

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1129065

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

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**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard, applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The PCC is committed to enabling all people to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community at All Saints'. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how services can involve the many diverse groups that live within the parish. The services and worship express and nurture faith through prayer, scripture, music and sacramental worship – a place for our whole community to encounter God. That faith is put into practice through missional, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical engagement, with the parish, town and wider world.

When planning activities during the year, the Rector, PCC, Shared Leadership Team and Ministry Team consider the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, emphasis is given to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus;
- Providing pastoral care for all people living in the parish;
- Missionary and outreach work;
- Making the church available for greater community use within Christian and secular groups; and,
- Encouraging greater fellowship, cooperation and understanding within the local community.

In support of these objectives, there has been an increased emphasis on extending hospitality, together with improved access and availability. We seek to enable the wider community to feel welcome and share in the use of the building.

To facilitate this work, it is important that the fabric of the Church of All Saints' is maintained to the highest possible standard commensurate with the resources that are provided for this task. In the past this task has fallen to rich benefactors and the congregation; however, for the future, as a Grade I listed Building at the heart of the town, with a history dating back to the 11th century, it is appropriate that the wider High Wycombe community is aware of the historical and architectural importance of the building. As a spiritual and activity hub at the heart of activity in the town, we hope that more will see the value of contributing towards the upkeep of All Saints.

Fund-raising activities and appeals this year have supported local, national and international relief agencies, as well as community focused nursing, mental health, Christian youth & refugee services. We provide a warm space, donation-based café, lunchtime concerts and regular community meals for fellowship and support. There has also been a very generous response to the urgent need for repair and replacement of many of the tower steps, as well as raising funds for the major work to restore the South Porch, within the wider Sound Light Space project. This will require significant additional fundraising activity. These projects will safeguard the heritage, but also improve the functionality and amenities within the building, thereby increasing its use and appeal for the wider community.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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ALL SAINTS**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

All Saints - Review of the Year 2023

The first part of this report (January to October) has been prepared by Lis Burns, Churchwarden & Vice Chair of the PCC. The second part has been prepared by Fr Anthony Searle, Team Rector.

January

We began 2023 in vacancy but determined to move forward in a positive way. Hosting a come and sing performance of excerpts from Mendelssohn's *Elijah* was a great start as were new floors in the church toilets!

February and March

Sunday soup lunches offered an opportunity for us to meet socially and reading recommendations from the ministry team helped our learning during Lent.

With guidance from the Diocese and Deanery teams, a small group worked on our parish profile to assist with the appointment of a new Team Rector. This incorporated feedback from parishioners and visitors to All Saints during Summer 2022 and input from the PCC who met to discern a developing vision for All Saints in terms of our church community, within High Wycombe and beyond, along with the qualities we hoped to see in our new Team Rector.

We also saw the return of our resident pair of peregrine falcons who successfully bred a couple of chicks.

Holy Week and Easter

Holy week began with the anticipation of Palm Sunday with the rousing anthem Lift up your Heads by Matthias before an evening service of readings and music led us into the solemnity of Holy week. Following moving services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we saw a temporary change to the service pattern of recent years, with our First Eucharist of Easter held on the Saturday evening. This was a spirit-led occasion with the confirmation of four of our regular congregational members by the late Bishop Alan and a good test of our smoke detection system thanks to a very enthusiastic Easter fire. The festivities continued with another uplifting baptism service on Easter Day.

May and June

On Sunday 7 May, we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla by hosting the town's civic celebration at our Parish Eucharist. With bunting made by our craft group and congregation, our new flagpole installed and successful Ring and Sing for the King campaigns, our bells rang out and the church was filled with the truly glorious sound of Parry's anthem *I was Glad* sung by All Saints choir and members from other local music making organisations.

It was great to be able to support the town centre FrogFest event at the end of May and in June, we saw the return of the All Saints Quiz – a big thank you to Dawn, quiz master Mark and other PCC members for organising a fun evening. We were also delighted help Jackie, Thistle and Robyn from the All Saints team celebrate their significant birthdays with a "180" ceilidh with music and barn dancing in the church.

Interviews were held for the Team Rector position which was no small undertaking with a large panel representing All Saints, churches from the Wycombe Team Benefice, Deanery and Diocese and we were subsequently delighted to announce that Father Anthony had accepted the post.

July and August

In early July we said thank you and farewell to our curate Rev'd Gareth Morley as he left All Saints to take up the post of Rector of the Benefice of Easthampstead, Bracknell Deanery. It was lovely to gather as a church community to express our gratitude for Gareth's ministry and send him, Jenna, and the children on their way with a few gifts to show our appreciation.

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

All Saints – Review of the year 2023 – continued

Mid July saw the redecoration of the church toilets – thank you to the painting crew who took on this messy task.

During the school holiday, members of our congregation participated in Wycombe Lighthouse a non-residential holiday club for children run by local churches before the All Saints team led “Light at the end of the Summer” with games, arts and crafts and activities for all ages. We hope to offer a similar event in 2024.

On Saturday 19 August, we handed out hundreds of rainbow cupcakes at Wycombe Pride (thank you to all our bakers), offered support and encouragement, joined in the march through the town and offered a place of sanctuary for those who wanted a moment of peace away from the noisy celebrations.

September and October

The Autumn term started with an afternoon tea fundraiser in support of the South Porch appeal with homemade sandwiches, scones and cakes in a refreshingly cool building accompanied by our talented Director of Music Philip Wayne on the piano.

The following weekend we held our Big Autumn clean tackling high level dusting, sweeping and a deep clean of various areas within the building. As always despite the hard work involved, it was very enjoyable to spend time with fellow volunteers and reward ourselves with lunch together. We usually hold a summer big clean but delayed the event this year to enable wood worm treatment of chairs and other items – thank you to Philip Hynard for his efficient organisation of this programme.

In October we celebrated Harvest with a beautiful floral display and food donations to support our local food banks. We also danced the night away with a 60/70s disco in the church – thank you to Lynda Titchen-Moorcroft and Barry Titchen and their team for organising such a fun filled evening and successful fundraiser.

Final planning for Father Anthony’s institution, installation, induction service on 3 November took place and the church community pulled together once again to help paint rooms at the vicarage at the last minute. Thank you to all those involved in the appointment process, the preparations for Father Anthony’s arrival and to everyone for offering him such a warm welcome.

November and December

Fr Anthony Searle

We began November with my Institution, Induction and Installation as Team Rector for High Wycombe. It was a joyous occasion, presided over by the late Bishop Alan, and I was met by such a wonderful welcome in my new home of All Saints. The joy continued as we celebrated our Patronal Festival on All Saints Sunday. For both, and many services since, my thanks go to the ministry team, to Rev. Jackie Lock, Derek Lancaster, and Robyn Connelly; to the churchwardens, Lis Burns and Jenny Cartledge, and their sidespeople; to Pat Lea and Janet Pearson for the flowers; and to Philip Wayne, Ollie Roberts, and the choir; for all their hard work and dedication to All Saints. Thanks also go to Tricia Newton and her team of able Ringers who rang in these occasions.

A week later, we hosted the civic service of Remembrance and welcomed a packed church of uniformed organisations, at which The Rev. Sqn Ldr Andrew Chapman preached a well-balanced sermon of peace in a time when we are seeing much strife and war in our world.

At the end of the month and as we edged into Advent, we served those who had lost loved ones with the service of Light up a Life, organised by those affiliated to the Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care.

December was a joyfully busy time with six schools and the Mayor holding their carol services at All Saints, and a number of All Saints’ people taking carols to BNU, alongside our own Advent Carols and service of Nine Lessons and Carols: at all, we witnessed to the birth of Jesus, our incarnate God, and invited all to share our joy. Thanks go to Robyn Connelly for all her work with the numerous schools and to Steve Linger for his organisation.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

All Saints – Review of the year 2023 – continued

December was also a time of community and fundraising. The Christmas Craft Fayre, complete with string quartet, carols and hand bells, started the month, and thanks go to Helen Cousins and her team for organising this successful event; and in the centre of December, the church welcomed 31 superbly decorated pines and spruces for the Christmas Tree Festival, won by Hamilton School and our own Bell Ringers, and encouraged 100s of visitors into the church. The Sparkle event that set the Festival in motion celebrated our church within our community. Thanks to Thistle Martin, Lis Burns and Jenny Cartledge for their exhaustive work in making these spectacular occasions, and to all the volunteers who welcomed visitors.

We closed the month with the height of Christmas, the final Sunday of Advent flowing through a beautiful Crib and Christingle Service, and into Midnight Mass and a joyous Christmas morning.

2024

It has been a joy to join such a vibrant church with such opportunity for mission and growth at the centre of High Wycombe. There have been, in these first months of my service here, many occasions that have confirmed the work of the Holy Spirit in placing me here, in this place at this time.

The church is the people who gather together in prayer, study and worship. The development plans of Sound, Light and Space are to better enable the work and worship of our community. The efforts of the Operations and Ministry Team, the SLT and PCC, and the Churchwardens, are all to support the church in our mission in this place. In all this, I thank those who have committed time and talents over the years, and particularly those who are setting aside their roles: thanks to Lis Burns and Jenny Cartledge for their tenures as Churchwardens; to Jo Norman and Philip Hynard who have served as Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC secretary respectively; and to Dawn Segrue and Thistle Martin, who have served on the PCC.

Church is blessed by those who are part of its community. Each of us give as we are able, of time, talents and money, and we give from what we are given. There is a role for each of us in the mission of the church, in the work and worship of All Saints, and it is through prayer and the study of scripture that we might each discover what is our role. Our thanks go to those who have felt called to take up positions alongside those who continue to serve. Particular thanks must also go to John Lord and his team for their work in finance.

In the year ahead, we will continue to explore our mission, in how we might grow in numbers, in discipleship, and in service. We can only do this together, and in the power of the Holy Spirit. In all this, I give thanks that God has gifted All Saints with a heart to follow and a community who love.

Fr Anthony

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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ALL SAINTS**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the Year

The results for the year and financial position of the Parish are as shown in the annexed financial statements.

Summary

Total income for the year was £279,655 with total expenditure amounting to £239,193 – Giving a headline surplus of £40,462. Generous donations and fundraising raised £13,158 (including Gift Aid), for the urgent work on the tower steps. Increased church activities, property rental and higher interest also raised extra funds, helping to lessen the impact of inflation on Utilities, fundraising and other support costs. Expenditure was reduced by vacancy savings, low mission spend and delays to maintenance. There were net revaluation gains, making an accounts surplus of £45,930.

Focussing on normal budgeted items, (excluding £15,093 of 1-off grants and legacies), regular income was £264,562 against a budget of £248,680. The recovery of concerts and other activities continued and although planned giving was 2% down, this was offset by general collections. There were several generous responses from the congregation to our Parish Gift Day appeal, both in 1-off donations and particularly increases in planned giving. There was also a good community response to our Christmas Craft Fayre and Tree Festival.

Planned expenditure includes the outstanding work on the tower steps, which was committed to, but not fully completed by the end of the year. Lower staff costs were budgeted, whilst the below budget mission funds will be put towards future missional spend. Total expenditure, at £239,193, resulted in a budget item surplus of £25,369 (reversing a deficit in 2022). The arrival of our new Rector is already encouraging greater community engagement. The financial challenges are most clearly for the South Porch restoration, within the Sound Light and Space programme. However, we are also called to fund mission-led service for the wider community in the years ahead.

Funds

Income and expenditure for nominated activities such as the Café, Organ, Community Meals, Church Fabric etc. are allocated to their own individual funds. This allows for direct payments or transfers to be made from the general fund, designated in accordance with approved by the PCC. During 2023 the main transfers were from general funds: £4,000 to Organ Maintenance, £2,000 to Church Fabric, £4,000 to Children & Families and £12,645 to the Mission and Ministry fund, for future use. In overall value, all funds are in credit.

The Sound, Light & Space project (including the South Porch restoration) will require significant fundraising and grants.

Money Received from Government

Normally, the only monies received from Government sources are the Gift Aid refunds from HMRC, made on donations received from UK taxpayers and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. In 2023 these amounted to £34,661. Additionally in 2023, £3,782 VAT was refunded on the repair/replacement of tower steps, flagpole, bell ropes and bell muffles. This was under the Listed Places of Worship (LPW) Grant Scheme.

Reserves policy

The PCC holds reserves in a number of funds, most of which are designated as per the name of the fund, pending the expected expenditure as outlined in the paragraphs above. The CBF General Deposit, Lloyds and CAF Bank accounts hold the working reserve for the charity - ideally to cover 3 months' salaries and fees. However, in previous years, it has always been difficult to maintain a consistent level of reserve. As of 31 December 2023, the charity has only achieved this target from the balance of a property sale. This will be used for urgent works and the South Porch, when the way forward is agreed. The General Deposit and CAF Bank higher interest accounts are used to hold restricted and designated funds. Given the continued uncertainty of the financial position, a conservative approach to investment has been taken.

Value of the Church

It is impossible to give an accurate figure for the value of the Church and its contents, in terms of the Statement of Recommended Practice. The Church is a Grade I Listed Building of great beauty. The contents are accurately recorded in the Terrier and Inventory, last presented at the Annual Meeting of Parishioner on 23rd April 2023. A valuation for insurance purposed was completed by the Ecclesiastical in March 2022.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

FINANCIAL REVIEW – continued

Legacies Policy

The PCC, through the Finance and Stewardship Group, periodically remind members of the congregation as to the benefits of leaving a legacy to the Church in their wills. The policy towards expenditure is that any unrestricted money received should be earmarked to capital projects where recognition of the donor can be made rather than just deemed to be an additional source of revenue. Unrestricted legacies and memorial donations, of which there were three in 2023, are placed in the Legacies Fund until the PCC designates where such monies are to be allocated or spent. Restricted legacies, of which there was one in 2023, are allocated in accordance with the terms of the donation, or agreement with the family.

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

The work to repair and replace most of the tower steps has continued and we are running with a rolling balanced budget. The Immediate focus is on the pressing maintenance needs and gaining the expert proposals required. The wider Sound, Light & Space project, incorporating audio-visual development and repair of the organ, will need significant fundraising. With the arrival of Fr Anthony, we are also coming together in various ways, partly to reflect on the way ahead. From this strategy, the next steps will guide the budget for the rest of the year and beyond.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Background

The Parish of High Wycombe All Saints' is the Parish Church of the High Wycombe Team Ministry. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956. The PCC co-operates with the Rector in promoting the whole Mission and Vision of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Governing Document

The PCC registered as a charity with the Charity Commission with effect from 8th April 2009. The PCC is governed under the PCC Powers Measure (1956), as amended and the Church Representation Rules.

PCC Organisational Structure

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The day-to-day management of the PCC is delegated to the Rector and Church Wardens.

All Saints' High Wycombe is also part of the High Wycombe Team Ministry, a town-wide benefice of six parishes over which the Reverend Hugh Ellis was Team Rector. There are individual parish PCCs and a separate Team Benefice Council.

The PCC is also the Managing Trustee of a charity known as "the Oakley Memorial Church Lads Brigade Drill Hall in the Borough of High Wycombe in the County of Buckingham comprised in a conveyance dated 24th December 1906" ("the Oakley Hall Trust") under which the premises comprised in that conveyance (now represented by the premises comprised in a lease dated 6th November 1975) were to be held as a church hall, mission room, parish room, classroom, meeting room or lecture room etc., with power to let etc. The accounts of the Oakley Hall Trust are not consolidated in these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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ALL SAINTS**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
PCC Organisational Structure – continued

During the year the following served as Trustees and members of the PCC:

Clergy:		
Rector:	Father Anthony Searle *#	(from November 2023)
Associate Priest:	Reverend Jackie Lock *#	
Curate:	Reverend Gareth Morley *#	(to July 2023)
Licensed Lay Ministers:	Miss Maureen Lampard #	(Not Trustee)
	Mr Derek Lancaster *#	
Children & Families Minister: (Formally Roger Vere Youth Worker)	Mrs Robyn Connelly *#	
Church Wardens:	Mrs Elisabeth Burns *	
	Mrs Jennifer Cartledge *	
Honorary Deputy Church Warden:	Mr Edgar Samuel *	
Deanery Synod Members:	Mr Barry Titchen	(to 2026)
	Mr Raymond Levy	(to 2026)
	Mr David Knights	(to April 2023)
	Mrs Susan Lord	Co-opted May 2023
PCC Members:	Mrs Lynda Moorcroft *	(to 2025)
	Miss Lauren Harvey	(to 2024)
	Mr Philip Hynard	(to 2024)
	Miss Elizabeth Martin	(to 2024)
	Mr John Lord	(to 2024)
	Mrs Sheila Doig	(to 2024)
	Mr Edgar Samuel	(to 2024)
	Mrs Dawn Segrue *	(to 2024)
	Mr Mark Johnson	(to 2025)
	Mrs Barbara Bowman	(to 2025)
	Mrs Jean Johnson	(to 2026)
	Mrs Jacqui Brearley	(to 2026)
Honorary Treasurer:	Mr John Lord *	
PCC Secretary:	Mr Philip Hynard *	
Acting Director of Music:	Mr Philip Wayne	(Not Trustee)
Electoral Roll Officer:	Mr Errol Baker	(Not Trustee)
Parish Administrator:	Miss Elizabeth Martin	

* Denotes membership of the PCC Standing Committee / Shared Leadership Team

Denotes membership of the Ministry Team

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
PCC Organisational Structure - continued**

Other Officers (not Trustees, unless otherwise stated)

Activities and Hospitality:	Mr Stephen Linger
Arts and Spirituality:	Miss Elizabeth Martin (Trustee)
Safeguarding Officer:	Mrs Jo Norman

Management Organisation

The PCC operates through a number of delegated groups, headed by members of the Shared Leadership Team (SLT):

Shared Leadership Team & Standing Committee:	Key members of the PCC (as indicated by *) responsible for formulating strategic parish policy and co-ordinating management.
Ministry Team:	Clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and the Children & Families Minister (as indicated by #) responsible for all staff, Ministry and pastoral matters.
Children & Families:	Responsible for the organising of activities and the pastoral care of children, young people and families. Also for All Age Worship, preparation for Communion, Confirmation and work with schools.
Mission & Evangelism:	Responsible for the missional use of the building(s), hospitality, engagement with the wider community, faith in action and communication of the Gospel.
Worship & Liturgy:	Responsible for the planning and delivery of worship; Liturgy, Music, Choir, Servers, Sidespeople and visiting speakers.
Stewardship & Finance Group:	Responsible for financial planning and management of the church accounts, together with, risk management, planned and tax efficient giving.
Buildings & Fabric Group:	Responsible for the planned inspections, maintenance and repair of the church building and houses owned or managed by the PCC.
Education & Discipleship:	Responsible for enabling and co-ordinating study and education groups; vocational development, projects and courses.
Communications:	Responsible for interfacing with the wider public, through use of the website, social media, publicity, design and displays.
Art & Spirituality:	Expanding the community use and experience of the church through art and creativity; developing non-liturgical spiritual connections and the Quiet Space.
Oakley Hall Management Group:	This group is responsible for the day-to-day management and running of the Oakley Hall.
Project Development:	Managing re-ordering projects; developing longer-term plans for the church building; and organising fund raising for these projects.
Fund Raising:	Oversees major fund raising across all aspects of church life, mission and vision.

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT – continued

Risk management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Shared Leadership Team (SLT), on behalf of the PCC, maintains overall supervision of the key areas of finance, buildings and staff through direct line management or through nominated groups responsible to the PCC:

Finance

The Hon Treasurer is responsible for the day-to-day financial management of the charity and providing specialist advice to the PCC, SLT and task groups. With the exception of internal transfers of money between accounts, all expenditure requires the authorisation of two nominated members of the Church. Additionally, all members of the PCC and congregation who are required to handle church money are certified as 'fit and proper persons' and required to sign the associated declaration.

The PCC is very aware that its income, while drawn from a large number of parishioners, is substantially dependent on the significant donations of a comparatively small number of people, or in the case of the Children and Families Minister, mainly a single donor. The withdrawal of support from those individuals could result in immediate financial embarrassment and it would be necessary to curtail the activities of the PCC or to undertake fundraising or both.

The key financial risks are that day-to-day planned expenditure is not covered by regular income, or that urgent maintenance requires funds greater than those available in reserves. It is essential that a balanced budget is maintained to ensure long term financial stability.

Building

The PCC recognises that there are many risks to the building and contents; however, all practical and affordable measures are taken to minimise this risk. When open, the building is always manned by a minimum of 2 people and the 3/4 usable entrances all have double locks. A number of additional precautions are taken to protect valuable items. Fire and emergency evacuation plans are in place and are maintained by the Church Activities Team. The PCC maintains appropriate insurance cover where possible to do so and a full insurance valuation/inspection was last undertaken by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company in 2022. The church is highly dependent on the willingness of volunteers to assist the clergy and paid staff in maintaining the Church's role and mission with the local community and its availability, on a daily basis, to that community. We are all grateful to them.

In addition to implementing the recommendations from Quinquennial inspections, the Fabric committee - a sub-group of the PCC - carries out timely inspections of the church building and all the Church properties and, in the course of such inspections, draws attention to any hazards within the properties and makes recommendations for the reduction or elimination of any risks. Only Gas Safe (formerly Corgi) registered fitters are used to repair the gas installations, and appropriately qualified electricians for any electrical work (other than changing light bulbs or replacing fuses). The solicitors to the Diocese approve tenancy agreements. Where it is considered appropriate, legal advice is sought in relation to other tenancy and potential liability matters.

Staff

Prior to employment or the provision of specialist services, all permanent members of staff and fee-receiving individuals undergo standard pre-employment vetting to minimise the risk of fraud or other failings to the PCC. Employer's Liability and Personal Accident insurance are maintained. Where it is considered appropriate, legal advice is sought in relation to formal dealings with staff.

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Registration Number: 1129065

Principal address: The Church Office, Oakley Hall
8 Castle Street
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP13 6RF

Trustees: E Burns
J Cartledge

Independent Examiner: Mr T Fulker BSC (Econ) FCA
Seymour Taylor Limited
First Floor North
40 Oxford Road
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP11 2EE

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28 April 2024 And signed on its behalf by:



Elisabeth Burns
(Church Warden)



Jennifer Cartledge
(Church Warden)

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages twelve to twenty two.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity 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.



.....
Tim Fulker BSC (Econ) FCA

Seymour Taylor Limited
First Floor North
40 Oxford Road
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP11 2EE

Date: 23 May 2024

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

					2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total funds	Total funds
	Notes	funds	funds	fund		
		£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	2	203,445	40,998	-	244,443	228,470
Investment income	3	2,445	3,659	-	6,104	2,401
Activities for generating funds	4	9,494	200	-	9,694	4,911
Other incoming resources	5	<u>19,214</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,414</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total incoming resources		234,598	45,057	-	279,655	245,782
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Costs of generating funds						
Fundraising	6	9,943	3,664	-	13,607	10,657
Charitable activities						
Work of the church	7	114,323	47,046	-	161,369	169,797
Grants	8	5,499	1,316	-	6,815	9,787
Governance & Administration	9	<u>57,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,402</u>	<u>50,588</u>
Total resources expended		187,167	52,026	-	239,193	240,829
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS						
		47,431	(6,969)	-	40,462	4,953
Gross transfers between funds	15	<u>(9,538)</u>	<u>9,538</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses						
		37,893	2,569	-	40,462	4,953
Other recognised gains/losses						
Gains/losses on investment assets	12	5,017	-	451	5,468	24,707
Gains/losses on revaluation		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		42,910	2,569	451	45,930	29,660
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		688,175	79,561	4,793	772,529	742,869
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>731,085</u>	<u>82,130</u>	<u>5,244</u>	<u>818,459</u>	<u>772,529</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**BALANCE SHEET
At 31 December 2023**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment fund	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	12	506,675	-	-	506,675	501,658
Endowments	12	-	-	5,244	5,244	4,793
		506,675	-	5,244	511,919	506,451
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	13	4,776	104	-	4,880	5,203
Cash at bank and in hand		231,648	94,761	-	326,409	280,091
		236,424	94,865	-	331,289	285,294
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(12,014)	(12,735)	-	(24,749)	(19,216)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>224,410</u>	<u>82,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>306,540</u>	<u>266,078</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		731,085	82,130	5,244	818,459	772,529
NET ASSETS		<u>731,085</u>	<u>82,130</u>	<u>5,244</u>	<u>818,459</u>	<u>772,529</u>
FUNDS	15					
Unrestricted funds					475,710	437,817
Restricted funds					82,130	79,561
Endowment funds					5,244	4,793
Revaluation reserve					255,375	250,358
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>818,459</u>	<u>772,529</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 28/4/24 and were signed on its behalf by:



Elisabeth Burns
(Church Warden)



Jennifer Cartledge
(Church Warden)

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Incoming resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under covenants or gift aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Wherever possible income generated by fêtes and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Rental income from the letting of the church or PCC premises is recognised when the rental is due.

Investments

Investments including properties and shares, are recognised initially at fair value which is normally transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value through the profit and loss if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Resources expended

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

Activities directly relating to the work of the church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the financial statements by s.96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £3,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application for the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the PCC for a particular purpose. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against the unrestricted reserve.

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

All Saints' PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of the Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF) for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board (CEPB), which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the employer and other participating employers. The CWPF has a section known as the Defined Benefits Scheme, a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic and a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014. Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes. PB Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the CEPB from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending upon the investment returns and other factors. PB 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme. The scheme is a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102, as it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the employer contributions payable: £4,314 (2022: £4,372).

A valuation of the PB scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2019. For PB the Classic section, this revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to pensions not yet in payment and those in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on those in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the increase was 5% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%).

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

This followed improvements in the funding position over 2023. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time. For the PB 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022. Calculations for this are currently underway, but indicate that all sections are now in surplus.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, All Saints' PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

The PCC had 3 active members and 9 deferred members in the Pension scheme at 31 December 2023.

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Planned Giving	99,143	101,100
Donations other than planned giving	93,546	81,784
Gift Aid	34,661	34,388
* Legacies	7,311	6,452
* VAT recoverable	3,782	-
* Grants	6,000	4,746
	<u>244,443</u>	<u>228,470</u>

* Includes £15,093 of 1-off grants, VAT and legacies, so the Budgeted Voluntary Income was £229,350.

Donations included in the above are as follows:

Gift Aid and covenants	86,598	88,493
Taxation recoverable	38,443	34,388
Other planned giving	12,544	12,607
Collections	5,127	5,141
* Other donations	83,291	71,178
Fundraising	11,352	11,480
Unplanned gift aid	7,088	5,183
	<u>244,443</u>	<u>228,470</u>

* Includes £7,440 of donations as part of the All Saints' Gift Day and £10,752 raised for repairing the tower steps.

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest and dividends	1,846	1,029
Deposit account interest	4,258	1,372
	<u>6,104</u>	<u>2,401</u>

4. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the PCC	1,497	1,140
Non-statutory fees	2,273	1,266
Trading income	8	49
Vergers' fees	1,540	770
Concert fees and Church hire	4,376	1,686
	<u>9,694</u>	<u>4,911</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

5. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	2023	2022
	£	£
House lettings	19,414	10,000
	<u>19,414</u>	<u>10,000</u>

6. COST OF GENERATING FUNDS - FUNDRAISING

	2023	2022
	£	£
Tree Festival, Craft Fayre, Stewardship & other costs	4,853	2,677
Community survey costs	-	99
Mustard Seed Café costs	5,569	4,991
Weekly Concerts – Performer fees	3,185	2,890
	<u>13,607</u>	<u>10,657</u>

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – WORK OF THE CHURCH

	2023	2022
	£	£
Parish Share	60,897	66,988
Worship, mission & pastoral care	10,978	8,532
Housing letting fees & maintenance	7,069	10,715
Music, fees & organ maintenance	14,834	17,356
Church insurance & maintenance (Includes work on the tower and the toilet block)	34,632	36,217
Sound Light Space project	2,759	628
Children, families & youth	29,094	27,729
Mustard Club, Community Meals	1,106	1,632
	<u>161,369</u>	<u>169,797</u>

8. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2023	2022
	£	£
Missionary societies	699	911
Relief & development agencies	1,243	5,823
Home Church societies	2,480	1,560
Secular Charities	2,393	1,483
Wycombe Homeless Connection	-	10
	<u>6,815</u>	<u>9,787</u>

Note: An additional £3,006 was raised directly as Agency collections for other charities

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Utilities & running costs	16,511	14,602
Church activities & event management	16,911	14,408
Administration, printing & stationery	18,828	17,910
Governance	5,152	3,668
	<u>57,402</u>	<u>50,588</u>

Note: Governance includes £3,090 for the Independent Examination of the 2023 Accounts, which was accrued.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 or for the year ended 31 December 2022.

11. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	56,259	56,908
Social security costs	-	-
Other pension costs	4,314	4,372
	<u>60,573</u>	<u>61,280</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Pastoral staff	1.0	1.0
Administrative staff	1.0	1.0
Management staff	1.0	1.0
	<u>3.0</u>	<u>3.0</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

During the current year, the PCC employed a Children and Families Minister, Activities/Hospitality Assistant, and Parish Administrator. These costs are included in Work Of The Church and Support Costs.

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Fixed Asset Investments	Freehold property Investments
COST OR VALUATION		
At 1 January 2023	4,793	501,658
Revaluations	<u>451</u>	<u>5,017</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,244</u>	<u>506,675</u>
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,244</u>	<u>506,675</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>4,793</u>	<u>501,658</u>

The PCC owns the freehold land and building of the former Children & Families Minister's house at 3 Castle Place (value £254,175) and a new leasehold property at 46 Great Ground, Aylesbury (value £252,500). These have been let on the general property market. The gross book values are based on the value estimated by the PCC as at 31 December 2023 and are considered to be a fair estimate of the current value of the properties, based on the Government figures available. During 2023, although there has been a downward movement nationally (-2.4%)¹, there has been an upward movement in similar property values in Buckinghamshire (+1.0%)¹. Specific figures are no longer available for High Wycombe. The PCC considers that, given the size and condition of the properties, an overall increase of 1.0% in value is representative for such properties in the year to 31 December 2023. Buildings insurance (3 Castle Place), service charges (46 Great Ground) and maintenance costs are borne by the PCC for these properties. The historical cost of these properties is £251,300.

¹ Land Registry UK House Price Index.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – continued

No depreciation is charged on either of these properties. Council tax and utility costs are borne by the tenants, or the PCC when vacant.

The movable church furnishings are recorded in the Inventory maintained by the PCC. These assets cannot be disposed of without a faculty and no value has been placed on them in the accounts.

The functional equipment used for the ongoing work of the PCC includes office equipment which individually cost less than £3,000 each. The cost of these assets was written off in the year of acquisition and the PCC consider that their valuation in use, less depreciation, would be negligible.

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

The PCC own 232 shares in CBF Investment Fund. These had an estimated market value at 31 December 2023 of £5,244. The historical cost of these shares is £1,600.

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accrued income	4,880	1,996
Prepayments and Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>3,207</u>
	<u>4,880</u>	<u>5,203</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors – Agency Collections	587	512
Accruals and accounts payable	24,162	18,704
Deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>24,749</u>	<u>19,216</u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

Transfers between funds

As in previous years a number of inter-fund transfers have occurred to reflect budget allocations and ensure an accurate position at the end of the financial year. For reasons of cash flow, the PCC authorised the movement of designated funds from time to time as deemed necessary by the Hon Treasurer to maintain credit balances in bank holding accounts.

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Endowment funds				
Chancel Repair Fund	4,793	451	-	5,244
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,793	451	-	5,244
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	343,590	30,050	(22,632)	351,008
Revaluation Reserve	250,358	5,017	-	255,375
Churchyard Project	1,568	5,333	-	6,901
Mission & Ministry	33,073	(2,609)	12,645	43,109
Organ Maintenance	793	(2,394)	4,000	2,399
Small Saints Activities	32	72	(25)	79
ARK & children	5	48	-	53
Music at All Saints'	1,730	1,062	-	2,792
Fabric 1 – Church Maintenance	1,207	(1,014)	2000	2,193
Stations of the Cross	108	2	-	110
Tower & Bells Appeal	-	2,081	-	2,081
Chancel Repair Fund	100	-	-	100
Choir Robes	165	1	-	166
Choir account	1,383	(117)	-	1,266
Tea & coffee fund	1,113	446	-	1,559
Church flowers	388	46	4	438
PCC Reserve	20,012	186	-	20,198
Special collections	-	181	(81)	100
West End Redevelopment Project	-	801	-	801
Youth expenditure	-	-	-	-
Youth, Children & Families Minister	1,079	4378	(5,457)	-
Legacies	20,217	4,010	-	24,227
Lighthouse	-	-	-	-
South Porch	1,659	845	-	2,504
Mustard Seed Café	2,861	3,358	-	6,219
Organ Restoration	6,104	359	8	6,471
Community meals	630	306	-	936
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	688,175	52,448	(9,538)	731,085
Restricted funds				
Agency	-	-	-	-
ARK & children	172	(73)	-	99
Bellringers fund	14,747	(887)	(1,000)	12,860
Fabric 1– Church Maintenance	562	-	-	562
Church Flowers	193	(9)	-	184
John Clement Parker Trust	1,908	24	-	1,932
Organ Maintenance	-	-	-	-
Special collections	22	(81)	81	22

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
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ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS – continued

Youth, Children & Families Minister	106	(9,551)	9,457	12
Choir robes	14	-	-	14
PCC Reserve	7,189	787	-	7,976
Tower & Bells Appeal	1,251	(2,229)	1,000	22
West End Redevelopment Project	-	187	-	187
Chancel repair fund	3,098	321	-	3,419
Music at All Saints'	1,188	1,077	-	2,265
Small Saints Activities	591	-	-	591
Lighthouse	1	61	-	62
South Porch	9,002	722	-	9,724
Mustard Seed Café	-	-	-	-
Legacies	848	779	-	1,627
Organ Restoration	38,573	1,989	-	40,562
Community meals	96	(86)	-	10
	<u>79,561</u>	<u>(6,969)</u>	<u>9,538</u>	<u>82,130</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>772,529</u>	<u>45,930</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>818,459</u>

16. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The tower steps were an urgent safety issue for 2023, requiring some £15,958 for their repair. The funds were raised through a truly generous response to the appeal and the most urgent work completed. The remaining was agreed to in September, but could not be scheduled until January 2024, so has been accrued in these accounts.

The medium to long term vision for the church building is to make enhancements which honour and share its heritage, whilst enabling it to better serve the community. This is the "Sound, Light & Space" project, which will repair, restore and develop the facilities for improved accessibility, inclusion and celebration – in gatherings for worship and community activities. The Quinquennial report and emergency maintenance have set recent priorities, but our main focus is the South Porch, which can currently only be used as an emergency exit, due to the damaged and corroded stonework. The programme of work requires a new environmental survey to enable a plan to be agreed with the Diocese. This is underway and the full works are expected to cost in the region of £200,000. As significant funds have already been spent on investigations, correction and safety, there is currently only £12,357 in this fund. Further funds may now be available, following the property down-sizing, but external fundraising will be required, both for the South Porch and the larger elements of the wider project.

Financial pressures continue to affect the whole community, but a balanced budget for regular activities should be achievable for 2024. However, reserves may need to be used for the most urgent fabric and maintenance projects.

This is the starting point, as we open ourselves to explore the next steps in our mission and service for the wider community. The budget will be amended as we are led into more detailed plans for years ahead.

17. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The parish is controlled by the members of the Parochial Church Council operating under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

18. CONNECTED CHARITIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The PCC did not enter into any material transaction, contract or other arrangement with a member or employee of the PCC nor with any connected person.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF HIGH WYCOMBE
ALL SAINTS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

18. CONNECTED CHARITIES AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - continued

Travelling, subsistence and out of pocket expenses were reimbursed to members of the clergy and staff, which amounted to a balance of £Nil owed at the year-end (2022: £Nil).

Apart from the above, no other members of the PCC received any reimbursement of expenses or remuneration.

The Oakley Hall Trust has not been included in the financial statements of The Parish of High Wycombe All Saints' as it is regarded as a separate ecclesiastical charity. The PCC had free use of the Oakley Hall during the year.