

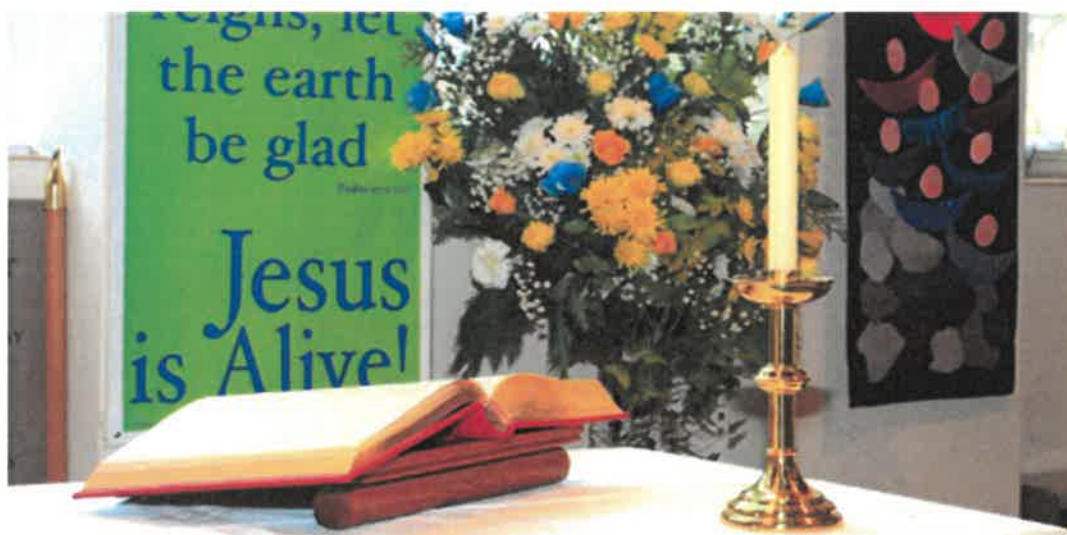
# **The Ecclesiastical Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Haydon Wick**

*Registered Charity No: 1128874*



## **ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**





## **The Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Haydon Wick**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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## **The Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Haydon Wick**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

### **Legal and Administrative information**

#### **Incumbent & Chair of PCC (and correspondence address)**

Revd Patches Chabala (from 27<sup>th</sup> August 2024)  
54, Furlong Close,  
Haydon Wick,  
Swindon,  
SN25 1QP

#### **Churchwardens**

Sharon Mortimer  
17, Helmsdale,  
Haydon Wick,  
Swindon,  
SN25 1PN

Alison Wiltshire  
20, Orwell Close  
Greenmeadow  
Swindon,  
SN25 3LZ

#### **PCC Secretary**

Mary Southgate  
14, Kennet Avenue  
Greenmeadow,  
Swindon,  
SN25 3LG

#### **PCC Treasurer**

James Bennett  
77, Britten Road,  
Redhouse,  
Swindon,  
SN25 2HQ

#### **Bankers**

CAF Bank Ltd.  
25, Kings Hill Avenue,  
Kings Hill, West Malling,  
Kent,  
ME19 4JQ

#### **Independent Examiner**

Mr A Coombes FCCA  
David Owen & Co.,  
126, High Street,  
Marlborough,  
Wiltshire,  
SN8 1LZ

#### **Governing Document**

Church Representation Rules

#### **Registered Charity Number**

1128874



# Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of St. John's, Haydon Wick, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

## Administrative Information

St. John's Haydon Wick is situated on Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick, Swindon. It is part of the Diocese of Bristol within the Church of England. The correspondence address is 54, Furlong Close, Haydon Wick, Swindon, SN25 1QP.

## Background

The PCC of St John's has the responsibility of co-operating with the Revd. Patches Chabala in promoting the whole mission of the church, whether pastoral, evangelistic, social or ecumenical within the ecclesiastical parish. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church. The PCC determines parish policy. The elected officers of the PCC who served during 2024 were:

- Rod Mortimer (Vice-Chair),
- Sharon Mortimer (Churchwarden)
- Alison Wiltshire (Churchwarden)
- Mary Southgate (PCC Secretary)
- James Bennett (PCC Treasurer)

## Membership

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission. PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

<i>Curate in Charge</i>	Revd. Tom Morgan until 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2024
<i>Vicar</i>	Revd. Patches Chabala from 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2024

<i>Churchwardens</i>	Sharon Mortimer, Alison Wiltshire
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<i>PCC Secretary</i>	Mary Southgate
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### *Representatives of the Diocesan Synod*

Simon Robertson  
Man Kam until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### *Representatives of the Deanery Synod*

Rod Mortimer  
Alison Wiltshire  
Sharon Mortimer from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### *Elected Members*

James Bennett  
Charmain Tan until 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
Tom Vandamme  
David Williams  
Trevor Morton-Holmes  
June Judge  
Tony Njoroge  
Mary Southgate  
Bill Hunt  
Janet Gash co-opted from 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024



## Structure Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and may then stand for election to the PCC. The maximum number of members elected to PCC is nine.

### Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members of the Standing Committee are:

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| • Vicar and Chair: | Revd. Patches Chabala from 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2024 |
| • Vice-Chair:      | Rod Mortimer Chair until 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2024   |
| • Churchwarden     | Sharon Mortimer   |
| • Churchwarden:    | Alison Wiltshire  |
| • PCC Treasurer:   | James Bennett   |
| • PCC Secretary    | Mary Southgate  |

### Finance, Fabric and Governance:

In addition to having regular meetings of the whole PCC, PCC operates using a Finance, Fabric and Governance group to oversee these critical aspects of PCC's work on a regular basis, reporting to the PCC.

### Electoral Roll:

At the 2024 APCM (8<sup>th</sup> May 2024), there were 161 people on the Electoral Roll. This was a decrease of 4 from 2023's figure of 165. 14 people were removed from the roll because they had either moved away from the Parish, ceased to worship with us or had died, and 10 new members were added to the roll.

The average adult weekly attendance counted during October 2024 was 96. (October 2023 was 79, October 2022 was 100 and October 2021 was 77).

## PCC Review of the Year

The PCC held 10 meetings during the year - including a brief meeting after the APCM. Meetings were held on the following dates:

15<sup>th</sup> January, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 14<sup>th</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> October (Extraordinary PCC), 25<sup>th</sup> November.

The Standing Committee did not meet during the year.

## Public Benefit Statement:

### Public Benefit at Congregational Level:

- St John's exists for the benefit of all who attend, whether members of the electoral roll or not. We teach the Christian faith and promote Christian values in marriage and family life, offering support, advice and counselling where requested.
- St John's aims to help those who are not members of the church to discover faith in Christ and live that faith out at work and in their communities.
- St John's has groups meeting in homes or on Zoom which offer mutual support and encouragement, at an emotional, spiritual, and practical level.
- St John's usually organises weekly groups for children and young people from ages 4-18



### Public Benefit at Parish Level:

- Our Vicar and the Curate in Charge led assemblies in 5 local primary schools.
- The church runs a Craft Club to engage local people.
- The church supports the *Swindon Food Collective*, *Shine Pinehurst*, *Swindon* and *Swindon Youth for Christ (SYFC)*. SYFC offers spiritual guidance and advice to young people and helps them discover a personal faith.

### Public Benefit at National and International Level:

- St John's supports financially several educational, medical and religious organisations in Uganda, as well as offering regular support to a blind man and occasional support for individuals as needed.
- It has provided the finance to build a school at Bwaziba in the Diocese of Luweero and in partnership with the children and parents of St Francis' school has expanded and developed it.
- St John's is active in its support for *Mercy Ships*, providing medical aid for the poor, for *Open Doors* as it seeks to defend the persecuted church, and for *Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)* which enables clergy and congregations to fulfil their mission nationally.

## Objectives and Activities

### Aims in 2024

The PCC aimed for numerical growth of both adults and children at our in-person services. PCC also aimed to restore and increase the numbers in Home Groups, and to enable the church to be effective in mission.

**Young people:** An effective ministry among young people is a sign of a healthy church. PCC determined to support all age groups, both spiritually and financially.

**Hong Kong Welcome Course:** The large influx of people from Hong Kong presented the church in Britain with challenges and opportunities. Although most of the Christian arrivals would become members of the Chinese Church, others were willing to join local churches. PCC therefore resolved to become 'Hong Kong Ready'. Having two Cantonese speakers in the congregation, St John's was ideally placed to offer a Welcome Course. We ran two courses during 2024, with another one due in early 2025, which will be our 5<sup>th</sup> course. A number of Hong Kongers have subsequently joined St John's.

**The Energy Crisis:** Massively increased fuel bills threatened to undermine our financial position. PCC determined to find ways to reduce ongoing fuel costs, and to consider ways of making the church more energy efficient.

**Continuing during the vacancy:** After over 32 years of ministry at St Johns, Haydon Wick, Reverend Canon Raymond Adams retired in March 2023. St John's does not have any other licensed clergy or laypeople, so we aimed to increase the number of preachers, as well as seeking help from other clergy in the area. We received a lot of help from our curate in charge, as well as from a number of clergy from throughout the Deanery who helped lead our services as well as preaching. A number of our congregation stepped forward to lead our services or to preach. The PCC wishes to express its gratitude to everyone from within the church and for their help and assistance.

PCC worked closely with both Archdeacon of Malmesbury and the CPAS in order to prepare for the upcoming vacancy and bringing a new incumbent into the parish.





**Diocesan Initiatives:** PCC resolved to work closely with the Diocese on the entire *Transforming Church: Together* programme which will set the diocesan direction for the next few years.

**Fabric:** PCC (through the work of the Finance, Fabric and Governance sub-group) were committed to continue to focus on diligent and timely maintenance and repair of the church building and its contents, ensuring that the requirements of the quinquennial survey were being addressed and that all reactive maintenance work was completed to a high standard.

## Achievements in 2024

### Overview of Church Attendance by Adults and Children

After a disappointing start, average Sunday Attendance returned almost to where it was in 2019. New members have joined us both for our 9am and 11am services and the church is growing once again.

While attendance at the end of the year was still about 10% lower than in 2019, this compares to an average national decline of 30%.

One of the strongest areas of ministry in St John's was with young people and, in particular, teenagers. The Young People leaders and helpers have organised visits to other Young People events in Swindon.

However, looking to the future, we need to sound a continuing note of caution in that our youngest group, *Scramblers* which caters for children from Pre-school to Reception, no longer exists.

Special services like *Christingle* and *Seven Lessons and Carols* have been continued as part of our church calendar. Revd Patches Chabala has led a number of Christingle services for Haydonleigh, Haydon Wick Schools, as well as hosting visits from Catherine Waite, St Francis and Greenmeadow Schools.

St John's continues to be an international church, with additional new members joining us from Hong Kong and of African heritage during the year.

### Building Faith in Adults and Young People

In common with many churches, the number of people participating in evening events like home groups has declined since Covid. The various groups continue to thrive, but in comparison with the situation some years ago, numbers are quite low for all groups, apart from the very well-attended Monday afternoon group. Homegroups do also meet virtually, this can assist those such as parents with young children.

### Church Fabric

**Architect:** Annie Evans continued to be our architect during the year. we have not needed to call on her services yet.

**Energy Crisis:** The energy crisis has seen the price of gas and electricity rise dramatically upwards. This has encouraged us to enact energy reduction measures to ensure that costs are mitigated wherever possible.

It has also led us to consider what we might do about energy efficiency in the medium to long term, recognising the Diocesan 'Net Zero' challenge. On the agenda in the future must be:



- the windows (where heat loss is significant).
- fluorescent tubes and other lighting were replaced in the Autumn.
- greater insulation where appropriate and practical.

### **Evangelism and Outreach**

- **Hong Kong:** a warm welcome was offered to those arriving from Hong Kong. Two Welcome Courses for Hong Kongers were run during the year.

### **Wider Parish and Diocese**

- **St Francis School:** PCC approved the reappointments of Oluwatosin Lagoke and Glenn Smith as Foundation governors at St Francis's school.

### **Policies Reviewed**

As part of the PCC's regular assessment of policies and procedures, the following were reviewed:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Responding to Domestic Abuse Policy
- Robes
- Child Baptism Policy
- Alcohol Policy
- Anti Bullying/Harassment Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Fair Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy
- Handling of Disclosure Information Policy
- Mission Funds and Mission Partners Policy

## **High and Low Points of 2024**

**In summary, the high points of 2024 were:**

- The appointment of the Reverend Patches Chabala from the Diocese of Salisbury.
- Visits by the Bishop of Bristol, The Right Reverend Vivienne Faul, The Bishop of Swindon, The Right Reverend Neil Warwick and the Archdeacon of Malmesbury Christopher Bryan to lead Communion Services
- The continued support and help received from the Reverends Tricia Roberts; John Martin and Reverend Canon Michael Johnson in taking our Communion Services during the year, as well as our Curate in Charge the Reverend Tom Morgan from The Pattern Church.
- The increasing confidence of a number of our congregation in leading our Worship services and in preaching, as well as helping out before, during and after our services.
- An encouraging number of new members joining us for the first time.
- Two highly successful Hong Kong welcome courses and one planned for early 2025.
- Effective ministry among young teenagers.
- Tea and coffee were served after all the 11am services. with many people stepping forward to help. This has been well attended, following the example of the 9am service.
- A successful transfer of funding to new mission partners as part of a regular review.
- A number of our local schools have responded to the Revd Patches contacting them and organising visits, as well as organising School Christingle services in the church.



**Disappointments included:**

- Our inability to pledge to pay enhanced sums that we had been committing to the Parish Share request for 2024. However, for 2025 we have resolved to pay the full amount requested.
- The continuing smaller number of children at the youngest end of our church congregation.
- The relatively low take-up of home group membership.
- Fewer formal outreach activities, during the majority of the year.
- The poor quality of our streaming of services and the resultant decision to cease streaming until a review of our Multi-Media operation is carried out in 2025.

**Financial Review**

We are particularly grateful for the financial support that St John's received during 2024, although overall giving fell by 5% year on year, we recognise the pressures on household incomes in the current economic climate and we are thankful that the church has been able to sustain all its planned activities, retain an acceptable reserve level and save funds for future development work.

Total General Fund receipts were £125,677 (2023: £131,383) and are detailed in the financial statements.

From the General Fund, £112,373 (2023: £123,939) was spent on providing for ministry from St John's, including the Diocesan Parish Share of £78,500 (2023: £91,500). The Parish Share largely provides the stipends and housing for clergy in the Diocese. The amount committed to the Parish Share fell year as the church readjusted to lower levels of offerings and sought to balance generosity in supporting the Diocese with the need to cover higher cost levels due to prevailing inflation rates, and to sustain adequate reserves.

On the General Fund, there was a deficit for the year of £2,614 (2023: deficit of £2,918) after transfers were made to the Mission Fund. Such transfers were in accordance with PCC approval. The balance carried forward on the General Fund at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was £47,000 (2023: £49,614). The General Fund remains above the reserves policy threshold of 4 months' expenditure and is regularly monitored by the PCC.

The Mission Fund is allocated 10% of offerings and of the tax recovered on gift-aided giving. Mission fund income and transfers from the General Fund in 2024 were £10,176 (2023: £10,976) demonstrating strong ongoing support for mission at home, overseas, for Christian relief and development agencies and a range of other charities. The fund made mission payments totalling £13,350 during the year (2023: £11,207). Payments to Uganda resumed during the year and this accounts for the higher level of payments made year on year. The Mission Fund is partially restricted (being the surplus carried forward in respect of specific gifts for mission purposes) and partially designated (in respect of unspent amounts transferred from the General Fund). Full details on the balances held are shown in the notes to the financial statements.

The Fabric Fund (the recipient of generous gifts in prior years) has helped St John's maintain key aspects of the fabric of its building (such as boiler replacement). The fund ended the year with a balance of £7,539 (2023: £7,517). The Fabric Fund received income from the Jack Richards Endowment Fund during the year.

The Development Fund receives donations from members of the church and a portion of rents paid by the non-church users of the building where this can be afforded. Accordingly, £5,742 was transferred from the General Fund during the year (2023: £nil). During the year £3,096 was drawn from the fund for replacement low energy lighting for the church building (2023: £nil). The fund currently stands at £40,055 (2023: £37,409). The entire balance on the fund is available to meet the cost of future special projects.



The Memorial Fund was set up by the PCC to fund capital projects and to support ministry throughout the parish and has been the recipient of generous gifts since its inception. The fund cannot be used for general running expenses. In 2024 the fund was credited with bank interest of £45 (2023: £99). The fund made payments of £32 for memorial plaques (2023: £54) and ended the year with a balance of £6,493 (2023: £6,480).

St John's were very grateful to receive a generous bequest in the sum of £20,000 during the prior year. The terms of the bequest are that the monies are used by the PCC for a special purpose or capital expense (and not for general running expenses). The bequest is being held on this restricted basis in bank deposits until the PCC decide how best to deploy the funds. While invested, the bequest attracts its share of bank deposit interest.

Finally, St John's was delighted to be the recipient of a generous gift of £3,000 to fund the expansion of the church's work with children and young people. PCC will consider how to deploy the funds in 2025, which will be held on restricted terms in the intervening period.

## **Reserves Policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a General Fund balance which equates to approximately 4 months' unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The General Fund balance of £47,000 equates to a reserve of 4.6 months' (based on 2024 expenditure levels – 'expenditure' includes the transfers that PCC have agreed to support mission payments (10% of offerings and associated gift aid) and accordingly met the target.

## **Going Concern**

The Trustees consider that the PCC will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved for the following reasons:

- The PCC has sufficient cash to meet short-term needs.
- The PCC could consider reductions in expenditure if required.
- Sufficient unrestricted funds exist to be able to support ongoing running costs.

The Trustees therefore consider it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of preparation of the accounts, as detailed in note 14 to the financial statements.

## **Declarations by Trustees**

The Trustees declare that in 2024 no income was received from contracts from central or local government to deliver services and PCC received no grants from central or local government.

As from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017, PCC policy has been to pay its staff no less than the Voluntary Living Wage. The Church applied for and received accredited Living Wage status in 2019.

PCC reviews its financial controls on an ongoing basis. The Trustees further declare that PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

## **Trustees' Responsibilities**

Charity legislation requires the Trustees to prepare statements of account for each financial year. In preparing those statements the Trustees are required:



- to prepare financial statements that show a true and fair view
- in preparing financial statements:
  - to select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis
  - to make judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable
  - to apply the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to do so.
- to keep proper accounting records.
- to safeguard the assets of the charity and take reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24 March 2025.

.....  
**Patches Chabala (Chair of PCC)**



## **The Parish of St John the Evangelist Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Parochial Church Council**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 which are set out on pages 13 to 20.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

#### **Basis of the independent examiner's statement**

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

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

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

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

have not been met; or

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

Mr A Coombes FCCA  
David Owen & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
126 High Street  
Marlborough, Wiltshire  
SN8 1LZ

28 March 2025



## The Parish of St John the Evangelist

### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

		General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Note(s)	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
<b>Voluntary Income</b>						
Offerings and collections	1	82,257	-	-	82,257	86,625
Gift aid recovered		19,964	-	-	19,964	23,305
Specific gifts	2	-	-	3,000	3,000	-
Legacy	15	-	-	-	-	20,000
Mission gifts	4	-	-	1,710	1,710	3,086
		102,221	-	4,710	106,931	133,016
<b>Income from investments</b>	3	3,831	-	534	4,365	2,525
<b>Income from church activities</b>	5					
Rental income		19,156	-	-	19,156	19,202
Fees and charges		469	-	-	469	287
		19,625	-	-	19,625	19,489
<b>Total receipts</b>		125,677	-	5,244	130,921	155,030
<b>Payments</b>						
Activities directly relating to the work of the church	6	99,958	3,096	32	103,086	114,457
Mission gifts	4	-	10,165	3,185	13,350	11,207
Church management and administration	7	12,415	-	-	12,415	10,608
<b>Total payments</b>		112,373	13,261	3,217	128,851	136,272
<b>Net Receipts / (Payments)</b>		13,304	(13,261)	2,027	2,070	18,758
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	8	(15,918)	15,918	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	8	(2,614)	2,657	2,027	2,070	18,758
<b>Opening fund balances at 1<sup>st</sup> January</b>	8	49,614	52,785	29,438	131,837	113,079
<b>Closing fund balances at 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	8	47,000	55,442	31,465	133,907	131,837

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Bank current accounts</b>	4,563	-	-	4,563	5,731
<b>Bank deposit accounts</b>	42,387	55,442	31,465	129,294	126,057
<b>Cash in hand</b>	50	-	-	50	49
<b>Total monetary assets</b>	47,000	55,442	31,465	133,907	131,837

The financial statements, accounting policies and notes, contained on pages 14-20 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24 March 2025.

Patches Chabala (Chair of the PCC)



## **The Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Haydon Wick**

**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

### **Accounting Policies**

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and comprise:

- A Receipts and Payments Account, and
- A Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

#### **Fund Accounting**

**General funds** are unrestricted funds that are available for use at the discretion of the trustees (PCC members) in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and that have not been designated for other purposes.

**Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements and the financial review.

**Restricted funds** are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or that have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements and the financial review.

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, investment is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

#### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is not included in the accounts as permitted under s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Tangible fixed assets purchased for £1,000 or more in the last five years are listed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities on page 19 of the Report and Financial Statements.

Accordingly, any expenditure on tangible fixed assets is shown under capital expenditure in the receipts and payments account.





## The Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Haydon Wick

Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### 1 Collections and Offerings

	2024	2023
	£	£
Planned giving	79,367	83,047
Cash collections and one-off gifts	2,890	3,578
	<b>82,257</b>	<b>86,625</b>

St John's claims Gift Aid on regular giving where the individual has provided a signed gift aid declaration as a UK taxpayer. St John's also claims gift aid on small value donations as permitted by HMRC's Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS).

During the year St John's recovered £19,964 in Gift Aid that was credited to the General Fund. This represents gift aid claims submitted in respect of the year to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and sums attributable to monthly gifts received through the Parish Giving Scheme.

Details of gift aid claims to be submitted in respect of the period 6<sup>th</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 are set out in Note 9.

Gift aid attributable to general fund receipts is applied to the General Fund. Any gift aid arising on specific gifts is credited to the relevant fund (Mission, Fabric, Memorial).

#### 2 Specific Gifts

During the year, specific gifts were given by members of the congregation and others to:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift to support the expansion of children and young people's work	3,000	-
	<b>3,000</b>	<b>-</b>

#### 3 Investment Income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank interest	3,876	2,520
Income arising on endowment funds (see Note 10)	22	5
	<b>3,898</b>	<b>2,525</b>

Bank interest arising on designated funds is made available to the General Fund. Restricted funds held on deposit receive a portion of bank interest received based on the average value of the funds held during the year. Endowment income relates to the funds invested for the Jack Richards endowment and is made available to the Fabric Fund on a restricted basis.



## 4 Mission Funds

	Balance at 1st Jan 2024 £	Total receipts £	Total payments £	Transfers £	PCC Allocation £	Balance at 31st Dec 2024 £
<b>Mission - Overseas:</b>						
Open Doors	360	-	(1,516)	-	1,454	298
Mercy Ships	850	-	(1,516)	-	1,454	788
Jars of Grace	1,539	440	(929)	(929)	-	121
Luweero and Uganda	2,894	-	(2,925)	929	1,454	2,352
	<b>5,643</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>(6,886)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,362</b>	<b>3,559</b>
<b>Mission – Home:</b>						
Church Pastoral Aid Society	360	-	(1,516)	-	1,454	298
Challengers and Sunday School	226	154	-	-	-	380
Hong Kong Welcome Course	-	200	-	-	-	200
Shine Pinehurst	179	-	(758)	-	727	148
Swindon Youth for Christ	180	-	(758)	-	727	149
	<b>945</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>(3,032)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,908</b>	<b>1,175</b>
<b>Christian Relief &amp; other charities:</b>						
Filling Station	180	-	(758)	-	727	149
Swindon Food Collective	179	-	(758)	-	727	148
Bishops' Ordination Fund	-	506	(506)	-	-	-
Wiltshire Air Ambulance	-	410	(410)	-	-	-
	<b>359</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>(2,432)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>Unspent general fund allocations</b>	<b>3,586</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>	<b>10,176</b>	<b>(8,724)</b>	<b>4,038</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,533</b>	<b>1,710</b>	<b>13,350</b>	<b>10,176</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,069</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>						
Designated funds						7,875
Restricted funds						1,194
<b>Total</b>						<b>9,069</b>

The PCC has approved a policy of designating 10% of General Fund collections and offerings to mission work. These sums are allocated to a range of beneficiaries agreed with and reviewed by the PCC – the allocation is shown in the 'PCC allocation' column.

Mission funds are typically paid quarterly to beneficiaries. Funds collected for Uganda and Tearfund (via the Jars of Grace Appeal) are paid over annually.

Any unspent allocation of General Fund money represents designated funds. All monies given directly by donors for the above missions have been treated as restricted funding.



## 5 Other income from Church activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rental income	19,156	19,202
Fees and charges	469	287
	<b>19,625</b>	<b>19,489</b>

Fees and charges relate to the charges levied for services at the Church as laid down by the Diocese net of sums paid over to the Diocese, leaving the fees attributable to St John's.

## 6 Activities directly relating the work of the Church

	2024	2023
	£	£
Parish Share	78,500	91,500
Church running expenses	12,480	11,598
Cost of services	2,752	2,086
Postage, telephone and travel costs	1,457	1,231
Building maintenance	5,849	4,367
Events and refreshments	1,146	1,549
Memorials	32	54
Sunday school	740	570
Courses and publications	130	233
Advertising, travel and refreshments (recruitment process)	-	1,269
	<b>103,086</b>	<b>114,457</b>

Advertising, travel and refreshments expenses in the prior year relate to the recruitment process for the new vicar for the church.

## 7 Church Management and Administration

	2024	2023
	£	£
Printing and stationery	1,033	1,103
Parish administrators' salaries	10,327	8,510
Accountants' fees	990	930
Bank charges	65	65
	<b>12,415</b>	<b>10,608</b>



## 8 Analysis of Funds

Movements in church funds are shown below, the purpose of each fund and the policies set out by the PCC in respect of each fund's management is provided in the Financial Review on page 9.

	Balance at 1st Jan 2024 £	Total receipts £	Total payments £	Net receipts/ (payments) £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st Dec 2024 £
<b>General Fund</b>	49,614	125,677	(112,373)	13,304	(15,918)	<b>47,000</b>
<b>Designated funds:</b>						
Mission fund	7,864	-	(10,165)	(10,165)	10,176	<b>7,875</b>
Development fund	37,409	-	(3,096)	(3,096)	5,742	<b>40,055</b>
Fabric Fund	7,512	-	-	-	-	<b>7,512</b>
	52,785	-	(13,261)	(13,261)	15,918	<b>55,442</b>
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Mission fund	2,669	1,710	(3,185)	(1,475)	-	<b>1,194</b>
Fabric Fund	5	22	-	22	-	<b>27</b>
Gift for children's work	-	3,000	-	3,000	-	<b>3,000</b>
Special bequest	20,284	467	-	466	-	<b>20,751</b>
Memorial fund	6,480	45	(32)	13	-	<b>6,493</b>
	29,438	5,244	(3,217)	2,026	-	<b>31,465</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>131,837</b>	<b>130,921</b>	<b>(128,851)</b>	<b>2,069</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>133,907</b>

Transfers from the General Fund, approved by the PCC, comprise:

	General Fund £	Mission Fund £	Development Fund £	Total Designated Funds £
To support mission work	(10,176)	10,176	-	<b>10,176</b>
To support future development	(5,742)	-	5,742	<b>5,742</b>
<b>Total transfers</b>	<b>(15,918)</b>	<b>10,176</b>	<b>5,742</b>	<b>15,918</b>

The PCC have approved that:

- 10% of total offerings and collections and gift aid reclaimed should be directed to mission work.
- The budgeted surplus on the general fund for the year, after making transfers for mission purposes, should be transferred to the development fund. This amounts to approximately 30% of budgeted rental income for the year.



## 9 Other Monetary Assets

St John's Church has calculated its entitlement to Gift Aid in respect of offerings, collections and gifts received in the year. These amounts will be claimed in April 2025 and will be available as follows.

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Fund	7,525	8,344
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,525</b>	<b>8,344</b>

## 10 Endowment Investments

St John's Church benefits from the Jack Richards Endowment Fund which is held on special trust as a permanent endowment such that only the income may be spent. Income arising on the fund is made available on a restricted basis for the fabric fund. The endowment is held in 594 Central Board of Finance Fixed Interest Security Shares and the market value of the holdings as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was £886 (2023: £860). Income from the fund in 2024 was £22 (2023: £5).

## 11 Tangible Fixed Assets

As set out in the accounting policies (see page 14) consecrated and benefice property of any kind is not included in the accounts as permitted under s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are inalienable property listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time.

Tangible fixed assets purchased for £1,000 or more in the last five years include:

	£
Colour Photocopier	3,234

## 12 Liabilities and Creditors

There were no liabilities and creditors as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

## 13 Remuneration of Trustees

The Trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2023: £nil). Mrs S Mortimer (Churchwarden) received a net wage of £5,570 during 2024 (2023: net wage of £4,885) in relation to her work in the capacity of Parish Administrator. This is incorporated in within total parish administrators' salaries in Note 7.

In total 3 Trustees (2023: 3) were reimbursed for travel, subsistence and out of pocket expenses totalling £2,960 (2023: £1,941).

During the year Ms A Wiltshire provided payroll services for St John's. The services were not remunerated and were provided after prior agreement with PCC. The processing costs incurred by Ms Wiltshire's company amounted to £56 and these expenses were reimbursed by the church.



## **14 Going Concern**

The Trustees have reviewed the anticipated financial position of the PCC for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements and concluded that there is no material uncertainty regarding the PCC's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern.