

**CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
OF THE  
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**Charity Number: 1129098**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Officers and Advisers	<b>1</b>
Annual Report	<b>2 - 6</b>
Independent Examiner's Report	<b>7</b>
Receipts and payments accounts (financial statements)	<b>8 - 9</b>
Notes to the Financial Statements	<b>10-11</b>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE**

**OFFICERS AND ADVISERS**

<b>Vicar</b>	Revd Chris Owen
<b>Honorary Assistant Clergy and Ministers</b>	Revd Marie Jackson Revd Ruth Wooster
<b>Banks</b>	Barclays Bank plc PO Box 41 16 High Street High Wycombe Bucks HP11 2BG  Santander UK plc BBAM Bridle Road Bootle Merseyside L30 4GB
<b>Investments</b>	The CBF Church of England Funds Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Mr Phillip Rackstraw Dashwoods Accountants Limited Chartered Certified Accountants 31 Dashwood Avenue High Wycombe Bucks HP12 3DZ
<b>Charity Number</b>	1129098

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

#### **Aims and purpose**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Chris Owen, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral and evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the finances and maintenance of the Church of Christ the Servant King (CSK), High Wycombe.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many as possible to worship at our church and in various other places within our district and to become part of the parish community of Christ the Servant King. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how services can involve as many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Our vision is to be a growing and generous church which is expressed through our mission and core values. Our mission is to connect people to God: we will aim to be people who follow Jesus who lead others to Jesus, and we seek to focus all our activities around connecting people to the: presence, passion, power, promises, purposes, and peace of God.

All this hinges around our values:

- Worship – being a worshipping community centre around God
- Fellowship – sharing God's love with each other and the local community
- Maturity – growing in love, understanding and acts of service
- Ministry – serving within the church to build and grow our community of faith
- Mission – sharing the good news of God with words and actions

And is expressed in action through the Five Marks of Mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### *Outreach*

Prayer and worship must be at the heart of all we do at CSK but, if we are to follow Jesus's teaching, we must also make every effort to reach out to our local community, offering support and a helping hand wherever possible. During the last year we have continued to welcome the wider community into our building. Tiny Tots, Community Café and Friday Fellowship have all been well attended and have provided warm and welcoming spaces to those who attend. Our monthly Clothes Bank provides second-hand, but good quality, clothes for 0 – 5 year olds, as well as a chance to enjoy some refreshments and make friends with other parents. The November and December sessions were an absolute joy as we were provided with a fantastic array of seasonal food by our friends at Our Lady of Grace Church and we had also been gifted

with a lovely selection of new toys. Several parents told us that, without this provision, they would have had a very meagre Christmas.

Our Children & Families worker, with the help of Wycombe Youth for Christ, has again run Easter and Christmas workshops with year 6 children from Booker Hill School. It has been an absolute delight to welcome these children and their teachers to our church and to witness their enthusiastic engagement with both the teaching and the fun activities. For the second year running our Christmas Cheer project provided a £10 gift voucher and a Cadbury's selection box to each one of over 50 children from Booker Hill School living in families where there is real hardship. The CSK heart for those in need made this possible with many generous donations from our members, plus collections from our Carol Service and Community Café.

Throughout the year we run fun events aimed at young families in our local community and beyond. Our Bright Lights party and Egg Hunt are all well attended and attract a large gathering of towards 200 people. We continue to be the backbone of Lighthouse Cressex, the local children's holiday week, providing both leadership and volunteers to ensure the success of this outreach programme to some 250 children.

### *Prayer Ministry*

Prayer is very much at the centre of our personal journey with Christ. The congregation is encouraged to pray with others during their small group meetings and at intersessions during the Sunday service; We also hold an online Zoom Morning & Night prayer on a Thursday which regularly sees between 12 and 16 people at each session. An online Zoom prayer for Ukraine started two years ago in response to Russia's invasion and is held weekly on a Tuesday evening. A small but dedicated group of people meet together on the first Friday of the month to pray for CSK events and spend some time waiting and listening to the Lord for any words, pictures or bible verses. There are several private prayer groups that meet up throughout the year.

In 2023 our prayer week returned as stations in the worship area, this was well attended. In addition to the physical stations at CSK morning and evening prayer was held online daily. An email was sent out daily to the congregation with the zoom links along with some teaching and a thought for the day.

At the 9 o'clock Service, individual prayer is offered after receiving Communion where it is possible to have a one-to-one prayer time with someone who has participated in the Healing Prayer course.

The 10:45 healing prayer team numbers have increased slightly this year to 10 and we offer healing prayer every week at the end of the service. The team consists of 3 people with one person to lead and two to pray with those who have requested prayer. We always do our best to ensure that there is a man on the team each week, but this is not always possible. The team meets before the service on a Sunday morning and spends time listening to God for any words, pictures or scripture for the days service. These are then passed on to whoever is leading the service that day. The amount of people coming forward for prayer after the service varies hugely, but as the congregation gets used to prayer being offered weekly most weeks we have at least one person who has requested prayer. Occasionally the prayer team is called to pray during the service and the response is usually very good. If anyone feels that God is calling them to prayer ministry, it would be wonderful to hold another Healing Prayer course again later in the year.

There are people available to pray with those who request prayer outside of a Sunday, please contact a member of staff to arrange this.

CSK prayer net is regularly used by CSK members and their family and friends; we do ask that the person we are praying for has given consent. We have 64 people on the net who pray daily for others. Everyone on the prayer net, is or has been a regular attendee of CSK.

Fasting and prayer started in November 2022 and continued throughout the year on a Saturday morning and is held every two months at-for just one hour. We spend time after a short introduction then wait on God to see what he wants to say to us, then have a time of sharing if appropriate. At the moment we are

quite a small group. The Holy Spirit has been leading to go deeper in spirit. God has answered so many prayers. Prayer is the key to building your relationship with God.

### *Mission and evangelism*

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. As in previous years our giving from our unrestricted voluntary income went to a range of local, national and international charities. These were: Open Doors, Wycombe Youth for Christ, Lighthouse Cressex, Wycombe Homeless Connection, REMA and Wycombe Fair Trade.

### *Children and young people*

In 2023 we had groups for our youngest members of the church from 3- 11years. Together we explored some of the miracles of Jesus by acting out what happened, exploring how people felt and what it meant for Jesus to perform these miracles. We finished the term off with a trip to the local park for a play and a picnic which is always enjoyed by the children.

After a long summer break, we returned in September to study some of the Old Testament stories. As the Children's & Family Worker was on maternity leave our brilliant Kidzone team took the reins and led some great sessions, transporting the children back in time and meeting David and Goliath, Joseph and Daniel in the lion's den to name a few. Towards the end of the term, we made Christmas cards for our guests at the Wednesday café which were then given out at their last gathering before Christmas. The children had a great time creating various Christmas themes and scenes and chatted as they crafted together. We finished off the term with our Interactive Christmas where we experienced how Mary felt carrying a baby and travelling to Bethlehem, we visited the stable and spoke about the differences of Jesus's birth and our births now and headed into the hall to find sheep, sing with an angel and make some Christmas craft.

We also introduced a Praise and Worship session once a month where the children can have their own live worship with singing, dancing, bubbles and balloons. We then spend some time listening to Jesus and waiting for words or pictures from him. The children are then able to use materials such as painting, playdoh, craft, Duplo and Lego to create what Jesus may have placed upon their heart. We have some really lovely pictures of Creation and creations of houses made from Lego. We play different types of worship music whilst the children are being creative and in our last two sessions, we set up a sensory tent where the children had bean bags to lay on, cuddles, books and some fidget toys. It was great to see a group of them together on the bean bags reading stories. It is also a good opportunity for the children to take some time out of busy lives and relax and listen to music. They also had the opportunity to serve refreshments after a service. Our Kidzone group served the congregation cakes and biscuits and our youth group served the teas and coffees.

Our Sunday morning youth group have met to chat and explore who Jesus is and what he means for our lives today. In their last session they were able to have the opportunity to experience Treasure Hunting. We prayed together and waited on God for pictures or words. We had quite a few given to us and we then went out in groups after the service to find God's 'treasure'. It gave us the chance to find those people God had given us clues for and then pray with them. Again, God surprised us all with how many of the clues actually led to people who we could pray with.

### **Financial review**

The church accounts for 2022 showed a deficit of over £25,000. For 2023 the accounts are showing a small surplus of £4,266 but this is not really a true reflection of the year. The income in 2023 was higher than 2022, mainly because of the regular use of the hall by one particular hirer, whilst the expenditure was lower.

The church's biggest expense is the Parish Share and in May 2023 the PCC advised the Diocese that we would need to reduce our monthly payments in order to try to balance the books. This was put in place but at the end of the year we still owed about £11,500. However, the PCC was able to agree that this amount

should be paid in early January 2024, which the Diocese were happy with, although the payment will now be included in the 2024 accounts.

Three years ago, in 2021 the PCC pledged to support the new appointment of a Family and Children's Worker and put aside the amount of £36k for the next three years to cover her salary. However, the pledging of these funds meant that deficits were expected at the end of the next three years, although maybe not as high as the amount in 2022. If the bottom lines in 2022 and 2023 are combined the deficit is about £21k, which is as anticipated. The 2024 accounts will also need to be combined to see the actual cost of the Family Worker role. Again, a deficit is anticipated, particularly as these will include the 2023 Parish share shortfall and the expected reduction in hall hire income as one of our main hall hirers will no longer be using the facilities.

However, looking at the amount in the bank accounts - £118k – this is really quite healthy and if this money can be used for good purposes then deficits are to be expected at year end.

Throughout 2023 the PCC has been able to regularly monitor income and expenditure and therefore has felt more in control of the church's finances. The accounts for 2023 are satisfactory but 2024 will still be a hard year. The PCC will again have to look at what we are spending and perhaps delay payments.

### **Reserves policy**

The PCC considers that it is appropriate to maintain a level of income reserves equivalent to three to four months of unrestricted expenditure, approximately £45,000, in order to meet its needs, including its legal and constructive obligations and to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow. At the year end the reserves were above the level required by the policy, nevertheless a tight rein will be maintained on expenditure during the current year, to ensure funds are available for outreach and evangelism initiatives.

With energy prices and other costs continuing to be high, the trustees continue to monitor income and expenditure, particularly cashflow.

There are no material uncertainties about the ability of the church to continue.

### **Investment policy**

It remains our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit fund.

### **Volunteers**

We would like to thank all who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. In particular we want to thank the church wardens, Carol Wotherspoon and David Lidiard, who worked tirelessly on our behalf and all the other members of the PCC for their valuable contribution to our ministry and for keeping the church running.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity with charity number 1129098. From 4<sup>th</sup> February 2013 the name for the church and parish of Christ the Servant King, High Wycombe was adopted.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. The membership of the PCC consists of the vicar, non-stipendiary ministers, churchwardens, the LLM reader and members elected by those members of the various congregations of the church who are on the electoral role of the church. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and hence are eligible to stand for election to the PCC. In addition, members may be co-opted as necessary. The PCC met six times during the year.

**Committees and teams**

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC operates through a standing committee and a staff team which meet between full meetings of the PCC.

**Standing Committee**

This is the only Committee required by law. It meets as and when necessary.

**Staff team**

The staff team oversees the day to day running of the church within the direction set by the PCC and ensures that the work of the various teams in the church is coordinated.

**Administrative information**

The church of Christ the Servant King is situated in Sycamore Road, Booker within the town of High Wycombe. It is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: The Church Office, Sycamore Road, Booker, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 4TJ.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

**Ex Officio members:****Clergy and ministers:**

Revd Chris Owen  
Revd Marie Jackson  
Revd Ruth Wooster

**Church Wardens:**

David Lidiard  
Carol Wotherspoon

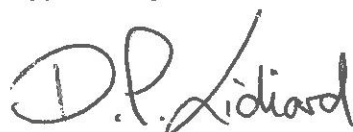
**Licensed Lay Ministers:**

Janice Allerston  
Allison Smale  
Heather Searle

**Elected Members:**

Alan Molyneux  
Carolyn Nally  
Paul Brown  
Godfrey Otudeko  
Robert Wratten

Approved by the PCC on 20 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr D Lidiard  
(PCC Lay Chairman)  
20 May 2024



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES / MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 which are set out on pages 8 to 16.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;  
or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and contents of accounts as set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements 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.



Rebekah Haywood  
Dashwoods Accountants Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
31 Dashwood Avenue  
High Wycombe  
Bucks HP12 3DZ

28 May 2024



**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**Section A Receipts and payments**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>2023 Total £</b>	<b>2022 Total £</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	1(a)	88,852	8,749	97,601	103,077
Charitable activities	1(b)	35,180	-	35,180	15,631
Investments	1(c)	2,326	-	2,326	942
Other	1(d)	-	-	-	716
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>126,358</b>	<b>8,749</b>	<b>135,107</b>	<b>120,366</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Charitable activities	2	121,817	9,024	130,841	145,744
<b>Net of receipts/(payments) before transfers</b>		<b>4,541</b>	<b>(275)</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>(25,378)</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end		111,565	2,357	113,922	139,300
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>		<b>116,106</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>118,188</b>	<b>113,922</b>

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

	<b>Unrestricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Restricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Designated funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Total funds at 31 December 2023</b>
<b>B1 Cash Funds</b>				
Barclays Bank	39,952	2,082	-	42,034
Santander	529	-	-	529
Church Board of Finance	74,891	-	-	74,891
Petty cash	21	-	-	21
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>115,393</b>	<b>2,082</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>117,475</b>

100

**Current value**

62,620

—

1,200

11,500

*D. A. Lidiard*

**Mr D Lidiard**

20th May 2024

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**1 Receipts from**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>2023 Total £</b>	<b>2022 Total £</b>
<b>(a) Donations and legacies</b>				
Planned giving:				
Stewardship giving	70,070	7,100	77,170	81,573
Tax recoverable	13,076	1,025	14,101	15,929
Collections (open plate)	3,120	-	3,120	1,226
Donations	2,586	-	2,586	2,750
Other collections	-	624	624	1599
	<u>88,852</u>	<u>8,749</u>	<u>97,601</u>	<u>103,077</u>
<b>(b) Charitable activities</b>				
Premises hire	34,917	-	34,917	14,819
Fees	263	-	263	812
	<u>35,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,180</u>	<u>15,631</u>
<b>(c) Investments</b>				
Interest receivable	<u>2,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,326</u>	<u>942</u>
<b>(d) Other</b>				
Government grant (job retention scheme)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>716</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>716</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u><u>126,358</u></u>	<u><u>8,749</u></u>	<u><u>135,107</u></u>	<u><u>120,366</u></u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
CHRIST THE SERVANT KING, HIGH WYCOMBE**  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

**2 Payments on:**

<b>3</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>2023 Total £</b>	<b>2022 Total £</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Missionary and charitable giving:				
Home missions and other Church Societies	9,507	-	9,507	12,400
Other collections	-	899	899	1,160
	<u>9,507</u>	<u>899</u>	<u>10,406</u>	<u>13,560</u>
 Ministry: Parish share	 55,530	 -	 55,530	 68,510
Clergy expenses	595	-	595	417
Vicar's discretionary fund	-	-	-	-
Church running costs	4,410	-	4,410	5,746
Light & water etc.	9,736	-	9,736	6,045
Wine, wafers & candles	492	-	492	244
Repairs and maintenance	4,977	-	4,977	5,073
Cleaning	9,288	-	9,288	8,716
Children's Church & Youth	306	-	306	835
Outreach	3,522	-	3,522	2,443
Secretarial	15,340	-	15,340	16,495
Family Worker	4,529	8,125	12,654	14,136
Office costs	2,169	-	2,169	2,386
Bank charges	226	-	226	218
Governance costs - Team Levy	380	-	380	380
Accountancy fee	810	-	810	540
<b>Total payments</b>	<u><u>121,817</u></u>	<u><u>9,024</u></u>	<u><u>130,841</u></u>	<u><u>145,744</u></u>