

# 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 2024

**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](http://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 2024**

### **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. Sadly, we said goodbye to our Organist Steve Cox this year as he took up the post of Organist for the Newton Abbot Benefice. The PCC would like to express their thanks to Steve for his many years of service, and wish him all the best for this new venture. Steve has kindly agreed to continue playing for occasional services, including School Services during the week. Our Music Group leader Mark Gale continues to work extremely hard to lead us in a diverse range of worship each week, and the PCC would like to express its thanks to him as well.

During 2024 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, 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.

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 Hayley Jones for her work in chairing this group.

Every 6 years, including 2025, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, an entirely new electoral roll needs to be compiled in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The new roll was closed on the 13th April 2025. It is a legal requirement for church members to be named on the Roll if they wish to participate in any voting that may arise during the APCM or to be elected as a member of the PCC. There are 101 people on the new roll, 88 of whom live within the parish. The old roll, as revised for the APCM in 2024 had 101 names. The average Sunday attendance at the 10.30am Service on 2024 Sundays was 80 (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 5 Baptisms, 1 weddings and 14 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, as well as special events such as our annual Memorial Service for loved ones who have died.

The PCC would like to thank all the volunteers who help to decorate the church throughout the year, especially Lucy Kerr for organising this work.

### **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 2024 with an evangelistic course for those exploring faith or wishing to revisit the fundamental truths of Christianity called "321." The PCC are grateful to Graham and Liz Allen for running a Kintsugi Hope over the spring/summer which focuses on improving the wellbeing of attendees in a Christian context.

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 March; an exhibition celebrating "Creative Chudleigh" in July; an end of summer Pool Party and BBQ in August; and a Light Party in October. We used

the opportunities of Mothering Sunday and Fathers' Day to invite the community to join us for special Sunday morning services, which included refreshments beforehand and a BBQ for Fathers' Day in the Vicarage garden. At Christmas we held a wide range of services, including a Christingle service, three carol services, a midnight communion service and an all-age celebration on Christmas Day.

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 PCC would like to express their thanks to Cliff Barnes, who stepped down as a Foundation Governor this year, for his many years of service to the school and church. The PCC approved the appointment of Graham Allen as a Foundation Governor, and the reappointment of Tom Newton. 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 churches work together on providing all school joiners and leavers with a Bible, an initiative funded through the collection taken at our joint services.

The PCC continues to develop new ideas for outreach and service and is working toward a similar programme of annual events for 2025 and beyond.

### **Church Reordering**

Over the last year, work has been progressing with regards to the church reordering project. Following the survey in the autumn of 2023, an open day took place in church in February 2024, the results of which helped inform the development of architectural plans. Alongside this, a Statement of Needs and a Statement of Significance were written - these are requirements of the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) for works of this nature.

In September 2024, the PCC held an extra-ordinary meeting in order to allow time for in-depth review of the architectural drawings, with subsequent changes made.

In October 2024, members of the PCC's reordering working group met with the DAC and Historic England (having had an initial meeting with DAC in the summer). Subsequent feedback has raised some concerns from these bodies about the current plans. This is not unusual for large projects of this nature, and the working group reviewed these in detail in order to respond appropriately.

Whilst the further consultation with DAC and Historic England will delay the commencement of the next stage of the project, work is planned for summer 2025 to address maintenance priorities identified in the latest quinquennial survey and which will not be otherwise addressed by the reordering project. It is also intended to carry out further consultation with the Chudleigh community on the reordering plans in the near future.

### **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 £94,455, and payments from this fund totalled £103,977 giving a deficit of £9,522. This deficit mainly arises due to the fact that the giving was down in 2024. The PCC have designated the interest received from the deposit account relating to the legacy held to the building fund. 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 – increased by 8% in 2024, hence the increase in expenditure in 2024. 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 £26,000. As of the year end, this is being met by using designated deposit interest.

### **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 and Hub, an online platform to manage safeguarding requirements, and have now progressed to level 3 on both. All PCC members are up to date with their safeguarding training and DBS checks. 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.

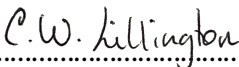
The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2022) and is registered with the Charity Commission, no: 1128947.

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024 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	
	Lucy Kerr	
	Margaret Parsons	
	Nicky Over	
	Pip Low	
	Rachel Tuckett	
	Sheila Glenton	to 2nd May 2024
	Jenny Brandon	to 2nd May 2024
	Helen Jones	from 2nd May 2024

Approved by the PCC on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
 .....  
 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 2024**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
<b>Regular giving</b>					
Tax efficient planned giving	45817		7645	53462	57946
Other Planned giving	1858		0	1858	2026
Collections at Services	4308		1764	6072	5766
Gift Aid recovered	14461		500	14961	14542
Donations	2557		130	2687	2836
	69001		10039	79040	83116
<b>Other Voluntary Receipts</b>					
Legacy	11891		0	11891	28235
Grants	1322		0	1322	1322
Sundry donations	4529		1142	5671	3547
	17742	0	1142	18884	33104
<b>Income from church activities</b>					
Fees (net)	3509		0	3509	2434
Parish magazine	1305		0	1305	1610
	4814		0	4814	4044
<b>Receipts from Investments</b>					
Dividend income	46		0	46	46
Deposit account interest		37368	0	37368	21228
	46	37368	0	37414	21274
Insurance claim	2852			2852	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>94455</b>	<b>37368</b>	<b>11181</b>	<b>143004</b>	<b>141538</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
<b>Church Activities</b>					
Giving - relief & development	5685		925	6610	5945
Giving - home missions	2782		3319	6101	7289
Parish Share	54982		0	54982	50874
Vicar's expenses	2589		0	2589	3015
Church utilities	7143		0	7143	5223
Church insurance	5123		0	5123	4947
Church maintenance	6881		3960	10841	3805
Major repairs		13943		13943	0
Upkeep of churchyard	4455		0	4455	3283
Upkeep of services	768		0	768	782
Parish magazine	1109		0	1109	1323
Messy church, children, youth	2436		1830	4266	4063
Music, organ & choir	3077		0	3077	3866
Outreach	1892		0	1892	2551
Sundry expenses	5055		150	5205	3342
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>103977</b>	<b>13943</b>	<b>10184</b>	<b>128104</b>	<b>100308</b>
<b>Net receipts (payments)</b>	<b>-9522</b>	<b>23425</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>14900</b>	<b>41230</b>
Balance - 1 January 2024	27328	696297	12049	735674	694444
Transfers	1237	801	-2038	0	
<b>Balance - 31/12/ 2024</b>	<b>19043</b>	<b>720523</b>	<b>11008</b>	<b>750574</b>	<b>735674</b>

<b>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</b>				<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL	TOTAL	
<b>Cash Funds</b>					
Current account	19043		10416	29459	28927
CCLA Deposit account		720523	592	721115	706747
<b>Bank balance 31/12/2024</b>	<b>19043</b>	<b>720523</b>	<b>11008</b>	<b>750574</b>	<b>735674</b>
<b>Investments</b>					
Investments M&G Charifund	39239			39239	35996
Investments COIF income units	1704			1704	1666
	40943		0	40943	37662
<b>TOTAL Assets</b>	<b>59986</b>	<b>720523</b>	<b>11008</b>	<b>791517</b>	<b>773336</b>

**Notes**

**Restricted funds are:**

Chudleigh Youth Project	1496
School bible fund	343
Missionary giving fund	8685
Parish weekend fund	484
	11008

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin and Mary, Chudleigh  
Charity Number: 1128947

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

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 2024.

**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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

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

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



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

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025