

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst

**Registered charity number 1128599
with the Charity Commission (England and Wales)**

also known as

The PCC of the Parish of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Contents	Page
Annual Report	1-10
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	11
Independent Examiner's Report	12
Statement of Financial Activities	13
Balance Sheet	14
Notes to the Accounts	15-24

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst ("The PCC")

Also known as "The PCC of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst"

The PCC was registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission (England & Wales) in 2009 under registration number 1128599 under the requirements of the Charities Act 1993 (now the Charities Act 2011)

Annual Report for 2023

Reference and administrative information

Incumbent: The Revd. Douglas Wren Until April 2023, thereafter in vacancy

Address: Church Office
The Rectory, Southfields
Speldhurst
Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 0PD

Principal Bank: National Westminster Bank
89 Mount Pleasant Road
Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1QJ

Independent examiner: Foot Davson Ltd
Lonsdale Gate, Lonsdale Gardens
Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1NU

Website: <http://speldhurst.org/church/>

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

Incumbent: The Revd. Douglas Wren (Chairman until April 2023)

Churchwardens: Helen Coffin (St. Mary's) (Until May 2023)
Becky Leeves (St. Mary's) (Until May 2023)
Julie Pinnell (St. Mary's) (from May 2023)
Ian Firth (St. Mary's) (from May 2023)
Chris Lilly (St. Martin's)
Tom Watson (St. Martin's)

Deputy Churchwardens: Winston Blake (St. John's)
David Crundwell (St. John's) (Until May 2023)
Anthony Joyce (St. Mary's)
Glyn Williams (St. Mary's)

Deanery Synod: Martin Atkinson (St. Mary's) Until June 2023 (Also Vice Chairman)
Peter Soyke Until June 2023
Glenn Pottow From June 2023

	Polly Joyce	From June 2023
<i>Elected members:</i>	Adrian Dawes (St Mary's)	(also deputy Vice Chairman)
	Arlene Fane (St. John's)	(Until May 2023)
	Carolyn Firth (St. Mary's)	(also Secretary)
	Ian Firth (St. Mary's)	(until May 2023)
	Heather Hughes (St. Mary's)	
	Graham Riddick (St. Martin's)	
	Tracy Watson (St. Martin's)	(also St. Martin's DCC Treasurer)
<i>Co-opted member</i>	Martin Atkinson (St. Mary's)	(from June 2023)
	George Carter (St. Mary's)	(also Treasurer)
	Dawn Pottow (St. Mary's)	(also Parish Safeguarding Officer)
	Rev. John Perkins (Clerk of Holy Orders)	

Other ministers in the Parish

John Perkins and Sheila Perkins are priests. John Buckle, Jenny Fitzsimmons, David Lamey and Karol Leeves are Readers and Sarah Bullett and Karol Leeves are Pastoral Assistants, all with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate.

The PCC presents its Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Basis of preparation of the accounts

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, 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 Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Structure, governance and management of The Parish

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and is a charity registered with The Charity Commission (England & Wales) ("The Charity Commission") number 1128599, the registration covering all three churches in The Parish. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules.

The Ecclesiastical Parish of Speldhurst with Groombridge and Ashurst ("The Parish") consists of three districts corresponding to the churches of St. Mary the Virgin, Speldhurst, St. John the Evangelist, Groombridge and St. Martin of Tours, Ashurst. The Parish came into being on 1 April 1977 after an Order in Council confirmed a Pastoral Scheme uniting the two Benefices and Parishes, Speldhurst with Groombridge (which was one parish previously) and Ashurst, into a single parish. In 2009 a Special Parochial Church Meeting made, and the Bishop's Council and Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod approved, the current scheme under which St. Mary's and St. Martin's operate with their own District Church Council ("DCC") while St. John's operates through a committee of The PCC ("The Committee") which as such receives guidance from The PCC. The Scheme provides rules for the operation of the two DCCs and The Committee.

Each DCC, under delegated authority from The PCC, has the functions, powers and duties of a parochial church council within its district, subject to certain exceptions and limitations, in particular concerning financial and contractual matters. The PCC has delegated to The Committee the day to

day running of St. John's but retains a more hands-on approach as compared to the two churches with their own DCCs.

The members of The PCC are appointed as follows:

- The Incumbent, any curates, the Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwardens and the Deanery Synod Representatives are ex officio.
- The Churchwardens are nominated by the Annual Meeting of Worshippers ("AMW") of their respective churches and elected at a Meeting of Parishioners annually for a one year term.
- The Deputy Churchwardens are elected by the AMW of their respective churches for a one year term.
- The Deanery Synod representatives, currently the Parish is allocated 3 participants, are elected at an Annual Parochial Church Meeting ("APCM") for a three year term. Elections last took place in 2023.
- The elected members are nominated by the AMWs and then elected annually at the APCM for one year.
- There are provisions for casual vacancies to be filled.

The PCC deals with those matters specifically reserved for it, those referred to it by the DCCs and The Committee, and those affecting the whole Parish. It has the responsibility of cooperating with the Rector and is responsible throughout The Parish for the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Under the Charities Act 2011 The PCC members, who are the "Trustees of the Charity", take ultimate responsibility for managing all of the affairs of The PCC and therefore of all 3 churches in the Parish. On election The PCC members are instructed in their responsibilities as trustees.

Related parties

Whilst the Rector was in office during 2023 he was an ex officio Foundation Governor of Speldhurst Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School and St. Mary's DCC is required to appoint a further 3 Foundation Governors, while the Diocese of Rochester is required to appoint the final 3 Foundation Governors.

St. Mary's DCC has the power to appoint a Trustee to Speldhurst Village Hall, a charity registered with The Charity Commission with number 287945; the person appointed is not a member of a DCC or the PCC.

Whilst in office the Rector was, and the Churchwardens nominated by St. Mary's are, ex officio trustees of the Speldhurst Recreation Ground, a charity registered with The Charity Commission with number 302846.

The Rector was a trustee of the Special Subjects Room (known as "The Speldhurst 1931 Trust" or "The 1931 Trust") a charity which, due to its small size, is not required to register, and has not registered, with the Charity Commission (England and Wales).

The Trust has as its object benefiting people and organisations within the Parish of St. Mary's. The power to appoint the trustees lies with The PCC as does the power to direct the trustees in the way that they disburse the Trust's funds, although this latter power has not been exercised for some years: both powers have been delegated to St. Mary's DCC.

The DCC of St. Martin's has the right to appoint, for a year at a time, two representative members to The Committee of Management (all of whom are the trustees) of the Ashurst McDermott Hall, a charity registered with the Charity Commission (England and Wales) with number 302673. They are Tom Watson and Tracy Watson, both members of The PCC. In addition Sophie Minoprio is a trustee and a member of St. Martin's DCC.

Details of all transactions with related parties are set out in note 7 on page 18.

Objectives and activities

The object of The Parish is to promote the whole mission of the Church of England within The Parish. As part of this, The PCC, primarily through the DCCs and The Committee, is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the three churches and to become part of their respective church communities. Again, mainly through the DCCs and The Committee, The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout The Parish and considers how the services and other related activities can involve the many groups that live within the districts of the three churches. The services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and outreach.

Risk management

The PCC, through the DCCs and The Committee, has carried out an assessment of the major risks to which The Parish is exposed, as identified by The PCC members. In particular, a child protection policy is in place as part of a safeguarding framework developed in accordance with Diocesan guidelines and the procedure for obtaining approval for those working with children and vulnerable adults is well established.

All three churches and the central Parish function have systems of financial procedures in place for handling cash and for authorising, approving and paying for items of expenditure. Appropriate insurance policies are in place.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of the three churches in The Parish, the clergy and The PCC have considered The Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit and in particular the specific guidance for charities for the enhancement of religion. The activities include the following:

- The provision of public Christian worship open to all.
- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The provision of child and youth activities with a Christian ethos.
- General promotion of Christianity.

Operation of The PCC

The PCC meets as required and has a Standing and Finance Committee which transacts business as required between meetings of the full PCC, subject to any directions given by The PCC. Most of the day to day activities take place in the church DCCs and The Committee as appropriate. The PCC oversees the financial affairs of the DCCs and The Committee and provides The Committee with guidance on additional matters and takes a more active role in the management of St. John's.

The three churches present to The PCC budgets for the year for their respective churches. The PCC approves these and authority is given for the three churches to work within their budgets without further reference to The PCC. The PCC also approves the budget for the central Parish function.

Standing and Finance Committee

This committee is required to be appointed by law. The members of the committee are, and were throughout the year, the Vice Chairman, the Churchwardens, the Deputy Churchwarden appointed by St. John's, the Treasurer of The Parish, the Treasurer of St. Martin's. The Chairman was also a member of the committee until April.

Reserves policy and the cover

The PCC has approved a policy of maintaining at a particular level, the Unrestricted Funds which are designated for the use of the 3 churches, these are the General Funds of each church which are the free reserves of that church. For St. Mary's this is at a level of not less than 4 months' normal expenditure. For St. John's and St. Martin's this is at a level which is between three and six months' normal expenditure, plus a further amount of £16,000 (£10,000 for St. John's, £6,000 for St. Martin's) to cover unexpected repairs to the Churches.

Based on the budgets for 2024, in aggregate normal expenditure for St. Mary's for four months and for St. John's and St. Martin's for three months amounts to £46,169 whilst normal expenditure for four months at St. Mary's and for six months at St. John's and St. Martin's amounts to £54,260. The funds needed to cover this normal expenditure plus the £16,000 for emergency fabric repairs are between £62,169 and £70,260.

At 31 December 2023 in aggregate the General Funds of the three churches amounted to £264,641 and thus are well in excess of the policy limits.

The PCC's Unrestricted Funds, i.e. its free reserves, as opposed to the Unrestricted Designated Funds, are only £434. If the need arose The PCC would have to consider undesignating some or all of these Funds of the three churches, potentially giving it access to what would be additional free reserves of £264,641 from their General Funds, which are unrestricted in the three churches, £45,436 from their Diocesan Church Repair Funds and £49,204 from the Groombridge School House Fund: were all these funds undesignated, it would result in total unrestricted funds of £360,281.

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others – [see note 6 on page 18]

The PCC has acted as an agent for Spring Harvest, under its Group Organiser scheme, and as such collects money from intending participants during the year as they commit to attending, and forwards the money, usually around February. The PCC has also acted as agent for the Diocese of Rochester in the collection of fees for such services as funerals and weddings. This money is directly due to Spring Harvest and the Diocese respectively, not the PCC, and is therefore not included in the income or expenditure of the PCC but does form part of the bank balance, offset by the equivalent liability.

At the year end, the PCC held £12 on behalf of Spring Harvest (2022 £365), these funds are held in a separate bank account. No money was held at the year-end on behalf of the Diocese (2022 £300). Fees of £586 were collected on behalf of retired clergy with Permission to Officiate (PTO). At the year end £107 was held to be paid over to the PTO.

Following Douglas' departure the Rectory has been leased on a short term basis to third party tenants. At the year end the PCC held £565 received from the tenants to settle balances due to a combination of utility providers and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in respect of council tax on the Rectory (2022 £0).

Review of the year

Achievements and performance

2023 has been a year of significant change for the Parish with the departure of Douglas Wren, our long-standing Rector, to take up a new role in a Cornish parish.

Since Douglas' departure in April the Parish has been in vacancy, with significant time being spent by members of all three churches in discussion with the Diocese of Rochester to prepare a Parish Profile, reflecting both the unique and uniting features of each of St Mary's, St Martin's and St John's, for the purpose of advertising the Parish and recruiting a new rector. This process remains ongoing, whilst the UPCC and the Diocese aim to appoint a candidate later in 2024.

Further details on the activities and achievements of the three churches are set out below.

The PCC

The PCC met 4 times during the year and the Standing and Finance Committee dealt with several matters by e-mail resolutions. The two DCCs and The Committee met between meetings and reports of these meetings were received by The PCC and discussed and approved where necessary.

Electoral roll and church attendance

The following Electoral Roll numbers were reported during the year:

St Mary's	144
St Martin's	28
St. John's	13

Deanery Synod

The Tunbridge Wells Deanery Synod meets 3 times a year and comprises representatives of all 20 Anglican Churches (14 benefices) in Tunbridge Wells and Southborough and includes about 25 clergy members and 40 lay members. Meetings include reports on the Bishop's Council, Diocesan Synod and General Synod discussions, followed by an address and/or discussion about a wide range of local and national church related topics.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding has continued to be at the core of our Parish life. The Parish Safeguarding Officer routinely follows up with individuals requiring first time or updated DBS checks and monitors the status of mandatory safeguarding training completion, communicating outstanding actions to individuals directly and to the UPCC throughout the year. Our UPCC members all have up to date DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) Certificates and have completed applicable safeguarding training modules.

Finance

Overall income was £173,018 for the year [2022: £218,673]. This year-on-year reduction was due to the significant one-off legacies received in 2022 which were not repeated in 2023.

Expenditure rose during the year to £196,401 [2022: £179,824]. The overall result before taking account of unrealized fair value movements on investments was a deficit of £23,383 [2022: surplus of £38,849]. The Parish's investments generated an unrealized gain of £17,247 (2022: unrealized loss of £-24,125) on revaluation at year end.

The funds available to The Parish at year end were £372,301 [2022: £378,437]. The balance sheet is currently healthy with sufficient cash to meet all currently foreseeable needs.

Copies of the detailed financial results of each individual church are available on request from the Parish Administrator at the Church Office (see page 1 for contact details). Financial highlights for each of the churches are as follows:

St. Mary's Speldhurst:

Unrestricted income was £52,194 lower than in 2022 at £128,636 [2022: £180,830]. Expenditure rose by £22,652 to £75,550 [2022: £52,898]. Restricted fund income received amounted to £4,850 whilst restricted fund expenditure amounted to £2,825. After contributing to Parish costs and considering the unrealized fair value increase of investments of £11,757 St Mary's showed an overall net decrease in funds of £-8,111 and a closing balance sheet of £237,110.

St. John's Groombridge:

Unrestricted income decreased slightly at £14,050 [2022: £15,130]. Expenditure remained fairly static at £6,854 [2022: £6,723]. Investment revaluations resulted in an unrealized gain of £5,490 for the year. After contributions to Parish costs St John's closed 2023 with an overall increase in unrestricted funds of £4,941. Restricted Funds closed higher at £6,359, the increase of £3,401 resulting from donations and legacies.

St. Martin's Ashurst:

Unrestricted income increased to £16,350 [2022: £13,799]. Expenditure increased to £9,070 [2022: £6,824], resulting in net income for year of £7,280. After contributions to Parish costs St Martin's closed with an overall reduction in unrestricted funds of £-2,052. Restricted fund income rose slightly to £1,967 but this was offset by restricted fund expenditure of £3,514, leading to a closing restricted fund balance of £260 [2022: £1,807].

2024 Budgets:

These show that in the General Funds of the three churches, overall expenditure is likely to exceed total income by about £1,500. The Parish has sufficient financial resources to fund these deficits should all budgeted expenditure be incurred.

Reports of the activities of the three churches of The Parish

The Wardens' report

Our Rector's departure in April made 2023 a busy year for the churchwardens in each of the Parish's churches. In addition to the regular churchwarden duties the wardens have taken on a range of additional tasks that are usually performed by the incumbent, including helping parents with applications for their children to attend Church of England secondary school, finding a new foundation governor for Speldhurst School and preparing a Parish Profile, which is needed to help recruit a new incumbent.

St Mary's wardens have also provided assistance and cover for our Parish Administrator who, unfortunately, was unwell during the fourth quarter of the year. It would have been difficult to cope without the team of leaders, vergers and helpers who have worked so hard to support our mission.

Community engagement

Our engagement with the local community continued through a range of activities in 2023. We were very pleased to be able to serve our community in 2023 through providing several Baptism services, wedding and funeral services in St. Mary's.

At St Mary's Bumps and Babes, who meet fortnightly for coffee, provide a great opportunity both for St. Mary's to get to know new mums in the village, and for mums to get to know one another. As those bumps become toddlers, we encourage mums to bring them along to Praise & Play, a simple act of worship, built around story and song. These relationships continue through school years.

Mothers' Union has continued to support the Rochester Diocese Mother's Union events including the annual Lady Day Service and the Wave of Prayer for our Linked Overseas Dioceses. In our Parish we continued to support Praise and Play by helping on the coffee rota; our Mother's Union group also sent anniversary of Baptism cards to all who have been baptised, helping to keep in touch with their families for four years after Baptism and held a Summer Garden Party raising funds for the Mother's Union Summer of Hope Appeal.

St Martin's main fund-raising event during the year was the Progressive Supper, which represents an excellent opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours in a social setting after a long, cold winter, and this year raised some £900 towards Church funds.

St John's and St Martin's congregations joined together at St Martin's for Harvest Festival in October. St Martin's also held a number of social gatherings in conjunction with some of its main services, often in the form of a Bring and Share meal.

Men On Wednesday continues to attract good support. The group's membership comprises 25 men, drawn from right across the local community. Attendance is often between 15 and 20 people who are all retired and benefit from both the camaraderie and conversation the group affords.

St Mary's pastoral assistants have continued to support those in need through phone calls, home visits including in care homes and hospitals, and taking Holy Communion to those unable to come to church, giving them time and company. Cards are given or sent to those who are sick, in hospital, injured, and the bereaved.

The villagers of Ashurst, and some living outside the area, are kept in touch with St Martin's and village matters through the monthly Ashurst Broadsheet. This is distributed throughout the village and further afield.

From a financial perspective, St. Mary's has continued to give away 10% of its general fund income to charity, and to split this to ensure local, UK wide and international charities are all included. A team of four St. Mary's members consider how to share out the money and recommend its distribution to the Finance Committee, aiming to support worthwhile charities with clear ethical/Christian objectives and low administrative costs.

Growing Disciples

St. Mary's runs a number of Home Groups, where small groups of people within the family of St Mary's aim to deepen friendship and encourage one another to grow in faith, especially through Bible study. Groups meet throughout the week in daytime and in the evening in people's homes around the village.

At present we have 11 groups covering more than 90 members of the congregation and we are always on the lookout for more groups and more members.

Worship and Prayer

During the vacancy we have endeavoured to continue our worship along the same line as in previous years. At St Mary's in particular the mix of ages at our services continues to lead us to think creatively and consider the style preferences and needs of everyone. With the departure of Douglas and Becky Leeves, who led St Mary's music programme for many years so well, various members of the congregation have stepped up to help with both the provision of music and planning ongoing worship activities. St Mary's has continued to thrive in its worship activities in spite of the rector vacancy thanks to the energy of its congregation. At Christmas the two Crib services drew over 400 people to the church on Christmas Eve.

Music continues to support worship and aims to help the congregation engage with God at a the St Mary's Carol Service again this year. Both St John's and St Martin's held candelit carol services in December.

At St John's a joint service was held with the Rochester branch of the Prayer Book Society on Ascension Day whilst the Bishop of Rochester also visited during the year to lead a service of Holy Communion.

Children and Young People

During the year St Mary's saw over 30 families regularly attending services. Sunday children's groups – Little Acorns, Outback and Up and Over - have developed during 2023 through age-appropriate activities linked to the week's Bible passages or, in the case of Little Acorns, the group working its way chronologically through the Bible.

We are blessed with our links with Speldhurst Church of England Primary School, which have developed significantly in the past year through members of the St Mary's congregation who go in weekly to deliver the whole school worship following the Rochester Diocese for Education scheme.

Church Fabric and Churchyard Activities

At St Mary's routine maintenance activities associated with the church building progressed throughout the year. The ageing church boiler was replaced, a roof repair contract was placed, and the churchyard maintenance work was restructured to reduce cost, with a number of volunteers coming forward to assist with maintaining the churchyard.

St John's continued to receive regular maintenance servicing of critical systems, together with regular churchyard maintenance. A faculty application to install under pew heating was submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee in June, the result of which remained outstanding at year end.

The St Martin's churchyard continued to be professionally maintained and this was supplemented by our annual Tidy Day in the autumn.

Maintenance and scheduled checks on relevant aspects of all three churches were carried out throughout the year.

Approved by The PCC on 14 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Atkinson', written in a cursive style.

Martin Atkinson (Vice Chairman)

STATEMENT OF PCC MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AS THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees are The PCC Members and as such are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards. Charity law requires the PCC Members to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The PCC and of its income and expenditure, for that period. In doing so the PCC Members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that The PCC will continue in operation.

The PCC Members are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of The PCC. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of The PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Insofar as the PCC Members are aware, there is no relevant information of which The PCC's Independent Examiner is unaware, and the PCC Members have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

The PCC Members are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the PCC's website.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SPELDHURST WITH GROOMBRIDGE AND ASHURST

I report to the charity's trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 13 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 charity as required by section 130 of the 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 van der Merwe ACA
For and on behalf of
Foot Davson Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Lonsdale Gate
Lonsdale Gardens
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN11 1NU

17 May 2024

PARISH OF SPELDHURST WITH GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Statement of Financial Activities

for the year to

31st December 2023

Note	2023										2022										PCC Funds																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds				Restricted Funds				PCC Funds																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
		St. Mary's St. John's St. Martin's	TOTAL			Parish St. Mary's St. John's St. Martin's	TOTAL																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Income from:		117,897	10,806	13,454	142,157	4,850	6,011	1,500	12,361	154,518																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

Notes	2023			2022		
	Parish	St. Mary's St. John's St. Martin's inter fund	TOTAL	Parish	St. Mary's St. John's St. Martin's inter fund	TOTAL
		balances			balances	
Fixed Assets:						
Investments	10	135,632	63,340	0	0	198,972
Current Assets:						
Debtors	12	4,903	13,698	3,056	5,068	(15,177)
Investments	13 a)	15,391	106,413	15,047	35,777	11,548
Cash at bank and in hand	13 b)	1,170	1,043	6,523	6,192	172,628
						14,928
		21,464	121,154	24,626	47,037	199,104
Liabilities:						
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14 a)	(19,286)	(19,676)	(1,275)	(715)	15,177
Amounts falling due after one year	14 b)	0	0	0	0	(25,775)
		(19,286)	(19,676)	(1,275)	(715)	15,177
		2,178	101,478	23,351	46,322	0
Net Current Assets						173,329
Total Net Assets	11	£2,178	£237,110	£86,691	£46,322	£0
Funds						£372,301
Restricted funds	16 b)	1,744	3,223	6,359	260	11,586
Unrestricted designated for 16 a) ii)		0	233,887	80,332	46,062	360,281
Unrestricted funds	16 a) i)	434	0	0	0	434
		£2,178	£237,110	£86,691	£46,322	£0
						£372,301

The notes on pages 15 to 24 form part of these accounts

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 14 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

W. B. C.

Martin Atkinson (Vice Chairman)

14

George Carter (CA CTA) Treasurer



PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts 2023

1 Accounting policies

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 (as updated through Update Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include investment assets at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of. The PCC has considered whether the cash flow statement adds materially to the understanding of the PCC's affairs and has concluded that it does not. It has therefore applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 Section 1A.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

a) Funds

Restricted Funds represent income which may be expended only on those restricted objects for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted and the PCC has the authority to change or remove the designation.

b) Incoming resources

i) Voluntary income and capital resources

Planned giving receivable under gift aid, collections and donations are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are recognised as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable, receipt is probable, and any conditions attaching to them are met, or, in instances where related expenditure has been incurred, there is a realistic expectation that all conditions will be met.

Specific fund raising events, such as fetes, bazaars and similar events, are accounted for gross.

ii) Income from investments

Dividends and interest are recognised when receivable. Any tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same period.

c) Resources expended

i) Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

The PCC has a policy of distributing some of the income of the General Income and Expenditure Funds in grants - "Away Giving". In the absence of a contractual obligation, grants made in this way, including those for the support of overseas missionaries, are accounted for on the basis of the support agreed by the relevant DCC or Away Giving committee that relates to the financial year concerned.

ii) Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The Parish's voluntary contribution to central diocesan costs (see note 1 g), is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

d) Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are recognised on revaluation of investments to market value at the year end or on redesignation - see note 1 e)

e) Fixed assets

i) Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property. They are listed in the Churches' Inventories which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Items acquired since 1 January 2000 which would have a resale value are capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over their anticipated useful economic life when acquired, or over 20 years, whichever is the shorter, on a straight line basis.

ii) Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £5,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

iii) Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December using the "bid price".

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

f) Current assets

Individual amounts in excess of £500 paid in advance which are recoverable and all amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December are shown as debtors and prepayments. Provision is made for any debtors that may prove irrecoverable. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit with the Rochester Diocesan Board of Finance and at banks.

g) Contribution to the Diocesan Central Costs, including the incumbent's stipend and associated costs, and other shared expenditure

The PCC decides each year on the voluntary contribution to be made by the Parish to the Diocese to cover its central costs, which include the incumbent's stipend and associated costs. It is thereafter responsible for this contribution, the rectory running costs, Readers' and Pastoral Assistants' costs, the costs of visiting clergy, the administrator's salary and some of the Parish Office costs. A contribution is made by the two DCCs and the St John's Committee towards these costs.

2 Income from:

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Designated		2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
a) Donations					
Planned giving:					
Regular Gift Aid donations		89,359	1,435	90,794	87,815
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations		23,096	1,040	24,136	25,094
Regular giving by CAF and GYE		1,790		1,790	3,206
Other regular giving		5,121		5,121	5,656
Collections:					
By Gift Aid envelope		6,717	122	6,839	6,915
Not Gift Aided		3,757	250	4,007	5,266
Tax recoverable on collections		2,263	67	2,330	2,909
Non-regular Gift Aid donations		700	4,844	5,544	11,735
Non-regular donations not Gift Aided		245	16	261	51
Box & miscellaneous donations		2,431		2,431	1,271
Grants		6,678	4,587	11,265	4,673
Legacies		0		0	49,136
Away Giving Appeal				0	127
	0	142,157	12,361	154,518	203,854

Grants. The PCC was grateful to receive the following grants from Speldhurst Parish Council: £2,000 towards St Mary's churchyard maintenance, £1,000 for St John's churchyard maintenance, £1,000 for St Martin's churchyard maintenance and £500 towards the cost of St Martin's Broadsheet magazine. The PCC was also grateful to have received a grant of £60 from Certas Energy towards the cost of St Mary's heating and a grant of £27 from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission towards St Mary's churchyard maintenance. The PCC was also pleased to receive grants totalling £5,715.60 and expects to receive a further £962.00 from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme equal to the VAT on repairs and maintenance work and the replacement of the gas boiler at St Mary's in 2022 and 2023.

b) Church activities

Fees and other related income		4,458	950	5,408	6,308
St Martin's Broadsheet			467	467	245
Associated activities and Parish events	Note 5	231		231	329
Sales of church history books, notelets and cards		84		84	51
		0	4,773	1,417	6,190
					6,933

c) Other church operations

Fund raising income		2,241		2,241	1,524
---------------------	--	-------	--	-------	-------

d) Investments

Dividends and interest (including any reclaimed tax)		194	9,865	10	10,069
					6,231

e) Other incoming resources

Insurance claims				0	0
Surplus on sale of fixed assets				0	131
		0	0	0	131

TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES

	194	159,036	13,788	173,018	218,673
--	-----	---------	--------	---------	---------

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

**Notes to the Accounts
2023**

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	Designated £	£	2023 £	2022 £
3 Expenditure on:					
a) Fund raising costs					
Cost of fundraising		0		0	450
b) Church activities					
Missionary and charitable giving (see note below):					
Church overseas		4,570	71	4,641	4,704
Relief and development agencies		1,402		1,402	1,576
Home missions and other church organisations		5,585		5,585	6,535
Secular charities		3,873	435	4,308	4,380
Total away giving	0	15,430	506	15,936	17,195
Ministry					
Contribution to diocesan costs	Note 14 b)	72,637		72,637	81,088
Other clergy, rectory and ministry costs		1,873	76	2,373	6,003
Deanery and other contributions			50	50	50
Printing, stationery & parish office costs		554	4,049	354	4,957
Computer hardware, software and expenses		544	1,051		1,595
Church services costs and fuel			6,696	60	6,756
Church repairs and maintenance			38,920	1,723	40,643
St John's Church redecoration				0	0
St Mary's Church reorganisation			720		720
Churchyard upkeep			3,335	5,143	8,478
Insurance			9,757		9,757
Speldhurst Chapel			3,570		3,570
Teaching and outreach			417		417
St Martin's Broadsheet costs			474	1,163	1,637
Young people's work			509	(102)	407
Organists and music leaders			1,326		1,326
Organ maintenance and music costs			1,114		1,114
Employee costs		14,427	3,126	3,600	21,153
Associated activities	Note 5		231		231
Bank charges			181		181
Independent examiner		1,928			1,928
Other expenses		93	442		535
		92,056	91,474	12,871	196,401
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		92,056	91,474	12,871	196,401

Note: The only grant in excess of £1,000 included in the missionary and charitable giving is £3,160 to Church Mission Society. Of the balance of grants, all were of £1,000 or less and all were to institutions.

4 a) Staff costs

The average number of employees in 2023 was 3 (2022 2). The total staff costs amounted to £21,153 (2022 £17,185), of which £20,541 (2022 £16,593) was salaries, £0 (2022 £0) employer National Insurance costs, and £612 (2022 £592) employer pension and life insurance costs. No employee earned £60,000 or more in the year.

The organist at St Martin's and the regular organists at St Mary's provide their services without charge. Other organists are not employees but provide their services on a casual basis and are paid the fee they charge.

b) Pension schemes and employer contributions

The Diocese of Rochester pays the Rector's stipend and also the pension contributions relating to him in respect of the Church of England Pension Scheme which is a defined benefit scheme. The PCC has offered and pays a contribution to the Diocese to cover both the costs of clergy and other central costs of the Diocese but this is not allocated to any particular items. It is therefore not possible to say how much of the offered contribution relates to the pension contributions that the Diocese pays in respect of the Rector. The PCC has no further liability in respect of the Rector's pension.

The PCC paid pension contributions into a workplace pension, which is a defined contribution scheme, and these amounted to £1,155 in 2023 (2022 £1,119); £543 (2022 £527) of this was deducted from employees' pay as employee contributions. The PCC has no further liability in respect of such pensions.

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

**Notes to the Accounts
2023**

5 Associated activities and Parish Events

Associated activities in 2023 included a Passover Supper and a messy camp.

6 Funds received and paid as agent

£300.40 of fees due to the Rochester Diocesan Board of Finance was held at the start of 2023. A further £738.80 was received during the year and £1,039.20 was paid to Rochester DBF. No money due to Rochester DBF remained held at 31 December 2023.

£101.60 of fees due to retired clergy with Permission to Officiate (PTO) was held at the start of 2023. A further £586.40 was received during the year and £580.80 was paid to the PTO clergy in 2023; £107.20 was held at 31 December 2023 and was paid to the PTO clergy in January 2024.

£10.00 due to a Reader, in respect of travel costs related to taking a funeral, was received and paid to the Reader.

£3,301.82 was received from the tenants of the Rectory in respect of their Council Tax and utility bills. A total of £2,736.82 was paid to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and to the utility suppliers. £565.00 was held at 31 December 2023 and was paid to the Borough Council and utility suppliers in January 2024.

£325.76 was collected on behalf of and paid to The Children's Society.

£365 Spring Harvest money was held at the start of 2023. £5,095 was collected for the 2023 visit to Spring Harvest. £5,448 was paid to Spring Harvest. £12 Spring Harvest money remained held at 31 December 2023.

£320 was collected for a leaving gift for the music leader and used to pay for her gift.

£1,170.50 was collected for leaving gifts for the Rector and his wife; part was used to buy their gifts and part was paid to them by cheque.

£177.55 was paid on behalf of Speldhurst Community Shop Ltd in respect of utility bills for Speldhurst Chapel after the lease by the Parish expired and has been reimbursed by Speldhurst Community Shop Ltd in January 2024.

7 Payments to PCC members and related parties

Details of those bodies which are related parties by virtue of a PCC member being involved with them are set out on page 3 of the report. Other than those noted below, there were no payments to any of these bodies.

The PCC paid £0 (2022 £0) in letting fees to Speldhurst Village Hall which was charged to the PCC at the normal hire rates. These costs are included under the heading of the activities to which they related.

The PCC is not charged for its use of the Ashurst McDermott Hall and made a donation of £100 (2022 £100).

A small immaterial portion of the expenses paid to the Rector may have related to his services as Chairman of the PCC. Expenses reimbursed to other PCC members did not relate to any services or goods provided or for travel or subsistence and were only for bona fide expenses incurred by them on behalf of the PCC.

£87.75 was paid by the PCC for wine at the Rector's leaving lunch at which several PCC members were present.

Included in the Parish Insurance cover is a limited amount of Trustee Indemnity Insurance cover, the cost of which is not separately identified.

8 Parish Office building

The cost of the Parish Office, £22,333, was borne by the PCC and written off in 2001. The PCC has negotiated a written agreement with the Diocese providing for reimbursement of part of the cost should the Diocese or Rector take any action which makes it impossible to use the office for its present purposes. Reimbursement is on a sliding scale, providing for repayment to the Parish up to 2040.

9 Speldhurst Chapel

In September 2021 the PCC entered into a 12 months lease agreement with Trustees of the Western Counties and South Wales Evangelisation Trust for the use of Speldhurst Chapel. There was no rent payable under the terms of this lease, but the PCC was responsible for electrical work to make the Chapel safe for use and for the day to day running costs of the Chapel. In 2022 £1,436 was spent on running costs. The lease was extended for a further 12 months from September 2022 at an annual rent of £4,200; £1,400 of this was paid in 2022 and the balance of £2,800 was paid in 2023. The PCC had no responsibility for repairs to the structure of the building, and has no responsibility for any costs relating to Speldhurst Chapel from 29 September 2023.

10 Fixed assets

Investments

During the year the fixed assets were held in the following investments for the unrestricted designated funds listed.

Church of England Central Board of Finance Investment Fund - Income Shares

	St Mary's General Fund		St John's General Fund		St John's Groombridge School House Fund		2023	2022
	Shares	Value £	Shares	Value £	Shares	Value £	Total £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2023	6,000	123,875	1,002	20,688	1,800	37,162	181,725	205,850
Sale of shares - proceeds							0	0
Realised surplus on sale							0	0
Unrealised surplus / (deficit) on revaluation		11,757		1,963		3,527	17,247	(24,125)
Market value at 31 December 2023	6,000	135,632	1,002	22,651	1,800	40,689	198,972	181,725

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

11 Analysis of net assets

a) By fund

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted Designated	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Parish General Fund	434			434	240
Church Repair Fund		45,436		45,436	68,618
St. Mary's General Fund		213,498		213,498	197,404
St. John's General Fund		21,062		21,062	21,089
St. John's Groombridge School House Fund		49,204		49,204	45,677
St. Martin's General Fund		31,081		31,081	34,740
Parish Restricted Fund			1,218	1,218	1,218
Parish Sequestration Fund			526	526	0
Parish Youth Fund			0	0	3,488
St. Mary's Restricted Fund			3,223	3,223	1,198
St. John's Churchyard Maintenance Fund			235	235	0
Friends of St. John's Groombridge			2,999	2,999	2,958
St. John's British Legion Fund			0	0	0
St. John's Under Pew Heating Fund			3,125	3,125	0
St. Martin's Churchyard Fund			0	0	1,351
St. Martin's Away Giving Fund			0	0	0
Windows Fund			110	110	110
Broadsheet Fund			0	0	196
Broadsheet Binding Fund			150	150	150
	434	360,281	11,586	372,301	378,437

See note 16

	16a) i)	16 a) ii)	16 b)		
Inter fund balances	Unrestricted	Unrestricted Designated	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets		198,972		198,972	181,725
Current assets	(15,177)	17,947	183,914	12,420	199,104
Current liabilities	15,177	(17,513)	(22,605)	(834)	(23,547)
Fund balance	0	434	360,281	11,586	372,301
				372,301	378,437
Allocation to churches and Parish					
Parish	434		1,744	2,178	4,946
St Mary's		233,887	3,223	237,110	245,221
St John's		80,332	6,359	86,691	78,349
St Martin's		46,062	260	46,322	49,921
	0	434	360,281	11,586	372,301
				372,301	378,437

12 Debtors and prepayments

Income tax and Gift Aid on Small Donations recoverable
Debtors and prepayments

2023	2022
6,539	9,548
5,009	3,963
11,548	13,511

13 Bank and cash

a) Short term deposits

Rochester loan deposit
Bank deposit accounts

25,554	34,044
98,198	121,186
123,752	155,230
48,876	43,240
172,628	198,470

Diocesan Church Repair Fund

b) Current accounts and cash

Bank current accounts
Cash and cheques in hand

14,201	7,614
727	664
14,928	8,278

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

14 Liabilities

a) Amounts falling due within one year

Accruals and deferred income
Other creditors

2023	2022
(18,854)	(15,259)
(6,921)	(3,385)
<u>(25,775)</u>	<u>(18,644)</u>

b) Amounts falling due after 1 year

Provision for extra 2024 contribution to Diocese

0	(4,903)
---	---------

The 2024 calculation of the contribution to the Diocese is based partly on the Parish's 2022 income when St Mary's received some exceptional income, and a provision of £4,903 in respect of this was included in the 2022 accounts. This amount is now due within one year and is included in the figure in Note 14 a).

15 Contingent liabilities and Capital commitments

a) Contingent liabilities

There were none at 31 December 2023 (2022 £NIL).

b) Capital commitments

There were none at 31 December 2023 (2022 £NIL).

16 Fund details

PCC funds

General Income and Expenditure Account - unrestricted

This account is for the use of the general purposes of the Parish.

Church Repair Fund - unrestricted designated

The fund is designated for the repairs of the three churches. Money is paid into it annually to help with the cost of repairs that arise following a quinquennial inspection of the church buildings by the Diocesan Architect. St. Mary's had an inspection in 2021, St. John's had one in 2023, and St. Martin's had one in 2020; thus the next inspections are due in 2026, 2028 and 2025 respectively.

Parish Restricted Fund

This fund holds money donated to subsidise places at visits to future Spring Harvests.

Parish Sequestration Fund

This fund receives the fees that would normally be payable to Rochester DBF. These fees are withheld from payment to Rochester DBF during the interregnum and are used to pay the fees and expenses of visiting clergy and the some of the Rectory standing charges when the Rectory is unoccupied, as agreed with the Rochester Diocese. Any surplus remaining at the end of the interregnum is payable to Rochester DBF.

Parish Youth Fund - restricted

The fund has been used for children's and youth work in the Parish, including the making of grants to the youth or young adults attending worship at a church in the Parish to fund their missionary work in the UK or overseas. £3,600 was paid in 2023 to a youth worker working at St Mary's Church, Speldhurst as agreed by the PCC. The fund has now been fully used and has been closed.

St. Mary's funds

General Income and Expenditure Account - unrestricted designated

This account is designated for the use of St. Mary's DCC for the general purposes of St. Mary's church.

Restricted Fund - restricted

This was set up by the PCC in 2004. It receives funds that have been donated for specified purposes and pays out expenses relating to those matters.

St. John's funds

General Income and Expenditure Account - unrestricted designated

This account is designated for the use of St. John's Committee for the general purposes of St. John's church.

Groombridge School House Fund - unrestricted designated

The fund comprises 1,800 Income Shares in the CBF Investment Fund (2022 1,800 shares), and a deposit of £8,515 (2022 £8,515). The dividend and deposit income derived from the investment is received into St. John's General Fund; no records have been found of any restrictions in the use of the capital or income. The then DCC of St. John's in conjunction with the PCC designated this fund for use on future capital projects at St. John's and the St. John's Committee has not requested any change in this designation.

Churchyard Maintenance Fund - restricted

The fund comprises donations received specifically for the maintenance of the churchyard.

Friends of St. John's Groombridge - restricted

This was started in 2011. The fund is primarily for the maintenance of the church building.

British Legion Fund - restricted

The fund receives the church collection on Remembrance Sunday which is stated as being for the Royal British Legion to which subsequently it is paid.

Under Pew Heating Fund - restricted

The fund received donations given specifically towards the cost of installing under pew heating in the church.

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

St. Martin's funds

General Income and Expenditure Account - unrestricted designated

This account is designated for the use of St. Martin's DCC for the general purposes of St. Martin's church.

Churchyard Fund - restricted

The fund comprises donations received specifically for the maintenance of the churchyard.

Away Giving Fund - restricted

This fund receives the proceeds of special collections for charitable away giving.

Windows Fund - restricted

This fund received donations for the installation of new stained glass windows and was used for that purpose in 2014, except for the remaining balance which is for a plaque or inscription to go with them which is the final part of the windows project.

Broadsheet Fund - restricted

This fund receives money which is specifically to defray the costs of producing the Ashurst Broadsheet.

Broadsheet Binding Fund - restricted

This fund has been set up to fund the binding of one set of the last 60 years of Issues of the Ashurst Broadsheet.

	2023 £	2022 £
a) Unrestricted Funds		
i) Unrestricted		
General Income & Expenditure Account (The Parish)		
Balance at 1 January	240	210
Income received	0	0
Transfer from St. Mary's General Income and Expenditure Account towards parish costs	74,979	85,512
Transfer from St. John's General Income and Expenditure Account towards parish costs	7,745	7,755
Transfer from St. Martin's General Income and Expenditure Account towards parish costs	9,332	9,823
Interest added in the year	194	30
Expenditure in the year	(92,056)	(103,090)
Balance 31 December	<u>434</u>	<u>240</u>
ii) Unrestricted Designated Funds		
1) Church Repair Fund (see below)		
Balance at 1 January	68,618	67,672
Transferred from General Funds	6,370	3,370
Gross interest	1,608	326
Repairs	(31,160)	(2,750)
Balance at 31 December	<u>45,436</u>	<u>68,618</u>
relating to		
St. Mary's	20,389	46,619
St. John's	10,066	8,625
St. Martin's	14,981	13,374
	<u>45,436</u>	<u>68,618</u>
2) General Income and Expenditure Account (St. Mary's)		
Balance at 1 January	197,404	172,617
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure for the year before contribution	83,316	127,744
Contribution to Parish costs	(74,979)	(85,512)
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure for the year	8,337	42,232
Transferred to Church Repair Fund	(4,000)	(1,000)
Increase/(Decrease) in valuation of investments held for the General Fund	11,757	(16,445)
Balance at 31 December	<u>213,498</u>	<u>197,404</u>
3) General Income & Expenditure Account (St. John's)		
Balance at 1 January	21,089	24,421
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure for the year before contribution	6,925	8,339
Contribution to Parish costs	(7,745)	(7,755)
Surplus/(Deficit) of income over expenditure for the year	(820)	584
Transferred to Church Repair Fund	(1,170)	(1,170)
Increase/(Decrease) in valuation of investments held for the General Fund	1,963	(2,746)
Balance at 31 December	<u>21,062</u>	<u>21,089</u>

Note 10

Note 10

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts

2023

4) Groombridge School House (St John's)		2023	2022
Balance at 1 January		45,677	50,611
Increase/(Decrease) in valuation of Investments held for the Fund	Note 10	3,527	(4,934)
Balance at 31 December		<u>49,204</u>	<u>45,677</u>
5) General Income & Expenditure Account (St. Martin's)			
Balance at 1 January		34,740	36,108
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over expenditure for the year before contribution		6,873	9,655
Contribution to Parish costs		(9,332)	(9,823)
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over expenditure for the year		(2,459)	(168)
Transferred to Church Repair Fund		(1,200)	(1,200)
Balance at 31 December		<u>31,081</u>	<u>34,740</u>
Total St. Mary's		233,887	244,023
Total St. John's		80,332	75,391
Total St. Martin's		46,062	48,114
Total Unrestricted Designated		<u>360,281</u>	<u>367,528</u>
b) Restricted Funds		2023	2022
i) Parish		£	£
1) Parish Restricted Fund			
Balance at 1 January		1,218	1,218
Income received including Gift Aid tax recovery		0	0
Subsidy to Spring Harvest places		0	0
Balance at 31 December		<u>1,218</u>	<u>1,218</u>
2) Parish Sequestration Fund			
Balance at 1 January		0	0
Fees received		950	0
Visiting clergy fees and expenses		(224)	0
Rectory standing charges when unoccupied		(200)	0
Balance at 31 December		<u>526</u>	<u>0</u>
3) Parish Youth Fund			
Balance at 1 January		3,488	5,859
Interest added in year		10	9
Expenditure in the year		(3,498)	(2,380)
Transfer to Digital Fund		0	0
Balance at 31 December		<u>0</u>	<u>3,488</u>
Total Parish		<u>1,744</u>	<u>4,706</u>

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

	2023	2022
ii) St. Mary's		
Restricted Fund		
Balance at 1 January	1,198	894
Collections & donations including gift aid tax recovery	2,763	1,355
Grants received	2,087	2,136
Gas	(60)	(80)
angel cards	(354)	0
Churchyard	(2,027)	(2,260)
Missionary and charitable giving	(384)	(844)
Fees for online giving	0	(3)
Balance at 31 December	<u>3,223</u>	<u>1,198</u>
Total St Mary's	3,223	1,198
iii) St. John's	2,023	2,022
1) Churchyard Maintenance Fund		
Balance at 1 January	0	0
Grants and donations including Gift Aid tax recovery	1,000	1,250
Maintenance costs	(765)	(1,250)
Balance at 31 December	<u>235</u>	<u>0</u>
2) Friends of St. John's Groombridge		
Balance at 1 January	2,958	1,665
Donations including gift aid tax recovery	1,764	2,248
Expenditure in the year	(1,723)	(955)
Balance at 31 December	<u>2,999</u>	<u>2,958</u>
3) British Legion Fund		
Balance at 1 January	0	0
Donations	122	214
Expenditure in the year	(122)	(214)
Balance at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
4) Under Pew Heating Fund		
Balance at 1 January	0	0
Donations including gift aid tax recovery	3,125	0
Expenditure in the year	0	0
Balance at 31 December	<u>3,125</u>	<u>0</u>
Total St John's	6,359	2,958

PARISH of SPELDHURST with GROOMBRIDGE and ASHURST

Notes to the Accounts
2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
iv) St. Martin's		
1) Churchyard Fund		
Balance at 1 January	1,351	786
Grants received	1,000	1,000
Expenditure in the year	(2,351)	(435)
Interest added in the year	0	0
Balance at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>1,351</u>
2) Away Giving Fund		
Balance at 1 January	0	0
Income in the year	0	127
Expenditure in the year	0	(127)
Balance at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
3) Windows Fund		
Balance at 1 January	110	110
Expenditure in the year	0	0
Balance at 31 December	<u>110</u>	<u>110</u>
4) Broadsheet Fund		
Balance at 1 January	196	1,392
Grants received	500	300
Other income including gift aid tax recovery	467	245
Expenditure in the year	(1,163)	(1,741)
Balance at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>196</u>
5) Broadsheet Binding Fund		
Balance at 1 January	150	150
Grants received	0	0
Expenditure in the year	0	0
Balance at 31 December	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>
Total St Martin's	<u>260</u>	<u>1,807</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>11,586</u>	<u>10,669</u>
TOTAL PCC FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	Note 16 a) i) 434	240
Unrestricted Designated Funds	Note 16 a) ii) 360,281	367,528
Restricted Funds	Note 16 b) 11,586	10,669
	<u>£372,301</u>	<u>£378,437</u>

17 Summary of Transfers

	Unrestricted	Unrestricted Designated	Restricted
	£	£	£
Parish General Fund	92,056		
General Fund (St. Mary's)		(78,979)	
General Fund (St. John's)		(8,915)	
General Fund (St. Martin's)		(10,532)	
Church Repair Fund (St. Mary's)		4,000	
Church Repair Fund (St. John's)		1,170	
Church Repair Fund (St. Martin's)		1,200	
	<u>92,056</u>	<u>(92,056)</u>	<u>0</u>

