

Chudleigh

Parish Church



The Parish of St Martin and St Mary, Chudleigh

Address for correspondence:
The Vicarage, Parade, Chudleigh TQ13 0JF

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended
31st December 2023

Vicar:
The Reverend Alex Sharp

Bankers:
Lloyds Bank
Newton Abbot TQ12 2EE
NatWest Bank
Newton Abbot TQ12 2QW
CCLA
London EC4R 3AB

Independent Examiner:
Mr David Rudall
Greenwood Accountancy
Teign Street
Teignmouth
TQ14 8EB

Our web site:
chudleighparishchurch.org.uk

The Chudleigh Parochial Church Council is a Registered Charity no: 1128947

The Parochial Church Council of St Martin & St Mary, Chudleigh

Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

Aim and Purpose

St Martin & St Mary's Parochial Church Council (the PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, the Reverend Alex Sharp, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Objectives and Activities

The work of the PCC is shaped by our church vision: "sharing the love of Jesus with our community through word and action."

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

As a Church, we aim to provide services of worship which are both accessible and reverent, enjoyable and edifying, drawing on the best of traditional music and liturgy while embracing contemporary hymns and songs as well. Our Organist Steve Cox and Music Group leader Mark Gale work extremely hard to lead us in a diverse range of worship each week, and the PCC would like to express its thanks to them.

During 2023 our regular Sunday morning service rotated between Holy Communion, Morning Worship and All Age Services. We are very grateful for the ministry of our LLMs (Helen Harding, Keith Miller, Sheila Fletcher and Yasmin Mann) and clergy with PtO (the Revd Martin Fletcher and the Revd Roderick Withnell), who lead and preach at services across our Mission Community regularly. The PCC would like to express its particular thanks to Keith Miller, who retired as an LLM in summer 2023.

On a monthly basis we also held Messy Church, BCP Holy Communion and Christian Mindfulness services. These reach out to our community in unique and complementary ways to our weekly Sunday Services. We thank all the volunteers involved for their tireless work to provide these opportunities to the local community.

We stream the audio of our Sunday morning services over the internet for those who are housebound or unable to attend. The PCC is very grateful to our PA/AV team for their skill and dedication in ensuring the smooth running of our services and making the broadcast available.

Though we do not hold weekday services on a regular basis, we do have a weekly time of prayer that is open to all at 9.15am on Thursdays. The PCC would like to thank Sheila Glenton for her particular role in facilitating this important meeting at the heart of our corporate prayer life.

Pastoral care for those who are unable to make it to church continues; the PCC recognises that much of this work is done between friends in the congregation in an informal way, and thanks our church family for their love and concern for one another. The Pastoral Care

Group meets monthly to oversee some of this work. The PCC would like to thank Sheila Fletcher for her work in chairing this group up to September 2023, and for Hayley Jones taking over as Chair at that time.

As of 15/4/24, there were 101 parishioners on the Electoral Roll, 87 of whom live within the parish. 4 names were added in the period between the APCM in 2023 and 14/4/24, and 1 was removed, because of death. The average Sunday attendance at the 10.30am Service on 2023 Sundays was 72 (including children but excluding those listening at home).

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to mark, celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. There have been 4 Baptisms, 3 weddings and 9 funerals and memorials during the year. We continue to provide opportunities for our community to observe important occasions in the national and Christian calendar such as Ash Wednesday, Easter, Remembrance Day and Christmas. We reintroduced (post-covid) a special Memorial Service where anyone could come to remember their loved ones who are no longer with us.

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who help to decorate the church throughout the year, especially Pam Cox, Judith Perriss, and Barbara Chisnall for their work in this area over many years.

Deanery Synod

Two members of the PCC sit on the Newton Abbot Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with a link with the churches around us, and also with the Diocese as a whole. It also receives reports from the Diocesan and General Synods. There are various topics and speakers at each meeting.

Church Fabric

Routine maintenance continued throughout the year (boiler servicing, path spraying, carpet cleaning, service of fire extinguishers, clock maintenance, etc...). A Health and Safety report was received, and all issues have been addressed. The PCC wishes to thank all the people who do the other 'behind the scenes' jobs that make the building clean and safe, it is much appreciated and the building could not function properly without their silent contributions. The churchyard grass cutter is Mike Neck. He and his team continue to make the churchyard presentable.

Mission and Evangelism

Mission and evangelism remain at the heart of our identity. We began 2023 with an evangelistic course for those exploring faith or wishing to revisit the fundamental truths of Christianity called "Hope Explored," followed by "Life Explored" shortly after Easter.

Over the course of the year we ran numerous events in addition to our regular services and activities, e.g.: "No Blues Monday" dinner and games in January; a Pancake Day event in February; a Good Friday All Age Trail in April; a screening of the King's Coronation with associated activities for children in May; an exhibition exploring the importance of faith in the lives of people in Devon ("This is My Story"); a quiz for the "Come and See" Diocesan Weekend in November.

We continue to be involved in our local school, with the Vicar regularly leading Collective Worship and hosting school services in the church. Along with the Vicar we have two

Foundation Governors on the Governing Board. The school also makes use of the church building for educational purposes during the school year.

Ecumenically, we held two joint services with Chudleigh Baptist Church and continued to work together on several initiatives, most notably the Miniones parent and toddler group and Tuesday Night (Youth) Group, which has been split into younger and older groups.

The PCC continues to develop new ideas for outreach and service and is working toward a similar programme of annual events for 2024 and beyond.

Church Reordering

During 2023 the PCC began the process of considering how two recent legacies left to the church might best be used to help us work towards our mission by developing the church building and facilities. It was considered important to ensure that the building meets the needs of the Church and wider Chudleigh community in an inclusive way today and into the future. Other uses for the legacies beyond reordering were not to be excluded. A sub-group of the PCC was asked to take the process forward.

The first stage of the consultation process was to issue a questionnaire to the congregations of Chudleigh, Chudleigh Knighton and Trusham. A total of 38 questionnaire responses were received in early November and the results analysed. The emerging themes were as follows:

1. Development of balcony.
2. Better access to the balcony.
3. Space for exhibitions and meetings.
4. Better facilities for community use.
5. Improved storage.
6. Remove pews and replace with flexible seating.
7. Improved lighting, heating, AV, extend loop system.
8. Improve/ replace flooring.
9. Develop kitchen facilities and place to eat (café, lunches).
10. Facilities for the disabled.
11. Tarmac churchyard paths.
12. Advertising board.
13. Quieter more discreet area for Sunday school.
14. General building repairs.

Other ideas not relating to the church building:

1. Paid cleaner.
2. Paid church administrator.
3. Paid children's/ youth/ family worker.
4. Taking the church into the community.
5. Purchase house to provide income.
6. Hiring/ renting transport to bring people to the building.
7. Training for wider pastoral care and evangelism.
8. Mission outreach supporting overseas work.

Those who commented also felt that the rood screen, chancel, altar, memorials, stained glass windows and sanctuary should not be altered.

The sub-group also formalised the appointment of our church architect, Julie Boulton of Apse Architects as architect for this project and began preparations for an open day in February 2024.

Other Activities

The PCC wishes to express their thanks to all the volunteers that organise and facilitate the many different ministries and activities that contribute to the life and mission of our Church. These include, e.g., Miniones (a parent and toddler midweek group), the Tuesday Night Group (a youth group for 11-14s), the Church Flowers group, and many more. A report from each group is collated in an appendix to this document, which was made available with this document in the run up to the APCM.

Financial Review

Total receipts on the unrestricted General were £84,504, and payments from this fund totalled £95,150 giving a deficit of £10,646. This deficit mainly arises due to the fact that the giving was down in 2023. The PCC have designated the legacy received in 2023 to the building fund, along with the interest received on the deposit account. Designated monies are not restricted but set aside for projects. They can be used for general expenses if required. It has been good to see that more people are now using contactless giving and one-off Gift Aid envelopes. Our grateful thanks go to all who contribute financially to the life of the church.

The contribution to the Diocesan 'Parish Share' – which goes towards the cost of stipends, pension, housing costs and training for the clergy – decreased by 4% in 2023, which helped keep expenditure lower than expected. The Parish Share is paid by every parish and calculated annually according to their congregation numbers averaged over three years.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to try and maintain a balance on unrestricted funds of at least three months expenditure. This is equivalent to approximately £24,000. As of the year end, this is being met.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The safeguarding team continue to use the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard, an online platform to manage safeguarding requirements, and have now progressed to level 3. All PCC members have completed Domestic Abuse Awareness training. Safeguarding policies have been reviewed and approved by the PCC.

A volunteer pack has been designed to assist with Safer Recruitment and People Management, and we are continuing to work at putting this into effect across the church's activities.

Volunteers

The members of the PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who work so tirelessly to make our Church a lively and vibrant community. Our special thanks go to our Churchwardens, Alison Phillips and Cliff Barnes, and to our Assistant Churchwardens David Bone, Ken Styman, Nick Tuckett and Pamela Tuckett.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The Council comprises the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, those elected to the Deanery Synod, and other members who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, by those on the Electoral Roll. Members of the congregation are always encouraged to join the Electoral Roll, and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance in the parish, and for all financial matters. The full PCC met eight times during the year.

Administrative Information

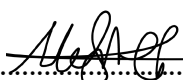
The Church is situated at Fore Street, Chudleigh TQ13 0HX and is part of the Chudleigh Mission Community, in the Deanery of Newton Abbot, in the Diocese of Exeter. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Parade, Chudleigh, TQ13 0JF.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2022) and is registered with the Charity Commission, no: 1128947.

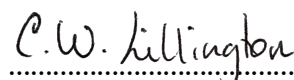
PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date this report was approved were:

The Incumbent	Alex Sharp	Chair
Churchwardens	Alison Phillips Cliff Barnes	Vice Chair
Deanery Synod Reps	Megs Kiddle Clare Lillington	Treasurer
PCC Secretary	Ruth Tuckett	
Elected Members	David Bone Hayley Jones Jenny Brandon Lucy Kerr Margaret Parsons Nicky Over Pamela Tuckett Pip Low Rachel Tuckett Sheila Glenton	Co-opted 12th June 2023 Co-opted 12th June 2023 To 4th May 2023 From 4th May 2023

Approved by the PCC on 11th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

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Alex Sharp (Chair)

.....


Clare Lillington (Treasurer)

Parish Church of St Martin & St Mary Chudleigh Charity number 1128947
Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023	2022
RECEIPTS					
Regular giving					
Tax efficient planned giving	51340		6606	57946	63552
Other Planned giving	2026		0	2026	1827
Collections at Services	4316		1450	5766	5359
Gift Aid recovered	14351		191	14542	16628
Donations	2716		120	2836	2288
	74749		8367	83116	89654
Other Voluntary Receipts					
Legacy	2000	26235	0	28235	27000
Grants	1322		0	1322	3523
Sundry donations	2343		1204	3547	4502
	5665	26235	1204	33104	35025
Income from church activities					
Fees (net)	2434		0	2434	4571
Parish magazine	1610		0	1610	1909
	4044		0	4044	6480
Receipts from Investments					
Dividend income	46		0	46	46
Deposit account interest		21228	0	21228	8315
	46	21228	0	21274	8361
TOTAL RECEIPTS	84504	47463	9571	141538	139520
PAYMENTS					
Church Activities					
Giving - relief & development	4648		1297	5945	8692
Giving - home missions	4648		2641	7289	8454
Parish Share	50874		0	50874	53075
Vicar's expenses	3015		0	3015	2032
Church utilities	5223		0	5223	4553
Church insurance	4947		0	4947	4636
Church maintenance	3805		0	3805	10775
Upkeep of churchyard	3283		0	3283	3110
Upkeep of services	782		0	782	1209
Parish magazine	1323		0	1323	1523
Messy church, children, youth	2843		1220	4063	3882
Music, organ & choir	3866		0	3866	3562
Outreach	2551		0	2551	1143
Sundry expenses	3342		0	3342	2626
TOTAL PAYMENTS	95150	0	5158	100308	109272
Net receipts (payments)	-10646	47463	4413	41230	30248
Balance - 1 January 2023	35676	648834	9934	694444	664196
Transfers	2298		-2298	0	
Balance - 31st December 2023	27328	696297	12049	735674	694444

Statement of Assets and Liabilities				2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL	
Cash Funds					
Current account	16878	12049	28927		53925
CCLA Deposit account	10450	696297	0	706747	640519
	27328	696297	12049	735674	694444
Investments					
Investments M&G Charifund	35996		35996		34735
Investments COIF income units	1666		1666		1526
	37662	0	37662		36261
TOTAL Assets	64990	696297	12049	773336	730705

Notes

Restricted funds are:

Chudleigh Youth Project	1619
School bible fund	0
Building Fund	801
Missionary giving fund	8995
Parish weekend fund	634
	<u>12049</u>

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh

Registered Charity Number: 1128947

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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.



David Rudall
FMAAT
Greenwood Accountancy Ltd
5 Pellew Arcade
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 8EB

Date: 22nd April 2024