

# St John's Ainsdale

## ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Ainsdale St John

Charity Number 1128996

*Note: this revision 1 of the Annual Report has been updated since the APCM to: i) reflect the finalised accounts; and ii) update the number of clients helped by the Job Club/*



**NORTH MEOLS  
DEANERY**

*Sharing God's love, serving one another*



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This Annual Report has been designed to be read online to support our desire to be environmentally friendly. If you need a paper copy, please contact one of the wardens.



***“Don’t just pretend that you love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other. Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically. Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble and always be prayerful.”***

Romans 12:9-12





Welcome to our annual report for 2023. Although we have been in interregnum, we have used the year to continue to regrow our mission following the closures that arose from the covid pandemic.

We have been delighted to see our congregations settling back to our regular pattern of worship and meeting together for social events such as parish lunches.

Our links with St John's Primary School and Natterjacks Nursery continue to be a real blessing. The children from school come into church every week for whole school worship and we host school families for class services and special events through the year. Natterjacks families are welcomed into church for Christmas and end of year celebrations.

During this year we have been able to host more social events. The film shows continue to be popular with all ages and we welcomed the community to enjoy fabulous concerts from the Maghull Wind Orchestra, Connected Voices choir, and Octave choir accompanied by the Marshside Brass Band, plus our very own musicians and singers from St John's school.

Throughout the year we have been indebted to the retired clergy Revd Peter Todd, Revd Bill Matthews, and Revd Canon Ross Moughtin; and lay people, Jean Todd, Eirlys Jessop and Linda Davies. Thanks to you all, and to everyone across the church family who continue to support our ministry with your prayers, time and financial contributions.

We ended 2023 with the good news that we had appointed a new vicar, Revd Jackie Davies. We are sure that God has great plans for Ainsdale under Jackie's leadership. Some of these plans may involve familiar activities but we also trust that Jackie will further reinvigorate our mission with new approaches and ideas as we look to bring the message of God's salvation to new people in the communities that we serve.

### *Ainsdale St John's PCC*



## PCC MEMBERSHIP (to APCM 2024)

<i>Incumbent</i>	Currently in Interregnum
<i>Reader</i>	Eirlys Jessop
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Chris Thursfield (PCC Chair) Lesley Phipps
<i>Deanery Synod Reps</i>	Helen Parker, Jean Washbourne, David Phipps, John Forshaw
<i>Elected Members (and Trustees)</i>	
Lindsay Jessop (PCC Treasurer)	
Peter Hancock (PCC Secretary and PCC Vice Chair)	
Giles Davies	Linda Davies
John Forshaw	Maggie Hilton
Frank Hyland	Patricia Jameson
Chloe Ormrod	Val Sinnott
Ann Walton	

**Members of the PCC are the charity trustees and are the 'persons having the general control and management of the administration of the charity' (Charities Act 2011, s177).**

*See Appendix 1 for further details & approved roles*

## WELCOME JACKIE!

We are delighted that Revd Jackie Davies has been appointed as our new Vicar at St John's Ainsdale. Jackie will be joining us on 17<sup>th</sup> June and we are very much looking forward to her ministering to us and supporting our mission in Ainsdale.



The primary objective of St John's Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to cooperate with the incumbent, in promoting in the parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

## OUR VISION

*Sharing God's Love, Serving One Another*

## OUR MISSION

*Demonstrating God's love by supporting families throughout their lives: as children; as adults; as parents; and when they need someone just to listen such as at times of bereavement.*

To help direct our activities, the PCC has a series of **Mission Priorities** which are focused around the **5 Marks of Mission** (see box right).

Each year, the PCC sets specific **Objectives** against each priority. These help inform budgeting. Progress is reviewed monthly by the PCC's Mission Group. See Appendices 2 and 3 for **Progress against 2023 objectives and PCC objectives for 2024**.

In fulfilling our Mission Priorities, we aim to be:

1. **An active church family where all members are included and valued for who they are, respect each other's style of worship, encourage involvement, and contribute to the whole life of the Church, including our Church School, with their talents and abilities.**
2. **Centred on God, letting Him lead us into the future He has prepared for us.**
3. **Growing in faith as we serve our community in Ainsdale.**

To facilitate the above, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church building and adjacent hall complex.

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

5 Marks of Mission	St John's Mission Priorities
<b>A. TELL: Proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letting God touch the lives of others by providing imaginative, varied, inspiring and engaging worship.</li> </ul>
<b>B. TEACH: Teach, baptise and nurture new believers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping and nurturing all those who wish to explore and deepen their relationship with God by providing opportunities for bible study, prayer and Christian fellowship in a safe family friendly environment.</li> <li>Equipping and supporting each other as members of an inclusive church family to be Christians in a modern world: at home; at work; with friends and in our local community.</li> </ul>
<b>C. TEND: Respond to human needs by loving service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping to transform lives of those in need in Ainsdale through providing a safe haven for quiet contemplation and offering practical and emotional support for life events.</li> </ul>
<b>D. TRANSFORM: Seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with other Christian and secular organisations to promote global fairness for all.</li> </ul>
<b>E. TREASURE: Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking after God's planet by raising awareness of the impact we have on creation and the actions we can take to improve the environment.</li> </ul>

Our regular pattern of **weekly worship** continued throughout 2023 in addition to us supporting families with baptisms and funerals.

We continued to lead **whole school worship** in church which is appreciated by all children and staff every Monday as well as hosting families for our special services for Harvest, Easter and Christmas.

The **worship band** supported our Praise & Worship services and school collective worship. Their music is enjoyed by a wide range of ages with everyone becoming involved with the actions used to enhance the messages.

Our **church choir** supported Holy Communion services and joined with the music group for Family Communion services. The choir also attended special feast day services and the Christmas Midnight communion, as well as a Carol Service. The choir also represented the church by robing for the Act of Remembrance on the village green. Choir membership is currently 11.

## 2023 WORSHIP PATTERN

Sunday 10-30 main service (also live streamed through 2023)

Service alternates to accommodate different styles:

✝ **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun: Praise & Worship / Parade Service:** informal family service with worship band; Guides, Rainbows and Brownies contribute to 6 services each year

✝ **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun: Holy Communion (CW):** with organ and choir

✝ **5<sup>th</sup> Sun: Family Communion:** with worship band, organ & choir

Baptisms are accommodated in the 10.30 service when required

Sunday 8-30 service

Quiet traditional Holy Communion (alternate BCP/BCW) with no music.

Thursday 10-30 service

Traditional Holy Communion (BCP) with no music.

The PCC are very grateful to the dedicated clergy and lay teams, worship band, organist and choir who continued to have such a positive impact on our worship.

Our small but dedicated **Prayer Group** met each Monday afternoon in church. In our prayers we remember people in need, both locally and worldwide and allocate some quiet time for private prayer.

The **Prayer Circle** also actively supported those requesting prayers.

A **Bible Study Group** started in 2023 to develop our understanding of the Bible by watching episodes from 'The Chosen'. This provided the basis for investigating passages from the Bible. It is well attended and provided opportunities for some interesting discussions.

The **Care Group** are a valuable part of our ministry. During the past year members of the Care Group visited and brought communion to people who were housebound, in nursing

homes or in hospital. We are committed towards providing a **warm and welcoming space** in church at a time when people are struggling to keep their homes warm. The group put on a series of film shows on Friday afternoons which included an interval for refreshments and much appreciated fellowship.

We support families who have lost a loved one. During 2023 the **Bereavement Group** met when needs arose.

The '**bring and share**' lunches continued to bring the different congregations together after the Sunday service.

The **Men's Social Group** met on a Wednesday evening. Initially set up to cater for men new to the church who live on their own, it is now available to anyone and there are currently seven men who meet. It is a great way to make new members of the church feel very welcome and to enjoy fellowship in a relaxed atmosphere.





We are encouraged by the increasing number of children and young families attending services.

We hold two informal services per month especially suitable for those with children. The youngest children take advantage of our “children’s corner”, with craft activities, Bible books and colouring opportunities, and the services are designed for them to take an active role in worship with musical instruments, interactive prayer, and use of visuals. We want to give our young people a voice. Children, including our Uniformed Groups, help to lead prayers and Bible readings.

**Junior PCC** met to plan and lead specific services, including the annual Crib Service on Christmas Eve, when a packed church enjoyed dressing up to retell the nativity story and celebrate Jesus’ birth. Some members of Junior PCC are part our worship band.

In these ways, we are able to worship as an all-age church family, with the children and young people fully integrated and participating in

our worship.

We use our church website and Facebook pages to post updates and photos and regularly email families with details of upcoming events.

We are very fortunate to enjoy close ties with our church school - children and staff. We lead **whole school worship** every Monday during term time and it is wonderful to witness the church filled with over 200 pupils and their staff joining in wholeheartedly with worship songs and activities. The school use the church space for class services and Christmas and Easter worship activities and a very engaging and busy Christingle service. Linda goes into Year 3 each year to deliver *Christmas in a Box*. The children learn more about the roles of the principal characters in the nativity and take their own box home to share the experience with their family.

## Baptisms

Despite the interregnum, we were delighted welcome three children

into our church family in 2023. It is very important to us that baptisms are held in the main Sunday service with families given an especially warm welcome. Linda, as Baptism Co-Ordinator, is their first contact and they are invited to come and meet us before their child’s important first step on a journey of faith. One of our church members continues to make crochet blankets which are given as gifts, along with a children’s bible and a baptism candle. One of the children baptised this past year was the sister of one of our school children and, following the baptism, Revd Bill Matthews was asked by the school to do a presentation on baptism in church for the class as part of the RE Curriculum.

## Impact Youth

This Ainsdale ecumenical youth group for 11 to 18 year olds, originally started by St John’s, met on Wednesdays during term time in the Methodist Church’s sports hall and café/lounge.

The Churches together in Ainsdale

partner with the Southport & Area School’s Worker Trust to provide and create a safe space for the young people attending to explore the big issues of life and faith. Around 25 young people attended each week to enjoy chats with their peers, games on the big screens and a variety of sports, as well as much anticipated food and drinks while discussing a big question linked to life and faith.

## Little John’s Baby & Toddler Group



The group continued to thrive with around 35 children each week - many regulars and some dropping in now and again. We were able to give out 40 books again at Christmas.

There is still a mixture of mums, dads, grandparents and carers bringing children each week and providing mutual support. There is lots of lively chat with adults cheerfully joining in the clearing-up at the end to make room for the dancing.

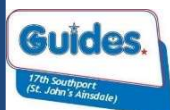




## Uniformed Organisations

St John's are fortunate to have strong Guiding groups meeting in church. We also enjoy welcoming the girls and their families to six Parade Services a year and the groups join on the green for Remembrance Sunday. **Thank you to all the dedicated leaders who volunteer so much time.**

### 17th St John's Guides



Guides enjoyed a very active and fun year achieving numerous Theme Awards with bronze, silver and gold presentations.

Highlights included:

- Cooking outdoors at Scarisbrick Campsite.
- A Eurovision Song Contest – we have some very talented guides!
- A fun stay at Waddow Hall Adventure House with raft building, abseiling, tall tree climbing, crate challenge and

indoor caving.

- A King's Coronation tea party with lots of games.
- The '17th Guide Baking Competition' as part of the Cake Challenge badge.
- Pumpkin carving.
- Supporting 'Shoebox of Love' at Christmas.
- A visit to see Jack & The Beanstalk panto at The Atkinson

The Patrol leaders and guiders ended 2023 with a Chinese take away.

Guides welcomed four new leaders all who have gone into uniform and working on the leadership programme - fantastic news!

### 15th Ainsdale Brownies



Brownies had a very busy year with lots of badges and awards, including Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, and crafts evenings.

Brownie highlights included:

- Celebrating the Coronation of King Charles and sending a card - which received a reply!
- Celebrating Chinese New Year by re-enacting the story of the animals which the years are named after and tried to eat dolly mixtures with chopsticks.
- Easter egg decorating competition and egg hunt.
- Finding out about Biomedical Science and completing the 'Clever Clogs - On The Mend' challenge badge.
- Pitching tents and fire safety at Shirdley Hill.
- Trip to Chocolate Whirled making chocolate bars, Christmas puddings and lollies.
- A trip to Jack & the Beanstalk.

### 2nd Ainsdale Rainbows



Rainbows had an exciting year showing their commitment

to the Guiding family gaining interest, skill builders and theme badges.

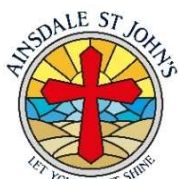
Rainbow highlights included:

- A story making adventure in the church grounds – it was exciting to hear how the garden influenced each group's minds into making amazing stories.
- Making crowns, and having a crowning ceremony for the coronation.
- Entering flowers collages into the Ainsdale Show. Well done girls!
- A PJ party celebration, decorating church and raising money for Children's Cancer Trust.
- As part of a Skill Builders, donating their own items to local charity shops, and raising some money for items for local food charity boxes too.
- Spookfest at Scarisbrick Hall.
- A Christmas party and Christmas crafts - from pizza biscuits to welcoming all the new Rainbows.





## Report from St John's CE School



It has been a year filled with exciting events and wonderful achievements in school.

Last year's report ended with us looking ahead to the King's Coronation so it is only right that this is where this contribution begins...

All the children at ASJ put their creative skills to use and crafted beautiful crowns. We had planned to have a street party picnic lunch outside, but unfortunately, the weather had other plans. However, that did not dampen our spirits, as we all gathered in the hall for a delightful lunch together. The day ended on a high note with a sing-song, featuring the catchy tune 'Shine' by Take That, which was taken from the Official Coronation playlist.

Continuing our commitment to fostering a strong sense of community, Reception and Year 6 took part in our first buddy beach day. They had a blast burying each other in the sand and chasing each other down the sand dunes. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to bond and create lasting memories.

We are thrilled to announce that we have introduced forest school

sessions on-site. During the summer the children were learning valuable skills, such as making mini fires and whittling wood. These sessions provide a unique opportunity to connect with nature and develop problem-solving abilities.

As you may have noticed, this school year also brought about a change in our school uniform. The children have been proudly sporting their new attire, complete with our new logo. They look absolutely splendid, and it's wonderful to see them embracing their individuality while representing our school.

One of the highlights of the past few months was when our Year 5 children attended the rededication of the war memorial in Southport. They were fortunate enough to have a chat with HRH Princess Anne. We could not be prouder of their representation of ASJ.

We continued with the development of the curriculum and created our ASPIRE curriculum intent which stands for:

- Achieve** through resilience and perseverance
- Show** respect for Christian and British values
- Promote** high expectations for all
- Inspire** lifelong readers
- Revisit** knowledge and skills to embed learning
- Encourage** a love of learning

We believe that this will provide our students with a well-rounded education that prepares them for the future.

Lastly, I am thrilled to share that our VIP Ambassadors had the pleasure of meeting Revd Jackie during the selection process. We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming her to the ASJ family.

Moving forward, we are excited for the coming year as we expect to officially become a member of the Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust. This partnership will strengthen our Christian distinctiveness and provide opportunities for our staff and students to learn and grow.

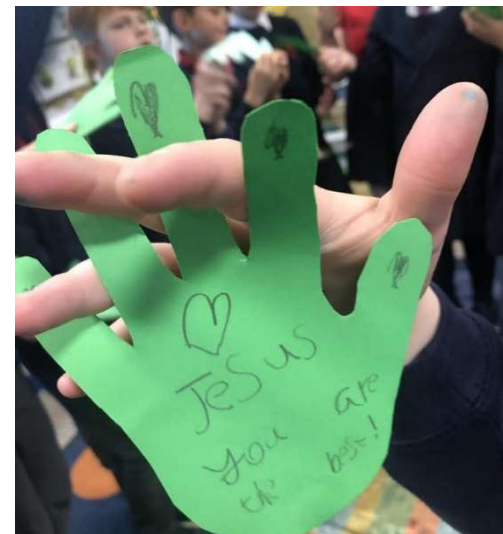
Thank you to the congregation of St. John's Church for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we can ensure that our children shine brightly and become the best that they can be, aspiring to shine for Jesus.

*Lorna O'Brien*

*Headteacher*

## SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

Church members play a key role in the leadership of the school by acting as Foundation Governors. The Governing Body are extremely grateful to Mrs O'Brien and all the staff for their tireless dedication this year in supporting every child to be the best that they can be.





## Report from Natterjacks



It has been a busy year at Natterjacks!

We have taken on new staff as a result of the new funded hours offered by the government.

We are hoping to get some funding from Tesco stronger starts which is currently running at Formby Tesco.

We are happy to hear that work on the secret garden can hopefully start this spring. It will be a great community collaboration which will benefit the nursery, brownies, guides and community.

We are also hoping to revamp our outdoor area so that our children can play under a pagoda in hot and

wet weather. We are hoping to use some funding from our local authority to make this happen.

We have had lots of visitors at nursery. Home safari have brought Titch the Shetland therapy pony and Ant and Dec the Pygmy goats. They had a great time being fed, petted and brushed by all the children!

We are looking forward to welcoming them back soon.

We have invited local author and her dog Mrs Paws to nursery on World book day. She will be reading one of her stories and we will be able to get signed copies of her book.

During Easter we had a visit from dwarf rabbits so that children could experience looking after a little pet.

We have enjoyed taking our children to woodlands lodge care home each

month and have had special times making art, dancing and singing with the residents. The children love going on the bus and really benefit from our visits.

We are hoping to start our weekly visits from year 5's at Ainsdale St John's primary. Our nursery children love them coming in to read with them.

Our occupancy is healthy and we continue to support our children and families as much as possible.

We have strong links with Compassion Acts food bank and also with the Salvation Army who kindly help with emergency grants for people in need. We regularly send bags of food over to them and also thank them for helping many of our families who we introduce to them.

We are looking forward to the

warmer weather so that we can expand our walks and enjoy picnics to the pinewoods and beach.

We have been chosen to access training for talking time, a programme that supports children with speech and language delays. This will help immensely with continuous intervention to support children that are showing signs of delay.

We thank you all for your continued support.

*Mai-Ling & John Duckworth*

*Owners  
Natterjacks Day Nursery at St John's*



At St John's we are extremely fortunate to have skilled and dedicated people who run events, lead groups and organise fundraising activities that provide wider fellowship and support those most in need in our community and further afield.

## CAP Job Club



St John's Job Club works in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

It has been run by a small team with each member playing a part, from providing refreshments to job coaching and advertising, using their varied experience to advise clients and prepare them for interviews and the world of work.

Literature provided by CAP has been widely displayed in the community. Over the past year our new Manager, Donald, visited Southport Job Centre weekly making contact with potential clients, giving each one a leaflet with contact details.

Many said that a Job Club course would be very helpful but in the event very few actually turned up. We conducted two courses in 2023 and did help six people revise their CVs and helped a lady write up her job centre journal.

This reduction in demand has led us to take the difficult decision to close the Job Club.

Over the past 7 years of the Job Club we believe that we have been doing God's work – the team has helped 121 members with 32 members finding work.

We pray for God's guidance as to how we, as a church, can best continue to serve our community in the future.

## Christian Aid



Christian Aid is an international development agency that enables us to respond to Christ's command to care for all in need.

Everything Christian Aid does is in response to God's gift to the world, of his son Jesus Christ. Jesus promised 'good news' for the poor and 'freedom' for the oppressed, calling us all to action.

Jesus called his followers to 'love God and love your neighbour.' Through his life and teaching, his death and his resurrection, he inspired his followers to love God, love their neighbours and long for justice. Our faith in God, and in his loving relationship with us, gives us confidence and hope that poverty can be ended, despite all that might stand in the way.

For many years, St John's has supported the work of Christian Aid and now works with Churches Together in Ainsdale (CTiA) to raise funds and raise awareness.

In 2023 for 'Christian Aid Week' this involved distributing 3,500 'delivery only' envelopes (raising £404.15), a 'Big Brekkie and cake sale' (raised £395.16), some house-to-house collections (raised £170) and each of the churches held their own church collection (raised £967.85). This gave us an overall total of £1,937.16. This money will be used to change and save lives of some of the most vulnerable people in the world.

We are also registered as an 'Emergency church' so that when disaster strikes, we are able to respond quickly. We raised £155.70 towards the Ukraine emergency appeal and £132.46 towards the Middle East Crisis appeal.



## Eco Group

As a registered Eco-Church with a Bronze Award, the Eco Group has continued to raise awareness with our congregation, for example in notices, songs and during prayers, on how we can all care for creation.

Using the fifth 'Mark of Mission' as our guide – '*To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth*' - here are some of the activities during 2023:

- Thanks to donations for communal Christmas Cards, we were able to 'Twin a Toilet' in Nepal meaning three of our six toilets are now twinned. These projects help families to build their own basic toilet, access clean water and learn about hygiene.
- Members continued to raise awareness across the Deanery, as well as with other denominations in Ainsdale e.g. a short talk at the Commissioning of Wardens service at St. Cuthberts, Southport on how St John's are expressing their Care for the Environment.
- 'No-Mow May' was introduced to lawn care along with a policy not to use pesticides or fertilisers anywhere in the garden to encourage pollinators and more wildlife. Three bird boxes with feeders were also added to our church garden.
- As a Fairtrade church, we buy fairly traded products (tea, coffee etc), and continue to use eco-friendly cleaning products and toiletries.
- We reached out to Bridge Inn Community Farm in Formby
- Research has continued to examine ways of achieving a Silver Award status in 2024.



## Events

During 2023, we were delighted to offer a programme of free and ticketed concerts and social events for the community.

Where appropriate, church ran a licensed bar at events to raise additional church funds.

Events held in church in 2023 included:

- *Holiday cinema club*: occasional

family films during the school holidays proved a big hit with parents and grandparents needing to keep children entertained!

- *King's Coronation party*: the church hosted a celebration with live screening of the ceremony and plenty of outdoor games and indoor craft activities for the children. Everyone enjoyed a fabulous buffer lunch.
- *USA Band*: a fabulous afternoon of

music from the 50s, 60s and 70s was enjoyed by all.

- *Connected Voices*: this fabulous local choir performed great songs from rock, gospel and funk to pop classics and musical theatre.
- *Maghull Wind Orchestra*: back by popular demand, the orchestra performed beautiful and uplifting pieces from classical music favourites to musical theatre and pop.

- *Octave*: Performing with the Marshside brass band, this special Christmas performance raised over £1,000 for Queenscourt Hospice.
- *Christmas Community Concert*: the choir and musicians from St John's School wowed everyone with Christmas favourites and traditional carols.





## Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times in 2023 to discuss the following:

- The parish benefits of churches working more closely together.
- Differing attitudes towards diverse sexualities within the church.
- Parishes becoming eco friendly.
- Racial justice – vision for the future – equality for all.
- Financial issues.
- Parish Share – how it is used, the link between Parish Share and the number of clergy in the Diocese, and plans to review the formula from 2025.

Further details can be obtained from our representatives and the Diocese of Liverpool website.

## Churches Together in Ainsdale

We met for prayer and to share plans regularly through the year. Ministers met monthly for support and looking at ways to work together.

All events were well attended:

- Week of prayer for Christian unity.
- Lent Safari.
- Sunrise service on the beach.
- Church tent at the Ainsdale Show.
- Tent Service on the green (Rev'd Patrick Evans asked us to envision what Ainsdale would look like if it was a truly ecumenical village).
- Remembrance Sunday service.
- Christmas Carols in the Co-op.
- Our ecumenical youth group,

Impact, run with the help of Hettie and Tabz from SASWT.

During 2023 Fr Tony from St John's Stone and Sacred Heart left, to be replaced by Fr Paul Seddon. Fr Tony was a huge supporter of ecumenical activities in the village and we wish him well in his new parish.

## Compassion Acts

This local charity, started by the Southport churches, runs various projects and activities focused on reducing poverty and increasing social wellbeing in order to improve the lives of people in our area.

We continued to support them in 2023 by collecting donations for their food bank. Our harvest festival with school and uniformed groups also supported the food bank.

## SASWT

We continue to support, and be supported by, the fabulous workers and volunteers from this Southport charity. The team work across schools in the area to provide 'Safe Spaces', lessons, clubs and collective worship experiences where children and young people can come together in a safe environment to consider questions of life and faith in a relevant way.





## Buildings and grounds



**Church Building:** During the year there were no substantial issues. Some minor repairs were done. Rainwater ingress at the rear door remains a problem to be addressed.

**Church Hall:** Minor repairs were done during the year. A radiator leak was the significant matter. The central heating maintenance controls were reviewed during the winter period in order to ensure the required nursery environment.

**Secret Garden:** This is the area of enclosed land opposite the vicarage. The documentation concerning ownership and responsibility was finalised towards the end of the year thus enabling planning to be organised in the coming year.

**Grounds:** Groundworks and general maintenance were undertaken during the year around the properties. The lawn area was maintained by a gardener. A work team carried out a tidying exercise around the grounds and memorial garden.

## Communications

We introduced a **monthly notice sheet** to provides information on services and events for those coming to church.

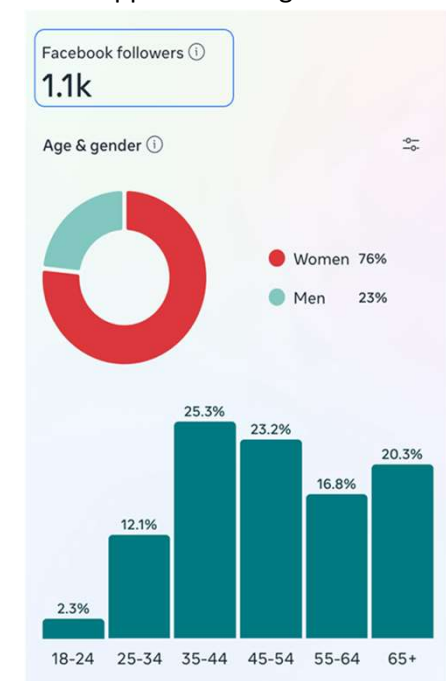
Our online and social media presence are essential to effective outreach and mission, promoting church faster, to more people – including globally – and much more economically than we could ever achieve through leaflets or word of mouth.

Our main **website** [www.stjohnsainsdale.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsainsdale.org.uk) attracted 2,760 views in 2023 (4,952 in 2022). Our other site [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com), which is promoted centrally by the Church of England, attracted 6,791 views (5,000 in 2022).

The 'St. John's C of E Parish Church Ainsdale' **facebook** page has been running for over 12 years and shares news and events from our church, our school, nursery and other church groups. In 2023 approximately 9,700 people visited our page, a massive 174% increase on 2022! Facebook calculate that the page 'reached' 28,000 people globally - a 40% decrease from 2022 but still double the local population. Our top 'reach' post was the news about the sad passing of Margaret Flemington, and our top 'liked' post was the news of our new Vicar Jackie.



It is encouraging to see our page still growing – over 1,000 followers to date from as far afield as Nigeria, the Philippines and Afghanistan!



A Twitter / X page was also started, however this hasn't proved as effective as Facebook and so will be discontinued. Similar tests were done with Instagram but again with little or no success.

For the last 5 years now, the site has included a daily bible verse on the page as part of Chris York's own bible reading challenge and the

feedback from this is well received and appreciated.

Any events or updates are shared, where possible, on other local Facebook pages and groups, so this casts the net even further.

If there are any church groups' news or events coming up, please send information to Chris Doragh and Chris York who will gladly include it ... you never know who sees them?!

In 2023 we **live streamed** our 10:30am Sunday Service. Streaming funerals has been a useful ministry, allowing family and friends to participate when unable to attend in person. Two funerals were streamed in 2023, one viewed in the UK and the other in Europe. We also live streamed our first wedding which received very positive feedback with views from the UK, France, Spain, Germany & the USA!

Our sites are updated each week and hopefully provide our audience with an accurate record of what is happening at St John's.

Here's to more views, 'likes' and 'follows' in 2024.

**The PCC appreciate that all activities involved in maintaining and supporting our mission, in any way, take time and commitment and we are really grateful to all our volunteers for their continued expertise and support.**

## Basis of Accounting

The PCC has continued to adopt the simpler Receipts and Payments (R&P) basis of accounting. This means that all income and expenditure is shown against the year in which the money is received / paid.

## Overall

Our 2023 set of accounts are shown on the following pages.

## General Fund

- During 2023 our current account balance increased from £15,791 on 1 Jan to £18,146 as of 31 Dec. This was due to significant parish giving advance contributions and interest free loans, which have helped us to clear our Charity bank loan completely.
- During the year the trust received loans from trustees of £19,000 (2022 - £Nil) and repaid £5,000 (2022 - £Nil). At the year end the amount outstanding was £14,000 (2022 - £Nil). These loans are interest free up to the date of repayment in 2028 at which point interest is charged at 1% over the Bank of England base rate for a maximum period of 2 years.

## Income highlights

- Plate collections were down by 24% to £5,610.
- We received interest free loan and advance Parish Giving Scheme

contributions totalling £42,220 to repay the Charity Bank loan and avoid future interest charges.

- Hall rentals increased from £11,200 to £12,754.
- Nursery income increased slightly, to £30,181.
- Donations up 30% to £14,325.
- Parish Giving (including advance contributions) totalled £ 74,428, although next year's PG income will reduce accordingly.

## Expenditure highlights

- Our loan with Charity Bank was cleared completely during 2023.
- Church running costs remained fairly stable during 2023.
- Parish Share increased substantially from £74,043 to £81,811.
- We continued to rely heavily on external clergy cover – although most of the costs are recovered from Liverpool Diocese.
- Where possible the PCC took measures to control costs including regularly reviewing utility charges and all other expenditure.

The PCC took the decision to continue funding key mission activities including the Job Club and SASWT.

We also continued to pay our Parish Share in full to support the wider work of the Diocese and those churches impacted worse than us.

Natterjacks also helped us to

maintain a healthy financial status by honouring their monthly payment and service charges, which are reviewed at 6 monthly intervals. The service charge and third-party hire charges were increased during 2023 to help cover our increased utility costs.

Our Charity Bank Loan was cleared and closed in May 2023, with the help of several interest free loans from trustees and advance Parish Giving Scheme contributions. We are grateful for the wider support of all our congregation to keep our interest costs as low as possible.

Our maintenance savings account has a credit balance of £11,405 as at year end. This will be used to clear all interest free loans during the early part of 2024, with the remainder being a backup fund to cover emergencies and building / repairs.

## Charitable support

Despite another difficult financial year, St John's has continued to support other charitable organisations such as SASWT, through direct donations and in-kind support such as making the church building and car park available for others to use. In addition, we make the church freely available to school and Uniformed Organisations, the latter making welcomed donations for the use of our church. We are also proud to help support SONG,

the award-winning junior theatre group, who rehearse regularly in Church on Sunday afternoons and make regular donations to St John's for the use of our main building and committee room.

## Donations and Legacies

It is an important Christian value to give back to God in gratitude for the love and blessings we have received in our lives. The congregation at St John's has responded by regular giving in difficult financial times and through significant legacy donations. At times other donations are given to assist specific cost requirements and the PCC will abide by donors' wishes.

If you are considering making a significant donation or leaving a legacy in your Will, please discuss this with our Treasurer or the Wardens. Giving back to the church through our Wills can help sustain our Church and its mission in Ainsdale.



### Prior Period Error

In the prior (2022) year loan repayments to the Charity Bank were shown in error on the Analysis of Receipts and Payments. This has resulted in the following restatements:

Analysis of Receipts and Payments					
			As previously disclosed	Adjustment	As restated
			2022		2022
<i>Other expenditure</i>					
Charity Bank - Charity Bank			115,693.22	- 108,048.22	7,645.00
Other expenditure Totals			241,430.55	- 108,048.22	133,382.33
Payments Grand Totals			245,867.29	- 108,048.22	137,819.07
Statement of Assets and Liabilities					
			As previously disclosed	Adjustment	As restated
			2022		2022
<i>Liability - Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</i>					
Charity Bank Loan			-	44,958.00	44,958.00
Net total assets			15,790.00	- 44,958.00	- 29,168.00
Reserves					
Total			15,790.33	- 44,958.00	- 29,167.67

\*Rounding may result in immaterial differences to the figures shown in the following set of accounts

**St John's church,  
Ainsdale, Southport  
Receipts and  
Payments Account  
For the period from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	As restated Prior year total funds
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	103,639	-	953	104,593	153,490
Income from charitable activities	91	-	-	91	3,528
Other trading activities	47,583	-	949	48,532	48,581
Investments	110	-	-	110	5
Other income	14,585	-	3,987	18,572	18,575
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>166,008</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,890</b>	<b>171,897</b>	<b>220,177</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Raising funds	1,186	-	-	1,186	4,200
Expenditure on charitable activities	333	-	408	740	237
Other expenditure	117,071	-	7,919	124,990	133,383
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>118,590</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,327</b>	<b>126,917</b>	<b>137,819</b>
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	47,418	-	(2,437)	44,980	82,358
<b>Transfers:</b>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	734	734	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	(734)	-	-	(734)	-
Excess of receipts over payments before other gains	47,418	-	(2,437)	44,980	82,358
Net movement in funds	46,684	-	(1,703)	44,980	82,358
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Excess of receipts over payments at beginning of the year	(31,133)	-	1,966	(29,168)	(111,526)
Excess of receipts over payments for the year	15,551	-	262	15,813	(29,168)

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*



## St John's church, Ainsdale, Southport

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by code)  
As at: 31 December 2023

					As restated
Class and nominal code	General (Unrestricted)	Designated	Restricted	Total	Last year
<b>Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>					
Co-op current a/c: 65951660	18,146	-	262	18,408	15,790
Co-op Savings acc: Church maintenance fund	11,405	-	-	11,405	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,551</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>29,813</b>	<b>15,790</b>
<b>Liability - Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year</b>					
Charity Bank Loan	-	-	-	-	44,958
Parishioner Loans	14,000	-	-	14,000	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>44,958</b>
<b>Net total assets/(liabilities)</b>	<b>15,551</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>15,813</b>	<b>(29,168)</b>
<b>Represented by</b>					
General (Unrestricted)	15,551	-	-	15,551	(31,133)
Restricted - CAP	-	-	1,851	1,851	2,131
Restricted - Flower fund	-	-	58	58	26
Restricted - Little Johns	-	-	177	177	-
Restricted - Mission	-	-	8	8	7
Restricted - Sequestration	-	-	(2,299)	(2,299)	(550)
Restricted - T & C	-	-	467	467	351
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,551</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>15,813</b>	<b>(29,168)</b>

## St John's church, Ainsdale, Southport

Analysis of Receipts and Payments  
 Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	As restated Last year
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations and legacies</b>					
3rd party appeals - 3rd party appeals	339	-	-	339	758
Coli Thursday 10.30 - Plate collections - 10.30am Thursday	635	-	-	635	416
Donation - Contactless donation	661	-	-	661	331
Donation gift aided - Donation	6,600	-	-	6,600	-
Donations - Donations	6,111	-	953	7,064	10,884
Envelope collections - Envelopes	7,365	-	-	7,365	7,383
Legacies - Legacies	45	-	-	45	75,222
Midnight service - Plate collection - Midnight HC	-	-	-	-	28
Parish Giving rollup - PG Rollup	23,220	-	-	23,220	-
Planned Giving - Planned Giving - PGS direct	51,208	-	-	51,208	48,538
Plate coll 10.30 Sun - Plate collections - 10.30am Sunday	4,223	-	-	4,223	5,667
Plate coll 8.30 Sun - Plate collection - 8.30am Sunday	753	-	-	753	889
Sefton CVS - Grant	300	-	-	300	-
Service donation - Plate collection - Crib Service	-	-	-	-	35
Standing Orders - Standing orders - monthly	2,180	-	-	2,180	3,340
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>103,639</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>104,593</b>	<b>153,490</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>					
Generosity week - Fundraising	-	-	-	-	3,090
Ticket sales - Ticket sales	30	-	-	30	365
Toliet twinning - Toliet twinning	61	-	-	61	72
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>3,526</b>
<b>Other trading activities</b>					
Bar Income - Bar	537	-	-	537	1,067
Burial of ashes - Burial of ashes	182	-	182	364	1,506
Events - Event Income	1,642	-	-	1,642	759
Funeral Income - Funeral Income	2,287	-	767	3,054	2,759



					As restated
					Last year
					This year
					Restricted
					Designated
					General
Hall rentals - Rentals					12,754
Miscellaneous – Easyfundraising					-
nursery – Natterjacks nursery					30,181
Parties – Party bookings					-
Running costs – Expense payment					-
Wedding Banns – Wedding Banns					-
<b>Other trading activities Totals</b>					<b>47,583</b>
<b>Investments</b>					
Co op bank - Credit Interest					100
Dividend - CBF					10
<b>Investments Totals</b>					<b>110</b>
<b>Other income</b>					
Credit interest - Charity Bank					-
Fundraising - Crowdfunder					1,105
HMRC - HMRC					11,464
Insurance refund - Insurance					-
Mission - Mission Fund					-
Sequestration - Liverpool Diocese - refund					1,076
Utility refund – Utility refund					402
Wedding fees – Weddings					539
<b>Other income Totals</b>					<b>14,585</b>
<b>Receipts Grand Totals</b>					<b>166,008</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
<b>Raising funds</b>					
3rd party donations - 3rd party donations					778
Event costs - Social events					408
<b>Raising funds Totals</b>					<b>1,186</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
Job club donation - CAP donation					160
Little Johns - Little Johns					173
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>					<b>333</b>

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	As restated Last year
<b>Other expenditure</b>					
Accountants – Harrison Latham	216	-	-	216	1,362
Bookers – Bookers Cash & Carry	369	-	-	369	499
CAP expenses – CAP Job club	274	-	260	554	1,287
Charity Bank – Charity Bank	1,392	-	-	1,392	7,645
Church Insurance – Insurance	570	-	-	570	1,836
church running costs – Church expenses – operational costs	3,856	-	438	4,294	14,831
Clergy costs – Clergy & Reader expenses	-	-	-	-	1,465
Electric – SE	1,062	-	-	1,062	-
Expenses – Other expenses	285	-	12	297	2,219
External costs – Clergy cover	300	-	6,686	6,986	1,492
Funeral Wedding fees - Liverpool Diocese	200	-	-	200	2,918
Funerals - Funeral costs	310	-	-	310	-
Gardening - Gardening costs	410	-	-	410	140
Gas - SSE	4,850	-	-	4,850	-
Insurance - Ecclesiastical	2,807	-	-	2,807	-
Licence fees - Licence fees	698	-	-	698	70
NI and PAYE HMRC - NI and PAYE	57	-	-	57	-
Organ repairs - Organ maintenance	-	-	504	504	-
Organist - Organist - Weddings	160	-	-	160	-
Parish Share Diocese - Parish Share	81,811	-	-	81,811	74,043
Rates - Sefton MBC - rates	-	-	-	-	1,217
Repairs - Repairs	1,460	-	-	1,460	250
Sefton MBC - Sefton MBC	-	-	-	-	295
Utilities - Utilities	6,003	-	-	6,003	13,207
Verger - Verger	90	-	-	90	210
Vicarage costs - Vicarage expenses	379	-	-	379	115
Wages - Wages	8,157	-	-	8,157	8,282
Water - Clear Business	1,354	-	-	1,354	-
<b>Other expenditure Totals</b>	<b>117,071</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,919</b>	<b>124,990</b>	<b>133,383</b>
<b>Payments Grand Totals</b>	<b>118,590</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,327</b>	<b>126,917</b>	<b>137,819</b>



### Performance of investments

The PCC hold 15.6 income shares in the CBF Investment Trust (value £350 as of 31 December 2023). It is the intention of the PCC to realise these shares at an appropriate time.

### Other Funds

*Organ Fund (restricted):* made up of donations given towards the upkeep of the church organ.

*Flower Fund (restricted):* made up of donations given to cover the cost of flowers for the church. This fund is now managed directly within the main church account.

*Church Mission Fund (restricted):* established in 2020 to fund specific, identified Mission objectives.

### Reserves Policy

The General Fund target level is two to three months of average monthly spending (approx. £20,000 to £30,000). It is used as a contingency should income or expenditure be dramatically hit by circumstances that are unforeseen.

### Summary

Overall, financially, we had a good year. We have controlled and reduced our overheads and we have made significant progress and cleared our debt with Charity Bank.

However, the next 12 months will

prove to be another challenging period as increased operational costs (mainly heating) will require a full review of our expenditure and we will seek to make the most effective use of our income.

We are also identifying ways to increase revenue and would like to set up a small fundraising team – if you are interested in helping then please contact me.

A big thank you to everyone for all your continued support.

*Lindsay*

Lindsay D Jessop

*Treasurer, St John's Ainsdale*

## SOME OF THE CHARITIES WE SUPPORTED IN 2023 FINANCIALLY AND IN-KIND



Southport & Area  
Schools Worker Trust



Ukraine

Appeal



DISASTERS  
EMERGENCY  
COMMITTEE



Hospice  
Africa



## Electoral Roll

All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. As at 31 December 2022 the Roll stood at 134. During 2023 there was a net increase of 2 with 5 entries added and 3 removed in the year. The Roll as at 31 December 2023 was 136.

## PCC

Individual PCC members, as Trustees of the Church, receive information, instruction and training when deemed appropriate. This may include information about Trustee responsibilities, health and safety, risk assessment and safeguarding procedures. The full PCC met ten times during 2023 with an average level of attendance of 75%.

The PCC is the decision-making body of The Church with any Committee making recommendations to the PCC for consideration.

## Risk Assessments

Procedures are in place to manage risks and minimise their impact on the wellbeing of church and hall users.

Action in the main areas of risk is managed as follows:

*Fire, Health and Safety:* The PCC routinely review health and safety and fire arrangements and any relevant risk assessments. The wardens carry out regular inspections as part of their duties. Matters noted were either rectified or reported to the PCC for further action. The fire system and exits in the church and hall were maintained in working order and inspected by certified competent persons in accordance with the safety requirements. The electrical system and equipment are subject to statutory inspection.

*Operational Risk:* The control measures associated with Covid infection continues to be relaxed as per the government infection controls and requirements. During the year the generic risk assessments were applied. There were no activities requiring additional risk assessments. The PCC continue to require a condition of hire that all hirers provide suitable and sufficient risk assessments to cover their activities.

## Safeguarding Procedures

**St John's Ainsdale takes its duty and obligation to protect all extremely seriously.**

**We have adopted the national Church of England's robust**

**procedures and guidelines. You can find out more about the national policies and procedures at [www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding)**

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues on a safeguarding matter please speak to Chris Thursfield, Parish Safeguarding Officer; or you can find useful contact information at [www.liverpool.anglican.org/safeguarding](http://www.liverpool.anglican.org/safeguarding)

Fortunately, there have been no safeguarding issues again this year. We are, however, vigilant in all we do and comply with Diocesan guidelines. As always, a copy of our own safeguarding policy and guidelines are kept in the vestry and can be viewed on request. All Safer Recruitment regulations are complied with and all who require DBS clearance complete the procedure. All personal information is confidential and is stored and managed in accordance with the data protection guidelines.

## New Appointments

The following new appointments were made during 2023:

- PCC Vice Chair: **Peter Hancock**

## Administrative Information

St John's Church is situated in Ainsdale, a suburb of Southport. It is part of the Diocese of Liverpool within the Church of England.



The address of the Church is:

627-629 Liverpool Road  
Ainsdale  
Southport  
PR8 3NG

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules 2017 and was registered with the Charity Commission on 3 April 2009.

PCC members (trustees) who have served from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are shown in **Appendix 1** along with the specific church roles approved by the PCC.



We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make St John's the caring and vibrant community it is.

Some of them you see at the front during services and other events but many more work tirelessly behind the scenes making people feel welcome, setting things up, preparing food and drink, keeping the buildings looking lovely, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all, and supporting the administration.

Their names are too many to mention individually but we are hugely grateful for their continued dedication, selfless service and good humour.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to this report. If you are interested in joining or helping with any of the activities highlighted in this report, then please make contact with the leaders listed here and also in Appendix 1 – they would love to hear from you!

<i>PCC, wardens and welcomers / sidespeople</i>	<i>Lesley Phipps and Chris Thursfield</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>Paul Ellis &amp; Chris York</i>
<i>Worship band</i>	<i>John Forshaw</i>
<i>St John's Care Group</i>	<i>Nancy Lloyd Parry</i>
<i>Children and young people's ministry</i>	<i>Linda Davies</i>
<i>Impact youth club</i>	<i>Linda Davies</i>
<i>Baptisms</i>	<i>Linda Davies</i>
<i>Little John's</i>	<i>Chris Thursfield &amp; Clare Lord</i>
<i>Guides</i>	<i>Vanessa Riley</i>
<i>Brownies</i>	<i>Amanda McCarter &amp; Joanne York</i>
<i>Rainbows</i>	<i>Pam Davies</i>
<i>Refreshments &amp; parish lunches</i>	<i>Nina Haddock</i>
<i>Deanery Synod</i>	<i>Jean Washbourne, David Phipps, Helen Parker, John Forshaw</i>
<i>Ainsdale St John's CE Primary School</i>	<i>Lorna O'Brien (Headteacher) John Forshaw (Chair of Governors)</i>
<i>Natterjack's Day Nursery at St John's</i>	<i>Mai-Ling &amp; John Duckworth (Owners/managers) Becca Phillipson (Nursery Manager)</i>
<i>CAP Job Club</i>	<i>Donald Mackenzie (Job Club Manager)</i>
<i>Eco Group</i>	<i>Chris Treble</i>
<i>Church Building</i>	<i>Frank Hyland</i>
<i>Finance, Giving and Fundraising</i>	<i>Lindsay Jessop (Church Treasurer)</i>
<i>St John's Website</i>	<i>Chris Doragh</i>
<i>St John's Facebook page</i>	<i>Chris York</i>
<i>Electoral roll</i>	<i>Paul Olive</i>
<i>Christian Aid</i>	<i>Eirlys Jessop</i>
<i>Churches Together in Ainsdale (CTiA)</i>	<i>Jean Washbourne and Eirlys Jessop</i>
<i>Safeguarding</i>	<i>Chris Thursfield</i>

**Original report approved by the PCC on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and this revision 1 approved by the PCC on xxxx 2024.  
Signed on their behalf by Chris Thursfield (PCC Chairman)**

*Chris Thursfield*



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's  
report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
St Johns Church, Ainsdale, Southport

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1128996

Set out on pages

14-19

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

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity 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 which gives 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 order to enable a  
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 29/05/2024

Name:

Chris Dickson

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

ACA

Address:

LJMU Accounting Clinic, Redmonds Building,  
Brownlow Hill, Liverpool,  
L3 5UG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32,  
Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for  
examiners).

Give here brief details of  
any items that the  
examiner wishes to  
disclose.



## PCC MEMBERSHIP

	To APCM 2023	From APCM 2023
Incumbent	Interregnum	Interregnum
Reader	Eirlys Jessop	Eirlys Jessop
Churchwardens	Chris Thursfield - PCC Chair Lesley Phipps – PCC Vice Chair	Chris Thursfield - PCC Chair Lesley Phipps
Deanery Synod Reps	Jean Washbourne David Phipps	Jean Washbourne Helen Parker David Phipps John Forshaw
Elected PCC Members	Kathryn Corey Giles Davies Linda Davies John Forshaw Lynne Grice Maggie Hilton Frank Hyland Patricia Jameson Lindsay Jessop - Treasurer Val Sinnott Ann Walton	Giles Davies Linda Davies John Forshaw Peter Hancock -PCC Vice Chair Maggie Hilton Frank Hyland Patricia Jameson Lindsay Jessop - Treasurer Chloe Ormrod Val Sinnott Ann Walton
Co-opted members of PCC	We currently have two vacancies for co-opted members	

## PCC APPROVED ROLES

PCC chair	Chris Thursfield	Health & safety advisor	Frank Hyland
PCC vice chair	Peter Hancock	Gift aid secretary , Parish Giving Scheme & envelopes	Heather Treble
PCC secretary	Peter Hancock	Church calendar and hire bookings	Deb Bishop
Treasurer	Lindsay Jessop	Church website	Chris Doragh
Electoral roll officer	Paul Olive	Church Facebook site	Chris York
Safeguarding officer	Chris Thursfield	Chairperson of eco group	Chris Treble
Online stats officer	Paul Ellis	Bankers	The Co-Operative Bank
Children's work co-ordinator	Linda Davies	Independent Examiner	John Moores University (JMU) – the Accountancy Clinic
		Day to day management	Exercised by Wardens

## PROGRESS AGAINST 2023 MISSION OBJECTIVES

Mark of Mission	St John's Mission Priorities	2023 objectives – ongoing outreach	New objectives for 2023
TELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letting God touch the lives of others by providing imaginative, varied, inspiring and engaging worship.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to embed the regular pattern of weekly worship through the interregnum ●</li> <li>Lead school worship weekly ●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage families back to church post pandemic with a particular focus around Easter, September and Christmas ●</li> <li>Introduce a family/all-age communion service ●</li> </ul>
TEACH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping and nurturing all those who wish to explore and deepen their relationship with God by providing opportunities for bible study, prayer and Christian fellowship in a safe family friendly environment.</li> <li>Equipping and supporting each other as members of an inclusive church family to be Christians in a modern world: at home; at work; with friends and in our local community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue monthly newsletters and other targeted communications to keep church members connected ●</li> <li>Support CTiA Lent Course ●</li> <li>Run confirmation course – <b>N/A No candidates</b></li> <li>Welcome and support baptism families ●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement specific actions from LYCIG ● <b>Some actions taken; more work to do</b></li> <li>Relaunch Junior PCC including opportunities for leading services ●</li> <li>Seek new helpers to support Impact and Sunday morning children's work ● <b>This remains a major focus in 2024</b></li> <li>Introduce parish lunches to help bring church members together ●</li> </ul>
TEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping to transform lives of those in need in Ainsdale through providing a safe haven for quiet contemplation and offering practical and emotional support for life events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support Job Club ●</li> <li>Continue to welcome and build relationships with new families through Little John's ●</li> <li>Continue to grow the support offered by the Care Group ●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run a regular cinema club (care group/ warm spaces and holiday films) ●</li> </ul>
TRANSFORM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with other Christian and secular organisations to promote global fairness for all.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Christian Aid, taking a leading role in Ainsdale ●</li> <li>Continue support for the Food Bank and make lunch schemes working with school and Natterjacks ● <b>Supported through CTiA</b></li> </ul>	<i>No specific new actions</i>
TREASURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking after God's planet by raising awareness of the impact we have on creation and the actions we can take to improve the environment.</li> </ul>		<i>No specific new actions</i>



## PCC MISSION OBJECTIVES FOR 2024

Our Objectives are aligned to our Mission priorities which address the 5 Marks of Mission and aim to address the key needs of those we service as a church.

Mark of Mission	St John's Mission Priorities
TELL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letting God touch the lives of others by providing imaginative, varied, inspiring and engaging worship.</li> </ul>
TEACH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping and nurturing all those who wish to explore and deepen their relationship with God by providing opportunities for bible study, prayer and Christian fellowship in a safe family friendly environment.</li> <li>Equipping and supporting each other as members of an inclusive church family to be Christians in a modern world: at home; at work; with friends and in our local community.</li> </ul>
TEND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helping to transform lives of those in need in Ainsdale through providing a safe haven for quiet contemplation and offering practical and emotional support for life events.</li> </ul>
TRANSFORM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with other Christian and secular organisations to promote global fairness for all.</li> </ul>
TREASURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking after God's planet by raising awareness of the impact we have on creation and the actions we can take to improve the environment.</li> </ul>

### Specific objectives for 2024

1. Run a weekday study group to deepen faith and build fellowship.
2. Provide opportunities to bring different congregations together (e.g. parish lunches, church social activities, combined services).
3. Welcome a new vicar by preparing hearts and minds to be open to new ideas and by putting in place practical enablers to support them in their role.
4. Develop our work with children and young people through the use of the children's corner and by providing opportunities for our Junior PCC to deepen their faith and serve others.