:

The Church of St Columba, 503 Manchester Road, Crosspool, Sheffield S10 5PL.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a registered charity with the Charity Commission since 2 March 2009. Registered Charity 1128336.

PCC members who have served throughout the year 2023 are:

Ex Officio members:

Vicar: The Revd Tracey Morris

Reader & Focal Minister: Steve Ellis (also chair of Finance and Fabric)

Children & Family

Worker & Focal Minister: Tara Osborne

Wardens: Jacky Hodgson
Richard Wales

Deputy Warden: Brenda Nelson

*Representatives on the
Deanery Synod:*

Heidi Adcock
George Wild

Elected Members: Eddie Sherwood (Treasurer)
Clare Fowler (Secretary)
Michael Nelson
Jan Rose
George Wild
Andrew Burkinshaw
Heidi Adcock
Briony Broome

Stephen Hill Representative: Trevor Wilson

Electoral Roll Officer: Peter Brown

Structure, Governance and Management

The Standing Committee consists of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Secretary, Chair of Finance and the Treasurer. Where necessary the Standing Committee may review the planning of any major campaign, but there has been no need to meet during 2023.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll (currently 56 in number) and stand for election to the PCC. There is no formal training offered to members of the PCC but guidance can be and is provided by colleagues and the Diocese as required. The booklet, "Trusteeship: An Introduction for PCC Members" is provided and discussed with all PCC members. Allocation to sub-committees is based on their areas of interest and

specialism. Currently the sub-committees, whose memberships consist of PCC members and co-opted representatives, are as follows:

1. Finance & Fabric
2. Mission & Outreach

All members of the PCC give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Details of expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 5 to the accounts. The PCC met on 6 occasions in 2023, and the Finance & Fabric and Joint Leadership Team each met regularly.

Our Risk Management policy is to provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions, equipment and systems of work for all our employees, casual labour and voluntary helpers, and to provide such information, training and supervision, as they need for this purpose.

We will also endeavour to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all members of the congregation, contractors, visitors and others who may visit the church, its surrounding grounds and any associated buildings.

The allocation of duties for safeguarding and safety matters and the arrangements that we will make to implement the policies are set out in the Safeguarding and Health & Safety Documents currently in force. These policies and the way in which they operate will be reviewed regularly and the appropriate changes made. Employees and voluntary workers will be consulted on a regular basis in order to seek their views on these matters.

Objectives and Values

The Primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrine and practices of the Church of England. St Columba's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

This primary objective is shared as we continue to develop our partnership with Stephen Hill under the overarching covenant between the circuit and the diocese

Shared Values for St Columba and Stephen Hill

We are a community that endeavours:

- To respond to God's love through worship, prayer and service
- To be friendly, inclusive and welcoming; celebrating human diversity in all its richness
- To create space for people to ask questions and grow in their faith through openness, struggle, prayer, laughter and worship.
- To engage with our local area, city and world; committed to promoting justice, peace and solidarity.

These values were summarised by the following phrases which go on the newsheet:

Worshipping God // Including All // Space to explore // Promoting Justice

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of the community of St Columba's and Stephen Hill.

When planning our activities for the year the Vicar and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Review of the year

Worship, prayer and fellowship groups

We continue to worship in Stephen Hill and St Columba's church buildings, alternating on a weekly basis, with the first and third Sundays at St Columba, second and fourth at Stephen Hill, and alternating fifth Sundays.

The first Sunday of the month is usually an All-Age Worship style, and some of those have been a café church.

We are blessed to have a rich resource of folk able to lead and preach, including Rev Tracey, Steve Ellis, Neil Craig, Tara Osborne, Louise Yaull, John Parker and the Stephen Hill Worship Team. We welcomed a new member to the team, Rev Dr Chris Ellis, a retired Baptist minister. We also welcomed several guest preachers including Rev Romeo Pedro (Circuit Superintendent), Rev Ian Parkinson (Associate Archdeacon), Bishop Sophie, Inderjit Bhogal, and local preachers from the Methodist Circuit. As well as the usual seasonal themes we covered Christian Aid Week, Poverty Sunday, Being a Sanctuary, the Climate, and Carer's Sunday in our weekly services.

One highlight was a visit in July from our mission partners from Thailand, Jason, Tracy, Ruby and Libby Day, who shared their work, faith and family situation with us.

Earlier in the year we said goodbye to Jonathan, our keyboard player, after 12 years with us, as he realised a long-time ambition to become a firefighter. John Parker and Ian Sharpe have played for us faithfully, and Liz Bentley & Fiona Burton have helped on occasions. Later in the year we welcomed Marilyn Ellis to the church community, who has taken up the role of music co-ordinator. She has begun working with Tracey, John and Ian in developing the music ministry.

On the last weekend in September, we had a "Church Weekend Away @ Home." We spent time worshipping together and talking about our hopes, dreams and potential barriers for future mission and ministry. We also had a lot of fun and food together and it was a great opportunity to strengthen relationships and build new ones across the covenant community.

Our ministry to Cairn Home, a monthly home communion, has continued. These are facilitated by care worker and former member of our congregation Lis Selwood, and have been led by Steve Ellis.

The Tuesday pastoral prayer group continues its faithful weekly prayer time.

Funerals

Steve and Tracey had the privilege of ministering to bereaved families and conducting 11 funerals in 2023.

Focal Ministry

On 15th January, Steve and Tara were authorised as Focal Ministers by Rev Sally Myers, Director of Focal Ministry, during the morning service.

Living with Loss

This group started in July 2019. The vision for it was originally to be able to provide ongoing support for bereaved relatives following funerals. However, the invitation was extended to anyone struggling with any kind of loss, such as loss of job, independence, as well as bereavement.

The group meets every 6 weeks or so. There is no agenda, and we meet together over tea, coffee, wine, beer, snacks, and chat. Those attending are a mixture of folk, some who are church members, some from other churches and some who are not involved in church at all. Some of the key features of the group are:

- It is very diverse and full of life
- It's informal and unstructured (sort of!)
- There's no pressure to attend
- There's no pressure to talk or share experiences
- It's not at church - it's in a very welcoming and loved home
- There have been a lot of laughs
- Leaders/Facilitators made ourselves available / accessible and part of the conversations.
- It connects with other ministries, e.g. Funeral follow up, Cairn Home
- It sits alongside the other "new" stuff - Tara's work, the joint pastoral prayers, Carers' Café etc - it has the same ingredients

Church and Community Development Worker

We welcomed Sue Stew at the beginning of January. This role fulfils the existing administrator's role of 9 hours supporting the priest and leadership team, plus an extra 6 hours (partly funded by the Church Burgesses) to support community facing roles and activities. Sue has settled in well and has helped Tara with Family Fun Friday. She is also working with Briony and team in preparing for a dementia café to begin in 2024. Sue has also been valuable in helping us keep up to the mark with safeguarding (she is a safeguarding trainer for the Sheffield Methodist Circuit).

Vaccinations and Links with the NHS

The St Columba's site continued as a vaccination centre for the Spring campaign which involved some Saturday clinics. There was an Autumn vaccination programme which for various reasons the local Primary Care Network could not facilitate, but we remain available and may still be used for clinics in 2024.

Our links with the PCN remain strong and in the Autumn we had a fruitful meeting with local social prescribers who now permanently rent the Jim Johnston room as a base for appointments. We are hoping to work with them in 2024 as we offer an occasional Dementia Café. They also plan to use the premises to put on an open day showcasing support and organisations available for those in the community with various needs.

User Groups

Dinky Discoverers, Pilates, Imagine Theatre Company, the W.I., and the quarterly Forum meetings continued, and we were pleased to welcome two new pre-school groups during the year – Bloom Baby Classes on Mondays and Mini Movers on Fridays.

We continue to host one-off events such as children's parties, and fund-raising evenings for various projects.

It is fair to say that all our weekly and one-off users have been hugely grateful for the love and support shown by all the church community.

Looking Forward

Well, what a year we've had! We are heading into 2024 with an even stronger sense of community across the covenant. At the end of 2023 we welcomed a student from St Hild, Hannah Chester, who is having a placement with us for an initial period of 6 months. We have also had new people join us and the Weekend Away @ Home has helped create new friendships and a sense of what the opportunities and challenges might be going forwards.

In 2024 the newly created Eco Group will begin to meet and start looking at how we can be an Eco Church, focusing on our carbon footprint and sustainability. We will be forming the

new EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) Group which will focus on how we can be an Inclusive Church and what being inclusive actually looks like. We will also be continuing to work on our identity as a church community, and we will be looking specifically at how we can reach out further to children, youth and young adults. The creation of the Joint Leadership Team has given us an opportunity to dream of new ways of working together and these conversations will continue, with some exciting possibilities. Let's pray for more resources for all this and an open heart ready to be brave and creative, whilst holding on to those things that are at the heart of who we are. At the centre of all that we do is to try and be the church community that God wants us to be. We all have a part to play and a gift that God has blessed us with to help be a part of this. Let's pray for God's guidance on how we do this.

Revd Tracey Morris & Steve Ellis

Wardens' Report 2023

We have enjoyed working with Revd Tracey Morris during her first year as Priest in Charge of St Columba's, Minister of Stephen Hill and Oversight Minister for Crosspool and Lodge Moor. Congregation numbers have grown by around 20% over the year, and we have added much more variety to our worship.

We are grateful to Steve Ellis, Tara Osborne, Louise Yaull, Neil Craig and Chris Ellis for their roles in leading and preaching alongside Tracey, and in the case of Steve and Tara in particular for their vital work in reaching out to our local community. We are also thankful for Tara's ongoing work on Sundays and during the week with our children and families.

Brenda Nelson has continued as deputy warden during the year, offering much valued support - thank you, Brenda, for all you have done and continue to do.

We are also grateful to Sue Stew who started work with us as Church and Community Support Worker in January 2023. Sue's work offers a valuable resource for the leadership team and provides essential support for the church's community-facing activities.

We would like to express our thanks to Eddie, our treasurer, for the huge amount of work he continues to do for us; to Clare, our PCC Secretary, who is also part of the SacREd Space, AV and intercession teams; to Briony for her pastoral work; to Heidi for the beautiful flower arrangements she provides for both churches (and we look forward to welcoming Heidi back in the Spring); to Debbie, our cleaner; to Michelle who collected and delivered donations to the Fir Vale Food Bank on our behalf; and to all members of the congregation who have offered their unfailing support over the last year.

Richard Wales & Jacky Hodgson

Pastoral Report

St Columba's is a warm and welcoming community. Our congregation are a valuable resource, caring for and supporting each other and those in the community whether they are members of a church or not. We understand the importance of hospitality and ensure that visitors to the church as well as those who use the building are looked after. Some church members have known each other for many years and conscientiously stay in touch with each other, including those who have moved away or whose situations have changed.

Recently Tracey and Steve have re-established home communion visits and this has been greatly appreciated by those who aren't able to attend our services.

Over the last year our Carers Café has continued to grow. The meetings are organised in partnership with Sheffield Carers Centre and we meet every month at Stephen Hill. The group includes carers from Fulwood, Crookes and Stannington and sometimes further afield. This year we've welcomed a range of speakers - Trading Standards, South Yorkshire Police, Diabetes UK and had advice on wills and Power of Attorney and the impact of living with dementia. We've met socially and been out for Christmas lunch together. The most important part of the meeting is the opportunity it provides for our carers to share their concerns and experiences with each other.

A number of our carers support someone living with dementia and we have become aware that dementia is now an issue that touches many others in our community. This year we started to discuss the possibility of a regular meeting where carers could bring their loved ones and have some time together, with refreshments, crafts and music. At the Crosspool Festival we had a wonderful evening when the Lost Chord charity came to talk about their work bringing music into the lives of those living with dementia. There is a great deal of support for this initiative across the community and we hope to take this forward in the coming year.

Briony Broome

SacREd Space

The team of Adrian Scott, Monica Sutton, Anesia Nascimiento-Cook, Heather Schofield, Fiona Watson, Clare Fowler and Tracey Morris enjoyed another year of putting together quiet reflective services. These take place on the second Sunday evening of each month and use music, poetry, art, rituals, meditation and silence to provide a space for reflection. This year we alternated Compline style services with themed sessions including "Hope", "Horizons", and "Holy". SacREd Space continues this year and all are welcome.

Clare Fowler

Open Room Sessions

During 2023, small groups have continued to meet regularly via Zoom to share, learn and discuss, following a rolling programme on the themes of:

- The Bible through Middle Eastern eyes, led by Kate Cornwell and Neil Craig
- Hard times require furious dancing, led by Clare Fowler and Adrian Scott
- Wrestling with angels, led by Briony Broome and Steve Ellis

We have continued to meet on Zoom rather than in person because some of those who attend are not members of the St Columba's and Stephen Hill congregation and may not live locally.

Jacky Hodgson

House Groups

Our house group has nine members and meets once a month at George's home. We open with a short prayer or reading and then we share a Bible study. We talk about the passage and often find something helpful in it. Sometimes George prepares handouts with maps of the places we are reading about, or we might watch a short film that illustrates the chapters we've read. This year we've studied Colossians, and the letters of James and Peter.

Later, we enjoy tea and an excellent array of biscuits and catch up with everyone's news. We all value this time together and our caring fellowship.

George Wild and Briony Broome

Flowers

We enjoyed lots of seasonal British flowers this year. Bright tulips in January, a proliferation of daffodils for Mothering Sunday and regal red and white roses, with bluebells made a splash for the royal Coronation.

We celebrated a beautiful May wedding in pink. Our wedding party enjoyed an abundance of pink alstroemerias. The wedding flowers were sustainably sourced, British flowers, without plastic packaging. Additionally, the church was decorated with two lilac trees brought indoors just for the weekend, tied with compostable ribbon. On our eco church journey we have continued to use more glass vases, reusable and recyclable materials. We have also enjoyed several dried and silk flower displays in both churches, including poppies in November.

At our fabulous away weekend @home, congregation members made a recycled egg box poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday and attendees were invited to make floral jam jar decorations to share with friends, including those unable to attend. On Christmas Eve we had very fragrant white narcissi alongside more traditional Christmas foliage.

Throughout the year we continued to remember members of our congregation no longer with us, with love and in floral tributes including Brian in December and Mary in October.



Heidi Adcock

Sanctuary

Once again, the Church would like to express our appreciation for the faithful work of John Norman in taking care of the sanctuary, changing the frontals in the worship area to fit the changing church seasons, and providing materials such as candles for Easter and Advent. During 2023, John has also shared some of his considerable knowledge with other members of the team.

Jacky Hodgson

Mission and Outreach Committee

During the past year, St. Columba's has maintained its close partnership with a small number of specific overseas mission workers, currently based in Uganda and Thailand, in addition to providing more general support to a wide range of charities at home and abroad. This partnership is based not only on financial donations but on prayer and regular contacts by e-mail and other forms of communication if and when these are available and practical. Clearly the changing situations in many areas in the last year have not always been helpful but have largely been overcome.

Our support for Jason and Tracy Day, our Church Mission Society (CMS) partners and their children, Ruby and Libby, began in 2007 before they moved to Thailand from Tansen Nursing School in Nepal. Some 5 years later Jason was offered a post with OMF (Overseas Mission Fellowship), a partner organisation of CMS, using his extensive experience in human resource management to provide support for Christian mission workers in many parts of East and South-east Asia. This has been a major challenge as many of the workers are in areas where Christian evangelism is discouraged and they may be in danger of persecution for their work. Tracy has worked in various volunteer roles as well as prioritising caring for their two children but has also recently taken on an extra responsibility as Child Protection Officer for OMF. Pressures on Christian groups in parts of the area for which Jason is responsible have increased in recent years while Jason and Tracy's financial situation has also become more difficult, largely because of changes in the value of sterling relative to the Thai baht. They repeatedly express their thanks to St. Columba's for the support they receive from both the Church as a whole and from individual members. They have maintained very close relationships with members of St. Columba's via frequent e-mails, regular link-letters and occasional phone calls and letters as well as through a good number of visits to Church during their home visits every few years including in summer 2023. Sadly Jason's father has since passed away following an accident. This has caused Jason to spend some time back in the UK while the girls are with Tracy in Thailand in what may be the final school year for Ruby.

Links with our current East African MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) partners Geoff and Celia Linkletter began in 2015 following the retirement of Ian Sinkinson who was based in Nairobi but for some years had a wide managerial role for MAF in East Africa and neighbouring areas. This involved him in considerable travel but also enabled him to visit St Columba's quite frequently with his wife Dadirai, who was very actively involved in charitable work in her homeland, Zimbabwe. Together they provided many insights into Christian mission activities in Africa. Geoff and Celia, their successors as our MAF partners, live near Kampala in Uganda where Geoff is an aircraft maintenance engineer at Kajansi, while Celia works in the MAF Office there and leads a local house group among her other activities; their daughter, Mim, is at school locally and has had to cope with many problems similar to those in schools in much of the world during the Covid pandemic, including temporary school closures. Geoff's work is crucial in MAF's efforts to develop links with remote parts of Uganda and neighbouring countries where organisations such as UNICEF provide economic, medical and educational facilities to refugee camps and other needy areas. Uganda has over a million refugees according to some recent estimates, many of them in camps near the borders with South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Both these countries have suffered recent political conflicts which have caused rapid expansion of refugee numbers in Uganda as well as its neighbours. Variable climatic conditions in recent years have also caused access to troubled areas to be almost impossible at times, except by air. Lake Victoria is an area with special problems. Links between islands in the lake are largely by traditional wooden boats and one recent accident resulted in the loss of 25 lives, which could have been more without help from MAF. A trip from Kajansi by plane to one of the few island hospitals on Lake Victoria would take about 20 minutes but by traditional transport including boats maybe 8 hours. No wonder a recent letter from Geoff and Celia recognised the beginning of the rainy season and its unreliable nature as

significant for MAF. Geoff's work has also been affected by changes in local flying regulations and political events in neighbouring countries (e.g. Chad) making it difficult to continue with routine repair work there.

As in previous years, recommendations have been made to PCC concerning the annual distribution of grants from Church income given to local, national and international charities we support. Details of charities helped in this way in 2023 are given below. In addition, various other charitable donations have been made during the year in response to particular appeals, including collections made at some special services.

Charity	Grant allocated
Alzheimer's Society	£220
Care in Crosspool	£240
Cavendish Centre	£200
Christian Aid	£1,000
City of Sanctuary	£600
CMS (mission partners)	£2,000
Macmillan Nurses	£180
MAF (mission partners)	£1,400
Mary's Meals	£180
Open Doors	£250
Practical Action	£400
Sheffield C.C.C.C.	£480
Sheffield Downs Syndrome Support Group	£180
St Andrew's Child Contact Centre	£220
St. Luke's Hospice	£400
Taste	£200
UK Sepsis Trust Ltd	£150
Total allocation	£8,300

Bill Hornby & Jacky Hodgson

Children and Families Work

The Children and Families work throughout 2023 has been very exciting with several groups meeting:

Blast Kids

Meets on the 2nd and 5th Sunday of the month. We have continued to look at the Bible and explore their faith by using the Rooted Journals. This is something that each child has and will continue to use until filled out, then they can take this home to look through and grow from. We have had a few kids participate in Blast Kids throughout the year. The great news is that these children's faith has developed/grown and most of them have either been baptised or want to be over the next year. Seeing them take a step of faith for themselves is really encouraging. Please do continue to pray for the children. Even though they are small in numbers they are mighty in faith!

Godly Play

Meets on 3rd Sunday of the month. This started getting put together in the mid-year of 2022. We were gifted a lot of Godly Play resources from the Montgomery Centre, which I have taken and with the help of Kathryn Lord turned it into a Godly Play Resource Centre. There are new units, and the stage has been cleared so it is all organised to be used at any time. Please pray for this to be a support to others and a space to connect with the wider community. We are open on Mondays 11am till 1pm and Fridays 10am till 12pm for people to pop in and borrow the stories and watch a Godly Play Story.

All Age Service/Cafe Church

This session is on the 1st Sunday of the month at 10.30am. This is unlike the format of the regular Sunday service. We have crafts, stories, action songs, bible reading and quizzes, video clips. The Cafe Church services went to every 3 months, which we felt worked much better. Sadly, we have not had many families due to the timing of the service, and for this reason in 2024 we plan on removing this from the Sunday morning service and relaunching a new Cafe Church as a fresh expression at a different time. We will continue to do an All-Age service on a Sunday morning on the first Sunday of the month.

Family Fun Friday

Meets on the 1st Friday of the month at Stephen Hill. This group has grown and grown and is now regularly seeing on average 13 to 16 families attend. This group has craft and board games, prayer station with tuckshop in the foyer. Then a film in the main Church worship area, and the hall has ping pong, indoor football and badminton. We have now added a quiet area as the group can get quite loud. We have had to ask for more and more volunteers, but I am happy to say God is good and providing them. We are now a team of ten that work hard in all different areas of the church. The families that are attending are not regular Church goers, but they have found this a place to connect with others and start to establish this as an area for them to feel welcome and loved. I would love in 2024 to arrange a day trip out.

Bumps, Babies and Bairns

This group meets at Stephen Hill every Tuesday during term time at 10am till 11.30am. This group has had lots through the door over the years and we have got things in place so the new people that attend feel welcomed and invited to stay and connect with others. The numbers range from 15 to 40 every Tuesday. We had pop up crafts and activities for toddlers throughout the year but from the start of 2024 there will be a tuff tray activity every session.

Outdoor Church

This group meets instead of Blast Kids on the 2nd Sunday of the month from May to October, and we explore the great outdoors and learn about God and what we can do to help our environment, not forgetting climbing trees and sharing snacks together. We usually have between 6 and 15 attend this group which is nice. We hope when we bring this back in 2024 to try and help in the St Columba's and Stephen Hill gardens.

Lydgate Junior Assembly

I have been invited into Lydgate Junior School on a regular basis for assemblies every other week from September 2023, which I have loved being involved in. This has been a great connection as I have been able to talk and connect with the head of the school, Mrs Hurding, and the head of year 6, Mrs Shaw. They have enjoyed and liked all that I have been doing in the assemblies so much that they have allowed me to lead an assembly in whatever subject I want, which is such a blessing. I see over 600 children every fortnight, and some of these children have started attending Family Fun Friday. Please continue to pray for all the work and connections there.

Lydgate Junior Craft with Meaning Lunch Club

Since September 2023 I have also been invited, on a permanent basis, to run a lunchtime club on whatever I wanted. This group meets every Thursday from 11.30am to 1.15pm. I decided after talking with the pupils that a craft club was a great idea. So, I came up with "Craft with Meaning" which is a lunch time club open to all pupils to come and make a craft but with a meaning behind it. Sometimes it has a Bible verse, poem or bible story. This has grown in numbers from as few as 20 to over 100 so I have been moved into the main canteen area where I see all the children in the school, and they get to connect with me over craft and talk about their life and God and their week. This is such a blessing to be involved in. Please do pray that it can continue to grow in conversation about faith.

Uniform groups

I was invited to work with the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in a Nativity Service this year. I visited the Cubs to run 2 Family Fun Friday sessions and 2 sessions with the Beavers to teach them BSL sign language (Away in a manger) to perform for everyone at the Christmas Nativity. This service went very well and was attended by over 145 people in Stephen Hill. The hope for next year 2024 is to try and do this again. We also involved the Rainbow groups in the Flag parade down Benty Lane for the opening of the Crosspool Festival in June 2023. This was very well attended, and we hope to do this again in 2024. I do hope to work with the uniform groups more over 2024. Please pray for these groups to connect with us more in services and events.

Tara Osborne

Financial Review 2023

The unrestricted funds income for 2023 totalled £106,994 (2022: £91,257) and this is detailed in the financial statement. Planned Stewardship Giving through envelopes and bankers orders has seen an increase from 2022, reflecting increased numbers attending church regularly. Planned giving, excluding tax recoverable, was £50,826 (2022: £47,392); and gift aid giving, including tax recoverable, was £52,936 (2022: £49,358). Our income from cash collections increased to £2,109 compared to £1,570 in 2022. We introduced in 2023 easy to pay swipe card technology, and this may also be starting to have a positive impact.

This year, as the need for us to act as a Covid-19 vaccination centre reduced significantly, we have been able to re-promote the hire of our facilities for community use. This has led to income in 2023 of £12,569 (£10,182 of which is non-vaccination centre income) compared a 2022 total of £12,231 (£5,737 of which is non-vaccination centre income).

A total of £103,526 (2022: £99,594) was expended from unrestricted funds before exceptional items, including the common fund contribution to the diocese of £38,272 (2022: £38,272). Our partner, Stephen Hill Methodist church also contributed to the cost of ministry via the common fund. The church's overall giving in support of charitable work within and beyond the parish, both church and secular, was £10,378 (2022: £8,350), which accounts for around 10% of our ordinary income. Beneficiaries receiving £500 or more are detailed in the financial statement.

During the year, the PCC decided to relet, rather than sell, our flat at 20 Moorbank Road. Hence in 2023 the gross income from this was of £7,599 (2022: £1,438).

The investment portfolio value at year end 2023 was £284,708 (2022: £264,536). This consists of shares and cash managed by Finn & Co, and the CBF Church of England investment and Deposit funds. In the autumn 2023, The Finance & Fabric reviewed our investment strategy from an ethical and eco perspective. We held a meeting with Alan Fleming from Finn & Co who manages our portfolio. This was very constructive and as a result, there has been a number of changes to the companies that we invest in. Historically, we have sought to avoid being associated with any direct investment in tobacco and gambling. We have extended this to also exclude direct investment in fossil fuels, arms and weaponry. Our portfolio now longer includes shares in Shell, BP and have instead, increased our shares in renewable energy companies. We have also purchased Government Bonds and invested in Asset Management Trusts that deal with investments that are compatible with our strategy, with an emphasis on renewables. Together, around £30,000 of our investments have been changed. Whilst this may lead to less dividends in the short term of around £1,500, it is a price we believe is acceptable for achieving a more ethical and eco friendly portfolio.

Full details of all these investments can be provided to church members on request.

The net result for the year was a surplus on unrestricted funds of £13,503 (2022: £6,967 deficit); this after accounting for gains of £10,035 on investments (2022: £1,370 gains)

The net result on restricted funds was £nil (2022: £672 deficit). The balance carried forward on restricted funds totalled £6,373(2022: £6,373)

The total amount of unrestricted funds has increased in the last year to £488,508 (2022: £475,005); and the total amount of restricted funds is unchanged at £6,373 (2022: £6,373). Combined, our total funds as at 31/12/2023 were £494,881 compared to £481,378 in 2022.

Reserves and Designated Funds policies.

In November 2020 the PCC introduced a designated funds policy to replace the legacy policy. It also reviewed and updated the reserves policy. Both policies determine how we spend the investments held by the church. It is PCC policy on reserves to maintain a balance on funds which equates to six months payments. This is equivalent to around £55,000. We have retained investment of £27,728 in the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund. There is a further £63,011 in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

In 2023 we anticipated a high draw down of the designated funds to help towards the costs of children's work and other mission and capital priorities. In reality, we actually did not require any transfer of funds as we were able to manage utilising the cash reserves held in our current account. We used £0 of the designated funds (other than that held in our current account) compared to £15,000, in 2022, £0, in 2021, £15,000 both in 2020 and 2019; £35,000 in 2018 and £62,000 in 2017.

Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Church of St Columba (Crosspool) (PB2014) participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on

investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2023: £2,429, 2022: £1,797, 2021 £1035).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the 2019 valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2024, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 5% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2023. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the 2019 valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022. Calculations for this are currently under way.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, the Church of St Columba (Crosspool) could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

Members' responsibility for the financial statements

The members of the PCC (Members) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the members to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The members are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 04/03/2024 and signed on their behalf by

Jacky Hodgson and Richard Wales Church Wardens

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 21 to 28

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity'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.

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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- ☐ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- ☐ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: _____

Craig Williamson
White Rose Accounting for Charities
The Ghyll
Threapland
Aspatria
CA7 2EL

Date: _____

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Notes			£	£
Income					
Income from					
Donations and legacies	2	72,379	-	72,379	63,532
Charitable activities		14,049	-	14,049	14,811
Other trading activities		-	-	-	399
Investments		20,566	-	20,566	12,515
Total Income		106,994	0	106,994	91,257
Expenditure					
Charitable activities		103,526	-	103,526	100,266
Total expenditure		103,526	0	103,526	100,266
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources		3,468	-	3,468	(9,009)
Net gain/ (losses) on investments		10,035	-	10,035	1,370
Net income / expenditure		13,503	0	13,503	(7,639)
Total funds brought forward		475,005	6,373	481,378	489,017
Total funds carried forward		488,508	6,373	494,881	481,378

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		2023	2022
	Notes	£	£
Fixed Assets	4	-	
Tangible fixed assets		160,000	160,000
Investments		284,708	264,536
		<u>444,708</u>	<u>424,536</u>
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	5	11,139	10,390
Short term deposits	6	27,728	27,728
Balance at bank and cash		13,970	20,058
Total current assets		<u>52,837</u>	<u>58,176</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,665)	(1,335)
Net Current assets		50,172	56,841
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>494,881</u>	<u>481,378</u>
Total net assets		<u>494,881</u>	<u>481,378</u>
Represented By			
FUNDS			
Unrestricted income fund		488,508	475,005
Restricted		6,373	6,373
		<u>494,881</u>	<u>481,378</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 4th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Church Wardens

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 (effective from January 2015 and updated with effect from January 2016) - (the Charities SORP (FRS102)), as modified for smaller charities.

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined under FRS102.

Income

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid or otherwise is recognised only when received. Collections are recognised when received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is recognised.

Grants and legacies are counted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable. Income from the use of the church's premises and investment income is recognised when it becomes due and payable.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets the criteria is identified to the fund together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Funds are other income received or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if the award creates a binding obligation on the Parochial Church Council. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Any parish share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in the accounts as an operational (though not legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounts for gross of VAT.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated property and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated property is excluded from the financial statements by s10 (2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011. Unconsecrated moveable furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trusts for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property. Such property is listed in the church inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Most of the church's inalienable property was acquired well before the year 2001 and, as there is insufficient cost information readily available, such property has not been valued in the counts. Items acquired since 1 January 20012 are capitalised and depreciated in the financial statements on a straight-line basis over their currently anticipated useful life.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Major items of equipment acquired for us within the church premises are capitalised and depreciated in the financial year statements on a straight lined basis over four years. Other items of equipment costing £2,000 or less are written off in the financial statements in the period in which they are acquired.

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 Income

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies		
Planned giving:		
Gift Aid donations	43,114	39,172
Income tax recoverable	11,482	10,186
Other planned giving	7,713	8,220
Cash collections on plate	2,109	1,570
Donations unrestricted	3,311	4,384
Grants	4,650	-
Donations. Collections and appeals for charities	-	-
Soup run	-	-
	72,379	63,532
Charitable activities		
Church Hall lettings	11,986	12,620
Fees	2,063	2,191
	14,049	14,811
Other trading activities		
Womens Empowerment Day	-	399
Luncheon Club takings including trips	-	-
	-	399
Investments		
Dividends and interest	12,967	11,077
Flat rental income	7,599	1,438
	20,566	12,515

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 Expenditure	Total 2023	Total 2022
Charitable activities		
Grants		
Church overseas: (note 11)		
- Missionary societies	4,753	4,150
- Relief & development agencies	606	300
Home missions and other church societies	1,874	1,315
Secular charities	2,944	2,550
Ministry:		
Diocesan Parish Share and fees	38,837	38,522
Vicar's discretionary fund and expenses	529	91
Children & Family Worker	15,224	13,981
Superannuation	1,425	1,055
Buildings:		
Caretaking and cleaning	6,419	6,295
Gas, electricity and water	7,243	5,588
Insurance	1,646	1,496
Equipment	331	902
Repairs and maintenance	2,346	11,813
Flat expenses	1,766	1,849
Worship expenses	618	147
Organists' fees	919	2,815
Teaching and training	486	449
Womens Empowerment Day		1,013
Children and young people's activities and worship	874	561
Messy Church	-	-
Luncheon Club	-	-
Soup run	-	37
Sundry expenditure	1,058	773
Website	-	922
Vaccination Centre	343	1,605
Printing, stationery, publications & postage	528	111
Telephone	1,557	1,016
Remuneration of secretarial assistant	10,228	-
Independent examination fees	575	550
Payroll	396	360
	103,526	100,266

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

4 Fixed assets

4a Tangible Fixed Assets

Investment
properties
£

Valuation at 1 January 2023

160,000

At 31 December 2023

160,000

The investment properties comprise a flat within 20 Moorbank Road which was received as part of a legacy during 2009. This was originally capitalised at its estimated valuation of £100,000. A valuation as at 31 December 2015 was carried out by Blundells who valued the property at £160,000 based on current use value. Blundells are a professional valuer with recent experience in the location and class of investment property being valued.

4b Investments

2023

£

Market value and cash at 1 January 2023

264,536

Additions

-

Dividends

10,137

Net (loss)/gain on revaluation at 31 December 2023

10,035

Transfers

-

Market value at 31 December 2023

284,708

Investments at Market Value comprised:

CBF Church of England Investment Fund

63,011

Equities

197,056

Cash held by Stockbrokers

24,641

284,708

These investments are shares in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund and a share portfolio managed by JM Finn & Co. The original cost of the CBF shares retained at 31 December 2015 was £6,835 and the original cost of the other shares is £nil as they were given to the PCC.

No holdings in the investments represent more than 10% of the value of the portfolio at 31 December 2022.

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

5 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	10,500	10,000
Hall charges and other receivable income	407	390
Fees	232	-
	11,139	10,390

6 Short term deposits	2023	2022
	£	£
These are funds deposited in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and relate to:		
General Fund	27,728	27,728

7 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	2023	2022
	£	£
Liabilities for goods and services	2,665	1,335
Prepayments	-	-
	2,665	1,335

8 Analysis of net assets by fund	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	160,000	-	160,000
Investments fixed assets	284,708	-	284,708
Current assets	46,464	6,373	52,837
Current liabilities	(2,665)	-	(2,665)
	488,508	6,373	494,881

Parish Church Council of ST. Columba, Crosspool, Sheffield

Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 December 2023

9 Funds

Restricted Funds	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance c/fwd £
Luncheon Club	3,725	-	-	3,725
Covid 19 Community Hub	1,612	-	-	1,612
Communications Project	328	-	-	328
Soup Run	608	-	-	608
Sacred Space	100	-	-	100
	6,373	-	-	6,373

There has been no income or expenditure with our restricted funds. The Lunch Club has not resumed after Covid but the soup run has started up again.

Transfers are made from unrestricted funds to cover any restricted funds in deficit.

10 Staff costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	22,562	23,091
Pension costs	1,425	1,035
	23,987	24,126

There were no payments in excess of £60,000 p.a. (2022: Nil).

No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC member or their relatives. One payment of £850.00 was paid to Sherwood Building & Maintenance Services for repairing the flat roof and guttering, some double glazing and painting work. This business is owned and run by Mr. D Sherwood who is the son of the PCC treasurer. Mr. E Sherwood made this relationship known to the PCC and takes no part in the decisions relating to this work and its costs, which were made by members of the Finance & Fabric Committee, on behalf of the PCC.

11 Beneficiaries receiving £500 or more were:

	Unrestricted funds £
Christian Aid	1,000
Church Mission Society	2,000
City of Sanctuary	600
Mission Aviation Fellowship	1,400