

*Newchurch Parish Church, Culcheth
Diocese of Liverpool*

*Annual Report of the
Parochial Church Council*

Contents

- 1. Reference and Administrative Information*
- 2. Structure, Management and Governance*
- 3. Objectives and Activities*
- 4. Achievements and Performance*
- 5. Finance Report*
- 6. Plans for the Future*

For the year ended 31st December 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parochial Church Council of Newchurch Parish Church, Culcheth is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Charity registration number: 1128702

The Church is based on Church Lane, Culcheth. The parish is part of the Diocese of Liverpool and its official correspondence addresses are during the interregnum:

Mr Alan Wright
16 Bollin Close
Culcheth
Warrington
WA3 5DU

Mr Geoff Bent
10 Burnham Close
Culcheth
Warrington
WA3 4LJ

For the period from 1st January 2023 until the date of approval of this report, the following people served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Incumbent

Vacant

Churchwardens

Mr Alan Wright
Mr Geoff Bent

Deanery Synod

Mr Alan Wright
Mr Rupert Rees
Mrs Jean Williams

Elected members

Safeguarding Officer Mrs Jean Williams

PCC Secretary Mrs Ann Atkinson

Treasurer Mrs Sophie Rice
Mrs Jean Wright
Mr Kenneth Quick
Miss Maureen Hurley
Mrs Freda Wilcock
Mrs Chris Crye
Mr Christopher Yates
Mrs Beverley Litton

Co-opted

Mrs Rachel Bunce
Mrs Katy Berry

Electoral Roll Officer Mr Bill Leatherbarrow

The Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance acted as Custodian Trustee for the inalienable property of the church.

Bank NatWest, 32 Market Street Leigh Lancashire WN7 1DX

Independent Examiner Mr Alan Parkinson, 7 Spires Gardens, Winwick,
Warrington, WA2 8WB

Quinquennial Architect Mr Robin Wolley, B Arch RIBA, The Studio, Ruthin,
LL15 2PW

Legal Advisors The Bishop of Liverpool's Registry (Lee Bolton, Monier-Williams, Solicitors, 1 The Sanctuary, Westminster,
London SW1P 3JT).

Day to day management control of the Church is exercised by the incumbent and wardens: Mr. Alan Wright, Mr. Geoff Bent.

2. STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Newchurch, Culcheth PCC is a body corporate and operates under the *Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956* and the *Church Representation Rules*.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC

Newchurch Parish Church, Culcheth, forms part of a joint benefice with Christ Church, Croft.

Other related trusts:

Culcheth Educational Foundation - registered charity No. 526389, a religious instruction trust. The Rector and the two churchwardens are trustees.

The PCC operates three subcommittees:

Standing Committee: The terms of reference of this committee are to transact the business of the council between PCC meetings subject to any directions given by the PCC, to set the agenda for PCC meetings and to reflect on issues which may require more time than can be set aside at Council meetings due to pressure of business. This team is composed of the clergy and lay officers of the church plus one elected member of the PCC.

Worship Group: This committee is comprised of clergy, readers and lay leaders from both Christ Church and Newchurch. It is responsible for the rota and content of services. During the last year and in anticipation of the appointment of the new rector representatives from Winwick have been included in this group.

Finance Committee: This committee is composed of the Sophie Rice (PCC treasurer), The Church Wardens and Albert De Jong up to October and then transferred to Phillip Jeffs (the Freewill Offering registrars). Its role is to oversee all financial transactions of behalf of the PCC.

The PCC monitors basic policies and procedures for: Health and Safety, Risk Assessment and Management, Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection. Individual members of the PCC receive training as and when deemed appropriate by the PCC
These are as follows:-

Risk Assessments

To identify their major risks, procedures are in place to manage those risks and minimise their impact on the life of the church. Action in the main areas of risk has been taken as follows:

Financial Risk

Investments are only made in approved low risk funds approved for charity use, however, Newchurch is not currently able to make any financial investments due to general lack of funds.

The PCC have reviewed internal controls for annual accounts, cash and cheque handling, and the Treasurer reviews controls in line with regulatory requirements to ensure Financial Governance. These include:

- Formalisation of the monthly Finance Meeting with the Finance Committee with the following agenda items discussed and reviewed:

- o Agree cheques to be paid
- o Review progress on actions
- o Discuss risks and issues
- o AOB
- Minutes produced detailing invoices to be paid and key decisions made.
- Production and distribution of monthly income and expenditure sheets.
- Production of a 12 month budget forecast and quarterly management accounts showing progress against budget.

Compliance with Law and Regulation

A Health and Safety review has been undertaken by a member of the PCC. The PCC has been appraised of the risks and the necessary compliance requirements and these are being followed. These procedures are reviewed regularly. There are procedures for recording accidents and churchwardens and side persons are usually trained annually in fire safety, however this year this has not been possible. Training will be re-introduced as soon as time constraints allow.

Operational Risk

Plans have been agreed so that in the event of the church becoming unusable for a limited period then services will be held in the Parish Hall, if available.

Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection

The PCC takes its duty and obligation to protect children and vulnerable adults seriously. Church members, where appropriate, are checked under child protection legislation through the agreed online DBS service; this includes Parochial Church Committee members as Trustees on the PCC of Newchurch. The PCC will continue to review its policies based on the diocesan and the Church of England guidelines.

Reserves Policy

The PCC has an aspirational reserves policy whereby it intends to hold three to four months running costs as a general reserve (circa £25,000 - £30,000).

At the end of the financial year, the reserve stood at £19,886.97 remaining the same as 2022. It will continue to be the aim of the PCC to add to this, should the opportunity arise.

3. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The general functions of the PCC are stated within section 2 of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. This states that the PCC 'is to co-operate with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.' At Newchurch our mission is to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, both through the Word and our deeds to love the Lord our God and to love his children – our neighbours.

When planning our activities for the year, the PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance to charities concerned with the advancement of religion.

**Our objectives for 2023 were to provide the following public benefits:
To Love the Lord our God and to be open to Him through**

- Regular public worship open to all
- The provision of a sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- To help people who have asked for assistance with prayer
- To review our services to enhance the beauty of our worship and to make occasional offices more accessible to those with no experience of church.

To Love our neighbours and be open to them

- Pastoral work including visiting the sick, bereaved and elderly.
- Taking assemblies for children in local schools and on church premises
- Promoting the mission of the Church through the provision of activities for the whole community.
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

To Love each other through fellowship

- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- To continue to meet with our ecumenical partners locally and to support one another.

**4.ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE INCLUDING REVIEW OF
CHARITABLE ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST OBJECTIVES**

The interregnum has prevented the PCC from achieving as much as we would have wished. The following section highlights the areas of activity and performance.

The electoral roll is now 76.

Worship:

Church services are on Sundays at 10.30am. Joint services with the other churches in the group were arranged when there is a 5th Sunday in a month. Special services are arranged at relevant times, eg Carol services, Tree Festival services, Crib services, All Souls and Remembrance Day services.

Average attendance at Sunday services during 2023 was as follows:

10 30am Holy Communion: (held on 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month)

Adults: 56 Under 16's: 4 (27 services were held this year)

10.30am Morning Worship

Adults: 46 Under 16's: 4. (18 services were held this year.)

10.30am Average for both services :

Adults: 51 Under 16's: 4

6.30pm services held this year. All Souls 102 Adults 1 children. Christmas Tree Festival Closing Service 52 Adults 3 children and Choir Carol Service 52 Adults 2 children.

Crib service 90 children 150 adults.

Tuesday Service in the Parish Hall: 10. There were 32 services held this year.

Occasional Offices for 2023

Weddings 5

Baptisms 18

Funerals 26

Interment of ashes 22

Communion was also given in homes and care homes in the village.

18.30 Praise. A service of worship, reflections, prayer, and songs with a live band is began in June 2022. It is held fortnightly at 6.30pm on Sundays in the Parish Hall.

Pastoral Care and Service to the Community

Some visiting of members of the congregation who are unable to attend services has been possible and we are able to stay in touch virtually with members of the congregation/ friends of the church, by distributing Easter/ Christmas cards etc. Regular monthly communion services in both Chatburn Court (sheltered accommodation) and Holcroft Grange (Care Home) continue.

Newchurch Junior Church

At present we have 8 children, the eldest of which is 9 and 5 are below school age. We have 3 leaders and several parent helpers. The age range for whom we cater is 2 -16 years. We were able to make our Easter Garden. We meet in the Family room every Sunday at 10.30am including when there is no service in church. Our Nativity Play this year was interactive and involved the whole congregation.

Mothers' Union

The leaders organised 2 outreach/social events in Church, the Easter and Harvest Extravaganzas. These attracted a significant number of families from outside the usual congregation.

Mother's Union commenced the year with the AGM, recalling the events of the previous year. The Worship Group provided any speakers we required, for which we are grateful. We held an afternoon tea to celebrate the King's Coronation, also we provided an afternoon tea when John Wilson came from the Seafarer's mission to receive our annual donation of woollen hats and toiletries, which are given to those Seafarers spending their Christmas in Liverpool. The Deanery Festival was held at St Peter's and members attended. We again hosted a Deanery afternoon tea, the proceeds going to Mother's Union funds. A trip to the Barn owl at Lymm was our summer trip. We did not increase our membership in 2023 but were active at the Christmas Fayre and the Tree festival. The Advent service was cancelled due to problems at the parish hall, making our Christmas lunch our final get together of the year. We hope to host the Deanery Festival in 2024, and also the afternoon tea.

Church Building Report

(January – December 2023)

We have not disposed of any assets and retain all our possessions and the general standard of maintenance of the Church building is relatively good, a fortuitous situation bearing in mind the continuing financial deficit.

The Quinquennial Report by the Diocesan architect was performed in September 2022 and several items were mentioned for maintenance, most of which has been done by our volunteer teams.

The annual boiler service was completed, as was the clearing of the lower levels of the gutters to remove vegetation and debris.

There is evidence of rotting wood at the front of the lych gate where it meets the stone wall and also loose slates. These issues are being addressed.

The project to refurbish the porch is ongoing.

Fundraising Activities

Fundraising activities in 2023 equated to a total of £8,004.

This included the usual fundraising events undertaken by volunteers within the congregation such as the Christmas Tree Festival, regular film nights, music concerts, quizzes, tea & coffee activities, card sales, magazine sales.

The Christmas Fayre and Christmas Tree Festival, raised £1,427 and £1,813 respectively. This is a decrease of income from £4,038 to £3,240.

Finance, Giving and Fundraising

2023 has proven to be a challenging year financially with many factors impacting on incomings and expenditure, such as economic inflation, the energy crisis and cost of living increase.

Overall, the total income for the church in 2023 has decreased on 2022 levels (down by 8% i.e. £12,264).

Planned Giving in 2023 increased by 11% to £28,534. The re-claim of tax rebate will be made in 2024 for 2023.

We would encourage all members of the congregation to continue to review their giving and, if not already part of the Free Will Offering scheme, to consider making regular donations via the Parish Giving Scheme, standing order, cheque or envelope. If you pay any form of tax, please sign a Gift Aid declaration.

We would encourage members of the congregation to consider bequest donations in their financial and will planning.

General fund donations for the year saw a decrease of £5,743 to £3,402.

Income from funerals decreased by 16% to £9,544, along with wedding income decreasing from £3,369 to £2,838.

Income from the Parish Magazine adverts and sales totalled £1,911 which is an increase on last year's income of £2,223, after an increase in printing expenses in 2023 this resulted in a net profit of £640.

In 2023 £362 was raised for charity which is an increase on 2022 by 51%.

Restricted Funds

Due to the Newchurch continuing interregnum, the restricted fund required for the Sequestration account to keep a record of assigned fees has been maintained. The balance is currently £26,228 in credit, due to the dedication of the clergy team who have carried out many services during the period without recompense.

Overall, there is a net increase in restricted funds of £3,977, detailed in the table below.

Monies have been used from the churchyard fund for general equipment expenses and maintenance, the expenses show a 67% decrease from £4,430 to £1,467.

The clock fund has been set up to collect monies to assist with repairs to the clock and mechanism, which is currently in disrepair. Repairs are currently ongoing. It was agreed by the PCC that the restricted funds from the clock fund and also the porch fund would fund these repairs. As of 31st December 2023, £560 from the clock fund has been spent along with £2,912 of the porch fund.

The separate fundraising project called the 'Drainage Project' which ran for the duration of 2017 to raise monies specifically to improve drainage within the churchyard paid out retention monies of £1,200 following acceptable re-seeding of the area. Another phase of work is required to complete the project; however this would require further fundraising to supplement the balance of monies held within the Drainage Project restricted fund (£6,886).

	Church Yard	Drainage Project	Sequestration Fund	Bell Tower	Clock Fund	Choir Fund	Xmas Tree Festival	Porch Fund (Beryl's Legacy)	General Reserve Fund
Opening Balance:	£ 2,825.77	£ 6,886.79	£ 21,760.90	£ 751.19	£ 220.00	£ 100.00	£ 962.82	£ 15,421.24	£ 19,886.97
INCOME									
January	£ -	£ -	£ 142.00	£ -	£ -	£ 100.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
February	£ 25.00	£ -	£ 49.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
March	£ 195.00	£ -	£ 404.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
April	£ 160.00	£ -	£ 608.00	£ 382.00	£ 340.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
May	£ -	£ -	£ 94.00	£ -	£ -	£ 100.00	£ -	£ 510.00	£ -
June	£ 20.00	£ -	£ 840.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
July	£ -	£ -	£ 341.00	£ -	£ -	£ 100.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
August	£ 585.00	£ -	£ 410.00	£ 65.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
September	£ -	£ -	£ 229.00	£ -	£ -	£ 50.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
October	£ -	£ -	£ 544.00	£ -	£ -	£ 142.80	£ -	£ -	£ -
November	£ 80.00	£ -	£ 567.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
December	£ 20.00	£ -	£ 577.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,812.56	£ -	£ -
Sub total	£ 1,085.00	£ -	£ 4,805.00	£ 447.00	£ 340.00	£ 492.80	£ 1,812.56	£ 510.00	£ -
EXPENDITURE									
January	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
February	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
March	£ 619.06	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
April	£ 16.90	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
May	£ 18.68	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
June	£ 40.13	£ -	£ 108.50	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
July	£ 22.75	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
August	£ 664.74	£ -	£ 229.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
September	£ 84.36	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
October	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 560.00	£ -	£ -	£ 2,803.80	£ -
November	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 64.80	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 108.00	£ -
December	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 175.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Subtotal	£ 1,466.62	£ -	£ 337.50	£ 64.80	£ 560.00	£ 175.00	£ -	£ 2,911.80	£ -
Closing Balance	£ 2,444.15	£ 6,886.79	£ 26,228.40	£ 1,133.39	£ -	£ 417.80	£ 2,775.38	£ 13,019.44	£ 19,886.97

Pensions Regulation

New Pension law impacted the church during 2017 with the staging date set for pensions of 1/8/2017. The Finance Committee selected the government scheme NEST as the preferred pension offering, and the two eligible employees were offered the option of taking up a pension in the scheme. There was no take up. The declaration of compliance was completed & returned to the Pensions Regulator 4/9/2017, a further re-declaration was completed 05/08/2020 in line with Pension law requirements. There continues to be no take up of the scheme.

Expenditure

Expenditure continues to be monitored closely and restricted to essential expenses only, with cost savings made wherever possible.

In the absence of an incumbent, ministry expenses were £0 in 2023. Church Building costs were all funded by restricted funds, these were significantly higher than 2022 figures (an increase of 46% overall) with close monitoring of costs. There was a significant 59% increase on church gas/electric/water expenses from £2,945 in 2022 to £7,119.

There has been a 92% increase in the combined costs for the Upkeep of Services, from £688 to £9,431 (this figure includes major repairs). It was agreed by the PCC that £8,346 from the general account would be set aside for major repairs to fund the removal of several unsafe poplar trees surrounding the church in the church yard. The work will be carried out in early 2024.

A Sequestration account has been maintained and the balance of assigned fees held in a restricted fund. PCC were unable to pay five of the 2023 Parish Share payments totaling £27,666, during the year due to lack of unrestricted funds, this combined with arrears from 2019 and 2022 gives a total of £50,293 due to Diocese in Parish Share arrears. There is no repayment plan in place currently for these arrears.

In conclusion, the overall financial position continues to be precarious, with the continuing increase in expenditure, continuing decline of average attendance figures and average age profile of the congregation needing to be reversed to secure the long-term financial future of the Parish. However we are grateful for the continued support from our loyal and generous congregation.

6. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In 2024 we intend to...

- Re-establish the Church community when welcome our new rector in February.
- Continue to refurbish the entrance way of the church.
- Work with the other local churches with a view to becoming a 'Dementia Friendly' group.
- Make repairs to the lych gate.
- Look to explore how we can attract younger families to start attending on a more regular basis.
- Continue to be part of our deanery in the deanery mission plan.

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Agent Transactions

The PCC acted as a financial agent for the following people / organisations:

- Treasurer and Wardens £4,805 was received in regard to assigned fees for weddings, funerals and burials in 2023 and is held in a Sequestration Account.
- Organist, bells and vergers - £724 was received from funeral directors and wedding couples regarding funerals and weddings respectively. This money was passed directly to the appropriate individuals.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Note 1 - this figure includes payments to Verger, Organist, Bells & Choir

		2023		2022		2021		2020		2019	
Ministry											
Rector's Expenses	501	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	454.21	£	609.31
Rectory: Council Tax & Water	501	£	-	£	1,055.89	£	-	£	563.40	£	2,348.33
Rectory: Garden	501	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	590.00
Other Ministry:	501	£	-								
- Assistant Curate Expenses	501	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	149.96
- OLM Expenses	501	£	-					£	-	£	2,000.10
- Visiting Clergy Expenses	501	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	152.00
			£ -		£ 1,055.89		£ -		£ 1,017.61		£ 5,849.70
Church Building											
Church Gas / Electricity / Water	510	£	7,118.76	£	2,945.19	£	1,670.63	£	1,985.47	£	3,260.57
Cleaner	506	£	1,080.00	£	1,080.00	£	880.00	£	600.00	£	1,000.00
Church Insurance	508	£	2,679.82	£	2,320.18	£	2,229.76	£	2,241.44	£	2,178.68
Organ Insurance	508	£	515.00	£	515.00	£	515.00	£	488.93	£	488.93
Church Repairs & Maintenance	509	£	618.26	£	499.78	£	1,625.79	£	1,217.50	£	2,301.47
Clock Fund	508	£	560.00	£	-						
Bell Tower	508	£	64.80	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	149.80
Porch Fund	508	£	2,911.80	£	-	£	1,099.41	£	2,006.24	£	540.00
Choir Fund	508	£	175.00	£	-						
Churchyard	509	£	1,466.62	£	4,430.86	£	4,166.01	£	5,246.55	£	1,003.46
Drainage Project	508	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	1,200.00	£	13,000.00
			£ 17,190.06		£ 11,791.01		£ 12,186.60		£ 14,986.13		£ 23,922.91
Upkeep of Services											
Service costs (eg altar bread / wine & candles & Flowers)	507	£	88.40	£	643.82	£	27.50	£	128.90	£	346.45
Resources (eg books / PRS licence et	507	£	861.62	£	44.28	£	586.58	£	460.18	£	450.43
Organist	506	£	135.00	£	80.00	£	500.00	£	1,000.00	£	1,120.00
Major repairs		£	8,346.00	£	-	£	-				
			£ 9,431.02		£ 768.10		£ 1,114.08		£ 1,589.08		£ 1,916.88
Communication											
Stationery & Photocopying	511	£	44.33	£	181.58	£	304.10	£	184.89	£	264.69
Administration	511	£	2,661.57	£	997.30	£	999.26	£	551.00	£	846.24
Printing of Magazine	511	£	1,271.00	£	1,182.40	£	1,118.80	£	689.60	£	1,334.99
Mission costs	511	£	267.00	£	75.00	£	-	£	190.44	£	-
			£ 4,243.90		£ 2,436.28		£ 2,422.16		£ 1,615.93		£ 2,445.92
Due to Diocese											
Parish Share	505	£	38,732.47	£	49,385.79	£	47,329.28	£	49,302.72	£	58,523.30
Loan		£	-	£	-	£	4,180.97	£	4,200.00	£	3,600.00
Assigned Fees Weddings & Funerals		£	-	£	-	£	-	£	-	£	3,246.00
Sequestration Fund		£	337.50	£	938.00	£	504.50				
			£ 39,069.97		£ 50,323.79		£ 52,014.75				

Summary for the year						
Bank balance at 1 January	£82,864.21	£ 71,153.13	£ 67,991.93	£ 66,879.09	£ 63,186.61	
Plus						
Total Income & Receipts	£67,571.08	£ 79,940.12	£ 74,140.10	£ 74,765.99	###	
Plus Unpresented Cheques (see Note 1)	£14,106.53	£ 6,623.15	£ 1,294.33	£ 1,888.00	£ -	
Christmas Tree & Crib Festival Fund	£ 1,812.56	£ 962.82	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Previous years unpresented deposits presented this year	£ 5,044.35	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Minus						
Total Expenditure & Payments	£71,020.95	£ 69,476.33	£ 70,385.23	£ 74,377.15	###	
Spreadsheet rounding's						
Previous years o/s chqs presented this year	£ 6,623.15	£ 1,294.33	£ 1,888.00	£ 1,164.00	£ -	
Unpresented deposits at 31 December (see note 4)	£ 4,276.86	£ 5,044.35	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Closing Balance at 31 December (see notes 2 - 7)	£ 89,477.77	£ 82,864.21	£ 71,153.13	£ 67,991.93	£ 66,879.09	

Notes:

NEWCHURCH PARISH CHURCH - CULCHETH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Analysis of resources	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
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Note 1. Cheques not presented at the Bank as at 31/12/2023 totalled £14,106.53 breakdown detailed below:

Unpresented cheques	Amount
Payee	
Kenyon Cutters (Tree surgeon)	£ 8,346.00
Water plus	£ 19.32
PTSG (Lightning Conductor Inspection	£ 108.00
Diocese of Liverpool, Central Readers Council-	£ 100.00
Parish share - July 2023	£ 5,533.21
Total	£ 14,106.53

Note 2. Balance at year end includes Restricted Funds:

Church yard	£ 2,444.15
Drainage Project	£ 6,886.79
Porch Fund	£ 13,019.44
Clock Fund	£ -
Choir Fund	£ 417.80
Bell Tower	£ 1,133.39

Total Restricted Fund Balance: £ 23,901.57

Note 3. Due to the Parish being Interregnum, sequestration commenced 01/05/2019. A sequestration restricted fund has been set up and reporting the account is in place. The balance of the sequestration fund as at 31/12/2023 is £ 26,228.40

Note 4. General Fund Balance at year end: £ 6,855.78
This includes unpresented December bank deposits totalling £4,276.86 which will be paid into the general account in January 2024.

Note 5. General Fund Reserve now stands at £19,886.97. These monies are held in line with our Reserve Policy requirement.

Note 6 - Parish Share Loan set up with the Diocese in June 2017 to commence payment of arrears from 2017 and previous years. Initial Loan amount £16,180.97

Parish Share Loan

Total Loan ###

Loan Repayment Plan:	Monthly	Payments Made to Date per annum
2017 (July onwards)	£ 200.00	£ 1,200.00
2018	£ 250.00	£ 3,000.00
2019	£ 300.00	£ 3,600.00
2020	£ 350.00	£ 4,200.00
2021	£ 350.00	£ 4,180.97

Parish Share Loan balance outstanding as at 31/12/2023 is nil following full scheduled repayments being paid. However, Parish Share is still in arrears (see note 7)

Note 7 - as at 31st December 2023 Parish Share Arrears have increased further. November and December 2019 remained unpaid (totalling £11,704.66). Arrears from 2020 totalling £16,434.24 were offset by a grant received from the Church Commissioners for £16,906 with the balance to be credited against 2021 repayments. In 2021, challenging financial circumstances due to Covid-19 have continued with church closures and limited opportunities for fund raising events. A further 3 Parish Share payments of a revised plan agreed in March 2021 have not been made for August, November & December. It was agreed that any unpaid 2021 Parish Share would be written off by LDBF. As of 31/12/22 the parish share for November 2022 and December 2022 remain unpaid at a total amount of £10,922.74, due to insufficient monies in the general account. As of 31/12/23 the parish share for August 2023 to December 2023 remain unpaid at a total amount of £27,666.05, due to insufficient monies in the general account. Total Arrears are:

November 2019	£ 5,852.33
December 2019	£ 5,852.33
November 2022	£ 5,461.37
December 2022	£ 5,461.37
August 2023	£ 5,533.21
September 2023	£ 5,533.21
October 2023	£ 5,533.21
November 2023	£ 5,533.21
December 2023	£ 5,533.21

TOTAL £ 50,293.45

There is no repayment plan in place currently for these arrears.

Note 8 - a contract for the required annual inspection of the Lightning conductor has been entered into with PTSG Services group to save costs, £90 plus VAT (£108.00) per annum for the period 05/12/20 to 04/12/2025.

2. Newchurch PCC: 200 Club Receipts & Payments Account

RECEIPTS		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Subscriptions	203a		£ 2,195.00	£ 2,916.00	£ 2,965.00	£ 3,395.00
Donations	203a		-	£ 99.00		
Cheques not Paid Out	203a		-	£ -	£ 60.00	£ 70.00
		£ -	£ 2,195.00	£ 3,015.00	£ 3,025.00	£ 3,465.00
PAYMENTS						
Prizes	503		£ 1,770.00	£ 1,440.00	£ 1,410.50	£ 1,622.00
Transfer to PCC	503		£ 60.00	£ 1,596.00	£ 2,164.50	£ 1,200.00
Warrington Borough Council	503			£ 20.00	£ 20.00	£ 40.00
Credits not presented		£ -	£ 1,830.00	£ 3,056.00	£ 3,595.00	£ 2,862.00
		£ -	£ 1,830.00	£ 3,056.00	£ 3,595.00	£ 2,862.00
Summary for the year						
Bank balance at 1 January			£ 518.50	£ 559.50	£ 1,129.50	£ 526.50
Plus Receipts			£ 2,195.00	£ 3,015.00	£ 3,025.00	£ 3,465.00
Minus Payments			£ 1,830.00	£ 3,056.00		
Closing Balance at 31 December		£ -	£ 883.50	£ 518.50	£ 4,154.50	£ 3,991.50

Note 9 - 200 Club closed as of 08/11/22. Closing bank balance transfer to Main Account was £1,155.50

3. Newchurch PCC: Junior Church Account

RECEIPTS		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Collections	203a				£ 17.49	£ 88.26
Donations	203a		£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 162.00	£ 50.25
		£ -	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 179.49	£ 138.51
PAYMENTS						
Stationery	503	£ -	£ -			£ 13.00
Gifts / Prizes	503	£ -	£ -		£ 39.15	£ 39.38
Miscellaneous	503	£ -	£ -		£ -	£ -
Party	503	£ -	£ -		£ 22.27	£ 21.11
Visits / Subscriptions	503	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33.00	£ 102.00
		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 94.42	£ 175.49
Summary for the year						
Bank balance at 1 January		£ 365.68	£ 315.68	£ 265.68	£ 180.61	£ 217.59
Plus Receipts			£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 179.49	£ 138.51
Minus Payments		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 94.42	£ 175.49

NEWCHURCH PARISH CHURCH - CULCHETH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Analysis of resources	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
		<u>£ 365.68</u>	<u>£ 365.68</u>	<u>£ 315.68</u>	<u>£ 265.68</u>	<u>£ 180.61</u>

4. Newchurch PCC: Christmas Tree & Crib Festival Account

Due to Covid-19 Pandemic there was no fundraising Christmas Tree & Crib Festival in 2020

The Christmas Tree Festival had a separate bank account with Barclays with a balance of £95.84. For some reason the account had been marked as 'gone away', and correspondence suppressed. As no takings were received last year due to Covid-19, the account became dormant. Barclays pre-populated a dormancy letter, however it was not sent as correspondence was suppressed and the account was closed on 17/11/21 and balance taken. The takings for the 2021 festival have been paid into the Newchurch PCC account held with Natwest, and monies for 2023 have been paid into this account. Note that 2023 Christmas Tree expenses have not yet been calculated and taken from the account as of 15/02/24. These expenses will be shown on the 2024 annual accounts.

RECEIPTS		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Christmas Tree & Crib Festival	203a	£ 1,812.56	£ 1,629.98	£ 1,580.81	£ -	£ 1,487.74
		£ 1,812.56	£ 1,629.98	£ 1,580.81	£ -	£ 1,487.74
PAYMENTS						
Alan Wright	503	£ -	£ 21.00	£ 142.16		£ 111.91
F Wilcock expenses	503	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -
Newchurch Parish Church (donation)	503	£ -	£ -	£ 810.00		£ 900.00
Printers	503	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Band	503	£ -	£ 150.00	£ 300.00		£ 200.00
Ann Atkinson expenses	503	£ -	£ 62.00	£ -		£ -
Mulled Wine	503	£ -	£ 434.16	£ 330.00		£ 350.00
Children's Society	504	£ -				
		£ -	£ 667.16	£ 1,582.16	£ -	£ 1,561.91
Summary for the year		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Bank balance at 1 January		£ 962.82	£ -	£ 95.84	£ 95.84	£ 170.01
Plus						
Receipts		£ 1,812.56	£ 1,629.98	£ 1,580.81	£ -	£ 1,487.74
Minus						
Payments		£ -	£ 667.16	£ 1,582.16	£ -	£ 1,561.91
Closing Balance at 31 December		<u>£ 2,775.38</u>	<u>£ 962.82</u>	<u>£ 94.49</u>	<u>£ 95.84</u>	<u>£ 95.84</u>

NEWCHURCH PARISH CHURCH - CULCHETH

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Monetary Assets	2023
	£
Newchurch PCC Main Account	£89,477.77
Junior Church	£365.68
Total Monetary Assets	£89,843.45

RECEIPTS

RECEIPTS

VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Newchurch a/c		200 Club/Bonus Ball		Junior Church		Christmas Tree*		TOTALS	
	unrestricted	restricted	unrestricted	restricted	unrestricted	restricted	unrestricted	restricted	unrestricted	restricted
1 Tax Efficient planned giving(101)	£ 27,103.49								£ 27,103.49	£ -
2 Other Planned Giving- 103a	£ 1,000.00								£ 1,000.00	£ -
3 Collections at Services- 104	£ 7,335.90								£ 7,335.90	£ -
3a - 103b									£ -	£ -
4 All other giving & voluntary receipts including Special Appeals- 105	£ 3,402.31	£ 2,874.80			£ -				£ 3,402.31	£ 2,874.80
5 - 203b									£ -	£ -
6 Gift Aid Recovered- 102	£ -								£ -	£ -
6a GA Small Donations Scheme	£ 430.00								£ 430.00	
7 Legacies received (capital value)- 202	£ -								£ -	£ -
8 Grants (incl one off & recurring)- 201a	£ -								£ -	£ -
8a - 201b									£ -	£ -
ACTIVITES FOR GENERATING FUNDS									£ -	£ -
9 Gross Income from Fundraising Activities- 203a	£ 5,190.96		£ 1,000.00				£ 1,812.56		£ 8,003.52	£ -
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS									£ -	£ -
10 Dividends, interest, income from property- 301 & 302									£ -	£ -
CHURCH ACTIVITIES									£ -	£ -
11 Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings , funerals etc)- 404	£ 12,518.00	£ 4,805.00							£ 12,518.00	£ 4,805.00
12 Gross income from trading (e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall) NOT fundraising401 / 402 / 403 & 500	£ 1,910.62								£ 1,910.62	£ -
OTHER INCOMNG RESOURCES									£ -	£ -
13 Any other income/receipts not already listed- 601 & 602	£ -								£ -	£ -
									£ -	£ -
	£ 58,891.28	£ 7,679.80	£ 1,000.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,812.56	£ -	£ 61,703.84	£ 7,679.80
	£ 66,571.08								£ 66,571.08	£ -
	£ 66,571.08		£ 1,000.00		£ -		£ 1,812.56		£ 69,383.64	£ -

14 Number of tax efficient planned givers

*Incl in Newchurch

15 Number of other planned givers

16 Number of new legacies received

1

TOTAL

Payments	Newchurch a/c		200 Club		Junior Church		Christmas Tree		TOTALS	
PAYMENTS										
COST OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME AND GENERATING FUNDS										
17 Fund raising activities (Costs & Payments)- 503	£ -		£ -				£ -		£ -	£ -
CHURCH ACTIVITIES									£ -	£ -
18 Mission giving and donations- 504	£ 362.00								£ 362.00	£ -
19 Diocesan parish share contribution- 505	£ 38,732.47								£ 38,732.47	£ -
20 Salaries wages and honararia- 506	£ 1,215.00								£ 1,215.00	£ -
21 - Clergy and staff expenses 501 & 502	£ 724.00	£ 337.50							£ 724.00	£ 337.50
22 - Church Expenses : Mission and Evangelism costs 507	£ 950.02								£ 950.02	£ -
23a - Church running expenses 508	£ 515.00	£ 175.00							£ 515.00	£ 175.00
23b Church building maintenance costs 509	£ 618.26	£ 9,877.42							£ 618.26	£ 9,877.42
23c Church insurance costs 510	£ 2,679.82								£ 2,679.82	£ -
24 Church Utility Bills- 510	£ 7,118.76								£ 7,118.76	£ -
25 - Cost of Trading 511	£ 4,243.90								£ 4,243.90	£ -
COST OF GOVERNANCE									£ -	£ -
26 Governance costs- 4000b									£ -	£ -
MAJOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE									£ -	£ -
27 Major repairs to the church building		£ 3,471.80							£ -	£ 3,471.80
28 - Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property incl redecoration 2013 & 2014									£ -	£ -
29 - New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property 2015									£ -	£ -
99 Other outgoing resources/payments assigned fees - NOT INCLUDED	£ -								£ -	£ -
	£ 57,159.23	£ 13,861.72	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 57,159.23	£ 13,861.72
									£ -	£ -
	£ 71,020.95		£ -		£ -		£ -		£ 71,020.95	£ -

31 Cash and deposit balance as at 31 December

32 Investments as at 31st December

33 Liabilities due within 1 year:



Return of Parish Finance

January to December 2023

Church Number:789	Church Name: Newchurch	Deanery: Winwick
Looking back across 2023, were there any exceptional circumstances that may have led to unusual figures? Please provide brief details with this form.		Diocese: Liverpool

INCOMING RESOURCES			UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESOURCES EXPENDED			UNRESTRICTED (nearest £)	RESTRICTED (nearest £)
Voluntary Giving					Cost of generating funds				
1	Tax efficient planned giving (reglular Gift Aid giving)	£	27,103	£ -	17	Fund-raising activites (costs and payments)	£	-	£ -
2	Other planned giving (non Gift Aid)	£	1,000	£ -	Church Activities & Church Expenses				
3	Collections at services	£	7,336	£ -	18	Mission giving and donations	£	362	£ -
4	All other giving and voluntary receipts, including Special Appeals (recurring and one-off)	£	3,402	£ 2,875	19	Deanery Share/Parish Share contribution	£	38,732	£ -
6	Gift Aid recovered	£	-	£ -	20	Salaries, wages and honararia	£	1,215	£ -
6a	Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme repayment	£	430	£ -	21	Clergy and staff expenses	£	724	£ 338
7	Legacies received (capital value)	£	-	£ -	22	Mission and evangelism costs	£	950	£ -
8	Grants (include recurring and one-off)	£	-	£ -	23	a. Church running expenses (inc. Governance)	£	515	£ 175
A	SUB-TOTAL Voluntary Giving:	£	39,272	£ 2,875		b. Church building maintenance costs	£	618	£ 9,877
Activities for generating funds						c. Church building insurance (inc. contents)	£	2,680	£ -
9	Income from fundraising activities (gross proceeds)	£	8,004	£ -	24	Church utility bills	£	7,119	£ -
Income from investments					25	Cost of trading	£	4,244	£ -
10	Dividends, interest, income from property etc.	£	-	£ -	D	SUB-TOTAL for Church Activities & Raising Funds:	£	57,159	£ 10,390
Church Activities					Major expenditure				
11	Statutory fees retained by the PCC (weddings, funerals, etc.)	£	12,518	£ 4,805	27	Major repairs to the church building	£	-	£ 3,472
12	Trading activities (gross proceeds) e.g. hall lettings, magazine, bookstall. NOT fundraising.	£	1,911	£ -	28	Major repairs to church hall or other PCC property, including redecoration	£	-	£ -
Other					29	New building work to the church, church hall, clergy housing or other PCC property	£	-	£ -
13	Any other income/receipts not already listed	£	-	£ -	E	SUB-TOTAL for Major expenditure:	£	-	£ 3,472
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)					99	Other payments/expenditure not already listed	£	-	£ -
B	Column Totals (Line A plus lines 9 to 13)	£	61,704	£ 7,680	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED (FROM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)				
PLANNED GIVERS AND LEGACIES					F	Column Totals (Lines D and E plus 99)	£	57,159	£ 13,862
14	Number of regular Gift Aid givers (include PGS givers)		45		Cash and Investment Balances			UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
15	Number of regular non Gift Aid givers (inc. PGS givers)		1		31	Cash and deposit balance as at 31st December	£	-	£ -
16	Number of new legacies received during year		0		32	Investments valued as at 31st December	£	-	£ -
C	Grand Total Receipts/Income	£	69,384		33	Liabilities due within 1 year	£	14,107	£ -
G	Grand Total Payments/Expenditure	£	71,021		Are your accounts Receipts&Payments or Accruals (indicate ONE)?				
					30	Receipts and payments []	Accruals []		

Please refer to the notes available from our diocesan website to help clarify what is included in each section. Line numbers refer to RPF notes, consistent with the guidance provided in PCC Accountability, 5th edn.
(<https://www.liverpool.anglican.org/return-of-parish-finance/>)

Name	Sophie Rice	directly online. Contact C Gaskell or Central Services at St James' House for details.
Position	Treasurer	
Tel or Email	01925 509826 ricesophieelizabeth@gmail.com	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Newchurch

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

789

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

I have 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.

Signed:

Alan P. Parkinson

Date:

9th March 2024

Name:

Alan P Parkinson

Address:

7 Spires Gardens

Winwick

Warrington

WA2 8WB