



The United Benefice of South Petherton with the Seavingtons and the Lambrooks

Charity Registration No 1128940



Annual Reports of the Parochial Church Council For the year ended 31st December 2022



The Benefice of South Petherton with the Seavingtons and the Lambrooks

Rector - Reverend Tracey Hallett

Acting PCC Treasurer for year ending 2022

Mr Steve Harrison
9 Lampreys Lane
South Petherton
TA13 5DU

Independent Examiner of Accounts:

Mr Tim Farley
Goffey Limited
63 Conway Crescent
Burnham on Sea
Somerset
TA8 2UW

Correspondence Address:

The Rectory, Hele Lane, South Petherton, Somerset.

TA13 5DY

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the United Benefice of South Petherton with the Seavingtons and the Lambrooks in the diocese of Bath and Wells has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting throughout the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (no.1128940). It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church of St Peter and St Paul's in South Petherton; the church and churchyard of St Michael's in Seavington St Michael; the church and churchyard of St James's in East Lambrook and the schoolroom; and the churchyard at Seavington St Mary's (the church was declared redundant in 1984 and vested with the Churches Conservation Trust).

Administration

The Benefice office serves all three Churches and is located at The Rectory Hele Lane South Petherton TA13 5DY. Telephone 01460 240377
Email: Office@southpethertonbenefice.org

MEMBERS OF THE PCC

Members are either ex-officio or elected Deanery Synod representatives with a term of three years, or lay representatives with a term of three years elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), in accordance with the Church Representation rules and after due notice. The PCC works in collaboration with several committees and informal groups within the Benefice.

The following served as members of the PCC during 2022:

Rector: Reverend Tracey Hallett (Ex-officio)

Reader: Geoffrey Abery (retired in the latter part of 2022)

Churchwardens:

Mark Stainer (St James's)

Manda Jagers and Anne Shaw (St Michael's)

Daphne Woodhouse and Steve Harrison (St Peter and St Paul's)

Deanery Synod Representatives: Mandy Maggs and Phil Andrews (2023)

Elected Members: Chris Sharp 2025, Jane Ward (2025), Carol Talbot (2025), Alastair Fyfe (2024), Richard Brooks (2023), Caroline Ireland-Jones (2024), Janet Strugnell (2024).
(APCM at which members complete their term of office and may see re-election)

Co-opted Members: Shan Weston (Headteacher of the C of E .V.A.Infants and Preschool)

Safeguarding Officer: Sue Harrison, 9 Lampreys Lane, South Petherton, TA13 5DU

Gift Aid Secretary: Julia Lear, Toad Hall, 14 St Michael's Gardens, South Petherton TA13 5BD

Benefice Administrator: Anne Perez, Benefice Office
(Office@southpethertonbenefice.org).

Ministry Team:

The Benefice is well supported by the Churchwardens and a dedicated group of retired priests who have permission to officiate (PTO's). With thanks to the PTO's: Rev Simon Baker, Rev Annie Gurner, Rev Andrew Callon, Rev Mark Jackson, Rev D Fyfe, Rev Laurence Meering, Rev Wendy Mitchel and Rev Ian Gibson during 2022 this Benefice offered a full and diverse pattern of worship. The Ministry group meet regularly to plan service rotas, to review our ministry as a team and to provide mutual support.

Standing Committee:

The Standing Committee has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. (This is the only committee required by law). It normally consists of the Rector, the churchwardens, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the vice-chair of the PCC.

Membership:

In July 2022, after a robust calculation of our attendance figures, it was declared on the 2022 Parish update form that there were 108 regular worshippers in the Benefice. It is this figure that the Diocese use to calculate the fees charged for our Parish Share.

Electoral Roll:

The Electoral Roll stands at 157.

If you would like to an elected member of the PCC, you are required to be on the Church Electoral Roll for a minimum of six months before

nomination. Please note that by being on the Electoral Roll it does not impact the Parish Share calculations.

Charitable Giving Committee:

Alastair Fyfe continues to chair this group and the policy for making grants and donations, as a proportion of our regular income, is reviewed annually in September. Members of the congregations are encouraged to suggest to the Charitable Giving Committee suitable charitable organisations that we might support. We supported 25 charitable causes this year.

Financial Review

As at close of play on 31st December 2022:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Bank Balance as at Year Start (01/01/2022) | £59,454.46 |
| Current 2022 Income | £168,938.81 |
| Current 2022 Expenditure | £123,451.71 |
| | <hr/> |
| Current Balance | £104,941.56 |

On a simple receipts and payments basis this gives a surplus for the year of £45,487.10

Unfortunately, our underlying financial position is not as happy as that: there is income in 2022 which is earmarked for specific projects and for which most of the expenditure will happen in 2023 – there are some bills incurred in 2022 but which will be paid in 2023. For example:

The Yurt project (net £12,155);
East Lambrook Schoolroom Refurbishment Project (£8,462);
Legacy for Bell-Ringer Education (£23,998);
Reach Youth Grants (£3,000). These total around £47,000
Fees owed to PTOs for funerals, etc; fees owed to the Diocese;
boiler and lighting repairs; Zambia Priest collections: these total approximately £3,218

Amounts for earmarked projects and unpaid bills therefore means that we were able to ensure that our cash reserves were always above the minimum stipulated in our Reserves Policy. In 2022, we also benefitted from a substantial refund of tax from HMRC, thanks to the continued efforts of Julia Lear, our Gift Aid administrator. Gift Aided regular giving (or even irregular or one-off giving) provides an extra 25% which is refunded from the tax man.

If any givers have not completed a Gift Aid form (and they pay tax) please speak to Julia Lear, who looks after Gift Aid payments, so that we can

increase our income even further. We need every penny and 25% makes a huge difference even on the smallest of donations.

In preparation for the APCM a detailed scrutiny of our accounts is being undertaken, at the time of writing the attached accounts are in the hands of the independent examiner and we await his final report. The reality of our financial situation remains to present the PCC with a significant challenge, if we continue as we are, the underlying position on a simple income and expenditure basis is a deficit of around £6,000 - £7,000 rather than a surplus.

Looking forward, there are other difficulties for our finances: The Parish Share requested by the Diocese for 2022 was £63,740 we were fortunately able to pay the Parish Share but have also been notified of a further 2% increase for 2023 taking the requested amount to £65,015. And not least the effects of inflation on our expenditure. In particular, we benefited greatly in 2022 from a fixed rate deal on our energy costs. This deal has ended and so we face much higher energy costs in 2023. That said, all our running costs this year are higher than 2022 and ideally, we should be looking to invest in our intentions for outreach, growth and community. If this year we are to realise these intentions without running down our reserves even more, we really do need to maximise all our income streams. We plan to hold our Benefice giving day earlier than normal and have proposed to do so in June 2023 rather than October. There are plans also for Reverend Tracey to lead us in stewardship campaign in the latter part of 2023. Please note the full & accurate accounts will be reported separately upon return from the independent examiner (Refer to appendix B for accounts as submitted to Tim Farley for examination).

Reserves policy:

The PCC reserves policy states that our bank account should always contain at least 4 months' worth of expenditure. That is the equivalent to around £41,000. Based on the end of year accounts for 2022, our reserves will be down to the minimum level in 3-4 years.

Fundraising Group:

This group meets to plan and co-ordinate a range of fundraising events. These events make a huge difference to our balance sheet and therefore to the extent to which we can invest in the activities through which we can reach out to our community. We are grateful to Daphne Woodhouse who has spent time this year developing paperwork to reflect new protocols and guidance which will in time enable fundraising events to be well managed. It is hoped that we will recruit some new members to join the fundraising group and we welcome all of you to join in and share a fresh approach and any ideas for new activities.

Volunteers:

Volunteers – where would we be without you? We are very fortunate to have such a willing group of volunteers in our Benefice and we are very grateful to each of you as you play such a significant role in the work of the church. Volunteers are the unsung heroes of the Church and so often live out their Christian faith by being the hands and feet of Jesus. From welcoming, to holy dusting, clock winding, bell ringing, gardening, moving furniture to prepare for events and services, sacristan duties, rotas and planning events, serving and chalice bearing, pastoral care and visiting, flower arranging, lay leaders planning and leading services. And there is so much more that there is far too many to list by name but bless you all and thank you all for who you are in Christ and all that you do for the Church and this Benefice!

In the 2021 APCM we acknowledged that without volunteers we cannot do anything. And it was stated that *'The more volunteers we have, the sooner we can address the issues that will take us forward'*. It is a delight to see this prayer answered as in 2022 we have seen an increase in new people coming forward to volunteer, particularly to support the mission of God within our Benefice as we engage in fresh expressions of Church. In fact, during this year, we have completed the safer recruitment of our very own Community Volunteer Sam Lloyd, who creativity leads us to reach out to local members of our communities who would not normally go to Church.

Safeguarding:

Our benefice is committed to and will champion the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Everyone who meets us, comes to us, or works with us should feel safe and cared for irrespective of their social background, culture, their abilities, religious belief or any other factor. It is the responsibility of all of us, individually as well as collectively, to make these aspirations real, to look out for one another and to pass on any concerns.

As required by the Church of England, we have a designated safeguarding officer (Sue Harrison) and an approved policy to guide our actions. Sue's role is to support, advise and deal with certain specific issues for which she has been trained – but she does not 'do safeguarding' for us; we are all responsible for doing the right thing and for acting if things fall short.

The PCC is responsible for ensuring the benefice has a safeguarding policy which is agreed, understood and enacted. We have approved our own Safeguarding Policy and will keep it under review both to keep it in line with current expectations and also to customise it to meet our own needs. The PCC routinely receives reports in particular to enable us to track the safe recruitment of volunteers where their roles bring them into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults in their 'official' capacity. 'Safe

recruiting' involves a DBS check, the uptake of references, a clear role description, an induction interview and an assessment of training needs.

We are very grateful to Sue for her dedication and commitment to safeguarding over many years, it is planned that at the APCM Sue will pass this role to Manda Jagers.

For more information on Safeguarding please email Sue on: safeguarding@southpethertonbenefice.org and please read Sue's safeguarding report as attached in the reports section of this document.

South Petherton Church of England Voluntary Aided Infants School and Pre-School:

The majority of governors of the school (ie the foundation governors) are nominated for appointment through the PCC. Our Foundation governors in 2022 were Kirsten Carp, Sue Harrison, Richard Killen, Rev Tracey Hallett (ex-officio). There are vacancies for Foundation Governors and we encourage anyone interested in the role to contact Shan Weston (Head Teacher): sweston@southpethertoncofeinfants.co.uk for further information.

Parish Magazine

This year a consultation was undertaken within the local community to review the cost and frequency of the Parish Magazine. We discovered that to produce the monthly magazine it requires approximately ten hours of administration time. This role has been the responsibility of the Benefice Administrator. In effect it takes one whole week of paid administration time to produce the magazine and so in our efforts to review PCC finances and expenditure, it was decided the way forward would be to recruit a volunteer editorial team. As such, a volunteer recruitment advert was placed, several times, in the Magazine. To date we have not managed to recruit such a team. Therefore, the Parish Magazine is not as profitable as we might hope. And although we are immensely grateful to Julia Lear who manages the advertising in the magazine and our advertisers whose support enables us to continue with production. The rise in production costs has forced an increase in the price of the magazine to £2. We have also implemented payment by bank transfer. The Parish Magazine is a valued community resources and we welcome articles for inclusion which should be sent to office@southpethertonbenfice.org by around the 12th of each month (earlier in February). We do our best to ensure that articles are printed as they are written but reserve the right to edit copy where necessary.

South Petherton Mothers Union Branch

An active branch of the Mothers' Union meets monthly and is coordinated by Judith Riley please see attached report and for more information about Mothers' Union please contact Judith on: judithriley939@btinternet.com.

Reports:

This year we have invited all who are involved in the life of our Benefice to contribute to the APCM and we do hope that you will take the time to enjoy their attached reports.

APCM REPORTS FOR 2022/23

The Rector's annual report for APCM reflecting 2022

*Our benefice aspires to be:
A growing, learning, Christian family committed
to serving God and the community.*

I am still giving thanks to God for bringing me to you! The first year in post has flown and I am immensely grateful that you as Benefice and all in the wider community have received my husband Dean and I so well – The Rectory is home, we now feel settled.

On my arrival in January 2022, The Covid-19 pandemic was still very much in evidence but thankfully its impact reducing by the end of the year. Having been through vacancy and the pandemic it seemed to me that the Benefice were more than ready to move forward. Our Benefice worship gradually moved to dropping most of our Covid-related changes as mask-wearing relaxed. During the summer we reinstated sharing the peace and began to offer the "Common Cup" again but have remained with the decision to continue using pre-intincted wafers to enable those who prefer not to take the cup to still receive communion in both kinds. It has been positive to see a steady increase in numbers of people willing to share the Common cup again. However, for now we continue offering pre-intincted wafers and the common cup. We aim to return to 'normal' towards the Autumn of 2023. At St Peter and St Paul's we have seen a good increase of people attending worship and there are plenty of new faces across the Benefice engaging in the many expressions of Church that we are now offering. As we move into 2023, there is a need at (St Peter and St Paul's) Holy Communion services to begin using two chalices and so we are extending our team of servers, this is exciting to see.

I have truly valued the work of The Parish Profile, it is an excellent guide to me, and has provided 'a job description' aiding us to discern our direction

of travel carefully and prayerfully, as well as work towards some of the priorities listed before my arrival.

The profile states that in five years' time, we want our benefice to look like this:

'For our churches to be at the heart of our villages, pro-actively reaching out to our communities'.

Therefore, the vitally important starting place was to build positive



relationships and to be visibly present in all three of the parishes and their communities. I have been publicly present and made a conscious effort to get to know people and for them to get to know me, and their Churches through our interactions. One of the most proactive ways of getting to know everyone was to

encourage South Petherton Infants School (SPIS) PGFA to hold their summer fete in the Rectory Garden. This caused a great stir of excitement and gave many people time to reminisce on their childhood memories involving past events in the rectory garden. The door to relationships opened and as the sun shone it helped the fete to be a great source of fundraising for SPIS.

Sadly, there is an evident level of pastoral need particularly related to bereavement as reflected in the many funerals we have taken in the Benefice. During 2022, there were 22 funerals, and on a more positive note 11 baptisms and 3 weddings across the Benefice. There is a need to create a system for pastoral follow up and support after significant life events, this is an area for development in our Benefice.

Regarding the pastoral concerns of our Benefice, we are working towards a three-tiered approach to meet needs and there are plans in place to recruit and develop a voluntary pastoral care team. Currently, much pastoral care takes place on an informal basis and with people befriending one another and offering mutual support and care. There is a '*love our neighbour approach*', which is evident within all three of our Churches and their parishes.



We were all impacted by the sad news of the war in Ukraine that hit us in February. We called the Benefice to prayer and organised prayer vigils. Susan Ogilvy from St James's encouraged us to join forces across the Benefice and take practical action. We made welcome toiletry bags and filled them with



essential items. Over 200 bags were then distributed to families who were welcoming refugees into their homes. Sadly, the war continues into 2023 – and we continue to pray and to work for peace.



Lent and Easter: On Shrove Tuesday with the help of a small team we were able to provide a Pancake picnic party in St Peter and St Paul's for the local families from both the Junior and Infants School. We also introduced South Petherton infant school to the Easter experience. This is a creative, artistic and interactive way of travelling through the events of holy week and helps the children to better grasp the timeline of Easter and gain a detailed understanding of the story too.



Two Lent study courses were offered, with the opportunity to focus on the themes of inclusivity and diversity as we engaged with: 1. The Living in Love and Faith (LLF) Course which was well attended at St Peter and St Paul's. The LLF course helped us to understand difference and how we as a Church community could offer welcome to ALL people, regardless of their background and life choices. We were encouraged to consider how we as a group of people can live well together even when there might be a difference of theological opinion and understanding. The second course held at the Rectory, was based on the Film the Greatest Showman and drew our attention to God's redeeming love; this helped us all to consider our theological understanding of diversity. Both courses enabled acceptance, good, open and honest conversations and learning from each other.



With Covid restrictions lifting and the willingness of volunteers we were able to reinstate the wonderful tradition of Maundy Thursday Supper with foot washing too. This was one of the most moving and enriching spiritual moments of the year for me personally. It was a great privilege to humbly wash the feet of others.



Holy week and Easter services across the Benefice were very well attended and I am grateful to our retired priests for helping, we are so fortunate that their help enables each of the Churches within the Benefice to continue embracing their individual traditions and practices.

As partnership and relationships continued to develop and flourish, I was able to visit the Junior School and deliver assemblies, help in classes, and support the transition for children moving from the infants to the juniors. My presence at the year 3 'welcome' day meant that children from the

infants had a familiar and trusting face waiting to greet them as they arrived at the juniors for their induction day in their new school environment.

Team around the parish (TATP) came to birth in June as I realised that there was not a collaborative approach within our community to meet the needs of children and their families. I invited a gathering to take place around the rectory table with other professionals to discuss a way forward: 1. To support each other in our roles and 2. To enable us to better understand and meet the rising level of need.

TATP consists of South Petherton infant school, Junior School and Reach Youth (children and families worker). This partnership is valuable to our community and has aided us to offer varied levels of support to the most vulnerable. The Church has and playing a significant role in TATP, as we continue to offer activities for families (mostly involving use of the rectory garden) such a welly wonderers, and holiday activities, we have also helped by providing Christmas hampers for families who have limited financial resources.



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Becoming aware of the needs in our community and by building positive relationships with the most vulnerable families, I was moved to share a vision for a community *Nurture Yurt* (Nur-Chur) with the Church. I sought prayerful support and financial resource from our congregations and was utterly amazed at the response! We raised the funds almost immediately to purchase a yurt and by sharing the vision with local members of the community, people with the appropriate skills stepped up to enable the yurt to be placed safely in the rectory garden. We are so thankful to all involved in resourcing this most amazing community project. With so much help we have been able to provide a safe and nurturing environment that aims ***'To bring our community together through nurture, nature, spirituality - a sense of awe and wonder and inclusive hospitality.'*** (Please read Appendix C for further detail).



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee: It was fabulous to be able to offer such a range of varied events including a community BBQ, family friendly movie and popcorn evening and a whole host of activities and celebrations over the Jubilee weekend. The culmination, with thanks to Sarah Armstrong, Steve Harrison and the Choir, was a wonderful afternoon of musical celebration as we watched clips of the Queen's Coronation on the large screen, sang her favourite hymns and held a toast with sherry. The joy being shared with our friends from Burnworthy made it perfect! The Benefice service was equally full of sentiment, joy and laughter and even featured Paddington bear sharing his marmalade sandwiches with our Ma'am.



this time of mourning.

Sadly, the joy turned to mourning as we heard the news that HRH Queen Elizabeth II had died on 8th September. We took an important role in our communities in providing space for remembering. Books of condolence were left in each of our church buildings along with materials to support prayer. Special services were arranged at short notice. Again, we saw the community joining us in

Throughout 2022, we held ‘taster’ services within our Churches to bring a fresh perspective to our worship, the aim being to reach out into the community and to offer inclusivity and welcome. Café church was already in existence at Seavington St Michael before Covid. On my arrival and as Covid restrictions reduced, we reinstated this popular informal service. Café church at Seavington in the community café offers a wonderfully accessible building to host these services. The popularity of Café church installed confidence to introduce a Café Church to the whole benefice.

And so, we decided to offer taster café Church services in 5th Sunday Benefice services at St Peter and St Paul’s. We were shocked to see the crowds gather and queue to get into the Church for the first one we held. As the year progressed it seemed we had found a way in which we could connect Church and the wider community and continued with Café services that were very well supported. We also delivered some informal Holy Communion services, naming them family holy communion and using the sermon slot as a space to offer various methods of communicating the good news of the Gospel. Thus, in November we as a PCC agreed to change the pattern of services within the Benefice with effect from January 2023. (Please see Appendix D).

In October, the PCC and all involved in creating the Benefice profile were invited to attend a quiet day. Sixteen of us went to Deanery Mission Priest Deborah Perreau’s home in Combe St Nicholas and took the day to reflect together and review the profile as we considered the following questions: _

- Where were we then (when it was created to recruit the Rector)
- Where are we now (6months+later)
- Where are we going (seeking God’s guidance for our vision)

(Please refer to Appendix E for a full reflection of the day and outcomes).

On our return from the quiet day, we implemented PCC sub groups, please see separate reports written on behalf of these sub groups. There is plenty of space for everyone from our three Churches to become involved in subgroups and you do not have to be a PCC member to join in. I note for instance that we have an urgent need for help with marketing and communication and to date, we do not have a small group leader or a team of volunteers to support this area. An example of our need relates to the Benefice website, which was taken offline in May 2022, as I felt it did not accurately represent the Benefice theologically. The website is an

ongoing project and remains a very high priority for 2023. We are grateful to Chris Sharp for his technological support which has enabled a better system of administration within the Benefice through the implementation of Google shared drive and Benefice email addresses.



The outcomes from the first quiet day have helped to guide the PCC with a direction of travel for the Benefice, as such we will regularly review progress as we seek God together. It was hoped that three quiet days a year would offer a good amount of time to discern well together and explore how things are going. Sadly, we have not yet held a second quiet day and perhaps we were a little ambitious in aiming to hold 3 a year. I remember saying at my interview for the post of Rector that we will only travel as fast as the slowest member of the team. This has not been the case and change has happened quickly during this first year, and as such, it is envisaged that we will soon need another quiet day to provide the PCC with more space to reflect and pray together – it is my intention to lead this in the summer of 2023.



St James School Room in East Lambrook: With the enthusiasm of a small management committee there has been a big fundraising appeal for the renovation of the school room at East Lambrook. The goal of the 'Big Fundraise'

was to raise £12,500 by September 2022, the aim being to secure match funding from an application to South Somerset District Council (SSDC). The estimated renovation costs for phase one of the project was £23,680 and after a lot of hard work in the funding applications, SSDC awarded £11,638 towards the overall costs, £1000 was gifted from Kingsbury Episcopi Parish Council and a further £5000 charitable funding was awarded by Bernard Sunley Foundation. The community spirit in East Lambrook has been plentiful with fundraising events being a big success and raising over £7000 by the end of the financial year. Daphne Woodhouse is my delegated authority within the committee and we have employed a project manager to oversee the building renovation. With my sincere thanks and appreciation to Daphne for her leadership and for all the committee are doing to achieve a fabulous, upgraded school room to the benefit of the whole community.

November, Advent and Christmas: All souls and all saints were reflected beautifully with special reflective services of remembrance being held at both St Peter and St Paul's and St Michael's. Children and families from the local community also enjoyed celebrating this season as we provided a light party at St Peter and St Paul's to remind them of Jesus being the light of the world.

Rev Simon Baker and his wife Diana led an Advent course at their home in Seavington St Michael which was attended by a small group of people who said it helped them to gain confidence in Bible study. Rev Laurence Meering also led an Advent course in St Peter and St Paul's. Sadly, we had a very cold Advent and winter period in St Peter and St Paul's with the breakdown of the boiler - beyond repair. My first significant problem as Rector, they do not teach about these practical issues at theological college! Thus, there was an urgent need to recruit another willing volunteer to manage the 'Boiler Project'. Thankfully, God pointed me in the direction of Roy Duffy and fortunately he agreed to be the project manager. Roy has worked with the PCC to begin the faculty process and is investigating the most effective replacement of heating for St Peter and St Pauls. The faculty application is underway, and we hope to be warm again by winter 2023. Despite the cold winter, we all worked hard to plan and deliver several special services, in Advent and Christmas and it was excellent to see a good response in terms of number and enthusiasm of attendees. Carols, Christingle, crib and all of our Christmas services including our first walking nativity, were very well attended and even better than the pre-covid levels which really lifted our spirits at the end of the year. Thank you to everyone for your continued prayer and support during this year and for the years that are yet to come! Rev Tracey





**The United Benefice of South Petherton
with the Seavingtons and the Lambrooks**

Charity Registration No 1128940



**FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

T.240000H
9/15/23

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2022

| | Note | 2022 | | 2021 |
|-------------------------------------|------|----------------|---|----------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| Debtors and Pre-Payments | 1 | 22,318 | | 16,603 |
| Short Term Deposits | | 34,083 | | 33,641 |
| Cash at Bank | | 104,942 | | 59,454 |
| | | <u>161,343</u> | | <u>109,698</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 2 | 19,442 | | 9,443 |
| | | <u>19,442</u> | | <u>9,443</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | | |
| | | <u>141,901</u> | | <u>100,255</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | | | |
| | | <u>141,901</u> | | <u>100,255</u> |
| FUNDS | | | | |
| Unrestricted | 3 | | | |
| General Fund | | 104,256 | | 99,322 |
| Memorial Fund | | 1,224 | | 665 |
| Restricted | | 268 | | 268 |
| Bellringing Education Fund | | 23,998 | | |
| Yurt Appeal | | 12,155 | | |
| | | <u>141,901</u> | | <u>100,255</u> |

The notes to the accounts start on page 3

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 2022

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2022 £ | Funds 2021 £ |
|---|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| INCOMING RESOURCES | | | | | |
| From Donors | 4a | 109,159 | | 109,159 | 105,299 |
| Other Voluntary Income | 4b | 9,920 | 27,594 | 37,514 | 37,636 |
| Charitable and ancilliary trading | 4c | 27,760 | 0 | 27,760 | 25,314 |
| Other ordinary income | 4d | 350 | 0 | 350 | 2,227 |
| From investments | 4e | 563 | 0 | 563 | 32 |
| TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES | | 147,752 | 27,594 | 175,346 | 170,508 |
| RESOURCES USED | | | | | |
| Grants / Donations | 5a | 6,100 | 3,596 | 9,696 | 8,672 |
| Activities directly related to the work of the church | 5b | 121,814 | 0 | 121,814 | 133,298 |
| Churches management and administration | 5c | 2,190 | 0 | 2,190 | 125 |
| Contra | 5d | 0 | 0 | | 0 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES USED | | 130,104 | 3,596 | 133,700 | 142,095 |
| NET INCOMING / OUTGOING RESOURCES | | 17,648 | 23,998 | 41,646 | 28,412 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 17,648 | 23,998 | 41,646 | 28,412 |
| BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD at 1st JANUARY 2022 | | 99,987 | 268 | 100,255 | 71,843 |
| BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD at 31st December 2022 | | 117,635 | 24,266 | 141,901 | 100,255 |

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2016 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP. This involves the production of a balance sheet, and the adjustment to the cash figures of both opening and closing accruals, now shown on the statement of financial activities for the year. The financial statements this year have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts include transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

General (unrestricted) funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restriction regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds which are subject to restrictions as to their use are shown separately.

The **Memorial Fund** was established by the PCC in November 2003 to hold monies given to the PCC under bequests or legacies, or in memory or thanksgiving for God's grace. The PCC is, generally, free to use these funds as it deems appropriate. Major works items (not covered by Grants) have been charged to the Memorial Fund.

During the year, a bequest was received which specified that the funds should be used for a **Bellringers Education Fund**. This is, therefore, recorded separately for this purpose.

During 2022, a **Yurt Appeal** led to the provision of funds for the purchase and installation of a Yurt in the Rectory Garden. Income and expenditure for this have been recorded separately and the remaining fund, allocated to this appeal, is shown in the balance sheet.

Restricted Funds relate to charities and other funds which are considered independent of the PCC fund and are, therefore, accounted for separately.

Incoming Resources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and for the amount due.

Income from investments is accounted for when receivable. Realised gains or losses on investments are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses on investments are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31st December.

Resources Used

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over.

The Diocesan quota (Parish Share) is a voluntary contribution to the costs of the Diocese but not a legal liability and is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed land and buildings are excluded from the accounts by virtue of Section 10(2)(c) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities (on page 2).

DEBTORS and PRE-PAYMENTS

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Income Tax Recoverable | 20,666 | |
| Prepayments | 94 | |
| Hire fees | 200 | |
| Fees due for funerals, etc. | 1,358 | |
| | <u>22,318</u> | <u>0</u> |

LIABILITIES

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Magazine Adverts pre-paid for 2022 | 1,865 | |
| Other payments due | 2,207 | |
| Due to Charities | 7,500 | 3,596 |
| Mag Printing | 542 | |
| Running Costs | 1,229 | |
| Fees overpaid | 378 | |
| Due to Clergy | 1,896 | |
| Misc | 229 | |
| | <u>15,846</u> | <u>3,596</u> |

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total £ |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Current Assets | 22,318 | - | 22,318 |
| Current Liabilities | 15,846 | 3,596 | 19,442 |
| Fund Balance | <u>6,472</u> | <u>- 3,596</u> | <u>2,876</u> |

INCOMING RESOURCES

| | | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2022 £ | Funds 2021 £ |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 4a | Incoming resources from donors: | | | | |
| | Gift Aid | 42,812 | | 42,812 | 38,649 |
| | Income tax recoverable | 20,666 | | 20,666 | 24,184 |
| | Non Gift Aid | 9,497 | | 9,497 | 3,144 |
| | Collections at services | 10,011 | | 10,011 | 10,146 |
| | Gift Day | 8,882 | | 8,882 | 12,013 |
| | Sundry donations | | | 0 | 8,025 |
| | Roof Appeal | | | 0 | 9,137 |
| | Yurt Appeal | 16,905 | | 16,905 | |
| | Refund | 386 | | 386 | |
| | | 109,159 | 0 | 109,159 | 105,299 |
| 4b | Other voluntary incoming resources: | | | | |
| | Grants | 1,000 | 3,000 | 4,000 | 23,669 |
| | Legacies | 125 | 23,998 | 24,123 | 0 |
| | Fundraising | 8,796 | | 8,796 | 6,054 |
| | Zambia Priest Training | | 596 | 596 | 267 |
| | Bath & Wells | | | 0 | 7,646 |
| | | 9,920 | 27,594 | 37,514 | 37,636 |
| 4c | Income from charitable and ancillary trading: | | | | |
| | Magazine sales | 3,621 | | 3,621 | 3,423 |
| | Magazine advertising revenue | 2,833 | | 2,833 | 193 |
| | E Lambrook School Room | 8,462 | | 8,462 | 920 |
| | Book / Gift stall | 40 | | 40 | 14 |
| | Fees | 12,804 | | 12,804 | 6,581 |
| | VAT and tax recovered | 0 | | 0 | 14,184 |
| | | 27,760 | 0 | 27,760 | 25,314 |
| 4d | Other ordinary incoming resources: | | | | |
| | insurance Claim / Rent | 350 | | 350 | 2,227 |
| | Contra | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 350 | 0 | 350 | 2,227 |
| 4e | Income from investments: | | | | |
| | Dividends & Interest | 563 | | 563 | 32 |
| | | 563 | 0 | 563 | 32 |
| TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES | | 147,751.60 | 27,593.73 | 175,346.33 | 170,507 |

RESOURCES USED

| | | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total 2022 £ | Funds 2021 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grants / Donations: | | | | | |
| Missionary & charitable giving: | | | | | |
| | Zambia Link | 1,500 | | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| | Home Missions and Societies | 4,600 | | 4,600 | 6,457 |
| | Zambia Priest Training | 0 | 596 | 596 | 500 |
| | Reach Youth | 0 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 215 |
| | | 6,100 | 3,596 | 9,696 | 8,672 |
| Activities directly related to the work of the church: | | | | | |
| Ministry: | | | | | |
| | Diocesan quota, etc. | 63,549 | | 63,549 | 31,774 |
| | Clergy expenses | 11,697 | | 11,697 | 557 |
| | Church running expenses | 16,295 | | 16,295 | 12,140 |
| | Church maintenance | 5,154 | | 5,154 | 71,727 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| | Parish magazine | 3,161 | | 3,161 | 3,333 |
| | Upkeep of churchyards | 1,975 | | 1,975 | 3,672 |
| | E Lambrook Schoolroom | 1,440 | | 1,440 | 2,740 |
| | Yurt Project | 4,750 | | 4,750 | |
| | Misc | 682 | | 682 | |
| Remuneration: | | | | | |
| | D of Music and Organists | 2,295 | | 2,295 | 1,795 |
| | Secretarial services | 7,207 | | 7,207 | 2,422 |
| | Fund raising | 40 | | 40 | 232 |
| | Books / Gifts | 38 | | 38 | 0 |
| | Fees | 3,531 | | 3,531 | 2,907 |
| | | 121,814 | 0 | 121,814 | 133,298 |
| Church management & administration: | | | | | |
| | Printer, stationery, etc. | 2,190 | | 2,190 | 125 |
| | | 2,190 | 0 | 2,190 | 125 |
| Contra (collections for charities, etc.) | | | | | |
| | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES USED | | | | | |
| | | 130,104 | 3,596 | 133,700 | 142,096 |



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Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of South Petherton with the Seavingtons and Lambrooks Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of 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 presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the members and trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full 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. I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

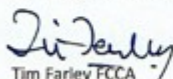
Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

have not been met.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Tim Farley FCCA

10 May 2023