

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL

England & Wales · Charity number 1129127

## Details

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Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-04-14
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	St Mary's Church Office Church Street Amersham HP7 0DB
Phone	01494 729380
Email	<a href="mailto:stmarys.amersham@btconnect.com">stmarys.amersham@btconnect.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.stmarysamersham.co.uk">www.stmarysamersham.co.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

**Activities:** Church and associated community services

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Buckinghamshire

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£280,959	£271,837	-	-
2023-12-31	£229,622	£238,427	-	-
2022-12-31	£247,737	£248,974	-	-
2021-12-31	£253,588	£272,741	-	-
2020-12-31	£241,350	£351,049	-	-

## Trustees

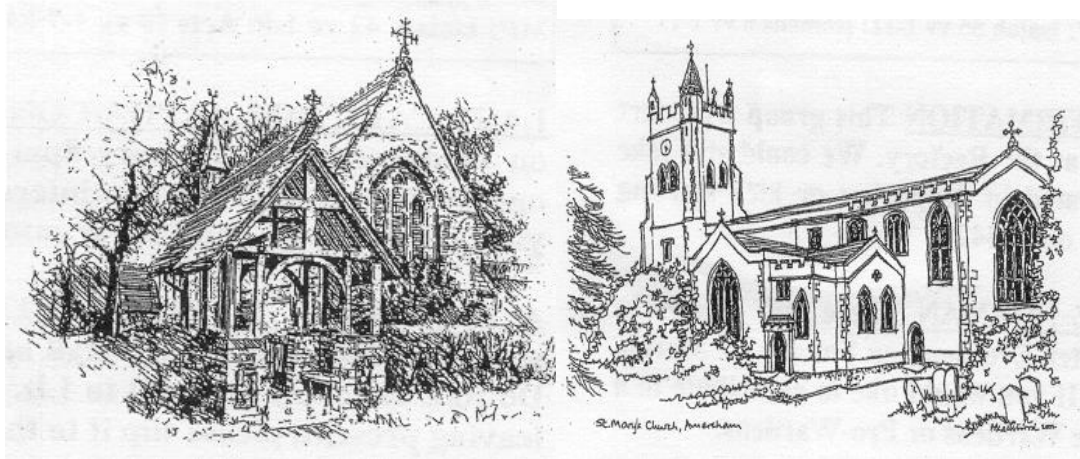
Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Rev Jonathan David Rapson</b>	Chair	2022-04-24
Aurelija Paton		2023-04-23
CLARE ISOBEL ATKINSON MA OXON		
Christine Anne Suttie		2024-04-21
Clare Samuels		2019-04-26
David Elliott		2023-04-23
David Victor Skinner		2023-04-23
Gillian Clare Atkinson		2024-04-21
Graeme Coles		2015-04-01
Johannes Matthijs Bart Schmal		2021-06-22
Joseph Noaman		2025-04-21
LORAINÉ DIANE HOLLETT		
MR TIM BARNARD		
Pamela Margaret Holden		2024-04-21
Phillippa Jane Quartly McNeilly		2023-04-23
Rebecca Sarah Benn		2022-09-20
Rev Michelle Elizabeth Fotherby		2024-04-21
Rev Susan Mary Gill		2018-04-01
Sarah Christine Emma Ainsworth-Coles		2018-04-01
Simon John Hollett		2023-04-23
Stephanie Katherine Fleur Shinner		2024-04-21
Susan Eleanor Theresa Pounce		2018-04-01
Tessa Anne Louise Cornish		2025-04-21
Valerie Jane Simmonds		2021-06-22

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# Accounts

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# **THE PARISH OF AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL**



## **Annual Report 2024**

**Come to the Annual Parish Meeting  
on Sunday 21st April 2024 at  
11.50am in St Mary's Church**

**To discuss the past year and elect  
Churchwardens and PCC members**

**All welcome**



## Rector's Report APCM 2023/24

It has been quite the year in the parish with much to give thanks for! But most importantly, we can take this opportunity to celebrate all God has done to bless the ministry of the church in Amersham and Coleshill. It is impossible to list everything or thank everyone for all they contribute to the life and work of the parish, but I hope to give a few examples of the many things to rejoice in over the last 12 months. Certainly, for us as a family, the arrival of Naomi has been wonderful and we feel incredibly blessed. Both Jenna and I felt incredibly humbled by the incredible support given to us by everyone in the parish through prayers, meals, cards, gifts and general words of encouragement. It meant, and continues to mean, the world to us and we couldn't be happier that Naomi will grow up amongst such a wonderful church family.

One of the defining positives over the past year is the growth we have seen in a number of different areas of parish life:

1. Christmas 2023 showed an increase in attendance at almost every service the church held. Both crib services, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day itself saw our churches packed as people chose to celebrate Christmas with us.
2. Our average weekly attendance (which is calculated in October) shows an increase in attendees week by week across the parish.
3. Our electoral numbers are also looking positive with an increase from last year!
4. The Mini-steps parent and toddler faced a lull in September 2023 as a number of regular children went off to school, but months later we have seen attendance on the up for this group with fifteen children (plus 10 adults) attending Tuesday just gone.

But growth need not be isolated to the church itself - by invitation of Mrs. Hills at St Mary's School, I set up a The Bible Brick Club with the help and support of Michelle. The club was inundated with sign-ups in January 2024, so we are still working our way through a sizeable waiting list. The club is an opportunity for Children to explore a bible verse and use their creativity to recreate something with Lego that stood out to them in the passage. The children have created sheep, flowers, whales, boats, frogs, pyramids and even small-scale dioramas of the parting of the Red Sea and the foolish man who built his house on the sand! Not only does this provide children with the opportunity to learn about the bible, but it also enables them to think creatively.

Our work with schools has gone from strength to strength in the past year:

1. In January we welcomed students from Coleshill Village School to learn about different aspects of the church.
2. I was kindly invited to be part of World Religion Day at Coleshill School.
3. We continue to go to both St Mary's and Coleshill School every week for collective worship.
4. I, along with others from the parish, sit on both governing boards for the schools.
5. Governors were involved with the SIAMS inspection for St Mary's in January 2024 which assessed their performance as a church school. The staff at the school did a wonderful job and were granted judgment 1 of 2, which confirms the school is meeting the required standards.

6. St Mary's School are celebrating 150 years this academic year and hosted a service at the church which included a procession from the school to the church as they did 150 years ago. Tim Harper very kindly took this service while I was absent on paternity leave - although I wasn't able to be there, reports of the service have been excellent.
7. Dr Challoner's Grammar School Celebrated its 400th Anniversary with a spectacular service at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle. As Dr Challoner's successor 400 years later, I was kindly invited to lead the prayers. I am so pleased that the church was included in such special occasion for the school.

A highlight of 2024, without doubt, was the Admission to Communion and Confirmation service we hosted in February which saw 12 candidates confirmed and 1 admitted to Holy Communion. It's been a while since Bishop Alan was welcomed to the parish to hold a service of confirmation, so to be able to welcome him for such a service was wonderful. Not least as, sadly, this was Bishop Alan's last service before he died a few weeks later. However, Bishop Alan commented on what a special service this was, which is something we as a parish should be especially proud of.

Every year, in preparation for the APCM I compile a list of possible subjects to include and pick a handful as highlights. This report barely scratches the surface of that list and I am acutely aware of how much I haven't been able to include. So finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the life and work of the parish over the last year. I am incredibly grateful for all everyone does to support all the many different aspects of parish life. It wouldn't be possible without you. Ultimately, a church is nothing without the people who make it what it is. So, thank you to each and every one of you for building a community where all can flourish and meet with Jesus.

### **Parochial Church Council Secretary's Report, April 2024**

All members of the PCC are trustees of the Parish, which is registered with the Charity Commission. The PCC makes an annual return to the Charity Commission describing its aims and accounts. The Auditors and the Secretary are responsible for this.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Immediately after the APCM in 2023 the PCC consisted of 24 members – the clergy team, 4 Churchwardens, 3 representatives to the Deanery Synod and 15 other elected members who are members of the congregation on the electoral roll of the parish. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The prime purposes of the PCC are to cooperate with the Rector in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, considering matters of religious or public interest and acting as a link between the parish

and the deanery and diocesan synods. 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 Standing Committee of core PCC members is empowered to take decisions, within guidelines agreed by the full PCC, on specific issues when no PCC meeting is imminent. Its decisions are always reported, and occasionally reviewed, at the next PCC meeting.

The PCC met on 5 occasions between the APCMs in 2023 and 2024. The average attendance at the meetings was 78%. Each meeting has common items as well as special areas of business. The common items are: reports from church wardens; reports on safeguarding; reports on GDPR; reports on housing controlled by the Parish; and the financial health of the Parish including charitable giving and fund raising.

In November there was an “PCC Away Morning” at which the Mission Action Plan was considered by the members of the PCC. Sheila Shield our Reader, Dorothy Potter our Parish Administrator and Edward McCall our organist also attended.

Valerie Simmonds, David Skinner and Jane McNeilly come to the end of their annual terms of office as Churchwardens. They are all eligible for re-election and have indicated that they are prepared to continue.

Petrina Clackett comes to the end of her four year term of office as Churchwarden and will not seek re-election. The PCC have expressed their sincere thanks to Petrina for all her hard work over the years.

Deanery Synod Representatives. Graeme Coles, Sarah Ainsworth -Coles and Susan Pounce have indicated that they are prepared to continue.

At the time of writing this report Peter Clackett and Melissa Giddings have indicated that they wish to step down.

There are vacancies for elected members.

The positions to be filled at this year’s meeting are therefore:

☐ 4 Churchwardens until 2025

☐ 3 Deanery Synod Representatives until 2025

☐ 3 Elected PCC members until 2025

As we have an electoral roll of over 200+ we can co-opt up to 3 more PCC members

Rev Jonny Rapson	Rector	DS
Rev Sue Gill	Honorary Assistant Rector	DS
Rev Tim Barnard	Honorary Assistant Rector	
Petrina Clackett	Church Warden AS (Lay Chair)	
Jane McNeilly	Church Warden AS	
Val Simmonds	Church Warden SM	
David Skinner	Church Warden SM	
Graeme Coles	Treasurer	DS
Peter Clackett	Assistant Treasurer	
Lorraine Hollett	Sacristan/Health & Safety	
Clare Atkinson	Planned Giving /GDPR	
Clare Samuels	Safeguarding Officer	
Louise Baneke	Charitable Giving	
Neta Foote	Pastoral care	
Mel Jackson/ Giddings	Safeguarding Officer	
Sarah Ainsworth-Coles	Electoral Roll Officer	DS
Paul Clarke	Website	
Simon Hollett	Sunday School	
Bart Schmal	Steaming/Insurance	
Rebecca Benn	Social Activities	
Aurelija Paton	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
David Elliot	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
Sue Pounce	PCC Secretary	DS

DS Deanery Synod

Susan Pounce  
PCC Secretary  
March 2024

**Amersham with Coleshill PCC  
Annual Treasurer's Report  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

I am pleased to provide you with our annual accounts and this Executive Summary:

Key objective for 2023 were to:

1. Provide finance and strategic guidance & controls to support day to day cashflow & support Mission and Fabric proposals across our Parish

As reported at our quarterly PCC meetings, the workings of the parish and our finances have continued to have been significantly impacted by the macro-economic environment of high inflation, high interest rate, market volatility, cost of living crisis taking centre stage in both media and more locally our cashflow.

Summary of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2023:

- Challenging times! Across the Unrestricted & Restricted funds our deficit has grown to £8.8k in 2023 from £1.2k in 2022 (before investment movements). This is largely down to a drop in income from Voluntary Income (-£11.1k) & Church Activities (£10.3k). Overall, income down 7.5% on PY.
- Expenditure has been closely managed and down £10.6k (4.5%) from PY mainly due to reduction in ministry costs and PCC property upkeep.
- The reason for the overall increase in funds carried forward (+£21k) is due to the increase in investment value. This is a paper surplus and does not impact the cash reserves of the PCC where we are still well endowed and have £184k of Unrestricted & Restricted funds to support both Parish Mission & Fabric.
- Bearing in mind the markets went the other way in 2022 when we had minus £42k valuation! The increase in investment value seen in 2023 appears to be the markets steadying post Covid and auditors have reported that they have seen similar increases across a number of PCC's that they work with.
- Overall, I feel that our operational financial performance has stood up well given the challenges we faced in 2023 and we have been able to increase our Mission Giving by 18% to £12.1k
- Piggotts End Property - Surplus contribution increased to £13.2k from 5.5k previous year. The property is a reserved asset held in trust with an ongoing debate whether this should be included in accounts at 89k or at current market value). With the valuation of the property we are allowed to take one of two different approaches. First and the current policy is to take the cost value and leave as is in the accounts without any revaluation, this was allowed during the transition period to the new reporting standards and can remain in place if we choose. Second option is to revalue the property and then undertake regular valuations to ensure that the correct market value is shown in the accounts, the valuation should be prepared by a professional. I will take this to PCC again to ensure we continue to be happy with our approach and will update on those discussions through the usual channels.
- Church Rooms - Income decreased by £5,617 to £15,540 but still reported an important surplus £14k. It is fair to say there is some expenditure (eg cleaning, utilities) that gets mopped up by main expenditure but it does show this is still a valuable asset & contributor to both PCC & the community.
- Parish Share was increased by £3,062 to £89,332. We continue to pay our Parish Share in full every year. Disappointingly, Parish share will increase by a further 3.1% in 2024 to £92,123 - £7,677pm – increase of £233pm.

- Balance Sheet: up £21k (3.5%) to £617,265 from £596,230 – again, important context on balance sheet increase is the significant increase in valuation of our investments. It is important to understand when analysing Parish Finances that there are 3 types of Funds:
  - Unrestricted Funds – general funds for general objectives of the church – Day to day operational cash flow but does include unrestricted assets– decreased by £14,780 to £189,715 of which £89,000 is the Piggotts End property.
    - Therefore, the PCC is well endowed and has c£101k (not including PE fixed Asset value) on unrestricted funds as at 31 December 2023. Funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches.
  - Restricted Funds – can only be used for the specific purpose for which they have been given eg Fabric – increased by £19,454 to £237,943.
  - Endowment Funds – represent endowments where capital must be maintained and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes specified in the establishment of the endowments – increased due to valuation gain by £16,362 to £189,608.
- **Good Box 2022 - 2023 Comparison** - Good Box has become an important revenue generator - also being used for Bookstall & Marquee Hire.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals	Ave Donation
<b>2023</b>	£1,605 (303)	£2,148 (422)	£2,584 (495)	£2,816 (500)	£9,153 (1720)	<b>£5.32</b>
<b>2022</b>	£1,172 (219)	£2,133 (404)	£1,777 (320)	£2,312 (432)	£7,394 (1375)	£5.38
<b>Difference +/-</b>	<b>£433 (84)</b>	<b>£15 (18)</b>	<b>£807 (175)</b>	<b>£504 (68)</b>	<b>£1,759 (345)</b>	<b>(0.06)</b>

- Interesting lens to look thru that seems to go against Income numbers above.
- This points to increased foot flow / usage of GB within the parish.
- Note that 2023 average donation down by 6p from 2022.
- Further analysis required on Gift Aid reconciliation to understand any movement from monthly giving to Good Box.
- All Regulation - Charities Commission, Diocesan return, HMRC, RTI and Pension Regulator fully up to date.
- Auditors have expressed no concerns during their independent examination to the way we are running our finances.
- Flower Group – for the eagle eyed amongst you, you will have noticed we have now included the Flower Group as a Restricted Fund in S8 of the accounts.

Planned Giving & Gifts are our largest income source (c66%) and we must thank every one of our congregations for their continued support and contribution during another challenging year. Without ongoing Planned Giving and those generous “one offs” we simply cannot function. Thank you for what you donate now. If you are able to give more

then, I can assure you, that we will put it to very good use and that every penny is accounted for and nothing is wasted.

In terms of Missionary & Charitable Giving, through the huge efforts of many of volunteers our overall total was £12,131 – up £1,844 (18%) from previous year despite the economic headwinds mentioned previously. We will be working with the Mission Giving committee to ensure that we maintain the focus and impetus in 2024. Work still to be completed is to define usage on Rectors Discretionary Fund (£14,081) that is defined in the accounts as support for “alleviation of need”. Looking to tackle this again in H1 2024. Would like to acknowledge the fantastic contribution of Louise Baneke & Petrina Clackett for all their hardwork to Mission Giving over many years. Also to Loraine & Martin Hollett and all those who support Annual Fete, Book & Flower Stall and the Gazebo / Marquee rentals that contribute significant percentage of our Charitable Giving.

Key Finance actions undertaken to address our key challenges and support delivery of sustainable 2022 financial Performance:

- All Regulatory (incl Diocesan, HMRC & Charities Commission) returns up to date including recent completion & update of bank mandates & KYC Due Diligence process.
- Auditors have given us a clean report in the way that we are managing our finances and regulatory obligations.
- Comprehensive Treasurers Report prepared and discussed at every PCC meeting.

Our 2023 operational cashflow showed that we needed **£529 per day / £16,099 per month** to run our parish, this is a significant amount of money that we need to raise just to stand still. It is vital that we continue with focussed, disciplined management of our finances. In terms of operational cashflow, there is very little margin for error, every penny is used and if it is not used for day to day operations then we need to ensure it is only used to support the main good causes both at local and national level.

The PCC is still well endowed with both unrestricted & restricted funds as at 31 December 2023 and as highlighted, funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches. With that in mind, we still have 2 potentially large projects under discussion at St Mary’s – West Window / New Boiler and we are taking necessary advice and will look for any possible grants to support. As we did with previous large projects, we will need to plan and scrutinise the scope, scale and timings to ensure their affordability in line with the many other calls on our resources.

In summary, 2023 was another challenging year. However, despite the headwinds and with phenomenal support of our congregation we were able to deliver a good financial performance whilst at the same time meeting our parish share and contributing more to charitable giving.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the support from Rev Jonny Rapson, Rev Tim Barnard, Rev Sue Gill, Loraine Hollett, Clare Atkinson & Dorothy Potter who work so hard to support the parish finances. In addition, the Church Wardens, & Parish Secretary Sue Pounce for giving me the time at PCC to report, discuss & debate key financial challenges

that we are facing. Special mention to Peter Clackett who is standing down as ASC Treasurer after many years of excellent service. Thank you.

Should you have any queries concerning the contents of this review or should you have any general questions about the parish finances, please do not hesitate to contact me via mobile 07703 963990 or email at [treasurer-pcc@outlook.com](mailto:treasurer-pcc@outlook.com).

**Graeme Coles - PCC Treasurer**  
**April 2024**

### PLANNED GIVING

THANK YOU. As a parish we are indebted to all those who give to the Church; no matter what your contribution all gifts together ensure that we are able to serve our community and look after our wonderful buildings.

This year, we again have seen an increase in those making their regular gifts via standing order whilst cash collections have decreased. The GoodBox machines at both churches have been crucial in ensuring that we are able to claim gift aid on donations given by credit or debit card Gift aid added over £21,000 in total to our coffers this year and I make monthly claims to ensure that we are able to ensure that the money reaches our bank account in a timely fashion.

As ever, I will be letting everyone who makes a regular gift know the amounts that we have received and claimed in gift aid shortly after the end of the tax year in April. Please bear in mind that collating this information does take me a substantial amount of time and I therefore am not in a position to get it to you on 6 April! I will do my best to do this as quickly as possible, but please do bear with me!

I remain indebted to Loraine Hollett who banks all of the cash gifts we receive, something which is getting ever more difficult to achieve as we see the demise of the bank branches – it's all a real team effort.

If you would like to make a regular donation through either the envelop scheme or via standing order, please do get in touch!

Clare Atkinson March 2024

## 2023 Parish Charitable Giving Report for the APCM – April 2024

2023 was another successful year for our Charitable Giving and marked an 18% increase over last year's figure. In **2023**, our giving came to **£12,131**.

**£7,796** of this was raised at our annual Parish fete, a successful harvest lunch, a flower workshop, book and plant sales, loaning of equipment and Heritage Day. The Parish fete which raises the largest funds reached £4609 of this total. Over 30 community, charity and other events were supported with loans of marquees, gazebos, and equipment from our Parish – more than double the events we covered last year.

£7,796 was shared and distributed to the following charities:

- The local **South West Bucks MS Group**,
- **The Ukraine Appeal** through the Disasters' Emergency Committee,
- **Scannappeal**,
- **Salt of the Earth**, Tamil Nadu, India.

In addition, funds went to support Steve and Lindsey Poulson, from **Street Kids Direct (SKD)** . Another £1000 was raised for SKD at a very successful oboe recital given by Imogen Atkinson at St Mary's Church.

Later in the year, over £2,700 raised from the Christmas services held at St Marys and at All Saints went to **Crisis at Christmas**. Other successful but separate fundraising events and Special Services took place over the year at both our Churches.

This success would not have been possible without the hard work, help and support of our two congregations, our fete committee, our local community and businesses.

Thank you to all who contributed to our giving in 2023 and in particular special thanks go to, Loraine and Martin Hollett and Val Simmonds.

*Louise Baneke and Petrina Clackett*

*April 2024*

## Church Warden for St Mary's Church report for 2023/2043 APCM

It hardly seems possible that Jonny and Jenna have now been with us for nearly 2 years and Naomi for 6 months. We have seen the work with young people grow with the Parent and Toddler Group meeting weekly in term time. The introduction of All Age Services for the main service; for significant Sundays; encouraging more people to take part. We saw a special service to mark the Coronation of Charles III which was followed by scones and cream.

In November we welcomed Michelle Fotherby to the clergy team as Curate.

In February we welcomed Bishop Alan for the Confirmation and Admission of Children to Holy Communion and of course all the candidates and their supporters.

We as a Parish were saddened to hear that Bishop Alan died suddenly at home barely 2 weeks after leading the service at St Mary's. We join with the whole Parish in thinking of, and praying for his Family and friends.

You will all be aware, there are 2 wardens at each church, Valerie Simmonds(VS) and David Skinner(DS) at St Mary's, and Petrina Clackett and Jane McNeilly at Coleshill. As the 'new boy' (DS) at St Marys (since April 2023) there has been much to learn (and to continue to learn). In particular I have realised how much work is done by so many members of the Church in making the Parish so successful. We highlight some of their names below. This is not an exhaustive list!

You will know that we have experienced 'problems' with the boiler during this winter. We are hugely grateful to **Peter Clackett** for his tireless work organising repairs, sourcing parts and providing alternative heating. Plans are underway to replace the boiler. **Peter's** experience as an engineer is invaluable in all the planning required for a new boiler.

We remain very grateful to **Loraine Hollett** who has regularly carried out risk assessments, as well as her almost continuous work within St Mary's.

Since his arrival **Jonny** has energetically picked up and developed Pastoral Care within our church community and his work with children and young people is also blossoming. We thank **Simon Hollett**, our children's worker, for his faithful service. He has worked hard with the Rector to build this important part of our mission.

Under the leadership of **Anthony Brown and Martin Pounce** the streaming of church services has gone from strength to strength. As ever our thanks go to the team and to **Dan Solomon** from Terry Tew of Sound and Light for his on-call support in times of need.

Our Director of Music, **Edward McCall** continues to develop the musical life of the church. Our organ scholars, (Zen and Harry) have played competently and confidently at some of our services. We hope to encourage others to come forward. The church choir continues to grow and the wide range of Anthems sung during communion and the monthly services of Choral Evensong together with the wonderful voluntaries and postludes from

Edward enhance our regular worship. Currently young people are being recruited to join the choir.

During the coldest period at St Mary's, Ed went 'above and beyond' by bringing electric hand warmers to Choir practice. Otherwise, he simply couldn't play the organ or piano. Occasionally, the choir had to decamp to the Church rooms.

We were able to hold our annual Parish Fete led by **Martin and Loraine Hollett** in 2023. This, the book and plant stalls and loan of gazebos has brought in substantial additional income for our charitable giving. We are absolutely delighted that the Team, led again by **Martin and Loraine Hollett**, are planning for our fete this year (2024) to be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

We are both humbled and encouraged by the generosity shown towards St. Mary's over the past year. Without the financial support so generously offered by you, our church would simply not be able to function in the way it does. On behalf of the PCC, we would like to thank you all for your faithful on-going financial support of the work of our parish.

The charitable giving team led by **Louise Baneke and Petrina Clackett** have worked hard to determine which deserving charities should benefit from the funds raised, not least by the annual Church Fete. The successful charities will be presenting details of their work in the near future.

St Mary's Church remains in good order. The quinquennial inspection (2021) reported that there were no matters of the utmost urgency. All recommended issues have been dealt with. All the regular checks are up to date (gas safety, electrical report, lightning conductor, fire extinguishers, PAT etc), and the organ has been serviced and tuned as per contract. We thank **Sue Pounce** for her unstinting work during her period as Church Warden (now 'retired'). She continues to give sound advice and help. We are very grateful to her.

However, St Mary's church dates from 1140AD (it was a holy site prior to this). There are therefore constant 'issues' to be addressed. In addition to the boiler, the roof continues to challenge us (leaks) – we are grateful to **Stephen Crawley** (Church surveyor) for attending on many occasions to discuss and organise ongoing repairs. His knowledge of St Mary's and commitment to it is invaluable. He is closely involved in the works regarding the magnificent stained glass window at the eastern end of the Chancel. If the Diocese allows, works will begin this summer.

The "Curate's House" at Piggott's End is privately let and brings in a useful income for the PCC. The tenants found by Hadlands have extended their tenancy for another year and the PCC have agreed to this.

Our thanks must go to Amersham Town Council which has the responsibility to maintain the Churchyard. They carry out their duties so well.

We would like to thank **all PCC members** for their commitment throughout the year. **The working teams, Standing Committee, Staff Meeting Team, our Sacristan Lorraine, and Dorothy, our Parish administrator** all continue to sustain the smooth running of the parish.

The tremendous support and assistance received from the many helpers within our congregation and parish throughout the year is invaluable. Our thanks go to **all** who contribute to the Church services including the flower arranging led by **Jane Partridge and team**, bell ringing led by **Jan Galloway and Matthew Johnson, the choir** under the leadership of our Director of Music, **Edward Mc Call** and the careful stewardship of our finances by our Treasurer, **Graeme Coles and Assistant Treasurer Peter Clackett**. We are grateful to **Clare Atkinson** who manages gift aid and stewardship details for both St Mary's and All Saints Churches and to our Electoral Roll Officer, **Sarah Ainsworth-Coles**.

**Jo Coldham** has 'retired' after leading the flower team for 20 years. We wish her a happy and healthy retirement and trust her role as a member of the congregation will continue for many years.

The Church as we know it would have difficulty functioning without all this, often unseen, work and we are truly grateful to everyone involved in its running. We would welcome more volunteers. If you are interested, more details can be found on the website under the tab 'about us' or please come and talk to us. We are very grateful to **Michelle Caternach** who designed and maintains our parish website so efficiently. they do to sustain this charity.

The Church is truly part of the community. Just one example of this is its involvement in Amersham United Charities (AUC), whose main task is managing the Drakes and Days Almshouses. These offer up to 11 warm and safe single occupant houses in Old Amersham. We are particularly grateful **to Tim Barnard, Jonny and Peter Clackett (AUC Trustees)** for their commitment, and the substantial amount of work we continue to put our trust in God, praying for **Jonny, Tim, Sue, Michelle and Sheila, and for Sarah, Mel and Edward** our authorised preachers. We remain thankful for the great spirit and shared purpose shown in their ministry.

Valerie Simmonds and David Skinner  
April 2024

## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT 2024**

This report relates to the activities of the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Whilst the Church has returned to being fully open for all services, including Sunday communion services, we have continued to intinct wine, although this practice will continue to be reviewed by clergy.

## **WORSHIP**

The pattern of services has remained the same as in previous years, with the continuation of several themed services.

Our normal service is held on a Sunday at 0900 and is usually accompanied by coffee (and a chat), immediately after the service. It is proposed that this will continue as it remains a firm favourite with all.

Our house group, very ably led by Audrey Tridgell, continued to flourish. The group meets every Wednesday, with members from both churches, averaging a total of 11 attendees.

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

We held themed services to encourage people from the village and Winchmore Hill to join us. We especially welcomed the children to the themed services, including Mothering Sunday, Harvest Festival and the services around Christmas. There was a good attendance at all with congregation numbers being in the region of 75 for each.

The All-Age service, initiated last year by the rector, continued to be successful.

During Passiontide and Easter 2023, we held several special services, including Ash Wednesday (with the marking of an ash cross), Palm Sunday (joined by a donkey, Denise, and Shetland pony friend, Peggy), Compline (an evening service on the Tuesday of Holy Week), and a special service of hymns, prayers and meditation, with the lighting of candles on Good Friday with our regular 0900 morning service on Easter Day.

We were also fortunate enough to be able to hold our pet service on a sunny day in July 2023. The event was well attended by 16 dogs and 48 people! However, we were unable to hold our bee service due to the death of the colony over the winter period.

Other themed services included the patronal celebration, baptism renewal and Remembrance Sunday, all of which have proved successful.

We ended the year with our festive services, including our crib service (attendance 86), Christingle service (86) and the well-attended carol service of lessons and carols (96).

## **WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, FUNERALS ETC.**

We continue to publicise the use of All Saints' for weddings with two couples being married in 2023. We also welcomed three children for baptism at Sunday services. The church was packed for two funerals, followed by the internment of the bodies in the churchyard. There were two internments of ashes of three remains, in the churchyard in the year.

## **MISSION ACTION PLAN**

We continued to hold regular monthly prayer meetings in church with these taking place on the first Saturday of the month. The number of attendees remains encouraging.

## **PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH**

The village school continues to maintain a close relationship with the church that has been further strengthened by our rector.

The Magpie Club for pre-school children holds weekly meetings in the Village Hall, every Friday during term time. On average 10 children and parents come each week.

The Patch system, designed to support those who are ill or need company, and to welcome newcomers to the village, meets twice yearly and it is anticipated that the biennial welcome party for newcomers will take place in 2024.

## **SCHOOL INTERACTION**

Rev. Jonny Rapson takes Collective Worship in the school every Wednesday and twice a term Open Assembly takes place in the church with parents and friends being welcome. They also join us for special services with the children contributing colourful decorations, songs and poems. An end-of-term service is held in the church and at the end of the summer term, leavers are presented with a Bible. An average of 80 attend all these services. The Rector has taken Year 2 pupils round the church as part of RE. He and Jane McNeilly are both Governors of the School which strengthens the bonds between church and school.

## **ACTIVITIES**

In January 2023 the "Flower Ladies", held a coffee morning which included a drink & cake, a raffle, and a bring & buy sale in the village hall, raising in the region of £700. This money was shared between the Flower Fund, the Village school, Street Kids Direct and One Can Trust (High Wycombe). On the Sunday of the King's Coronation weekend, the church was beautifully decorated and a special celebration was held after the service.

In May the churchyard was used to host a plant sale with a donation made to the church.

## **FABRIC**

Running repairs were made to the Church during the year following the observations of the Quinquennial inspection. One Faculty was raised for the installation of an internal noticeboard. This has been completed. Works to another Faculty, raised in 2022, for the removal of asbestos like materials from the porch and subsequent replacement was instigated. The materials were removed in 2023 and the porch re-clad with wooden slats, however we are still awaiting the painting of the slats. This work is expected to be completed in Spring of 2024.

A "Parishioner Church Clean" took place in July and this has helped keep the church looking at its best, both inside and out. The churchyard clearance took place in November. Our thanks go to all of those who helped maintain the church and its surround in good order.

## PARISHIONERS

Many people help to support the running of the church, including those who give their time and service to the Church Committee, meeting on three occasions during the year, to discuss the upkeep and daily running of the church.

In addition, there are many people with specific roles and talents who are essential to keep our church in an attractive, open, and welcoming state by giving generously of their time: -

- We are fortunate that our worship is enhanced by having a fine organ, a consummate Director of Music, Ruth Murphy, and a loyal band of faithful singers, although we are still looking for anyone else who would like to join the choir.
- One of the glories of All Saints' is the colourful and artistic floral decoration organized by Rosemary Valentine and assisted by the flair and hard work of her team of talented workers.
- Chris Wege, as well as being the secretary to the Church Committee, devotes a great deal of time and care to the maintenance of the churchyard.
- Peter Clackett, our All Saints' treasurer, has been responsible for ensuring financial controls are in place. In 2021 plans were put in place, by the Parish treasurers, to combine the finances of both churches. This has been completed and Peter has now stepped down with all financial matters now being run collectively through the Treasurer at St Mary's and the parish office. May I express our thanks to Peter for all his hard work over the past eight years.
- Jane Stefanovic has continued her duties as cleaner and works very hard to keep the building spotless and shining. This is greatly appreciated by worshippers and visitors.
- Paul Evans ensures that the church is both unlocked and locked with the church remaining open to all during the hours of daylight.

The list is not exhaustive, and we are fortunate to have such a faithful team of sidespersons, readers, choir, as well as those who prepare the church for services. We also need to thank our lay preachers, Mel Giddings, Edward Brown and Sarah Ainsworth-Coles for their thought-provoking sermons.

We must especially thank those parishioners who provide regular financial support to the church and have continued to do so. The money they so generously provide helps keep All Saints' church open and in good condition.

We also need to register our huge thanks to our all our clergy, Jonny Rapson (Rector), Rev. Sue Gill and Rev. Tim Barnard (Associate Rectors) for spiritually guiding us through the year. We also extend a warm welcome to our new curate, Rev'd Michelle Fotherby who joined us in November 2023.

Finally, having been involved in one or another church role for the last 20 years, Petrina has decided that now is the time to step down. She would like to wish you all the best for the future and thank all of those, too many to mention, who supported her in her work and role.

Petrina Clackett & Jane McNeilly

## St Mary's CE Primary School Report

### Governors 2024

#### **Introduction**

*Jacqueline Rouse leads the Full Governing Body as Chair and Chris Monnington supports as Vice Chair.*

*Edward Staite (Foundation Governor) and Chris Monnington (LA Governor) chair the sub committees – Teaching, Learning, Pupil & Community (TLPC) and Finance Premises and Personal (FPP) respectively.*

#### **Governing Body Structure**

*The Parish continues to have strong links with St Mary's School, with the Governing body continuing to have a strong representation appointed by the PCC or the Diocese of Oxford, 7 out of the 12 Governors. There has been a change in appointments during the last academic year however the majority of Governors have more than 12 months experience and those new Governors come to the Body with some very valuable experience.*

*The Governors currently are:*

<b>Rev. Jonny Rapson</b>	<i>Ex-officio Governor</i>	<i>Ex-officio</i>
<b>Jacqueline Rouse</b>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Chris Monnington</b>	<i>Vice Chair and Subcommittee Chair (FPP)</i>	<i>Local Authority appointed</i>
<b>Steve Johnson</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Frances Ford</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>
<b>Ed Staite</b>	<i>Subcommittee Chair (TLPC)</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Nasim Clarke</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Parent Governor</i>
<b>Stephen Bell</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Parent Governor</i>
<b>Edward McCall</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Shanta Gillott</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>
<b>Nicky Norman</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Staff Governor</i>
<b>Julie Hills</b>	<i>Head teacher</i>	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
<b>Martin Pounce</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>

#### **Committees**

*The two main Committees continue to meet once a term:*

- The Teaching, Learning, Pupil and Community Committee*
- The Finance, Personnel and Premises committee*

*These committees continue to drive clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. Through these committee meetings the Head teacher is held to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and the FPP oversees the financial performance of the school making sure its money is appropriately spent. The outputs of these meetings are then communicated to the wider Governing Body at the twice termly Full Governing Body Meetings.*

*Working groups are also formed to focus on particular issues which then report back to the Governing body. We currently have working groups looking at communication including the engagement of St Mary's Staff, Pupils and Parents. This is assessed through an annual engagement survey which has recently been repeated. An action plan has now been fed back to the parents and a meeting with the class reps took place with the Chair of Governors and the Head Teacher in the Spring term. There continues to also be a working party this academic year recognising the 150 year anniversary of the School and to support the activities related to this.*

### **Overview of 2023-24**

*The school had a strong academic year as it continued its Bounce Back programme following the disruptive Covid years. This programme has continued its success which has been very positive and will continue as required.*

*The school continues with good academic progress and attainment generally and continues to offer a wide range of sports utilizing our Sports Premium. The school continues to partake in interschool competitions in various sports, with much success. Daily extra-curricular activities are part of school life and include football, cross-country, gymnastics, dance, netball and Choir.*

*Whilst the school continues to be challenged with regards to the restricted Budget the Parent Voluntary fund has continued to build positively and the Friends of St Mary's have been very active in fund raising for the school. The Governing Body have continued to take every opportunity to make Parents aware of the Voluntary Fund through a new initiative of 'Wish Lists' allowing parents to financially support particular initiatives which they felt most strongly about and this has proved very successful. Working with the Friends of St Mary's we continue to consider all additional revenue streams to support the school including offering out Rectory Meadow for wider Amersham Community use*

*Our Nurture group and breakfast club still provides a fostering environment for our pupil premium children and SEN where needed and Rev Rapson is also now involved in an extra-curricular group focusing on Faith for the children and an additional 'Lego' club has been set up.*

*The Governing body continues to appraise the parents of the key focus areas for the Governors through a termly newsletter. One of the main focuses for this academic year has been the 150 year Anniversary celebrations and much has already been achieved with good parent and pupil engagement. We celebrated the actual 150 year anniversary in*

*September 2023 with a day of activity and a church service which was very well attended by parents, pupils, St Mary's staff & Governors and the Amersham community.*

*Finally, the Governors continue to support the School on enabling the children to achieve their very best in a happy and safe environment. The Governing Body continue to also be very cognisant of supporting all St Mary's staff in terms of their wellbeing with the continued and increasing demands within the school. It is worth noting that the level of need and specific SEN requirement of the children is increasing exponentially (in line with other schools) which requires the Head Teacher and Staff to operate in very different ways to support our children than perhaps they would have done in previous academic years.*

**Jacqueline Rouse**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**March 2024**

### Sunday School at St Mary's

Sunday School has continued to run in the Drake Chapel during part of the 10:30 service.

This year numbers are slightly down (36 different children, 4.4 each week on average - which includes during the school holidays) from last year. However, this numerical decline we've seen is entirely counteracted by a couple of the older children now staying with the adults rather than coming upstairs - no bad thing! We've also seen a few new faces come semi-regularly and several children have expressed annoyance that they cannot come more regularly (some previously having done so) due to often having other commitments on Sunday mornings.



### Children's Parties

This year, we have held 3 parties in St Mary's Church for children and their grown ups - for Easter, Harvest (at the end of the Summer Holidays), and Christmas. These were opened to the wider community, as well as those we know from Mini Steps and Sunday School, with some people we didn't know attending. Over the three parties 39 different children attended, and about 30 adults. Lots of fun was had, lots of crafts made, games played, and Bible stories heard. A big thank you to all my helpers, especially Loraine.



### MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

As always, I am ever so grateful for the time and dedication of the choir who give their time so generously. We really are incredibly fortunate to have such a talented group within the Church. The time and skill they share enhances the worship so much throughout the year. At a time when many churches struggle to have choirs, we are so lucky for the time and commitment they actively give. The mid-week rehearsal is always an enjoyable occasion and the chance to change gear halfway through a busy week. It has been wonderful having larger numbers in rehearsals and services which allows us to learn new and interesting music.

The choir has explored and enjoyed (I hope!) the various pieces of new repertoire that have been introduced in the past few months and it is an important part of our work to ensure we don't get stuck in a musical rut. With so much wonderful music to choose from, we will never exhaust the plethora of musical possibilities! Thankfully, the choir is becoming accustomed to me throwing new music at them on a semi-regular basis. It is so useful for choirs to be able to sight-read and learn with ease and this makes the process of exploring new music even more enjoyable. As always, I am hugely grateful for the commitment choristers make on a weekly basis to support the worship.

Huge thanks are recorded to Adrian, Andrew, and Ruth for playing on Sundays as need be. Being able to call on such talented players, especially at a time when Organists are in short supply is so helpful. Similarly, my two organ students are developing their skills at a very pleasing rate, going from strength to strength, continuing to gain confidence. One of whom has accompanied from time to time and the other will no doubt be able to do this soon. Developing young organists is an integral part of the role in the Music Department and it is important to attract students who wish to learn an instrument, especially at a time when there is a national shortage of players.

We will finally be in the position to introduce children into the choir, and I am looking forward to getting this off the ground; one of the strategic plans I have had since I joined the Church. Thanks go to Sue and Shima for helping with the recruitment where I can't get to schools during the day. This initiative will also build on the working relationship with St Mary's School and take our mission forwards to encourage others to join the church. It is hoped in time that numbers will grow and release ever more possibilities in the musical life of the church. The next year really will be an exciting time in the life of the church!

Edward McCall

## **MUSIC AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL**

Although we continue with only seven choristers, I know from comments we receive from members of the congregation that their contribution in leading the music is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference to the atmosphere of a service. Personally, I am very grateful to them for their continuing commitment, enthusiasm and loyalty.

Our monthly Choral Evensongs continue to include a setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis and an anthem although, with the lack of a tenor in our ranks, some adjustments often have to be made. The introduction of Dyson's C minor setting for unison voices, suggested by my colleague Edward, has proved a useful addition to our repertoire.

Our two choirs continue to join together if necessary for weddings or funerals either at All Saints' or St Mary's to ensure a good attendance.

I'd like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the clergy, in particular Jonny and Sue for their ever-willing support. Also to Gerard Anderson for covering one Sunday a month at the organ and to Dorothy Potter for all she does on the admin side.

RUTH MURPHY

## **Bellringers' Report 2024**

We continue to ring regularly for Sunday morning services and if possible for the monthly choral evensong. We are building up our numbers for Sundays and are often joined by two or three friends from local towers when timing of services allow. We are always pleased to welcome visiting ringers for services and practices. We have rung rounds on 10 and 12 on several occasions, including on Christmas morning, when a visiting experienced ringer commented that even after many years ringing, it was the first time she had rung on 12 on Christmas Day.

We have several regular visitors to our practice nights, some experienced ringers and some learners who come to improve their ringing. During 2023 we have been teaching learners from 7 pm before the normal practice. We are disappointed that some of the learners have taken a break or given up ringing, particularly as one was making very good progress, but our learners who started in 2022 are progressing and are keen to learn.

Our learners were included in the general ringing for the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla on 6th May when we rang rounds and call changes on 8 and 10 including a special change Queens into Kings. We were joined by Mark Roberts, the local mayor at the time. He was very interested to see the bells and took pictures which he put on the Amersham facebook page. We had decided to ring early enough so we could get home in time to watch the ceremony on television, but some ringers went on to ring at

Chenies and other towers later in the day. We also rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples on the Sunday with the help of three ringers from local towers.

Our monthly surprise practice continues on the first Thursday of the month (unless the church is booked for something else). Progress is a little slow, but we are now able to ring touches of Cambridge Minor on normal practice nights and are working on Cambridge and Yorkshire Major with help from friends from other towers.

We took part in the branch 6-bell striking competition, coming second. However, due to possible problems with eligibility of the winning band, by default we were deemed to have won and therefore had to represent the branch at the Guild 6 bell in October, coming a disappointing 6th out of 8. We had a slightly better result in the Lorna Newton final, a local striking competition for all the churches in our branch, a week later by coming second.

In August we hosted an Association of Ringing Teachers course for 8 people wishing to learn to teach bell-handling. There were no people from Amersham, as our deputy ringing master had done a course earlier in the year, but there were 2 people from Penn. Thank you to the band for help providing the refreshments and guarding equipment in church during the course.

We have continued to ring for weddings when requested, though this is less frequent than it used to be, and also school carol services.

During the summer, an infestation of clothes moth was found in a box of ropes. All the spare ropes were inspected and those which were very bad disposed of. The other ropes were put into a spare freezer and once we were sure there were no living grubs they were put into sealed bags and returned to the cupboard and rope box. We had two sessions of thorough cleaning of the tower, including moving the bookcase and the carpet was sprayed. The moth-traps are checked regularly. So far there does not seem to be any more activity.

We finished the year with a get together at my house with delicious food including canapes and desserts provided by the band.

I would like to thank Reverend Jonny and the PCC for allowing us to ring the bells and my personal thanks go to the band for their support in various jobs in and around the tower.

Jan Galloway

Tower Captain

March 2024

## **Sacristan's Report 2024**

This past year has been my fourth full year in the role. You may ask what does the sacristan do? My main role is to help the clergy by ensuring what they need for each service is available and ready; so, for example for the service at 10:30 I set the altar ready for the communion. I count the wafers in the ciborium and put the wine in the chalice. At the end of the service I clear the altar, washing the ciborium and chalice before returning them to the safe and returning the other items to where they are stored in the sacristy. I also record how many took communion and how many were in church in the register of services book. We regularly have between 75 and 90 people taking communion at the 10:30 service. You may have also noticed that the altar frontal changes depending on the time in the liturgical year and since the last report it will have been changed 13 times.

The votive or candle stand continues to be well used by both visitors to the church and the congregation and one of my tasks is to clean the stand and ensure that there are candles available. I also look after the other candles both wax and oil filled, used in church.

I could not complete my role without the help and support of others who regularly assist with the smooth running of the services and the church in general. I would like to thank Tricia and Alison who wash the linen used and Dorothy who orders the consumables and other things which are used in the various services, and I am grateful for their help and support. Of course, there is always room for anyone who would like to join the team, either to cover a specific activity or just to provide an extra pair of hands or to cover for me when on holiday. If you are interested, then please talk to me after the 10:30 service.

Lorraine Hollett, Sacrist

## **St Mary's Church Flowers**

I would like to begin by thanking Jo Coldham for her service as Flower Coordinator at St Mary's. Jo has led the team for more than 20 years, producing stunning flower arrangements and dealing with all the many practical tasks associated with flowers in church. She has inspired and encouraged us all. The churchwardens organised a collection from the Parish to thank her for her work. I'm delighted to say that Jo is remaining on the team.

We will, of course, continue to create arrangements for regular weekly services and special occasions including weddings, funerals and the major church festivals. However, the team has become smaller and we would welcome both novice and experienced flower arrangers to join us. Flowers are provided and we can offer help for beginners. This has been an exciting year for the Flower Group with the staging of our first major Flower Festival since the pandemic, entitled 'For the Beauty of the Earth'. To raise money to stage the festival the group held a quiz evening and cake stalls. The festival took place from 6-9 September 2023 and for the first time the dates included the town's Heritage Day. This led to an increased number of visitors on the Sunday, several of whom lived locally, but had never been inside the church. Just over £4000 was raised and this was shared between 2 local charities: Liberty's Legacy and Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust and a donation was given St Mary's. We are very grateful to all those who helped in many different ways to support the flower team.

On Mothering Sunday bunches of flowers were prepared for the children to give to their mothers and other ladies in the church.

At Easter members of the congregation once again donated lilies in remembrance loved ones and this is much appreciated.

Various groups in the church were again invited to decorate a window sill to symbolise Harvest Thanksgiving. Many thanks to those involved.

The whole team enjoyed decorating the church for Christmas and this year the arrangements featured a star theme.

The annual lunch party in September was a great success. It was held at Shan Pearce's house. It is a popular event and gives members, new and old, a chance to get to know each other and have a good time.

In February the team are having a workshop to try out new ideas.

The Flower Group now has a page on the church website, including a photo gallery, so please take a look!

Jane Partridge

Flower Co-ordinator [stmarysflowers@amershamwithcoleshill.org](mailto:stmarysflowers@amershamwithcoleshill.org)

### All Saints' Flower Team Annual Report 2024

Since our last annual report the flower team has continued to decorate the church for our Sunday services, festivals and the altar pedestals for one or two weddings.

As in the past we filled the church for Easter with lilies and spring flowers arranged on every shelf, windowsill and space available, donated in memory of family and friends who have died. Their names were recorded on an attractive poster in the church porch. Kristina Saunders and Sam Donald created a beautiful Easter table with crosses, moss and flowers.

The next event was the coronation of King Charles. We created simple but regal arrangements of purple alliums to represent orbs and deep red carnations for crowns. The altar pedestal was magnificent.

As part of our annual village show in September our team member Sharon Hall gave a very professional flower demonstration that was much enjoyed. Her two arrangements were auctioned raising £75 for the Alzheimer Society. I hope that might encourage others to join our team.

Harvest, my favourite festival, gave us all the opportunity to make colourful displays of fruit, vegetables and flowers both inside and outside the church. For each church festival we put up a large banner on the lichgate to encourage visitors to come in and enjoy the displays.

Catherine Watts despite having retired installed in the porch a giant harvest art poster created by the children of Coleshill Infant School.

The team decorated the church in time for the Christingle service with greenery and candles giving the church a magical touch for all the Christmas services.

We are grateful to Andrew Davies editor of the Coleshill Newsletter for adding several colour photos of our arrangements to Judi Herbert's flower team reports.

He also again designed the poster for our annual fundraising coffee morning which was held in the village hall on January 15th with about 58 attendees. Everyone looked happy sitting at tables enjoying their coffee and cake. We raised over £700 from a raffle, bring and buy and entry fees. We raised money for the flower fund and £150 each for the village school, Street Kids Direct and OneCan food bank in High Wycombe, a very successful time as usual.

Several of us are looking forward to joining the St Mary's flower team workshop. We are now preparing for Easter again asking for £5 per Lily.

Rosemary Valentine

### **Sunday Morning Get Together after the 10.30 Service**

2023/2024 has seen the coffee team keeping very busy serving the congregation after the 10.30 service. We are averaging 60 to 70 mugs of tea and coffee each Sunday.

It is always very pleasing to see new people attending, and it is an excellent way of meeting other members of the congregation and finding out what goes on in church with regards to other activities etc.

We have a loyal team of 26 volunteers, but can always accommodate a few extra hands to help out when others are on holiday, in hospital, or otherwise unable to do their duty.

The duty is once per quarter with another helper, so only 4 Sundays per year ... not a great undertaking!

If you feel that you could help us, please do not hesitate to see me after the service, or phone me on 01494 725469.

In the meantime, if you have never stayed after the service for refreshments, please do, we would be very please to meet you.

**All are most welcome!**

Janet Clayfield

January 2024

## SIDESTEAM REPORT

The Sides team are a great group of efficient, happy and enthusiastic members of the congregation. Being on the Sides team is a nice way to get involved at St Mary's and to get to know people. We cover all services including special services and support the Verger role for weddings and funerals. Everyone on the Sides team works well together in a caring and supportive way with each typically on duty two or three times a quarter. The team has the important role of welcoming people to the Church and the feedback received shows how well this is received and appreciated. Thank you for being such a great team and if you'd like to join us please speak to Howard Hughes.

Rev Jonny Rapson	Rector	DS
Rev Sue Gill	Honorary Assistant Rector	DS
Rev Tim Barnard	Honorary Assistant Rector	
Petrina Clackett	Church Warden AS (Lay Chair)	
Jane McNeilly	Church Warden AS	
Val Simmonds	Church Warden SM	
David Skinner	Church Warden SM	
Graeme Coles	Treasurer	DS
Peter Clackett	Assistant Treasurer	
Loraine Hollett	Sacristan/Health & Safety	
Clare Atkinson	Planned Giving /GDPR	
Clare Samuels	Safeguarding Officer	
Louise Baneke	Charitable Giving	
Neta Foote	Pastoral care	
Mel Jackson/ Giddings	Safeguarding Officer	
Sarah Ainsworth-Coles	Electoral Roll Officer	DS
Paul Clarke	Website	
Simon Hollett	Sunday School	
Bart Schmal	Steaming/Insurance	
Rebecca Benn	Social Activities	
Aurelija Paton	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
David Elliot	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
Sue Pounce	PCC Secretary	DS

DS Deanery Synod

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2024**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House  
234 Botley Rd  
Oxford  
OX2 0HP

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024			Total £	2023 Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £		
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	159,672	30,440	-	190,112	151,631
Activities for generating funds	2b	10,081	-	-	10,081	5,956
Investment income	2c	7,702	6,408	-	14,110	12,502
From church activities	2d	40,559	26,097	-	66,656	59,533
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>218,014</u>	<u>62,945</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>280,959</u>	<u>229,622</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	549	-	-	549	1,409
Church activities	3b	205,527	62,941	-	268,468	234,318
Governance costs	3c	2,820	-	-	2,820	2,700
		<u>208,896</u>	<u>62,941</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>271,837</u>	<u>238,427</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		9,118	4	-	9,121	(8,805)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	1,415	2,173	4,355	7,943	29,841
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		40,747	(41,408)	661	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		51,280	(39,232)	5,016	17,064	21,036
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		189,715	237,943	189,608	617,265	596,230
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>240,994</u>	<u>198,711</u>	<u>194,624</u>	<u>634,329</u>	<u>617,265</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>354,960</u>		<u>347,017</u>
			443,960		436,017
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	327		284	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>193,861</u>		<u>183,864</u>	
		194,188		184,148	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(3,819)</u>		<u>(2,900)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			190,369		181,248
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>£634,329</u></u>		<u><u>£617,265</u></u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			198,711		237,943
Endowment funds			194,624		189,608
Unrestricted funds			240,994		189,715
			<u><u>£634,329</u></u>		<u><u>£617,265</u></u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd J Rapson  
PCC Chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

### b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

### c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

### d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**f. Fixed assets**

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2024			Total	2023 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	112,696	-	-	112,696	112,910
Income tax recoverable	32,261	-	-	32,261	21,710
Cash collections at services	-	6,740	-	6,740	5,409
Gifts and cash offerings	1,590	23,700	-	25,290	11,602
Legacies	13,125	-	-	13,125	-
	<u>159,672</u>	<u>30,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>190,112</u>	<u>151,631</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	10,081	-	-	10,081	5,956
	<u>10,081</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,081</u>	<u>5,956</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	5,986	-	-	5,986	4,503
Parsonage Trust	-	2,636	-	2,636	2,595
St Michael's Trust	-	3,773	-	3,773	3,715
Coleshill Fund	1,716	-	-	1,716	1,689
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>7,702</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,110</u>	<u>12,502</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	23,356	3,226	-	26,582	17,733
Church rooms	15,614	-	-	15,614	15,540
Bookstall and magazine	1,284	-	-	1,284	1,637
Special services	305	-	-	305	4,664
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	22,871	-	22,871	19,959
	<u>40,559</u>	<u>26,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,656</u>	<u>59,533</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2024			Total	2023 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	549	-	-	549	1,409
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	11,209	-	-	11,209	12,131
Parish share	92,123	-	-	92,123	89,332
Other ministry costs	1,483	-	-	1,483	250
Fabric, silver and vestments	-	12,070	-	12,070	13,262
Church running costs and maintenance	70,566	-	-	70,566	55,751
Upkeep of services	3,886	2,840	-	6,726	8,092
Special services fees and costs	-	23,790	-	23,790	25,740
Honoraria and organ maintenance	-	-	-	-	-
Churchyard maintenance	1,790	-	-	1,790	1,025
Parish magazine/bookstall	-	-	-	-	-
Other PCC property costs	-	24,241	-	24,241	771
Youth and school support costs	933	-	-	933	3,213
Church administration	23,537	-	-	23,537	23,224
Church rooms	-	-	-	-	1,527
	205,527	62,941	-	268,468	234,318
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,820	-	-	2,820	2,700
	2,820	-	-	2,820	2,700

During the year the PCC employed an administrator and an organist. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2024	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2024	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2023	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Colehill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at 1 Jan 24	Investment charges	Additions/ (disposals)	Dividends reinvested	Unrealised movements	Value at 31 Dec 24
All CBF Income Shares	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment (unrestricted)	61,806	-	-	-	1,415	63,221
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	135,903	-	-	-	3,111	139,014
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	94,942	-	-	-	2,173	97,116
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	54,366	-	-	-	1,244	55,610
	<u>347,017</u>	-	-	-	<u>7,943</u>	<u>354,960</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

Coleshill Investment is an unrestricted fund and created from 2 previous trusts All Saints Churchyard and All Saints Organ Fund.

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	327	285
VAT recoverable	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
	<u>327</u>	<u>285</u>

	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	1,219	300
Accruals	<u>2,600</u>	<u>2,600</u>
	<u>3,819</u>	<u>2,900</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Investment movements	Transfers	At 31 Dec 2024
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	10,486	6,740	8,071	-	(3,401)	5,755
Special fees	-	22,871	15,719	-	-	7,152
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,773	2,956	-	(817)	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	48,160	-	9,115	-	-	39,045
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	6,261	3,226	2,840	-	-	6,647
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	76,735	2,636	231	2,173	-	81,313
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Church rooms	37,191	-	-	-	(37,191)	-
Organ fund	3,500	-	-	-	-	3,500
Alpha Court Curate fund	-	23,700	23,700	-	-	-
Flower Fund	3,160	-	310	-	-	2,850
	<u>237,943</u>	<u>62,945</u>	<u>62,941</u>	<u>2,173</u>	<u>(41,408)</u>	<u>198,711</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	128,513	-	-	3,111	7,391	139,014
Coleshill fund	61,095	-	-	1,244	(6,730)	55,610
	<u>173,246</u>	-	-	<u>4,355</u>	<u>661</u>	<u>194,624</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	63,220	97,116	194,624	354,960
Current assets	92,593	101,596	-	194,188
Current liabilities	(3,819)	-	-	(3,819)
	<u>240,994</u>	<u>198,711</u>	<u>194,624</u>	<u>634,329</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £4,360.97.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £12,720.00.

## **AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC COMMENTS ON ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES**

### General

In contrast to last year the PCC has made a surplus of around £9k pre investment movements. This is almost exactly the same as the deficit in the previous year. The investment gains are quite a bit lower than in the previous years but this is consistent with the market as a whole.

Overall the funds maintain a healthy position. Funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches although Mercer Lewin do not have enough information to assess whether these funds are adequate to meet predicted maintenance needs. However, on the basis that the Parish is up to date on its Quinquennial inspections and actions therefrom it is likely that the PCC has a clear idea of any sums required.

### Highlights from Accounts

The unrestricted funds show a small surplus overall for the year. Across the unrestricted and restricted funds there is a surplus of roughly £17k. Being a £9k increase from regular activities and £8k from investment gains.

The increase in investments is a paper surplus and has not impacted the cash reserves of the PCC which is just over £193k. The increase in investment value is consistent with the markets and we have seen similar increases across all PCCs that we work with this year.

Both expenditure and income has increased this year. On the income this is largely to do with an increase in gifts and on the expenditure side there has been an increase in the church running costs and also the expenditure relating to Alpha Court.

There have been a couple of adjustments to fund balances in order to correctly align investments to fund balances as well as a tidying of old balances that are no longer applicable.

### Accounting processes

The cashbook being combined for both churches has made the accounts preparation process simpler and from our perspective has allowed us to carry out our independent examination more smoothly. There are still small amendments here and there, but this is consistent with what we would expect and have no issues on our part.

There is still work around the identification of transactions for us to test specifically as part of our independent examination, but this would remain no matter the level of sophistication of the accounting process.

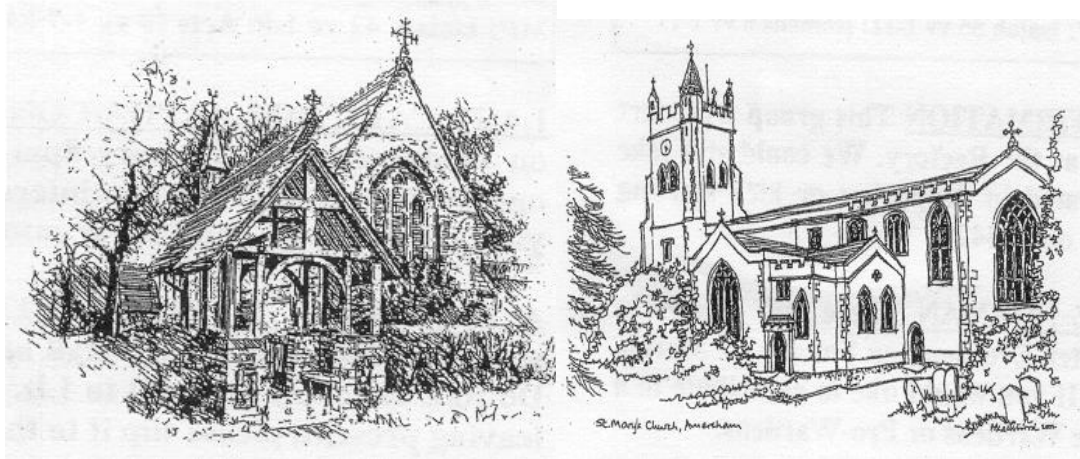
Mercer Lewin  
14 April 2025

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# Accounts

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# **THE PARISH OF AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL**



## **Annual Report 2024**

**Come to the Annual Parish Meeting  
on Sunday 21st April 2024 at  
11.50am in St Mary's Church**

**To discuss the past year and elect  
Churchwardens and PCC members**

**All welcome**



## Rector's Report APCM 2023/24

It has been quite the year in the parish with much to give thanks for! But most importantly, we can take this opportunity to celebrate all God has done to bless the ministry of the church in Amersham and Coleshill. It is impossible to list everything or thank everyone for all they contribute to the life and work of the parish, but I hope to give a few examples of the many things to rejoice in over the last 12 months. Certainly, for us as a family, the arrival of Naomi has been wonderful and we feel incredibly blessed. Both Jenna and I felt incredibly humbled by the incredible support given to us by everyone in the parish through prayers, meals, cards, gifts and general words of encouragement. It meant, and continues to mean, the world to us and we couldn't be happier that Naomi will grow up amongst such a wonderful church family.

One of the defining positives over the past year is the growth we have seen in a number of different areas of parish life:

1. Christmas 2023 showed an increase in attendance at almost every service the church held. Both crib services, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day itself saw our churches packed as people chose to celebrate Christmas with us.
2. Our average weekly attendance (which is calculated in October) shows an increase in attendees week by week across the parish.
3. Our electoral numbers are also looking positive with an increase from last year!
4. The Mini-steps parent and toddler faced a lull in September 2023 as a number of regular children went off to school, but months later we have seen attendance on the up for this group with fifteen children (plus 10 adults) attending Tuesday just gone.

But growth need not be isolated to the church itself - by invitation of Mrs. Hills at St Mary's School, I set up a The Bible Brick Club with the help and support of Michelle. The club was inundated with sign-ups in January 2024, so we are still working our way through a sizeable waiting list. The club is an opportunity for Children to explore a bible verse and use their creativity to recreate something with Lego that stood out to them in the passage. The children have created sheep, flowers, whales, boats, frogs, pyramids and even small-scale dioramas of the parting of the Red Sea and the foolish man who built his house on the sand! Not only does this provide children with the opportunity to learn about the bible, but it also enables them to think creatively.

Our work with schools has gone from strength to strength in the past year:

1. In January we welcomed students from Coleshill Village School to learn about different aspects of the church.
2. I was kindly invited to be part of World Religion Day at Coleshill School.
3. We continue to go to both St Mary's and Coleshill School every week for collective worship.
4. I, along with others from the parish, sit on both governing boards for the schools.
5. Governors were involved with the SIAMS inspection for St Mary's in January 2024 which assessed their performance as a church school. The staff at the school did a wonderful job and were granted judgment 1 of 2, which confirms the school is meeting the required standards.

6. St Mary's School are celebrating 150 years this academic year and hosted a service at the church which included a procession from the school to the church as they did 150 years ago. Tim Harper very kindly took this service while I was absent on paternity leave - although I wasn't able to be there, reports of the service have been excellent.
7. Dr Challoner's Grammar School Celebrated its 400th Anniversary with a spectacular service at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle. As Dr Challoner's successor 400 years later, I was kindly invited to lead the prayers. I am so pleased that the church was included in such special occasion for the school.

A highlight of 2024, without doubt, was the Admission to Communion and Confirmation service we hosted in February which saw 12 candidates confirmed and 1 admitted to Holy Communion. It's been a while since Bishop Alan was welcomed to the parish to hold a service of confirmation, so to be able to welcome him for such a service was wonderful. Not least as, sadly, this was Bishop Alan's last service before he died a few weeks later. However, Bishop Alan commented on what a special service this was, which is something we as a parish should be especially proud of.

Every year, in preparation for the APCM I compile a list of possible subjects to include and pick a handful as highlights. This report barely scratches the surface of that list and I am acutely aware of how much I haven't been able to include. So finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the life and work of the parish over the last year. I am incredibly grateful for all everyone does to support all the many different aspects of parish life. It wouldn't be possible without you. Ultimately, a church is nothing without the people who make it what it is. So, thank you to each and every one of you for building a community where all can flourish and meet with Jesus.

### **Parochial Church Council Secretary's Report, April 2024**

All members of the PCC are trustees of the Parish, which is registered with the Charity Commission. The PCC makes an annual return to the Charity Commission describing its aims and accounts. The Auditors and the Secretary are responsible for this.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Immediately after the APCM in 2023 the PCC consisted of 24 members – the clergy team, 4 Churchwardens, 3 representatives to the Deanery Synod and 15 other elected members who are members of the congregation on the electoral roll of the parish. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The prime purposes of the PCC are to cooperate with the Rector in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, considering matters of religious or public interest and acting as a link between the parish

and the deanery and diocesan synods. 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 Standing Committee of core PCC members is empowered to take decisions, within guidelines agreed by the full PCC, on specific issues when no PCC meeting is imminent. Its decisions are always reported, and occasionally reviewed, at the next PCC meeting.

The PCC met on 5 occasions between the APCMs in 2023 and 2024. The average attendance at the meetings was 78%. Each meeting has common items as well as special areas of business. The common items are: reports from church wardens; reports on safeguarding; reports on GDPR; reports on housing controlled by the Parish; and the financial health of the Parish including charitable giving and fund raising.

In November there was an “PCC Away Morning” at which the Mission Action Plan was considered by the members of the PCC. Sheila Shield our Reader, Dorothy Potter our Parish Administrator and Edward McCall our organist also attended.

Valerie Simmonds, David Skinner and Jane McNeilly come to the end of their annual terms of office as Churchwardens. They are all eligible for re-election and have indicated that they are prepared to continue.

Petrina Clackett comes to the end of her four year term of office as Churchwarden and will not seek re-election. The PCC have expressed their sincere thanks to Petrina for all her hard work over the years.

Deanery Synod Representatives. Graeme Coles, Sarah Ainsworth -Coles and Susan Pounce have indicated that they are prepared to continue.

At the time of writing this report Peter Clackett and Melissa Giddings have indicated that they wish to step down.

There are vacancies for elected members.

The positions to be filled at this year’s meeting are therefore:

☐ 4 Churchwardens until 2025

☐ 3 Deanery Synod Representatives until 2025

☐ 3 Elected PCC members until 2025

As we have an electoral roll of over 200+ we can co-opt up to 3 more PCC members

Rev Jonny Rapson	Rector	DS
Rev Sue Gill	Honorary Assistant Rector	DS
Rev Tim Barnard	Honorary Assistant Rector	
Petrina Clackett	Church Warden AS (Lay Chair)	
Jane McNeilly	Church Warden AS	
Val Simmonds	Church Warden SM	
David Skinner	Church Warden SM	
Graeme Coles	Treasurer	DS
Peter Clackett	Assistant Treasurer	
Lorraine Hollett	Sacristan/Health & Safety	
Clare Atkinson	Planned Giving /GDPR	
Clare Samuels	Safeguarding Officer	
Louise Baneke	Charitable Giving	
Neta Foote	Pastoral care	
Mel Jackson/ Giddings	Safeguarding Officer	
Sarah Ainsworth-Coles	Electoral Roll Officer	DS
Paul Clarke	Website	
Simon Hollett	Sunday School	
Bart Schmal	Steaming/Insurance	
Rebecca Benn	Social Activities	
Aurelija Paton	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
David Elliot	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
Sue Pounce	PCC Secretary	DS

DS Deanery Synod

Susan Pounce  
PCC Secretary  
March 2024

**Amersham with Coleshill PCC  
Annual Treasurer's Report  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

I am pleased to provide you with our annual accounts and this Executive Summary:

Key objective for 2023 were to:

1. Provide finance and strategic guidance & controls to support day to day cashflow & support Mission and Fabric proposals across our Parish

As reported at our quarterly PCC meetings, the workings of the parish and our finances have continued to have been significantly impacted by the macro-economic environment of high inflation, high interest rate, market volatility, cost of living crisis taking centre stage in both media and more locally our cashflow.

Summary of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2023:

- Challenging times! Across the Unrestricted & Restricted funds our deficit has grown to £8.8k in 2023 from £1.2k in 2022 (before investment movements). This is largely down to a drop in income from Voluntary Income (-£11.1k) & Church Activities (£10.3k). Overall, income down 7.5% on PY.
- Expenditure has been closely managed and down £10.6k (4.5%) from PY mainly due to reduction in ministry costs and PCC property upkeep.
- The reason for the overall increase in funds carried forward (+£21k) is due to the increase in investment value. This is a paper surplus and does not impact the cash reserves of the PCC where we are still well endowed and have £184k of Unrestricted & Restricted funds to support both Parish Mission & Fabric.
- Bearing in mind the markets went the other way in 2022 when we had minus £42k valuation! The increase in investment value seen in 2023 appears to be the markets steadying post Covid and auditors have reported that they have seen similar increases across a number of PCC's that they work with.
- Overall, I feel that our operational financial performance has stood up well given the challenges we faced in 2023 and we have been able to increase our Mission Giving by 18% to £12.1k
- Piggotts End Property - Surplus contribution increased to £13.2k from 5.5k previous year. The property is a reserved asset held in trust with an ongoing debate whether this should be included in accounts at 89k or at current market value). With the valuation of the property we are allowed to take one of two different approaches. First and the current policy is to take the cost value and leave as is in the accounts without any revaluation, this was allowed during the transition period to the new reporting standards and can remain in place if we choose. Second option is to revalue the property and then undertake regular valuations to ensure that the correct market value is shown in the accounts, the valuation should be prepared by a professional. I will take this to PCC again to ensure we continue to be happy with our approach and will update on those discussions through the usual channels.
- Church Rooms - Income decreased by £5,617 to £15,540 but still reported an important surplus £14k. It is fair to say there is some expenditure (eg cleaning, utilities) that gets mopped up by main expenditure but it does show this is still a valuable asset & contributor to both PCC & the community.
- Parish Share was increased by £3,062 to £89,332. We continue to pay our Parish Share in full every year. Disappointingly, Parish share will increase by a further 3.1% in 2024 to £92,123 - £7,677pm – increase of £233pm.

- Balance Sheet: up £21k (3.5%) to £617,265 from £596,230 – again, important context on balance sheet increase is the significant increase in valuation of our investments. It is important to understand when analysing Parish Finances that there are 3 types of Funds:
  - Unrestricted Funds – general funds for general objectives of the church – Day to day operational cash flow but does include unrestricted assets– decreased by £14,780 to £189,715 of which £89,000 is the Piggotts End property.
    - Therefore, the PCC is well endowed and has c£101k (not including PE fixed Asset value) on unrestricted funds as at 31 December 2023. Funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches.
  - Restricted Funds – can only be used for the specific purpose for which they have been given eg Fabric – increased by £19,454 to £237,943.
  - Endowment Funds – represent endowments where capital must be maintained and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes specified in the establishment of the endowments – increased due to valuation gain by £16,362 to £189,608.
- **Good Box 2022 - 2023 Comparison** - Good Box has become an important revenue generator - also being used for Bookstall & Marquee Hire.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Totals	Ave Donation
<b>2023</b>	£1,605 (303)	£2,148 (422)	£2,584 (495)	£2,816 (500)	£9,153 (1720)	<b>£5.32</b>
<b>2022</b>	£1,172 (219)	£2,133 (404)	£1,777 (320)	£2,312 (432)	£7,394 (1375)	£5.38
<b>Difference +/-</b>	<b>£433 (84)</b>	<b>£15 (18)</b>	<b>£807 (175)</b>	<b>£504 (68)</b>	<b>£1,759 (345)</b>	<b>(0.06)</b>

- Interesting lens to look thru that seems to go against Income numbers above.
- This points to increased foot flow / usage of GB within the parish.
- Note that 2023 average donation down by 6p from 2022.
- Further analysis required on Gift Aid reconciliation to understand any movement from monthly giving to Good Box.
- All Regulation - Charities Commission, Diocesan return, HMRC, RTI and Pension Regulator fully up to date.
- Auditors have expressed no concerns during their independent examination to the way we are running our finances.
- Flower Group – for the eagle eyed amongst you, you will have noticed we have now included the Flower Group as a Restricted Fund in S8 of the accounts.

Planned Giving & Gifts are our largest income source (c66%) and we must thank every one of our congregations for their continued support and contribution during another challenging year. Without ongoing Planned Giving and those generous “one offs” we simply cannot function. Thank you for what you donate now. If you are able to give more

then, I can assure you, that we will put it to very good use and that every penny is accounted for and nothing is wasted.

In terms of Missionary & Charitable Giving, through the huge efforts of many of volunteers our overall total was £12,131 – up £1,844 (18%) from previous year despite the economic headwinds mentioned previously. We will be working with the Mission Giving committee to ensure that we maintain the focus and impetus in 2024. Work still to be completed is to define usage on Rectors Discretionary Fund (£14,081) that is defined in the accounts as support for “alleviation of need”. Looking to tackle this again in H1 2024. Would like to acknowledge the fantastic contribution of Louise Baneke & Petrina Clackett for all their hardwork to Mission Giving over many years. Also to Loraine & Martin Hollett and all those who support Annual Fete, Book & Flower Stall and the Gazebo / Marquee rentals that contribute significant percentage of our Charitable Giving.

Key Finance actions undertaken to address our key challenges and support delivery of sustainable 2022 financial Performance:

- All Regulatory (incl Diocesan, HMRC & Charities Commission) returns up to date including recent completion & update of bank mandates & KYC Due Diligence process.
- Auditors have given us a clean report in the way that we are managing our finances and regulatory obligations.
- Comprehensive Treasurers Report prepared and discussed at every PCC meeting.

Our 2023 operational cashflow showed that we needed **£529 per day / £16,099 per month** to run our parish, this is a significant amount of money that we need to raise just to stand still. It is vital that we continue with focussed, disciplined management of our finances. In terms of operational cashflow, there is very little margin for error, every penny is used and if it is not used for day to day operations then we need to ensure it is only used to support the main good causes both at local and national level.

The PCC is still well endowed with both unrestricted & restricted funds as at 31 December 2023 and as highlighted, funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches. With that in mind, we still have 2 potentially large projects under discussion at St Mary's – West Window / New Boiler and we are taking necessary advice and will look for any possible grants to support. As we did with previous large projects, we will need to plan and scrutinise the scope, scale and timings to ensure their affordability in line with the many other calls on our resources.

In summary, 2023 was another challenging year. However, despite the headwinds and with phenomenal support of our congregation we were able to deliver a good financial performance whilst at the same time meeting our parish share and contributing more to charitable giving.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the support from Rev Jonny Rapson, Rev Tim Barnard, Rev Sue Gill, Loraine Hollett, Clare Atkinson & Dorothy Potter who work so hard to support the parish finances. In addition, the Church Wardens, & Parish Secretary Sue Pounce for giving me the time at PCC to report, discuss & debate key financial challenges

that we are facing. Special mention to Peter Clackett who is standing down as ASC Treasurer after many years of excellent service. Thank you.

Should you have any queries concerning the contents of this review or should you have any general questions about the parish finances, please do not hesitate to contact me via mobile 07703 963990 or email at [treasurer-pcc@outlook.com](mailto:treasurer-pcc@outlook.com).

**Graeme Coles - PCC Treasurer**  
**April 2024**

### PLANNED GIVING

THANK YOU. As a parish we are indebted to all those who give to the Church; no matter what your contribution all gifts together ensure that we are able to serve our community and look after our wonderful buildings.

This year, we again have seen an increase in those making their regular gifts via standing order whilst cash collections have decreased. The GoodBox machines at both churches have been crucial in ensuring that we are able to claim gift aid on donations given by credit or debit card Gift aid added over £21,000 in total to our coffers this year and I make monthly claims to ensure that we are able to ensure that the money reaches our bank account in a timely fashion.

As ever, I will be letting everyone who makes a regular gift know the amounts that we have received and claimed in gift aid shortly after the end of the tax year in April. Please bear in mind that collating this information does take me a substantial amount of time and I therefore am not in a position to get it to you on 6 April! I will do my best to do this as quickly as possible, but please do bear with me!

I remain indebted to Loraine Hollett who banks all of the cash gifts we receive, something which is getting ever more difficult to achieve as we see the demise of the bank branches – it's all a real team effort.

If you would like to make a regular donation through either the envelop scheme or via standing order, please do get in touch!

Clare Atkinson March 2024

## 2023 Parish Charitable Giving Report for the APCM – April 2024

2023 was another successful year for our Charitable Giving and marked an 18% increase over last year's figure. In **2023**, our giving came to **£12,131**.

**£7,796** of this was raised at our annual Parish fete, a successful harvest lunch, a flower workshop, book and plant sales, loaning of equipment and Heritage Day. The Parish fete which raises the largest funds reached £4609 of this total. Over 30 community, charity and other events were supported with loans of marquees, gazebos, and equipment from our Parish – more than double the events we covered last year.

£7,796 was shared and distributed to the following charities:

- The local **South West Bucks MS Group**,
- **The Ukraine Appeal** through the Disasters' Emergency Committee,
- **Scannappeal**,
- **Salt of the Earth**, Tamil Nadu, India.

In addition, funds went to support Steve and Lindsey Poulson, from **Street Kids Direct (SKD)** . Another £1000 was raised for SKD at a very successful oboe recital given by Imogen Atkinson at St Mary's Church.

Later in the year, over £2,700 raised from the Christmas services held at St Marys and at All Saints went to **Crisis at Christmas**. Other successful but separate fundraising events and Special Services took place over the year at both our Churches.

This success would not have been possible without the hard work, help and support of our two congregations, our fete committee, our local community and businesses.

Thank you to all who contributed to our giving in 2023 and in particular special thanks go to, Loraine and Martin Hollett and Val Simmonds.

*Louise Baneke and Petrina Clackett*

*April 2024*

## Church Warden for St Mary's Church report for 2023/2043 APCM

It hardly seems possible that Jonny and Jenna have now been with us for nearly 2 years and Naomi for 6 months. We have seen the work with young people grow with the Parent and Toddler Group meeting weekly in term time. The introduction of All Age Services for the main service; for significant Sundays; encouraging more people to take part. We saw a special service to mark the Coronation of Charles III which was followed by scones and cream.

In November we welcomed Michelle Fotherby to the clergy team as Curate.

In February we welcomed Bishop Alan for the Confirmation and Admission of Children to Holy Communion and of course all the candidates and their supporters.

We as a Parish were saddened to hear that Bishop Alan died suddenly at home barely 2 weeks after leading the service at St Mary's. We join with the whole Parish in thinking of, and praying for his Family and friends.

You will all be aware, there are 2 wardens at each church, Valerie Simmonds(VS) and David Skinner(DS) at St Mary's, and Petrina Clackett and Jane McNeilly at Coleshill. As the 'new boy' (DS) at St Marys (since April 2023) there has been much to learn (and to continue to learn). In particular I have realised how much work is done by so many members of the Church in making the Parish so successful. We highlight some of their names below. This is not an exhaustive list!

You will know that we have experienced 'problems' with the boiler during this winter. We are hugely grateful to **Peter Clackett** for his tireless work organising repairs, sourcing parts and providing alternative heating. Plans are underway to replace the boiler. **Peter's** experience as an engineer is invaluable in all the planning required for a new boiler.

We remain very grateful to **Loraine Hollett** who has regularly carried out risk assessments, as well as her almost continuous work within St Mary's.

Since his arrival **Jonny** has energetically picked up and developed Pastoral Care within our church community and his work with children and young people is also blossoming. We thank **Simon Hollett**, our children's worker, for his faithful service. He has worked hard with the Rector to build this important part of our mission.

Under the leadership of **Anthony Brown and Martin Pounce** the streaming of church services has gone from strength to strength. As ever our thanks go to the team and to **Dan Solomon** from Terry Tew of Sound and Light for his on-call support in times of need.

Our Director of Music, **Edward McCall** continues to develop the musical life of the church. Our organ scholars, (Zen and Harry) have played competently and confidently at some of our services. We hope to encourage others to come forward. The church choir continues to grow and the wide range of Anthems sung during communion and the monthly services of Choral Evensong together with the wonderful voluntaries and postludes from

Edward enhance our regular worship. Currently young people are being recruited to join the choir.

During the coldest period at St Mary's, Ed went 'above and beyond' by bringing electric hand warmers to Choir practice. Otherwise, he simply couldn't play the organ or piano. Occasionally, the choir had to decamp to the Church rooms.

We were able to hold our annual Parish Fete led by **Martin and Loraine Hollett** in 2023. This, the book and plant stalls and loan of gazebos has brought in substantial additional income for our charitable giving. We are absolutely delighted that the Team, led again by **Martin and Loraine Hollett**, are planning for our fete this year (2024) to be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

We are both humbled and encouraged by the generosity shown towards St. Mary's over the past year. Without the financial support so generously offered by you, our church would simply not be able to function in the way it does. On behalf of the PCC, we would like to thank you all for your faithful on-going financial support of the work of our parish.

The charitable giving team led by **Louise Baneke and Petrina Clackett** have worked hard to determine which deserving charities should benefit from the funds raised, not least by the annual Church Fete. The successful charities will be presenting details of their work in the near future.

St Mary's Church remains in good order. The quinquennial inspection (2021) reported that there were no matters of the utmost urgency. All recommended issues have been dealt with. All the regular checks are up to date (gas safety, electrical report, lightning conductor, fire extinguishers, PAT etc), and the organ has been serviced and tuned as per contract. We thank **Sue Pounce** for her unstinting work during her period as Church Warden (now 'retired'). She continues to give sound advice and help. We are very grateful to her.

However, St Mary's church dates from 1140AD (it was a holy site prior to this). There are therefore constant 'issues' to be addressed. In addition to the boiler, the roof continues to challenge us (leaks) – we are grateful to **Stephen Crawley** (Church surveyor) for attending on many occasions to discuss and organise ongoing repairs. His knowledge of St Mary's and commitment to it is invaluable. He is closely involved in the works regarding the magnificent stained glass window at the eastern end of the Chancel. If the Diocese allows, works will begin this summer.

The "Curate's House" at Piggott's End is privately let and brings in a useful income for the PCC. The tenants found by Hadlands have extended their tenancy for another year and the PCC have agreed to this.

Our thanks must go to Amersham Town Council which has the responsibility to maintain the Churchyard. They carry out their duties so well.

We would like to thank **all PCC members** for their commitment throughout the year. **The working teams, Standing Committee, Staff Meeting Team, our Sacristan Lorraine, and Dorothy, our Parish administrator** all continue to sustain the smooth running of the parish.

The tremendous support and assistance received from the many helpers within our congregation and parish throughout the year is invaluable. Our thanks go to **all** who contribute to the Church services including the flower arranging led by **Jane Partridge and team**, bell ringing led by **Jan Galloway and Matthew Johnson, the choir** under the leadership of our Director of Music, **Edward Mc Call** and the careful stewardship of our finances by our Treasurer, **Graeme Coles and Assistant Treasurer Peter Clackett**. We are grateful to **Clare Atkinson** who manages gift aid and stewardship details for both St Mary's and All Saints Churches and to our Electoral Roll Officer, **Sarah Ainsworth-Coles**.

**Jo Coldham** has 'retired' after leading the flower team for 20 years. We wish her a happy and healthy retirement and trust her role as a member of the congregation will continue for many years.

The Church as we know it would have difficulty functioning without all this, often unseen, work and we are truly grateful to everyone involved in its running. We would welcome more volunteers. If you are interested, more details can be found on the website under the tab 'about us' or please come and talk to us. We are very grateful to **Michelle Caternach** who designed and maintains our parish website so efficiently. they do to sustain this charity.

The Church is truly part of the community. Just one example of this is its involvement in Amersham United Charities (AUC), whose main task is managing the Drakes and Days Almshouses. These offer up to 11 warm and safe single occupant houses in Old Amersham. We are particularly grateful **to Tim Barnard, Jonny and Peter Clackett (AUC Trustees)** for their commitment, and the substantial amount of work we continue to put our trust in God, praying for **Jonny, Tim, Sue, Michelle and Sheila, and for Sarah, Mel and Edward** our authorised preachers. We remain thankful for the great spirit and shared purpose shown in their ministry.

Valerie Simmonds and David Skinner  
April 2024

## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT 2024**

This report relates to the activities of the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Whilst the Church has returned to being fully open for all services, including Sunday communion services, we have continued to intinct wine, although this practice will continue to be reviewed by clergy.

## **WORSHIP**

The pattern of services has remained the same as in previous years, with the continuation of several themed services.

Our normal service is held on a Sunday at 0900 and is usually accompanied by coffee (and a chat), immediately after the service. It is proposed that this will continue as it remains a firm favourite with all.

Our house group, very ably led by Audrey Tridgell, continued to flourish. The group meets every Wednesday, with members from both churches, averaging a total of 11 attendees.

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

We held themed services to encourage people from the village and Winchmore Hill to join us. We especially welcomed the children to the themed services, including Mothering Sunday, Harvest Festival and the services around Christmas. There was a good attendance at all with congregation numbers being in the region of 75 for each.

The All-Age service, initiated last year by the rector, continued to be successful.

During Passiontide and Easter 2023, we held several special services, including Ash Wednesday (with the marking of an ash cross), Palm Sunday (joined by a donkey, Denise, and Shetland pony friend, Peggy), Compline (an evening service on the Tuesday of Holy Week), and a special service of hymns, prayers and meditation, with the lighting of candles on Good Friday with our regular 0900 morning service on Easter Day.

We were also fortunate enough to be able to hold our pet service on a sunny day in July 2023. The event was well attended by 16 dogs and 48 people! However, we were unable to hold our bee service due to the death of the colony over the winter period.

Other themed services included the patronal celebration, baptism renewal and Remembrance Sunday, all of which have proved successful.

We ended the year with our festive services, including our crib service (attendance 86), Christingle service (86) and the well-attended carol service of lessons and carols (96).

## **WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS, FUNERALS ETC.**

We continue to publicise the use of All Saints' for weddings with two couples being married in 2023. We also welcomed three children for baptism at Sunday services. The church was packed for two funerals, followed by the internment of the bodies in the churchyard. There were two internments of ashes of three remains, in the churchyard in the year.

## **MISSION ACTION PLAN**

We continued to hold regular monthly prayer meetings in church with these taking place on the first Saturday of the month. The number of attendees remains encouraging.

## **PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH**

The village school continues to maintain a close relationship with the church that has been further strengthened by our rector.

The Magpie Club for pre-school children holds weekly meetings in the Village Hall, every Friday during term time. On average 10 children and parents come each week.

The Patch system, designed to support those who are ill or need company, and to welcome newcomers to the village, meets twice yearly and it is anticipated that the biennial welcome party for newcomers will take place in 2024.

## **SCHOOL INTERACTION**

Rev. Jonny Rapson takes Collective Worship in the school every Wednesday and twice a term Open Assembly takes place in the church with parents and friends being welcome. They also join us for special services with the children contributing colourful decorations, songs and poems. An end-of-term service is held in the church and at the end of the summer term, leavers are presented with a Bible. An average of 80 attend all these services. The Rector has taken Year 2 pupils round the church as part of RE. He and Jane McNeilly are both Governors of the School which strengthens the bonds between church and school.

## **ACTIVITIES**

In January 2023 the "Flower Ladies", held a coffee morning which included a drink & cake, a raffle, and a bring & buy sale in the village hall, raising in the region of £700. This money was shared between the Flower Fund, the Village school, Street Kids Direct and One Can Trust (High Wycombe). On the Sunday of the King's Coronation weekend, the church was beautifully decorated and a special celebration was held after the service.

In May the churchyard was used to host a plant sale with a donation made to the church.

## **FABRIC**

Running repairs were made to the Church during the year following the observations of the Quinquennial inspection. One Faculty was raised for the installation of an internal noticeboard. This has been completed. Works to another Faculty, raised in 2022, for the removal of asbestos like materials from the porch and subsequent replacement was instigated. The materials were removed in 2023 and the porch re-clad with wooden slats, however we are still awaiting the painting of the slats. This work is expected to be completed in Spring of 2024.

A "Parishioner Church Clean" took place in July and this has helped keep the church looking at its best, both inside and out. The churchyard clearance took place in November. Our thanks go to all of those who helped maintain the church and its surround in good order.

## PARISHIONERS

Many people help to support the running of the church, including those who give their time and service to the Church Committee, meeting on three occasions during the year, to discuss the upkeep and daily running of the church.

In addition, there are many people with specific roles and talents who are essential to keep our church in an attractive, open, and welcoming state by giving generously of their time: -

- We are fortunate that our worship is enhanced by having a fine organ, a consummate Director of Music, Ruth Murphy, and a loyal band of faithful singers, although we are still looking for anyone else who would like to join the choir.
- One of the glories of All Saints' is the colourful and artistic floral decoration organized by Rosemary Valentine and assisted by the flair and hard work of her team of talented workers.
- Chris Wege, as well as being the secretary to the Church Committee, devotes a great deal of time and care to the maintenance of the churchyard.
- Peter Clackett, our All Saints' treasurer, has been responsible for ensuring financial controls are in place. In 2021 plans were put in place, by the Parish treasurers, to combine the finances of both churches. This has been completed and Peter has now stepped down with all financial matters now being run collectively through the Treasurer at St Mary's and the parish office. May I express our thanks to Peter for all his hard work over the past eight years.
- Jane Stefanovic has continued her duties as cleaner and works very hard to keep the building spotless and shining. This is greatly appreciated by worshippers and visitors.
- Paul Evans ensures that the church is both unlocked and locked with the church remaining open to all during the hours of daylight.

The list is not exhaustive, and we are fortunate to have such a faithful team of sidespersons, readers, choir, as well as those who prepare the church for services. We also need to thank our lay preachers, Mel Giddings, Edward Brown and Sarah Ainsworth-Coles for their thought-provoking sermons.

We must especially thank those parishioners who provide regular financial support to the church and have continued to do so. The money they so generously provide helps keep All Saints' church open and in good condition.

We also need to register our huge thanks to our all our clergy, Jonny Rapson (Rector), Rev. Sue Gill and Rev. Tim Barnard (Associate Rectors) for spiritually guiding us through the year. We also extend a warm welcome to our new curate, Rev'd Michelle Fotherby who joined us in November 2023.

Finally, having been involved in one or another church role for the last 20 years, Petrina has decided that now is the time to step down. She would like to wish you all the best for the future and thank all of those, too many to mention, who supported her in her work and role.

Petrina Clackett & Jane McNeilly

## St Mary's CE Primary School Report

### Governors 2024

#### **Introduction**

*Jacqueline Rouse leads the Full Governing Body as Chair and Chris Monnington supports as Vice Chair.*

*Edward Staite (Foundation Governor) and Chris Monnington (LA Governor) chair the sub committees – Teaching, Learning, Pupil & Community (TLPC) and Finance Premises and Personal (FPP) respectively.*

#### **Governing Body Structure**

*The Parish continues to have strong links with St Mary's School, with the Governing body continuing to have a strong representation appointed by the PCC or the Diocese of Oxford, 7 out of the 12 Governors. There has been a change in appointments during the last academic year however the majority of Governors have more than 12 months experience and those new Governors come to the Body with some very valuable experience.*

*The Governors currently are:*

<b>Rev. Jonny Rapson</b>	<i>Ex-officio Governor</i>	<i>Ex-officio</i>
<b>Jacqueline Rouse</b>	<i>Chair</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Chris Monnington</b>	<i>Vice Chair and Subcommittee Chair (FPP)</i>	<i>Local Authority appointed</i>
<b>Steve Johnson</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Frances Ford</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>
<b>Ed Staite</b>	<i>Subcommittee Chair (TLPC)</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Nasim Clarke</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Parent Governor</i>
<b>Stephen Bell</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Parent Governor</i>
<b>Edward McCall</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the PCC</i>
<b>Shanta Gillott</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>
<b>Nicky Norman</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Staff Governor</i>
<b>Julie Hills</b>	<i>Head teacher</i>	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
<b>Martin Pounce</b>	<i>Governor</i>	<i>Appointed by the Diocese</i>

#### **Committees**

*The two main Committees continue to meet once a term:*

- The Teaching, Learning, Pupil and Community Committee*
- The Finance, Personnel and Premises committee*

*These committees continue to drive clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. Through these committee meetings the Head teacher is held to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and the FPP oversees the financial performance of the school making sure its money is appropriately spent. The outputs of these meetings are then communicated to the wider Governing Body at the twice termly Full Governing Body Meetings.*

*Working groups are also formed to focus on particular issues which then report back to the Governing body. We currently have working groups looking at communication including the engagement of St Mary's Staff, Pupils and Parents. This is assessed through an annual engagement survey which has recently been repeated. An action plan has now been fed back to the parents and a meeting with the class reps took place with the Chair of Governors and the Head Teacher in the Spring term. There continues to also be a working party this academic year recognising the 150 year anniversary of the School and to support the activities related to this.*

### **Overview of 2023-24**

*The school had a strong academic year as it continued its Bounce Back programme following the disruptive Covid years. This programme has continued its success which has been very positive and will continue as required.*

*The school continues with good academic progress and attainment generally and continues to offer a wide range of sports utilizing our Sports Premium. The school continues to partake in interschool competitions in various sports, with much success. Daily extra-curricular activities are part of school life and include football, cross-country, gymnastics, dance, netball and Choir.*

*Whilst the school continues to be challenged with regards to the restricted Budget the Parent Voluntary fund has continued to build positively and the Friends of St Mary's have been very active in fund raising for the school. The Governing Body have continued to take every opportunity to make Parents aware of the Voluntary Fund through a new initiative of 'Wish Lists' allowing parents to financially support particular initiatives which they felt most strongly about and this has proved very successful. Working with the Friends of St Mary's we continue to consider all additional revenue streams to support the school including offering out Rectory Meadow for wider Amersham Community use*

*Our Nurture group and breakfast club still provides a fostering environment for our pupil premium children and SEN where needed and Rev Rapson is also now involved in an extra-curricular group focusing on Faith for the children and an additional 'Lego' club has been set up.*

*The Governing body continues to appraise the parents of the key focus areas for the Governors through a termly newsletter. One of the main focuses for this academic year has been the 150 year Anniversary celebrations and much has already been achieved with good parent and pupil engagement. We celebrated the actual 150 year anniversary in*

*September 2023 with a day of activity and a church service which was very well attended by parents, pupils, St Mary's staff & Governors and the Amersham community.*

*Finally, the Governors continue to support the School on enabling the children to achieve their very best in a happy and safe environment. The Governing Body continue to also be very cognisant of supporting all St Mary's staff in terms of their wellbeing with the continued and increasing demands within the school. It is worth noting that the level of need and specific SEN requirement of the children is increasing exponentially (in line with other schools) which requires the Head Teacher and Staff to operate in very different ways to support our children than perhaps they would have done in previous academic years.*

**Jacqueline Rouse**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**March 2024**

### Sunday School at St Mary's

Sunday School has continued to run in the Drake Chapel during part of the 10:30 service.

This year numbers are slightly down (36 different children, 4.4 each week on average - which includes during the school holidays) from last year. However, this numerical decline we've seen is entirely counteracted by a couple of the older children now staying with the adults rather than coming upstairs - no bad thing! We've also seen a few new faces come semi-regularly and several children have expressed annoyance that they cannot come more regularly (some previously having done so) due to often having other commitments on Sunday mornings.



### Children's Parties

This year, we have held 3 parties in St Mary's Church for children and their grown ups - for Easter, Harvest (at the end of the Summer Holidays), and Christmas. These were opened to the wider community, as well as those we know from Mini Steps and Sunday School, with some people we didn't know attending. Over the three parties 39 different children attended, and about 30 adults. Lots of fun was had, lots of crafts made, games played, and Bible stories heard. A big thank you to all my helpers, especially Loraine.



### MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

As always, I am ever so grateful for the time and dedication of the choir who give their time so generously. We really are incredibly fortunate to have such a talented group within the Church. The time and skill they share enhances the worship so much throughout the year. At a time when many churches struggle to have choirs, we are so lucky for the time and commitment they actively give. The mid-week rehearsal is always an enjoyable occasion and the chance to change gear halfway through a busy week. It has been wonderful having larger numbers in rehearsals and services which allows us to learn new and interesting music.

The choir has explored and enjoyed (I hope!) the various pieces of new repertoire that have been introduced in the past few months and it is an important part of our work to ensure we don't get stuck in a musical rut. With so much wonderful music to choose from, we will never exhaust the plethora of musical possibilities! Thankfully, the choir is becoming accustomed to me throwing new music at them on a semi-regular basis. It is so useful for choirs to be able to sight-read and learn with ease and this makes the process of exploring new music even more enjoyable. As always, I am hugely grateful for the commitment choristers make on a weekly basis to support the worship.

Huge thanks are recorded to Adrian, Andrew, and Ruth for playing on Sundays as need be. Being able to call on such talented players, especially at a time when Organists are in short supply is so helpful. Similarly, my two organ students are developing their skills at a very pleasing rate, going from strength to strength, continuing to gain confidence. One of whom has accompanied from time to time and the other will no doubt be able to do this soon. Developing young organists is an integral part of the role in the Music Department and it is important to attract students who wish to learn an instrument, especially at a time when there is a national shortage of players.

We will finally be in the position to introduce children into the choir, and I am looking forward to getting this off the ground; one of the strategic plans I have had since I joined the Church. Thanks go to Sue and Shima for helping with the recruitment where I can't get to schools during the day. This initiative will also build on the working relationship with St Mary's School and take our mission forwards to encourage others to join the church. It is hoped in time that numbers will grow and release ever more possibilities in the musical life of the church. The next year really will be an exciting time in the life of the church!

Edward McCall

## **MUSIC AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, COLESHILL**

Although we continue with only seven choristers, I know from comments we receive from members of the congregation that their contribution in leading the music is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference to the atmosphere of a service. Personally, I am very grateful to them for their continuing commitment, enthusiasm and loyalty.

Our monthly Choral Evensongs continue to include a setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis and an anthem although, with the lack of a tenor in our ranks, some adjustments often have to be made. The introduction of Dyson's C minor setting for unison voices, suggested by my colleague Edward, has proved a useful addition to our repertoire.

Our two choirs continue to join together if necessary for weddings or funerals either at All Saints' or St Mary's to ensure a good attendance.

I'd like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the clergy, in particular Jonny and Sue for their ever-willing support. Also to Gerard Anderson for covering one Sunday a month at the organ and to Dorothy Potter for all she does on the admin side.

RUTH MURPHY

## **Bellringers' Report 2024**

We continue to ring regularly for Sunday morning services and if possible for the monthly choral evensong. We are building up our numbers for Sundays and are often joined by two or three friends from local towers when timing of services allow. We are always pleased to welcome visiting ringers for services and practices. We have rung rounds on 10 and 12 on several occasions, including on Christmas morning, when a visiting experienced ringer commented that even after many years ringing, it was the first time she had rung on 12 on Christmas Day.

We have several regular visitors to our practice nights, some experienced ringers and some learners who come to improve their ringing. During 2023 we have been teaching learners from 7 pm before the normal practice. We are disappointed that some of the learners have taken a break or given up ringing, particularly as one was making very good progress, but our learners who started in 2022 are progressing and are keen to learn.

Our learners were included in the general ringing for the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla on 6th May when we rang rounds and call changes on 8 and 10 including a special change Queens into Kings. We were joined by Mark Roberts, the local mayor at the time. He was very interested to see the bells and took pictures which he put on the Amersham facebook page. We had decided to ring early enough so we could get home in time to watch the ceremony on television, but some ringers went on to ring at

Chenies and other towers later in the day. We also rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples on the Sunday with the help of three ringers from local towers.

Our monthly surprise practice continues on the first Thursday of the month (unless the church is booked for something else). Progress is a little slow, but we are now able to ring touches of Cambridge Minor on normal practice nights and are working on Cambridge and Yorkshire Major with help from friends from other towers.

We took part in the branch 6-bell striking competition, coming second. However, due to possible problems with eligibility of the winning band, by default we were deemed to have won and therefore had to represent the branch at the Guild 6 bell in October, coming a disappointing 6th out of 8. We had a slightly better result in the Lorna Newton final, a local striking competition for all the churches in our branch, a week later by coming second.

In August we hosted an Association of Ringing Teachers course for 8 people wishing to learn to teach bell-handling. There were no people from Amersham, as our deputy ringing master had done a course earlier in the year, but there were 2 people from Penn. Thank you to the band for help providing the refreshments and guarding equipment in church during the course.

We have continued to ring for weddings when requested, though this is less frequent than it used to be, and also school carol services.

During the summer, an infestation of clothes moth was found in a box of ropes. All the spare ropes were inspected and those which were very bad disposed of. The other ropes were put into a spare freezer and once we were sure there were no living grubs they were put into sealed bags and returned to the cupboard and rope box. We had two sessions of thorough cleaning of the tower, including moving the bookcase and the carpet was sprayed. The moth-traps are checked regularly. So far there does not seem to be any more activity.

We finished the year with a get together at my house with delicious food including canapes and desserts provided by the band.

I would like to thank Reverend Jonny and the PCC for allowing us to ring the bells and my personal thanks go to the band for their support in various jobs in and around the tower.

Jan Galloway

Tower Captain

March 2024

## **Sacristan's Report 2024**

This past year has been my fourth full year in the role. You may ask what does the sacristan do? My main role is to help the clergy by ensuring what they need for each service is available and ready; so, for example for the service at 10:30 I set the altar ready for the communion. I count the wafers in the ciborium and put the wine in the chalice. At the end of the service I clear the altar, washing the ciborium and chalice before returning them to the safe and returning the other items to where they are stored in the sacristy. I also record how many took communion and how many were in church in the register of services book. We regularly have between 75 and 90 people taking communion at the 10:30 service. You may have also noticed that the altar frontal changes depending on the time in the liturgical year and since the last report it will have been changed 13 times.

The votive or candle stand continues to be well used by both visitors to the church and the congregation and one of my tasks is to clean the stand and ensure that there are candles available. I also look after the other candles both wax and oil filled, used in church.

I could not complete my role without the help and support of others who regularly assist with the smooth running of the services and the church in general. I would like to thank Tricia and Alison who wash the linen used and Dorothy who orders the consumables and other things which are used in the various services, and I am grateful for their help and support. Of course, there is always room for anyone who would like to join the team, either to cover a specific activity or just to provide an extra pair of hands or to cover for me when on holiday. If you are interested, then please talk to me after the 10:30 service.

Lorraine Hollett, Sacrist

## **St Mary's Church Flowers**

I would like to begin by thanking Jo Coldham for her service as Flower Coordinator at St Mary's. Jo has led the team for more than 20 years, producing stunning flower arrangements and dealing with all the many practical tasks associated with flowers in church. She has inspired and encouraged us all. The churchwardens organised a collection from the Parish to thank her for her work. I'm delighted to say that Jo is remaining on the team.

We will, of course, continue to create arrangements for regular weekly services and special occasions including weddings, funerals and the major church festivals. However, the team has become smaller and we would welcome both novice and experienced flower arrangers to join us. Flowers are provided and we can offer help for beginners. This has been an exciting year for the Flower Group with the staging of our first major Flower Festival since the pandemic, entitled 'For the Beauty of the Earth'. To raise money to stage the festival the group held a quiz evening and cake stalls. The festival took place from 6-9 September 2023 and for the first time the dates included the town's Heritage Day. This led to an increased number of visitors on the Sunday, several of whom lived locally, but had never been inside the church. Just over £4000 was raised and this was shared between 2 local charities: Liberty's Legacy and Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust and a donation was given St Mary's. We are very grateful to all those who helped in many different ways to support the flower team.

On Mothering Sunday bunches of flowers were prepared for the children to give to their mothers and other ladies in the church.

At Easter members of the congregation once again donated lilies in remembrance loved ones and this is much appreciated.

Various groups in the church were again invited to decorate a window sill to symbolise Harvest Thanksgiving. Many thanks to those involved.

The whole team enjoyed decorating the church for Christmas and this year the arrangements featured a star theme.

The annual lunch party in September was a great success. It was held at Shan Pearce's house. It is a popular event and gives members, new and old, a chance to get to know each other and have a good time.

In February the team are having a workshop to try out new ideas.

The Flower Group now has a page on the church website, including a photo gallery, so please take a look!

Jane Partridge

Flower Co-ordinator [stmarysflowers@amershamwithcoleshill.org](mailto:stmarysflowers@amershamwithcoleshill.org)

### All Saints' Flower Team Annual Report 2024

Since our last annual report the flower team has continued to decorate the church for our Sunday services, festivals and the altar pedestals for one or two weddings.

As in the past we filled the church for Easter with lilies and spring flowers arranged on every shelf, windowsill and space available, donated in memory of family and friends who have died. Their names were recorded on an attractive poster in the church porch. Kristina Saunders and Sam Donald created a beautiful Easter table with crosses, moss and flowers.

The next event was the coronation of King Charles. We created simple but regal arrangements of purple alliums to represent orbs and deep red carnations for crowns. The altar pedestal was magnificent.

As part of our annual village show in September our team member Sharon Hall gave a very professional flower demonstration that was much enjoyed. Her two arrangements were auctioned raising £75 for the Alzheimer Society. I hope that might encourage others to join our team.

Harvest, my favourite festival, gave us all the opportunity to make colourful displays of fruit, vegetables and flowers both inside and outside the church. For each church festival we put up a large banner on the lichgate to encourage visitors to come in and enjoy the displays.

Catherine Watts despite having retired installed in the porch a giant harvest art poster created by the children of Coleshill Infant School.

The team decorated the church in time for the Christingle service with greenery and candles giving the church a magical touch for all the Christmas services.

We are grateful to Andrew Davies editor of the Coleshill Newsletter for adding several colour photos of our arrangements to Judi Herbert's flower team reports.

He also again designed the poster for our annual fundraising coffee morning which was held in the village hall on January 15th with about 58 attendees. Everyone looked happy sitting at tables enjoying their coffee and cake. We raised over £700 from a raffle, bring and buy and entry fees. We raised money for the flower fund and £150 each for the village school, Street Kids Direct and OneCan food bank in High Wycombe, a very successful time as usual.

Several of us are looking forward to joining the St Mary's flower team workshop. We are now preparing for Easter again asking for £5 per Lily.

Rosemary Valentine

### **Sunday Morning Get Together after the 10.30 Service**

2023/2024 has seen the coffee team keeping very busy serving the congregation after the 10.30 service. We are averaging 60 to 70 mugs of tea and coffee each Sunday.

It is always very pleasing to see new people attending, and it is an excellent way of meeting other members of the congregation and finding out what goes on in church with regards to other activities etc.

We have a loyal team of 26 volunteers, but can always accommodate a few extra hands to help out when others are on holiday, in hospital, or otherwise unable to do their duty.

The duty is once per quarter with another helper, so only 4 Sundays per year ... not a great undertaking!

If you feel that you could help us, please do not hesitate to see me after the service, or phone me on 01494 725469.

In the meantime, if you have never stayed after the service for refreshments, please do, we would be very please to meet you.

**All are most welcome!**

Janet Clayfield

January 2024

## SIDESTEAM REPORT

The Sides team are a great group of efficient, happy and enthusiastic members of the congregation. Being on the Sides team is a nice way to get involved at St Mary's and to get to know people. We cover all services including special services and support the Verger role for weddings and funerals. Everyone on the Sides team works well together in a caring and supportive way with each typically on duty two or three times a quarter. The team has the important role of welcoming people to the Church and the feedback received shows how well this is received and appreciated. Thank you for being such a great team and if you'd like to join us please speak to Howard Hughes.

Rev Jonny Rapson	Rector	DS
Rev Sue Gill	Honorary Assistant Rector	DS
Rev Tim Barnard	Honorary Assistant Rector	
Petrina Clackett	Church Warden AS (Lay Chair)	
Jane McNeilly	Church Warden AS	
Val Simmonds	Church Warden SM	
David Skinner	Church Warden SM	
Graeme Coles	Treasurer	DS
Peter Clackett	Assistant Treasurer	
Loraine Hollett	Sacristan/Health & Safety	
Clare Atkinson	Planned Giving /GDPR	
Clare Samuels	Safeguarding Officer	
Louise Baneke	Charitable Giving	
Neta Foote	Pastoral care	
Mel Jackson/ Giddings	Safeguarding Officer	
Sarah Ainsworth-Coles	Electoral Roll Officer	DS
Paul Clarke	Website	
Simon Hollett	Sunday School	
Bart Schmal	Steaming/Insurance	
Rebecca Benn	Social Activities	
Aurelija Paton	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
David Elliot	Church & Church Rooms Hiring/Marketing	
Sue Pounce	PCC Secretary	DS

DS Deanery Synod

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

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

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House  
234 Botley Rd  
Oxford  
OX2 0HP

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023			Total £	2022 Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £		
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	142,651	8,980	-	151,631	162,804
Activities for generating funds	2b	5,956	-	-	5,956	5,234
Investment income	2c	6,192	6,310	-	12,502	9,861
From church activities	2d	19,534	39,999	-	59,533	69,838
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>174,333</u>	<u>55,289</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>229,622</u>	<u>247,737</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	1,409	-	-	1,409	603
Church activities	3b	189,083	45,235	-	234,318	245,671
Governance costs	3c	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700
		<u>193,192</u>	<u>45,235</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>238,427</u>	<u>248,974</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		(18,859)	10,054	-	(8,805)	(1,237)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	5,315	8,164	16,362	29,841	(42,318)
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<u>(1,236)</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(14,780)	19,454	16,362	21,036	(43,555)
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		204,495	218,489	173,246	596,230	639,784
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>189,715</u>	<u>237,943</u>	<u>189,608</u>	<u>617,265</u>	<u>596,230</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>347,017</u>		<u>317,176</u>
			436,017		406,176
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	284		6,238	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>183,864</u>		<u>186,416</u>	
		184,148		192,654	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(2,900)</u>		<u>(2,600)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			181,248		190,054
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>£617,265</u></u>		<u><u>£596,230</u></u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			237,943		218,489
Endowment funds			189,608		173,246
Unrestricted funds			189,715		204,495
			<u><u>£617,265</u></u>		<u><u>£596,230</u></u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd J Rapson  
PCC Chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

### b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

### c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

### d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

f. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2023			Total	2022 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	112,910	-	-	112,910	116,984
Income tax recoverable	21,710	-	-	21,710	26,696
Cash collections at services	-	5,409	-	5,409	5,513
Gifts and cash offerings	8,031	3,571	-	11,602	3,611
Legacies	-	-	-	-	10,000
	<u>142,651</u>	<u>8,980</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,631</u>	<u>162,804</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	5,956	-	-	5,956	5,234
	<u>5,956</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,956</u>	<u>5,234</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	4,503	-	-	4,503	428
Parsonage Trust	-	2,595	-	2,595	2,581
St Michael's Trust	-	3,715	-	3,715	3,694
Coleshill Fund	1,689	-	-	1,689	3,158
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>6,192</u>	<u>6,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,502</u>	<u>9,861</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	13,234	4,499	-	17,733	21,411
Church rooms	-	15,540	-	15,540	21,157
Bookstall and magazine	1,637	-	-	1,637	1,044
Special services	4,664	-	-	4,664	4,237
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	19,959	-	19,959	21,990
	<u>19,534</u>	<u>39,999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,533</u>	<u>69,838</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2023			Total	2022 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	1,409	-	-	1,409	603
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	12,131	-	-	12,131	10,287
Parish share	89,332	-	-	89,332	86,720
Other ministry costs	250	-	-	250	7,329
Fabric, silver and vestments	-	13,262	-	13,262	20,402
Church running costs and maintenance	55,751	-	-	55,751	50,056
Upkeep of services	4,157	3,935	-	8,092	10,447
Special services fees and costs	-	25,740	-	25,740	22,104
Honoraria and organ maintenance	-	-	-	-	1,500
Churchyard maintenance	1,025	-	-	1,025	6,126
Parish magazine/bookstall	-	-	-	-	-
Other PCC property upkeep	-	771	-	771	9,732
Youth and school support costs	3,213	-	-	3,213	618
Church administration	23,224	-	-	23,224	19,729
Church rooms	-	1,527	-	1,527	622
	189,083	45,235	-	234,318	245,671
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700
	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700

During the year the PCC employed an administrator and an organist. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2023	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2023	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2022	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Coleshill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 23	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 23
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment (unrestricted)	56,491	-	-	-	5,315	61,806
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	124,216	-	-	-	11,687	135,903
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	86,778	-	-	-	8,164	94,942
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	49,691	-	-	-	4,675	54,366
	<u>317,176</u>	-	-	-	<u>29,841</u>	<u>347,017</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

Coleshill Investment is an unrestricted fund and created from 2 previous trusts All Saints Churchyard and All Saints Organ Fund.

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	285	555
VAT recoverable	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	5,683
	<u>285</u>	<u>6,238</u>

	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	300	-
Accruals	<u>2,600</u>	<u>2,600</u>
	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,600</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
	2023	resources	expended	movements		2023
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	5,077	5,409	-	-	-	10,486
Special fees	5,337	19,959	25,740	-	443	-
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,715	4,147	-	433	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	57,275	-	9,115	-	-	48,160
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,697	4,499	3,935	-	-	6,261
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	65,976	2,595	-	8,164	-	76,735
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Church rooms	23,178	15,540	1,527	-	-	37,191
Organ fund	3,500	-	-	-	-	3,500
Flower Fund	-	3,571	771	-	360	3,160
	<u>218,489</u>	<u>55,289</u>	<u>45,235</u>	<u>8,164</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>237,943</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	116,825	-	-	11,687	-	128,513
Coleshill fund	56,421	-	-	4,675	-	61,095
	<u>173,246</u>	-	-	<u>16,362</u>	-	<u>189,608</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	61,805	94,942	190,269	347,017
Current assets	41,809	143,000	(661)	184,148
Current liabilities	(2,900)	-	-	(2,900)
	<u>189,715</u>	<u>237,943</u>	<u>189,608</u>	<u>617,265</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £4,583.21.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £11,095.00.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

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

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House  
234 Botley Rd  
Oxford  
OX2 0HP

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023			Total £	2022 Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £		
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	142,651	8,980	-	151,631	162,804
Activities for generating funds	2b	5,956	-	-	5,956	5,234
Investment income	2c	6,192	6,310	-	12,502	9,861
From church activities	2d	19,534	39,999	-	59,533	69,838
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>174,333</u>	<u>55,289</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>229,622</u>	<u>247,737</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	1,409	-	-	1,409	603
Church activities	3b	189,083	45,235	-	234,318	245,671
Governance costs	3c	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700
		<u>193,192</u>	<u>45,235</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>238,427</u>	<u>248,974</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		(18,859)	10,054	-	(8,805)	(1,237)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	5,315	8,164	16,362	29,841	(42,318)
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<u>(1,236)</u>	<u>1,236</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(14,780)	19,454	16,362	21,036	(43,555)
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		204,495	218,489	173,246	596,230	639,784
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>189,715</u>	<u>237,943</u>	<u>189,608</u>	<u>617,265</u>	<u>596,230</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>347,017</u>		<u>317,176</u>
			436,017		406,176
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	284		6,238	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>183,864</u>		<u>186,416</u>	
		184,148		192,654	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(2,900)</u>		<u>(2,600)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			181,248		190,054
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>£617,265</u></u>		<u><u>£596,230</u></u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			237,943		218,489
Endowment funds			189,608		173,246
Unrestricted funds			189,715		204,495
			<u><u>£617,265</u></u>		<u><u>£596,230</u></u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd J Rapson  
PCC Chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

f. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2023			Total	2022 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	112,910	-	-	112,910	116,984
Income tax recoverable	21,710	-	-	21,710	26,696
Cash collections at services	-	5,409	-	5,409	5,513
Gifts and cash offerings	8,031	3,571	-	11,602	3,611
Legacies	-	-	-	-	10,000
	<u>142,651</u>	<u>8,980</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151,631</u>	<u>162,804</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	5,956	-	-	5,956	5,234
	<u>5,956</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,956</u>	<u>5,234</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	4,503	-	-	4,503	428
Parsonage Trust	-	2,595	-	2,595	2,581
St Michael's Trust	-	3,715	-	3,715	3,694
Coleshill Fund	1,689	-	-	1,689	3,158
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>6,192</u>	<u>6,310</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,502</u>	<u>9,861</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	13,234	4,499	-	17,733	21,411
Church rooms	-	15,540	-	15,540	21,157
Bookstall and magazine	1,637	-	-	1,637	1,044
Special services	4,664	-	-	4,664	4,237
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	19,959	-	19,959	21,990
	<u>19,534</u>	<u>39,999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,533</u>	<u>69,838</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2023			Total	2022 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	1,409	-	-	1,409	603
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	12,131	-	-	12,131	10,287
Parish share	89,332	-	-	89,332	86,720
Other ministry costs	250	-	-	250	7,329
Fabric, silver and vestments	-	13,262	-	13,262	20,402
Church running costs and maintenance	55,751	-	-	55,751	50,056
Upkeep of services	4,157	3,935	-	8,092	10,447
Special services fees and costs	-	25,740	-	25,740	22,104
Honoraria and organ maintenance	-	-	-	-	1,500
Churchyard maintenance	1,025	-	-	1,025	6,126
Parish magazine/bookstall	-	-	-	-	-
Other PCC property upkeep	-	771	-	771	9,732
Youth and school support costs	3,213	-	-	3,213	618
Church administration	23,224	-	-	23,224	19,729
Church rooms	-	1,527	-	1,527	622
	189,083	45,235	-	234,318	245,671
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700
	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,700

During the year the PCC employed an administrator and an organist. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2023	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2023	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2022	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Colehill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 23	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 23
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment (unrestricted)	56,491	-	-	-	5,315	61,806
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	124,216	-	-	-	11,687	135,903
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	86,778	-	-	-	8,164	94,942
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	49,691	-	-	-	4,675	54,366
	<u>317,176</u>	-	-	-	<u>29,841</u>	<u>347,017</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

Coleshill Investment is an unrestricted fund and created from 2 previous trusts All Saints Churchyard and All Saints Organ Fund.

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VAT recoverable	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	5,683
	<u>285</u>	<u>6,238</u>

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<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	300	-
Accruals	<u>2,600</u>	<u>2,600</u>
	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,600</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
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<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	5,077	5,409	-	-	-	10,486
Special fees	5,337	19,959	25,740	-	443	-
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,715	4,147	-	433	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	57,275	-	9,115	-	-	48,160
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,697	4,499	3,935	-	-	6,261
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<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	116,825	-	-	11,687	-	128,513
Coleshill fund	56,421	-	-	4,675	-	61,095
	<u>173,246</u>	-	-	<u>16,362</u>	-	<u>189,608</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	61,805	94,942	190,269	347,017
Current assets	41,809	143,000	(661)	184,148
Current liabilities	(2,900)	-	-	(2,900)
	<u>189,715</u>	<u>237,943</u>	<u>189,608</u>	<u>617,265</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £4,583.21.

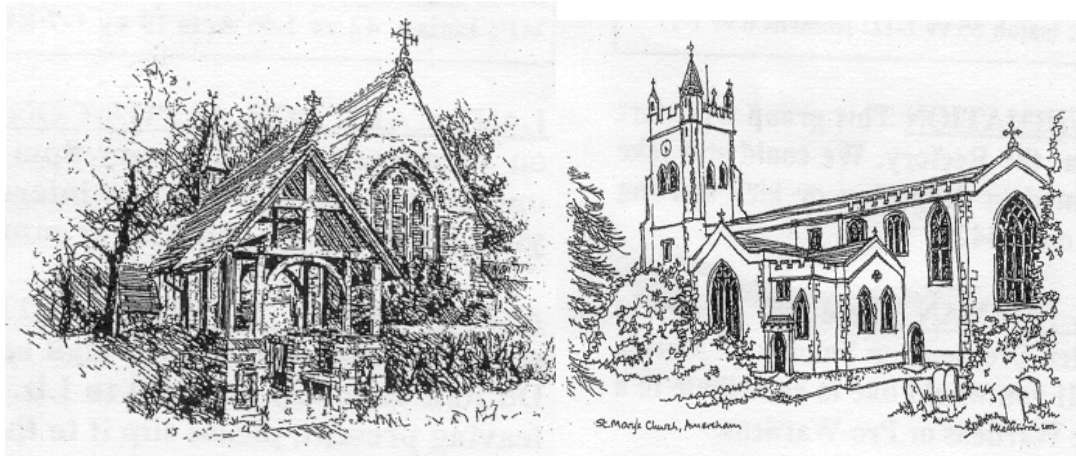
The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £11,095.00.

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# Accounts

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# **THE PARISH OF AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL**



## **Annual Report 2023**

**Come to the Annual Parish Meeting  
on Sunday 23rd April 2023 at  
11.50am in St Mary's Church**

**To discuss the past year and elect  
Churchwardens and PCC members**

**All welcome**



## Rector's Report - APCM

The annual report is not only an opportunity to report on all that has been happening in the parish but also to celebrate how we see God moving within our community. There is much to celebrate as we reflect on the past year as a parish. I believe I can summarise the year of the parish with one word: presence. This past year saw the world move into the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic where many have struggled with a lack of emotional presence in their lives after months of lockdown. As the world begins this new stage, the church needed to be present in many different ways to support its local community and I believe the parish of St Mary's and All Saints has truly stepped up to deliver.

While many feared that the pandemic accelerated church decline - our numbers in church week by week are continuing to look positive as they steadily increase to pre-pandemic levels. Although many suspected that the church's presence is no longer relevant, our attendance levels suggest otherwise. This is equally true of major festivals across the year such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest. Over Advent and Christmas, we had 2,758 people in our churches including our school Christmas services. Holy Week and Easter, although a shorter period, still boasted positive numbers of 1,203. In these seasons of busyness there is much to grab people's attention, yet many have chosen to be with the church as it is present in their lives which is wonderful news for us as a parish.

As a parish we have also gone further in being present for children in our new All-Age services, school assemblies & governance, our parish Parent and Toddler groups and our safeguarding procedures. The church is called to be present for everyone, no matter their age, and I am immensely proud of what the church is doing for the lives of children in the parish. Many say children are the church of tomorrow, but they are very much the church of today!

An often over looked aspect of the church's ministry is baptisms, weddings and funerals. These special offices are significant ways the church is present in people's lives and these must be celebrated. As a parish, we have been blessed with many opportunities to be present for people in both times of joy and times of grief. There have been 13 baptisms, 14 weddings and 38 funerals. The clergy will no doubt agree that these offices are a huge privilege for us to officiate as people invite us into their lives to share in these moments of deep significance.

Naturally, I need to talk about finances - this is an important part of church life and significantly impacts how, as a church community, we can be present in people's lives. With a steep rise in energy prices, the finances of the parish have entered a trying time which is being managed wonderfully by Graeme our treasurer. The situation several months ago was looking bleak, to say the least. However, now we have arrived at the

year's end the situation is not as bad as we first thought. This is largely down to the generous giving of those in the parish which we are incredibly grateful for. Although we will be ending with a deficit this financial year, we are hopeful that we can continue in the positive direction we are currently taking. The previous financial year saw a deficit of £19,000 and we have managed to reduce this to £1,200 which is a significant achievement. Thank you to everyone who has given their time or resources to enable this improvement in our financial situation, the church cannot be present for people without it.

The above are just a few examples of how the church is present for people in a whole host of different ways and there is much for us to celebrate as a parish. Of course, this APCM marks a personal milestone for me, as it is the last 'first' in the parish as my first year draws to a close. All I want to say on this is: thank you. Thank you to everyone who has supported the life of the church in my first year. The support from so many has been so greatly appreciated - it is difficult to put it into words. Bishop Alan said that St Mary's & All Saints is a Rolls Royce parish, and my first year has only proved that to be true. So, thank you to everyone who makes the church what it is.

### **Parochial Church Council Secretary's Report, April 2023**

The priority in 2022 was the process of appointing a new Rector. Reverend Jonny Rapson having been appointed, PCC returned to dealing effectively with the usual important concerns in the parish.

Not counting the very brief PCC meeting to elect officers immediately after the 2022 APCM, the PCC met formally in June, September and November 2022, and in February 2023. The minutes of all PCC meetings are available on request from the Parish Office. The average attendance at PCC meetings has been sixteen of the twenty-two members. The names of the members of the PCC for the period since the last APCM appear at the end of this report.

The Chairmanship of the new Rector has seen a marked improvement in the time spent at PCC meetings talking about topics where a written report would have been all that was needed. This change of tack produced a remarkably productive meeting in February which despite covering many matters, lasted one minute under an hour – *The Guinness Book of Records* was duly notified.

The members have risen to the challenge of getting to the point more quickly, presenting a written report where that was the more productive option, and discussing topics at PCC meetings only when there was confusion or disagreement. Happily, though there has

been the usual measure of the first (I speak for myself here), there have been only mild examples of the second and resolutions soon found.

The Standing Committee of core PCC members is empowered to take decisions, within guidelines agreed by the full PCC, on specific issues when no PCC meeting is imminent. Its decisions are always reported, and occasionally reviewed, at the next PCC meeting. Standing Committee is authorised to spend a maximum of £5000 if an emergency requires it and no PCC meeting is imminent. If an acute need arose, £200 may be spent without reference to other members of the committee. This allows action to be taken in an emergency, but such a situation would always be thoroughly examined by Standing Committee or the full PCC at the next opportunity. Examples of this were the need for an assessment of the damage to the east window at St Mary's, and to remedy the inadequate lighting on Rectory Lane, and in the churchyard, after a PCC member following a meeting in the church rooms, had a nasty fall in the dark.

The Wardens of both churches give a report at every PCC meeting, as does the Treasurer; updates on Safeguarding and Data Protection are also mandatory agenda items. The PCC receives regular reports on Charitable Giving, Mission, our two schools and the Almshouses. There is a report from the Deanery Synod, if a meeting has recently taken place.

### **Some matters discussed by the PCC in 2022-3**

1. One permanent agenda item is Fabric and Property in both churches, the main aspects of which are covered in the Church Wardens' reports, and which are the constant concern of our Treasurers.
2. Concern over utility charges which amount to an extra £30 per day to keep the parish running.
3. The live streaming of services at St Mary's proving popular, especially since the switch from Facebook to YouTube.
4. The success of All-Age Services, the restoration of Toddler and Parent Group and Sunday School.
5. The implications of the agreed Social Media Policy, particularly the extent to which the church can police or prevent misuse of photographs taken at church events.
6. Fund Raising for Charitable Giving.

Steve Johnson,  
PCC Secretary.  
April 2023

## **Amersham with Coleshill PCC**

### **Annual Treasurer's Report**

#### **For the year ended 31 December 2022**

I am pleased to provide you with our annual accounts and this Executive Summary:

Key objectives for 2022 were to:

1. Embed Parish Finance Simplification Strategy in order to support financial sustainability that will future proof the finances of the parish.
2. Provide finance and strategic guidance & controls to support day to day cashflow & support Mission and Fabric proposals across our Parish

As reported at our quarterly PCC meetings, the workings of the parish and our finances have been significantly impacted by the macro-economic environment of high inflation, high interest rate, market volatility, cost of living crisis with large increases in utility bills taking centre stage in both media and more locally our cashflow. In turbulent times there are always winners & losers but unless you were in specific sectors such as med tech, oil companies etc then the majority of businesses / organisations have found the post Covid "Road to Recovery" littered with potholes.

Summary of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2022:

- Good news - Across the unrestricted and restricted funds there is only a small deficit of £1.2k (before investment movements) which shows a significant improvement from the 19k deficit last year on a like for like basis. The unrestricted funds show a £13.5k deficit this year, this is largely to do with the covering of expenditure from restricted funds where the specific fund lacked sufficient reserves to pay the expenditure.
- Even given a difficult year the PCC is still well endowed and has nearly £201k on unrestricted funds as at 31 December 2022. Funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches although Mercer Lewin do not have enough information to assess whether these funds are adequate to meet predicted maintenance needs. However, on the basis that as a Parish, we significantly invested in our 3 main assets in recent years following last Quinquennial inspections we are not foreseeing high level of fabric expenditure in next FY.
- The reason for the significant drop in the overall funds carried forward is due to the drop in investment value. This is a paper deficit and has not impacted the cash reserves of the PCC which sit just over £186k. Auditors confirmed they have seen this drop in investments value across the board for several other PCCs and does not cause them any concern.

- Income has remained largely comparable with 2021, showing a small drop of c2.5%. Expenditure has decreased again this year; this is mainly due to a drop in repair costs and other church maintenance.
- Tax Recoverable up 5.5k – largely due to our efficient process of claiming everything we are entitled to – this is one of the key financial processes that does benefit from a single parish approach.
- Income from Church Activities increased to £67,758 (up 9%) due to Parish / Church Rooms reporting surplus £21k. It is fair to say there is some expenditure (eg cleaning, utilities) that gets mopped up by main expenditure but it does show this is still a valuable asset & contributor to both PCC & the community. Bear in mind previous year (Covid impacted), Income £6,948 vs Expenditure £4,305.
- Piggotts End Property - Surplus reduced to £5.5k from 14k previous year. Overall good result as we were aware of the significant fabric spend required early 2022 on roof repair and a new water tank. Thanks to Sue Pounce for all her efforts on helping Piggotts End run smoothly.
- The Piggotts End property is reserved asset held in trust with an ongoing debate whether this should be included in accounts at 89k or at current market value). With the valuation of the property we are allowed to take one of two different approaches. First and the current policy is to take the cost value and leave as is in the accounts without any revaluation, this was allowed during the transition period to the new reporting standards and can remain in place if we choose. Second option is to revalue the property and then undertake regular valuations to ensure that the correct market value is shown in the accounts, the valuation should be prepared by a professional. I am taking this to PCC and will update on those discussions through the usual channels.
- For third year running, our Parish Share was reduced by £3,411 to £86,720. We continue to pay our Parish Share in full every year.
- Balance Sheet: down up £43.6k (6.8%) to £596,230 547 from £639,784 – again, important context on balance sheet increase is the significant decrease in valuation of our investments.

It is important to understand when analysing Parish Finances that there are 3 types of Funds:

- Unrestricted Funds – general funds for general objectives of the church – Day to day operational cash flow but does include unrestricted assets– decreased by £21,035 to £204,495 of which £89,000 is the Piggotts End property.
  - Therefore, the PCC is well endowed and has c£111k (not incl PE fixed Asset value) on unrestricted funds as at 31 December 2022. Funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches.

- Restricted Funds –can only be used for the specific purpose for which they have been given eg Fabric – decreased by £1,404 to £216,400.
- Endowment Funds – represent endowments where capital must be maintained and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes specified in the establishment of the endowments – decreased by £23,204 to £173,246.
- **Good Box 2020 -2022 Comparison** - Good Box has become an important revenue generator - also being used for Bookstall & Marquee Hire.

	ASC	StM	Plant / Book Stall	Total
2020 (FY)	64 / £493	228 / £1,168	0 / 0	292 / £1,661
2021 (FY)	182 / £1,412	740 / £3,733	188 / £904	1110 / £6,049
2022 (FY)	217 / £1,350	1024 / £5,329	141 / £755	1382 / £7,434

- 22% increase YoY in usage / revenue across the Parish (note Good Box in administration) after provider charges credited £7,042.27
- All Regulation - Charities Commission, Diocesan return, HMRC, RTI and Pension Regulator fully up to date.
- The cashbook & general running of our finances has now been combined for both churches as a result of Parish Financial Simplification Project which has made the accounts process simpler and from our perspective has allowed the auditors to carry out their independent examination more smoothly.
- Auditors have expressed no concerns during their independent examination to the way we are running our finances.

Planned Giving & Gifts are our largest income source (c65%) and we must thank every one of our congregations for their continued support and contribution during another challenging year. Without ongoing Planned Giving and those generous “one offs” we simply cannot function. Thank you for what you donate now. If you are able to give more then, I can assure you, that we will put it to very good use and that every penny is accounted for and nothing is wasted.

In terms of Missionary & Charitable Giving, through the huge efforts of many of volunteers our overall total was £15,969 – down 3k from previous year but have to bear in mind economic headwinds mentioned previously. We will be working with the Mission Giving committee to ensure that we maintain the focus and impetus in 2023 especially given the inflationary pressure / cost of living increase leading to local hardship and the Ukraine situation then all monies we raise will be important to the good causes that provide support. I will also be working with the PCC & new Rector to define usage on Rectors Discretionary Fund (£14,081) that is defined in the accounts as support for “alleviation of need”.

Key Finance actions undertaken to address our key challenges and support delivery of sustainable 2022 financial Performance:

- All Regulatory (incl Diocesan, HMRC & Charities Commission) returns up to date including recent completion & update of bank mandates & KYC Due Diligence process.
- Auditors have given us a clean report in the way that we are managing our finances and regulatory obligations.
- Comprehensive Treasurers Report prepared and discussed at every PCC meeting.
- As reported at last year's AGM we would review our Parish Reserves and Investment Policy. Important to note, that you can always get a better return somewhere else in the market especially if you are willing to put elements of your capital at risk. However, we agreed at June PCC to retain our reserves & investments with the CCLA due to:
  - Funds only available to charitable trusts closely connected with the Church of England – 60+ years of investing responsibly & ethically
  - No1 UK Charity Asset Manager (Charity Finance Survey 2021 & 2020) - £13.1bn assets under management
  - Aims to provide high level of capital security
  - AA Af/S1 rated by Fitch

Our 2022 cashflow showed that we needed £539 per day / £16,415 per month to run our parish, this is a significant amount of money that we need to raise just to stand still. It is vital that we continue with focussed, disciplined management of our finances. In terms of operational cashflow, there is very little margin for error, every penny is used and if it is not used for day to day operations then we need to ensure it is only used to support the main good causes both at local and national level.

The PCC is still well endowed with both unrestricted & restricted funds as at 31 December 2022 and as highlighted, funds also exist for the maintenance of both churches. With that in mind, we have one potential large project under discussion at St Mary's – West Window – Sue Pounce again leading on this and we will take necessary advice and look for any possible grants to support. As we did with the Lighting and decorating projects, we will need to plan and scrutinise the scope, scale and timings to ensure their affordability in line with the many other calls on our resources.

In summary, 2022 was another challenging year. However, despite everything and with phenomenal support of our congregation we were able to show continued signs of financial stability & sustainability.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the support from Rev Jonny Rapson (great to have new rector finally on board), Rev Tim Barnard, Rev Sue Gill, Peter Clackett, Loraine Hollett, Clare Atkinson & Dorothy Potter who work so hard to support the parish finances. In addition, the Church Wardens, & Parish Secretary Steve Johnson for giving me the time at PCC to report, discuss & debate key financial challenges that we are facing. Thank You.

Should you have any queries concerning the contents of this review or should you have any general questions about the parish finances, please do not hesitate to contact me via mobile 07703 963990 or email at [treasurer-pcc@outlook.com](mailto:treasurer-pcc@outlook.com).

**Graeme Coles - PCC Treasurer**  
**April 2023**

### **PLANNED GIVING 2022**

THANK YOU. As a parish we are indebted to all those who give to the Church; no matter what your contribution all gifts together ensure that we are able to serve our community.

This year, we again have seen an increase in those making their regular gifts via standing order whilst cash collections have decreased. Many of those giving via standing order have been able to increase their personal contributions; this has gone a long way towards ensuring that the Church has been in a position to weather the financial storm which is affecting us all. If you don't give via Standing Order, both cash collections and the GoodBox machines at St Mary's and All Saints enable us to claim gift aid and this year we have been able to claim the maximum £8000 donations from the tax man via the Gift Aid small donations scheme. Gift aid added over £23,000 in total to our coffers this year and I make monthly claims to ensure that we are able to ensure that the money reaches our bank account in a timely fashion.

As ever, I will be letting everyone who makes a regular gift know the amounts that we have received and claimed in gift aid shortly after the end of the tax year in April. Please bear in mind that collating this information does take me a substantial amount of time and I therefore am not in a position to get it to you on 6 April! I will do my best to do this as quickly as possible, but please do bear with me.

I remain indebted to Loraine Hollett who banks all of the cash gifts we receive, something which is getting ever more difficult to achieve as we see the demise of the bank branches – it's all a real team effort.

Clare Atkinson 26 February 2021

## **2022 CHARITABLE GIVING COMMITTEE (CGC)**

Annually, the Charitable Giving Committee (CGC) proposes charities that have connections with our local community and meet the agreed CGC policy criteria. These charities approved by our PCC are asked to report back on how the money is used. Copies of the Charities thank you letters are put up in both Churches.

2022 was a very successful year for our Charitable Giving. Over £7,000 was raised following a number of fundraising activities including a successful harvest lunch, a soup lunch, flower workshop, book and plant sales, loaning of equipment, Heritage Day and our annual Parish fete. Our Parish fete raised over £4,000 of this sum.

All monies raised were divided between four charities: Ukrainian appeal (Disasters Emergency Committee), the local Multiple Sclerosis society, Salt of the Earth in India and the Lynda Jackson Cancer Memorial Fund at Mount Vernon.

In addition, over £2,600 was raised from our Christmas services for Crisis at Christmas.

Steve Poulson our mission partner, continues as a beneficiary through our ongoing links with Street Kids Direct (SKD) and the Church Mission Society. Steve works with Duncan Dyason's charity, Street Kids Direct (SKD) based in Guatemala and Honduras. Funds received by Steve support a successful mentoring programme set up for vulnerable young children in Honduras.

In 2022, our Charitable Giving came to £11,753 and an additional £4,216 was collected from Special Services making a total of £15,969.

Louise Baneke and Petrina Clackett

February 2023

## **Church Warden report for 2022/23 APCM**

When we reported nearly a year ago, we had just appointed our new Rector. It seems unbelievable that Jonny has been with us almost a year. We are so thankful that our prayers have been answered and we consider ourselves most blessed to have Jonny's ministry. Most of our services and former patterns of worship have been fully restored.

As always we are very grateful to Loraine Hollett who has regularly carried out risk assessments. We are thankful that God has sustained us, as a church community, during the period of interregnum. Jonny has energetically picked up and developed Pastoral Care within our church community and his work with children and young people is also blossoming. We thank Simon Hollett our children's worker for his faithful service. He has worked hard with the Rector to build this important part of our mission. Our Parish Harvest lunch in aid of Ukraine proved extremely popular as did the Rector's tricky quiz.

During the interregnum, and beyond we have continued to be blessed to have our Honorary Associate Rectors, Rev'd Tim Barnard, Rev'd Sue Gill and our Licensed Lay Minister Sheila Shield to lead our worship. Sarah Ainsworth-Coles, Mel Jackson and

Edward Brown, our authorised preachers, have also inspired us throughout the year and we thank God for them.

Under the leadership of Anthony Brown and Martin Pounce the streaming of church services has gone from strength to strength and we welcome Stephanie Shinner to the team. During the year the streaming platform has been changed and a Social Media policy and Streaming Policy developed. As ever our thanks go to the team and to Dan Solomon from Terry Tew of Sound and Light for his on-call support in times of need.

Our Director of Music, Edward McCall continues to develop the musical life of the church. Our organ scholar has played competently and confidently at several of our services. We hope to encourage others to come forward. The church choir continues to grow and the wide range of Anthems sung during communion and the monthly services of Choral Evensong together with the wonderful voluntaries and postludes from Edward enhance our regular worship.

We were able to hold our annual Parish Fete led by Martin and Loraine Hollett. This and the book and plant stall brought in substantial additional income for our charitable giving. We are delighted that the Team led by Martin and Loraine Hollett are planning for our fete this year to be held on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

We are again, both humbled and encouraged by the generosity shown towards St. Mary's over the past year. Without the financial support so generously offered by you, our church would simply not be able to function in the way it does. On behalf of the PCC, we would like to thank you all for your faithful on-going financial support of the work of our parish. With the help of generous donations from the Parish, we were able to get our new Rector to plant a tree in the churchyard to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

We are pleased to report that the buildings and fittings are in good order. A quinquennial inspection took place in November 2021 and although no matters of utmost urgency were noted, all recommended issues have been dealt with. All the regular checks are up to date (gas safety, electrical report, lightning conductor, fire extinguishers etc), and the organ has been serviced and tuned as per contract. We had to replace several of the spotlights in the churchyard and these have been upgraded to energy efficient LED lights. We have also had security lights put in outside the vestry door and the door to the Parish Office. We are pleased to report that the security system of the roof alarm recently deterred would be lead thieves.

The "Curate's House" at Piggott's End is privately let as it is not currently required for a Curate and brings in a useful income for the PCC. The tenants found by Hadlands have extended their tenancy for another year and the PCC have agreed to this. Our thanks must go to Amersham Town Council which has the responsibility to maintain the Churchyard. They carry out their duties so well.

We would like to thank all PCC members for their commitment throughout the year. The working teams, Standing Committee, Staff Meeting Team, our Sacristan Loraine, and

Dorothy, our Parish administrator who all continue to maintain the working dynamic of the Parish. The smooth running of the parish is the result of the tremendous support and assistance received from the many helpers within our congregation and parish throughout the year. This is, as ever greatly appreciated and our thanks go to all who contribute to the Church services as well as the regular tasks of cleaning the brasses by Val Royal, flower arranging led by Jo Coldham, management of noticeboards both internal and external by Karen Martin, bell ringing led by Jan Galloway and Mathew Johnson, the choir under the leadership of our Director of Music, Edward Mc Call and the careful stewardship of our finances by our Treasurer, Graeme Coles and Assistant Treasurer Peter Clackett. We are grateful to Clare Atkinson who manages the gift aid envelopes and stewardship details for both St Mary's and All Saints Churches and to our Electoral Roll Officer, Sarah Ainsworth-Coles. The Church as we know it would have difficulty functioning without all this, often unseen, work and we are truly grateful to everyone involved in its running. We would welcome more volunteers. If you are interested, more details can be found on the website under the tab 'about us' or please come and talk to us. We are very grateful to Michelle Caternach who designed and maintains our parish website so efficiently.

On the evening of May 24<sup>th</sup> the church was packed for the service of Institution led by Bishop Alan. Jonny was presented to the parish by our Patron, William Tyrwhitt Drake and inducted and installed by the Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham, Rev'd Canon Chris Bull. It was a wonderful time for the Parish to welcome our new Rector Jonny and his wife Jenna. We continue to put our trust in God, praying for Jonny, Tim, Sue and Sheila and for Sarah, Mel and Edward our authorised preachers. We remain thankful for the great spirit and shared purpose shown in their ministry.

Susan Pounce and Valerie Simmonds February 2023

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**  
**WARDENS' REPORT 2023**

The report this year, which relates to the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, was partially influenced by the interregnum, however, in May we welcomed our new rector, Rev. Jonny Rapson, at his installation.

After the end of lockdown, the Church was fully opened for Sunday communion services, although we still continue to instinct wine.

**WORSHIP:**

The pattern of services has remained generally as in previous years, with, where possible, the addition of a number of themed services.

Our house group, which is very ably led by Audrey Tridgell, continued to flourish. They meet every Wednesday, with members from both churches, averaging a total of 11 attendees.

Coffee (and a chat), immediately after Sunday morning service, was re-instated last summer and remains a firm favourite.

**SPECIAL SERVICES:**

We held themed services to encourage particular groups of people from the village and Winchmore Hill to join us, and we especially welcomed the children. Additionally, an All-Age service has been initiated by the rector and this has proved to be a successful service.

The children from the village Church of England school and their families joined us formally twice in the year – for Harvest Festival, and Christingle services (with congregations of 156 and 103 respectively). They continue to prove a great success. In addition, the school children visited the church at the end of each term. As normal, Bibles were presented again to school leavers at the end of the summer term. Rev. Jonny Rapson now holds assembly in the village school each Wednesday during term.

During Passiontide and Easter, we held a number of special services; on Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday and on the Tuesday of Holy Week an evening meditation - Compline for the Parish. There was also a special service of hymns, prayers, meditation, and the lighting of candles on Good Friday, together with our regular 9.00am morning service on Easter Day.

Unfortunately, due to the death of Queen Elizabeth our "Pet Service" had to be postponed for 2022. It is expected that a Pet Service will be held in 2023.

Other themed services included bees, patronal celebration, baptism renewal, Remembrance, and Mothering Sunday.

We continue to publicise the use of All Saints' for weddings and three couples used the church for their weddings in 2022. In addition, one funeral, with an interment in the churchyard and two further interments of ashes took place.

We ended the year with our festive services, including our crib service (attendance 52), Christingle service (attendance 103) and the well-attended carol service of lessons and carols (a total attendance of 62).

#### **MISSION ACTION PLAN:**

We continued to hold regular monthly prayer meetings in church. These were held on the first Saturday of the month. The number of attendees remains encouraging.

#### **PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH:**

The village school continues to maintain a close relationship with the church that has been further strengthened by our new rector.

The Magpie Club for pre-school children has restarted with weekly meetings in the Village Hall. On average 10 children and parents come each week for a chat and coffee.

The Patch system which is designed to support those who are ill or need company, and to welcome newcomers to the village returned to meetings, held twice a year.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

Other activities, like the normal Christian Aid week collection, walk, breakfast etc., did not take place this year.

In January the "Flower Ladies", held a coffee morning which included a drink & cake, a raffle and a bring & buy sale. The income was shared, equally between the Flower Fund, the school and Christian Eye Foundation giving £300 to each.

In May the churchyard was used to host a plant sale with a donation made to the church.

#### **FABRIC:**

Running repairs were made to the Church during the year following the observations of the Quinquennial inspection which took place in May 2021. The report did not indicate any further items of concern, however we did raise two Faculties, both of which were approved: The first, for installation of emergency lighting in the church and the second for removal of asbestos like materials from the porch roof. We have now completed the removal of the asbestos like material and are awaiting the completion of the alternative roof lining. The emergency lighting is awaiting the return of our electrician. We expect completion within the first quarter of 2023.

A "Parishioner Church Clean" took place in June, which helped keep the church looking at its best. We plan to organise a similar clean in 2023.

## **PARISHIONERS:**

All Saints' is a beautiful 1861 Victorian rural church, designed by GE Street, which plays an important part in the community life of the village and surrounding parish.

The Church Committee met on two occasions during the year to discuss the upkeep and daily running of the church.

There are many people with specific roles and talents who keep our church in an attractive, open, and welcoming state by giving generously of their time:-

- We are fortunate that our worship is enhanced by having a fine organ, a consummate Director of Music, Ruth Murphy, and a loyal band of faithful singers, although we are still looking towards anyone else who would like to sing.
- One of the glories of All Saints' is the colourful and artistic floral decoration organized by Rosemary Valentine and assisted by the flair and hard work of the team of talented workers.
- Chris Wege, as well as being the secretary to the Church Committee, devotes a great deal of time and care to the maintenance of the churchyard, including a redesigned flower bed, which is admired by local people and visitors alike.
- Peter Clackett, our All Saints' treasurer, is responsible for ensuring financial controls are in place. In 2021 plans were put in place, by the treasurers for St Mary's and All Saints', to strengthen these by the combination of the finances of both churches. This was completed in 2022 and now all financial matters are now being run collectively.
- Jane Stefanovic has continued her duties as cleaner, and works very hard to keep the building spotless, shining, and clean, this is greatly appreciated by worshippers and visitors.
- Paul Evans ensures that the church is both unlocked and locked with the church remaining open to all during the hours of daylight.

The list is not exhaustive, and we are fortunate to have such a faithful team of sidespersons, readers, choir, as well as those who prepare the church for services. We also need to thank our lay preachers, Mel Giddings, Anthony Brown and Sarah Ainsworth-Coles.

We must especially thank those parishioners who provide regular financial support to the church and have continued to do so. The money they so generously provide helps keep All Saints' open and in good condition.

We need to register our huge thanks to our all of our clergy, Jonny Rapson (rector), Rev. Sue Gill (associate rector) and Rev. Tim Barnard (associate rector) for spiritually guiding us through the year.

Finally, we would like to thank our retiring Church Warden, Howard Pool, for his support, enthusiasm and work for the church during his time as Church Warden.

Petrina Clackett

## **St Mary's CE Primary School Report**

### **Governors 2023**

#### **Introduction**

Jacqueline Rouse leads the Full Governing Body as Chair and David Pollitt supports as Vice Chair.

Edward Staite (Foundation Governor) and Chris Monnington (LA Governor) chair the sub committees – Teaching, Learning, Pupil & Community (TLPC) and Finance Premises and Personal (FPP) respectively.

#### **Governing Body Structure**

The Parish continues to have strong links with St Mary's School, with seven of the governing body's 12 members being appointed by the PCC or the Diocese of Oxford. All the Governors have also been in post for at least one academic year.

The Governors currently are:

<b>Rev. Jonny Rapson</b>	Ex-officio Governor	Ex-officio
<b>Jacqueline Rouse</b>	Chair	Appointed by the PCC
<b>David Pollitt</b>	Vice Chair	Parent Governor
<b>Chris Monnington</b>	Subcommittee Chair (FPP)	Local Authority appointed
<b>Steve Johnson</b>	Governor	Appointed by the PCC
<b>Frances Ford</b>	Governor	Appointed by the Diocese
<b>Ed Staite</b>	Subcommittee Chair (TLPC)	Appointed by the PCC
<b>Prina Mistry</b>	Governor	Parent Governor
<b>Edward McCall</b>	Governor	Appointed by the PCC
<b>Shanta Gilliott</b>	Governor	Appointed by the Diocese
<b>Nicky Norman</b>	Governor	Staff Governor
<b>Julie Hills</b>	Head teacher	Ex-Officio
<b>Martin Pounce</b>	Governor	Appointed by the Diocese

#### **Committees**

The two main Committees continue to meet once a term:

- The Teaching, Learning, Pupil and Community Committee
- The Finance, Personnel and Premises committee

These committees continue to drive clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. Through these committee meetings the Head teacher is held to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and the FPP oversees the financial performance of the school making sure its money is appropriately spent. The outputs of

these meetings are then communicated to the wider Governing Body at the twice termly Full Governing Body Meetings.

Working groups are also formed to focus on particular issues which then report back to the Governing body. We currently have working groups looking at communication including the engagement of St Mary's Staff, Pupils and Parents. This is assessed through an annual engagement survey. There is also an additional working party this academic year to consider 150 year anniversary of the School.

### **Overview of 2022-23**

The school was pleased to have been able to return school full time following the disruption in the 2020 & 2021 Academic years due to Covid-19. As with many other schools St Mary's not only faced a number of challenges through the lockdowns but also following this and a 'Bounce Back' plan has been put in place over the last academic year to support all pupils to get them back to the pre-covid assessment levels. This has been highly successful throughout the school which was evident through the assessments at the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. This continues this academic year.

The school continues with good academic progress and attainment generally and continues to offer a wide range of sports utilizing our Sports Premium. The school continues to partake in interschool competitions in various sports, with much success. Daily extra-curricular activities are part of school life and include football, cross-country, gymnastics, dance, netball and Choir.

Whilst the school continues to be challenged with regards to the restricted Budget the Parent Voluntary fund has continued to build positively and the Friends of St Marys have been very active in fund raising for the school. The Governing Body have continued to take every opportunity to make Parents aware of the Voluntary Fund which has proved successful and we continue to consider all additional revenue streams to support the school.

Our Glebe land project is now complete and has been formally named '**Rectory Meadow**' following a naming competition within the School. Rectory Meadow is used by the School for many activities including PE and the annual school sports day. The Governing Body are now considering how Rectory Meadow could be used as a source of revenue for the school and how it is offered out to the wider Amersham community for use.

Our Nurture group and breakfast club still provides a fostering environment for our pupil premium children and SEN where needed.

The Governing body continues to appraise the parents of the key focus areas for the Governors through a termly newsletter. Later this year we will be providing parents with an update on the initiatives associated with the Governor 5-year vision from the School Development Plan.

As detailed above one of the largest areas of activity for this academic year is the preparation for the celebration of the 150 year Anniversary of St Mary's school. The Governors have a working party which is creating a plan on how to communicate to and engage the staff, pupils and parents of the school but also the wider community. In addition the objectives through this academic year are to firstly, raise £150,000 for the

school and secondly, to enable it to become a sustainable school into 2024. There is much work to do in in this regards.

Finally, the Governors continue to support the School on enabling the children to achieve their very best in a happy and safe environment.

**Jacqueline Rouse**  
**Chair of Governors**  
**March 2023**

**COLESHILL CHURCH OF ENGLAND INFANT SCHOOL**  
**REPORT SPRING 2023**

We are pleased to see the days getting longer and the first signs of Spring! Our Reception and Year 1 children have been wrapping up warm and attending Forest School weekly in our amazing Forest School area. We always encourage the children to see the beauty of our surroundings and we are certainly very lucky in that regard being located in the stunning Chilterns.

This term, our whole school topic is “Fire and Ice” and we have been learning about areas of the world and different climates. We also have several themed weeks including Children’s Mental Health Week, Science Week and our annual Spirituality Week. We are also planning to have a visit from our local fire brigade this term. We have celebrated Chinese New Year with the children and have a workshop in March to learn about Holi Day.

The children have enjoyed some inter-school sports festivals, such as the gymnastics, football and multi-skills which enrich the children’s experience at school. We also had an excellent whole school trip to Brooklands museum last term, where we learned about our “Travel and Transport” topic. The children were able to take part in a workshop to build a glider and were able to sit in a formula one car. They loved being able to board a couple of aeroplanes and thoroughly enjoyed the bus museum where they were able to explore old and new buses.

From 7th March, we are very pleased to announce that we will be hosting a toddler stay and play in our dedicated Forest School area, encouraging children and their families to share outdoor adventures through nature inspired activities, imaginative play, music, crafts and a large dollop of muddy fun! Each week there will be new activities set up for you and your children to get hands on playing, exploring and learning together. Invitations to explore always include the mud kitchen, diggers, dinosaurs and mark making. Hot drinks will be available for adults and a

snack is provided for the children. Activities are aimed at children aged 18 months – 5 years but all are welcome. Please look out for more information!

More details of how to book will follow soon. In the meantime you can contact Bizi on [bizi@discoverysprouts.co.uk](mailto:bizi@discoverysprouts.co.uk) or 07766 755 859 with any questions and follow along with our adventures @discoverysprouts on Facebook and Instagram to see what you can expect.

One of our local parents, Stella Gittins has set up “Quack Snacks” duck feeding station at the school. Duck food is now available to purchase for 50p from the school porch which will be dropped into an honesty box. All proceeds go to the school.

During Lent, we encourage the children to think about how to behave towards others, to have good manners and to be particularly kind and caring towards one another. We have a ‘Child of the Day’ every day from each class. They wear a special rosette for the day and have special privileges, such as being a group leader, or being first to come in and out of the playground. Everyone has to say something kind to the Child of the Day to make them feel loved and special. We have our Mothering Sunday service at All Saints Church in Coleshill on 19th March and our end of term service on 31st March.

Looking further ahead to hopefully warmer weather, our annual May Fayre will be held in the school garden, weather permitting, on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Sarah Hewat  
Head Teacher

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. MARY’S**

Sunday school at St Mary's Church has been taking place most weeks in the Drake Chapel. 39 different children have attended at least once in the past year, with an average attendance of just over 5. Here's what some of the regulars say about it:

“I enjoy Sunday School because it is fun”

“Sunday School is a great place to be. We play games and learn stories, it is really fun”

“Sunday School is a great place to learn about God and Jesus. It is a nice place where we worship God in a playful way. There are fun games which makes it more interactive and you learn more about Christianity at the same time.”

“Everyone is treated equally and we welcome new people”

Developments this year include a rota of adults (and a big thank you to all who are on it), monthly all-age services and holiday parties. 15 children, some of which were from All Saints, attended the Christmas party, with more sad they couldn't make it due to illness. At time of writing, I'm just starting to plan an Easter party which will be open to the wider community.

Simon Hollett

## MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

I would like to start by recording my thanks to the choir, who give their time so readily week after week, especially when there is a more intense pattern of services. Their musical leadership elevates the sense of worship no end. I have been grateful for their support, both musical and personal during another busy year. There is such a warmth and collegiate atmosphere it always makes the time together so enjoyable.

The choir has enjoyed (I hope!) the various pieces of new repertoire that have been introduced. Thankfully, they are becoming accustomed to me throwing new music at them on a semi-regular basis. It is so useful for choirs to be able to sight-read with ease and makes the process of exploring new music even more enjoyable. As always, I am hugely grateful for the commitment choristers make on a weekly basis to support the worship.

Anne Weatherall and Miriam Richardson have settled into their new role as the choir Librarians, and encouraging us to return music, no mean feat for choristers (and Directors of Music!) who love to archive choral scores. Thanks go to them for enabling us to function so smoothly in this regard on a weekly basis.

We have been very fortunate to have been able to benefit from Adrian and Andrew playing on Sundays as need be. I am very grateful to be able to call on them and their willingness to support, especially at a time when Organists are in short supply. In a similar vein, Harry, who has gone from strength to strength has continued to gain confidence, not only as a soloist, but as an accompanist. He has taken to this role very ably and it is wonderful to be able to rely on his ability so that I can conduct from time to time whilst having such skilfully played organ accompaniment.

Within the coming months, we hope to launch a chorister recruitment scheme, focusing on the primary age group. It is so important to inspire and encourage children to sing, and by doing so, gives the opportunity to bring families into the church. We still have a commitment to restore and enhance the Organ, which struggles to project down the Nave when the church is full, as well as the flexibility to subtly accompany the choir and to adequately play more than a relatively narrow range of repertoire effectively.

As always, my thanks go to the clergy team, and Jonny in particular during his first year. His overt support of all things musical has been excellent and it will be a pleasure working through longer term plans to enhance the music to higher levels.

Some projects have been delayed this year and so once again, a personal thanks to the clergy and choir for their support during a particularly busy period outside of church. I am looking forward to dusting off my project files in the summer and cracking on with plans for the church Music Department!

Edward McCall

## **MUSIC AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

Restrictions imposed because of the Covid-19 pandemic were gradually lifted.

The singing of the Communion hymn by the choir was re-introduced in July and the wearing of masks has now become quite rare. We do continue to intinct the bread in the wine at the Eucharist.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May we welcomed our new Rector, the Reverend Jonny Rapson, at the service for his Induction and Installation. The Parish choir of 18 choristers sang Wood's 'O thou, the central orb' during the service.

When a choir is requested for a wedding or funeral our two church choirs work to ensure a good attendance. These are welcome opportunities for us to get together.

We currently have seven choristers but, despite the small number, we continue to provide a full Choral Evensong each month.

New members would be very welcome so do please be in touch with me if you are interested in joining us.

Many thanks are due to the clergy for their support, to Gerard Anderson for playing the organ once a month and to Dorothy Potter for always ensuring we are kept in the picture.

Finally, and not least, I am grateful to all members of the choir for their continuing interest, support and good humour.

Ruth Murphy

## **Bellringers Report 2023**

At last things are getting back to normal after 3 years of disruptions. Most of our ringers are back to ringing regularly for Sunday services and practice nights. We are still a bit rusty on more difficult ringing so we now have a special practice on the first Thursday of the month to ring more advanced methods. We are helped at this by several experienced ringers from around the area, who kindly come to help us.

During 2022 five quarter peals were rung by members of our band, sometimes with help from ringers from other local towers. One peal was rung by a visiting band. We had general ringing and a quarter peal for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and also for her funeral in September. This was quite interesting. We had been prepared for some time for the eventuality of her death. The protocol for the death of a monarch is for the bells to be fully muffled with the tenor open at backstroke so we had purchased extra muffles. We were also able to lend some of our old muffles to two other local churches so they could also ring fully muffled. The tenor bell was tolled the morning after the announcement of

her death and again on the morning of her funeral. On both occasions, we finished with “Last man standing” where we ring the bells in rounds and then stand each bell in turn until there is only one bell, the tenor ringing. We all find this very moving.

A quarter peal was also rung on the Saturday just before the funeral. This was rung by 6 friends who all had significant birthdays in 2022 and was to have been an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday complement to my husband, Stuart. Under the circumstances we decided that the quarter peal should just be dedicated to The Queen.

Another quarter peal was rung in September in memoriam of Hugh Neill, a former member of the tower.

The band were sorry to lose one of our very competent ringers during the summer when he and his family moved to Devizes.

On Heritage Day in September we had a stall on the high street and arranged for more than 40 people of all ages to visit the tower. As a result we had several people who were interested in having a trial to see if they would like to learn to ring, Three of them are still learning and we hope will be ready to join us in “Ringing for the King” in May for the coronation. We are still keen to recruit more learners, so if you would like to have a taster session, please contact me via the website. You will be made very welcome.

We continue to ring for several carol services in December and weddings throughout the year.

Following the quinquennial inspection, it was suggested that we clean the belfry, to see if there was any new activity from woodworm and such like. One Saturday morning in January, several ringers duly turned up at the tower with dusters, brushes and vacuum cleaners. Two of our younger members did a splendid job around the bells, climbing around the frame and under the bells, which had been rung down to make sure all was safe. Others thoroughly cleaned the ringing room, swept the stairs and redid the seals on the windows. There is much less draught now.

I would like to thank all the band for their support this year, and the PCC for allowing us to ring these splendid bells

Jan Galloway Tower Captain.

### **Sacristan's Report 2023**

My third year in this role has seen many changes; we have welcomed Jonny as the new rector; we have introduced specific order of services during the liturgical year, for example at Advent; and we have returned to offering communion in both kinds.

As the church has continued post-Covid we offer a blend of church and on-line services, but with more services in church now and the attendances in church showing a steady return to levels similar to those pre-Covid.

The Christmas services in particular had congregations greater than those experienced pre-pandemic, with the crib service having around 30 children dressing up and taking part.

The candle stand continues to be well used by both visitors to the church and the congregation.

There are several people who regularly assist with the sacristy tasks associated with the smooth running of the services and the church in general and I am grateful for their support. Of course, there is always room for anyone who would like to join the team, either to cover a specific activity or just to provide an extra pair of hands. If you are interested, then please talk to me after the 10:30 service.

Lorraine Hollett, Sacristan

### **St Mary's Church Flowers**

The flowers have been arranged by all the ladies in the Flower Group throughout the year for the Sunday services and for funerals and several weddings.

On Mothering Sunday bunches of flowers were again prepared for the children to give to their mothers and other ladies in the church.

We were able to go ahead with the giving of lilies at Easter in remembrance of loved ones which is much appreciated.

In May the flower group did special white arrangements for Jonny's Induction Service and the following week we held a successful flower workshop to welcome Jonny and to raise money for the Lynda Jackson Memorial Centre.

A special arrangement was done for the Queen's Jubilee weekend.

Special flowers were arranged in white purple and gold for the sad death of Queen.

Various groups in the church were again invited to decorate a window sill to symbolise Harvest Thanksgiving.

The annual lunch party was a great success again this year. It was held at Shan Pearce's house. It seems to be a popular event and gives everyone a chance to get to know each other and have a good time.

In December and February the flower group held a cake stall to raise money to fund the Flower Festival which will be held in September.

We would like to thank all those who have contributed in any way and would love to hear from anyone who might be interested in helping us in the Flower Group.

Jo Coldham, Flower Co-ordinator 01494-725284

### **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH FLOWER TEAM**

2022 was a very enjoyable year for the flower team with the usual festivals and our special celebration for the Queen.

Our year started with filling the church for Easter with lilies in memory of loved ones with their names on an attractive poster in the church porch made by Jane McNeilly. The windowsills were decorated with vases of spring flowers and Kristina Saunders created a beautiful Easter table with crosses, moss and flowers.

Our fun came in June with the flower festival for Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee. The title CROWNING GLORY set the scene for crowns, tiaras, beautiful hats, head scarves, handbags, sashes and jewellery, anything the Queen might have worn, as props for our arrangements. There was an abundance of colour and original displays for visitors to enjoy before they joined the street party.

As part of our annual village show there was a competition judged by villagers for arrangements in soft shades in a variety of containers. Catherine Watts won the Jackie Ferguson cup with her arrangement in a green jug.

Also Catherine installed in the porch a giant harvest art poster created by the village school children as a backdrop for their miniature handmade fruit and vegetable display. We are so lucky to have the school's involvement in our festivals.

The team decorated the church in time for the Christingle service with greenery and candles giving the church a magical touch for all the Christmas services.

We are also grateful to Andrew Davies editor of the Coleshill Newsletter as he makes a point of adding several colour photos of our arrangements to add to Judi Herbert's flower team reports. In each newsletter she tries to encourage new members but sadly at the moment with little success.

Andrew also designed the poster for our annual fundraising coffee morning which was held in the village hall on January 16th with about 55 attendees. It was excellently organised by Judi Herbert who offered to take over when my husband became ill. They raised over £800 from a raffle, bring and buy and entry fees to include coffee and cake.

The flower fund, the village school, Parkinson's UK and OneCan food bank in High Wycombe each received £200, a very successful event.

We now prepare for Easter again asking for £5 per Lily this year as prices for flowers has increased again.

Rosemary Valentine

### **Sunday Morning Get Together after the 10.30 Service**

Since resuming coffee after the 10.30 service in February 2022, we have been able to continue doing this with no more stoppages for Covid outbreaks, thankfully !

The numbers of people attending church, and coffee afterwards, have slowly increased as the Covid threat seemed to diminish, and I can report that we now serve the same number of people as we did before the stoppages.

As I write, we have a full complement of helpers, but if anyone feels that they could help, as a reserve perhaps, please contact me. New hands are always most welcome.

We have been spoilt once or twice this year, as there have been several cake stalls arranged by others for charitable purposes or for the flower festival, and we have been able to purchase homemade cakes and biscuits as a treat to consume with our coffee.

We cordially invite any new members of the congregation to join us after the service for refreshments and half an hour of socialising and meeting new friends.

**All are most welcome!**

Janet Clayfield February 2023

### **SIDESTEAM REPORT**

The Sides team are a great group of efficient, happy and enthusiastic members of the congregation. Being on the Sides team is a nice way to get involved at St Mary's and to get to know people. We cover all services including special services and support the Verger role for weddings and funerals. Everyone on the Sides team works well together in a caring and supportive way with each typically on duty two or three times a quarter. The team has the important role of welcoming people to the Church and the feedback received shows how well this is received and appreciated.

We adopted some new ways of working to keep people safe but have retained the warm welcome for which we are known at St Mary's. Thank you for being such a great team and if you'd like to join the team please speak to Howard Hughes.

## Members of the Parochial Church Council, 2022 – 2023

Reverend Jonny Rapson	Rector
Reverend Tim Barnard	Honorary Associate Rector
Reverend Sue Gill	Honorary Associate Rector

Petrina Clackett	All Saints' Churchwarden
Howard Pool	All Saints' Churchwarden
Susan Pounce	St Mary's Churchwarden
Val Simmonds	St Mary's Churchwarden

Graeme Coles	PCC Treasurer and Deanery Synod
Peter Clackett	All Saints' Treasurer
Lorraine Hollett	Sacristan
Steve Johnson	PCC Secretary

### **Lay representatives**

Clare Atkinson	Planned Giving
Mark Paton	Church Rooms and Data Management
Louise Baneke	Charitable Giving
Sarah Ainsworth-Coles	Lay Preacher, Electoral Roll and Deanery Synod
Clare Samuels	Parish Safeguarding Officer
Lucy Hann	Parish Website
Karen Martin	Information Management
Mel Giddings	Lay Preacher and Safeguarding
Neta Foote	Pastoral Support
Bart Schmal	Streaming, Insurance
Rebecca Benn	Social Support

Our thanks to these members, and to Roy Evans whose health meant he stood down from PCC mid-year.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2022**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House  
234 Botley Rd  
Oxford  
OX2 0HP

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

		2022				2021
	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	157,291	5,513	-	162,804	175,175
Activities for generating funds	2b	5,234	-	-	5,234	7,451
Investment income	2c	2,108	7,753	-	9,861	8,871
From church activities	2d	21,532	48,306	-	69,838	62,091
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>186,165</u>	<u>61,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,737</u>	<u>253,588</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	603	-	-	603	700
Church activities	3b	196,360	49,311	-	245,671	269,641
Governance costs	3c	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400
		<u>199,663</u>	<u>49,311</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248,974</u>	<u>272,741</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		(13,498)	12,262	-	(1,237)	(19,153)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	(7,537)	(11,577)	(23,204)	(42,318)	45,503
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(21,035)	684	(23,204)	(43,555)	26,351
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		225,530	217,804	196,450	639,784	613,434
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>204,495</u>	<u>218,489</u>	<u>173,246</u>	<u>596,230</u>	<u>639,784</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>317,176</u>		<u>359,494</u>
			406,176		448,494
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	6,238		1,966	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>186,416</u>		<u>193,020</u>	
		192,654		194,986	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(2,600)</u>		<u>(3,697)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			190,054		191,290
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£596,230</u>		<u>£639,784</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			218,489		217,804
Endowment funds			173,246		196,450
Unrestricted funds			204,495		225,530
			<u>£596,230</u>		<u>£639,784</u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd J Rapson  
PCC Chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

### b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

### c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

### d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**f. Fixed assets**

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

<b>2. INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	2022			Total	2021 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	116,984	-	-	116,984	134,683
Income tax recoverable	26,696	-	-	26,696	21,294
Cash collections at services	-	5,513	-	5,513	3,644
Gifts and cash offerings	3,611	-	-	3,611	15,054
Legacies	10,000	-	-	10,000	500
	<u>157,291</u>	<u>5,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162,804</u>	<u>175,175</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	5,234	-	-	5,234	7,451
	<u>5,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,234</u>	<u>7,451</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	428	-	-	428	24
Parsonage Trust	-	2,581	-	2,581	2,496
St Michael's Trust	-	3,694	-	3,694	3,573
Coleshill Fund	1,680	1,478	-	3,158	2,670
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	-	-	-	108
	<u>2,108</u>	<u>7,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,861</u>	<u>8,871</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	16,251	5,160	-	21,411	23,589
Church rooms	-	21,157	-	21,157	6,948
Bookstall and magazine	1,044	-	-	1,044	1,042
Special services	4,237	-	-	4,237	3,135
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	21,990	-	21,990	27,378
	<u>21,532</u>	<u>48,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,838</u>	<u>62,091</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2022			Total	2021 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	603	-	-	603	700
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	8,151	2,136	-	10,287	18,977
Parish share	86,720	-	-	86,720	90,131
Other ministry costs	7,329	-	-	7,329	1,047
Fabric, silver and vestments	12,004	8,398	-	20,402	32,346
Church running costs and maintenance	50,056	-	-	50,056	49,097
Upkeep of services	5,627	4,820	-	10,447	11,348
Special services fees and costs	-	22,104	-	22,104	26,727
Honoraria and organ maintenance	-	1,500	-	1,500	5,600
Churchyard maintenance	6,126	-	-	6,126	4,363
Parish magazine/bookstall	-	-	-	-	2,763
Other PCC property upkeep	-	9,732	-	9,732	1,511
Youth support costs	618	-	-	618	862
Church administration	19,729	-	-	19,729	20,564
Church rooms	-	622	-	622	4,305
	196,360	49,311	-	245,671	269,641
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400
	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400

During the year the PCC employed an administrator. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2022	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2022	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2021	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Colehill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 22	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 22
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment (unrestricted)	64,028	-	-	-	(7,537)	56,491
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	140,790	-	-	-	(16,574)	124,216
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	98,355	-	-	-	(11,577)	86,778
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	56,321	-	-	-	(6,630)	49,691
	<u>359,494</u>	-	-	-	<u>(42,318)</u>	<u>317,176</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

Coleshill Investment is an unrestricted fund and created from 2 previous trusts All Saints Churchyard and All Saints Organ Fund.

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	555	289
VAT recoverable	-	1,048
Prepayments and accrued income	5,683	630
	<u>6,238</u>	<u>1,966</u>

	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	-	630
Accruals	2,600	3,067
	<u>2,600</u>	<u>3,697</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
	2022	resources	expended	movements		2022
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	1,700	5,513	2,136	-	-	5,077
Special fees	5,451	21,990	22,104	-	-	5,337
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,694	3,694	-	-	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	60,501	1,478	4,704	-	-	57,275
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,357	5,160	4,820	-	-	5,697
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	84,704	2,581	9,732	(11,577)	-	65,976
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Church rooms	2,643	21,157	622	-	-	23,178
Organ fund	5,000	-	1,500	-	-	3,500
	<u>217,804</u>	<u>61,573</u>	<u>49,311</u>	<u>(11,577)</u>	-	<u>218,489</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	133,399	-	-	(16,574)	-	116,825
Coleshill fund	63,051	-	-	(6,630)	-	56,421
	<u>196,450</u>	-	-	<u>(23,204)</u>	-	<u>173,246</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	56,491	86,778	173,907	317,176
Current assets	61,605	131,711	(661)	192,654
Current liabilities	(2,600)	-	-	(2,600)
	<u>204,495</u>	<u>218,489</u>	<u>173,246</u>	<u>596,230</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £7,329.04.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £7,520.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2022**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
6-7 Citibase, New Barclay House  
234 Botley Rd  
Oxford  
OX2 0HP

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

		2022				2021
	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	157,291	5,513	-	162,804	175,175
Activities for generating funds	2b	5,234	-	-	5,234	7,451
Investment income	2c	2,108	7,753	-	9,861	8,871
From church activities	2d	21,532	48,306	-	69,838	62,091
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>186,165</u>	<u>61,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,737</u>	<u>253,588</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	603	-	-	603	700
Church activities	3b	196,360	49,311	-	245,671	269,641
Governance costs	3c	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400
		<u>199,663</u>	<u>49,311</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248,974</u>	<u>272,741</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		(13,498)	12,262	-	(1,237)	(19,153)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	(7,537)	(11,577)	(23,204)	(42,318)	45,503
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(21,035)	684	(23,204)	(43,555)	26,351
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		225,530	217,804	196,450	639,784	613,434
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>204,495</u>	<u>218,489</u>	<u>173,246</u>	<u>596,230</u>	<u>639,784</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>317,176</u>		<u>359,494</u>
			406,176		448,494
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	6,238		1,966	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>186,416</u>		<u>193,020</u>	
		192,654		194,986	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(2,600)</u>		<u>(3,697)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			190,054		191,290
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£596,230</u>		<u>£639,784</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			218,489		217,804
Endowment funds			173,246		196,450
Unrestricted funds			204,495		225,530
			<u>£596,230</u>		<u>£639,784</u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd J Rapson  
PCC Chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

### b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

### c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

### d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**f. Fixed assets**

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2022			Total	2021 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	116,984	-	-	116,984	134,683
Income tax recoverable	26,696	-	-	26,696	21,294
Cash collections at services	-	5,513	-	5,513	3,644
Gifts and cash offerings	3,611	-	-	3,611	15,054
Legacies	10,000	-	-	10,000	500
	<u>157,291</u>	<u>5,513</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>162,804</u>	<u>175,175</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	5,234	-	-	5,234	7,451
	<u>5,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,234</u>	<u>7,451</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	428	-	-	428	24
Parsonage Trust	-	2,581	-	2,581	2,496
St Michael's Trust	-	3,694	-	3,694	3,573
Coleshill Fund	1,680	1,478	-	3,158	2,670
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	-	-	-	108
	<u>2,108</u>	<u>7,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,861</u>	<u>8,871</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	16,251	5,160	-	21,411	23,589
Church rooms	-	21,157	-	21,157	6,948
Bookstall and magazine	1,044	-	-	1,044	1,042
Special services	4,237	-	-	4,237	3,135
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	21,990	-	21,990	27,378
	<u>21,532</u>	<u>48,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,838</u>	<u>62,091</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2022			Total	2021 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	603	-	-	603	700
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	8,151	2,136	-	10,287	18,977
Parish share	86,720	-	-	86,720	90,131
Other ministry costs	7,329	-	-	7,329	1,047
Fabric, silver and vestments	12,004	8,398	-	20,402	32,346
Church running costs and maintenance	50,056	-	-	50,056	49,097
Upkeep of services	5,627	4,820	-	10,447	11,348
Special services fees and costs	-	22,104	-	22,104	26,727
Honoraria and organ maintenance	-	1,500	-	1,500	5,600
Churchyard maintenance	6,126	-	-	6,126	4,363
Parish magazine/bookstall	-	-	-	-	2,763
Other PCC property upkeep	-	9,732	-	9,732	1,511
Youth support costs	618	-	-	618	862
Church administration	19,729	-	-	19,729	20,564
Church rooms	-	622	-	622	4,305
	196,360	49,311	-	245,671	269,641
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	-
Independent examination	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400
	2,700	-	-	2,700	2,400

During the year the PCC employed an administrator. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2022	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2022	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2022	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2021	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Colehill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 22	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 22
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment (unrestricted)	64,028	-	-	-	(7,537)	56,491
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	140,790	-	-	-	(16,574)	124,216
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	98,355	-	-	-	(11,577)	86,778
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	56,321	-	-	-	(6,630)	49,691
	<u>359,494</u>	-	-	-	<u>(42,318)</u>	<u>317,176</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

Coleshill Investment is an unrestricted fund and created from 2 previous trusts All Saints Churchyard and All Saints Organ Fund.

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	555	289
VAT recoverable	-	1,048
Prepayments and accrued income	5,683	630
	<u>6,238</u>	<u>1,966</u>

	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	-	630
Accruals	2,600	3,067
	<u>2,600</u>	<u>3,697</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
	2022	resources	expended	movements		2022
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	1,700	5,513	2,136	-	-	5,077
Special fees	5,451	21,990	22,104	-	-	5,337
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,694	3,694	-	-	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	60,501	1,478	4,704	-	-	57,275
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,357	5,160	4,820	-	-	5,697
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	84,704	2,581	9,732	(11,577)	-	65,976
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Church rooms	2,643	21,157	622	-	-	23,178
Organ fund	5,000	-	1,500	-	-	3,500
	<u>217,804</u>	<u>61,573</u>	<u>49,311</u>	<u>(11,577)</u>	-	<u>218,489</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	133,399	-	-	(16,574)	-	116,825
Coleshill fund	63,051	-	-	(6,630)	-	56,421
	<u>196,450</u>	-	-	<u>(23,204)</u>	-	<u>173,246</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	56,491	86,778	173,907	317,176
Current assets	61,605	131,711	(661)	192,654
Current liabilities	(2,600)	-	-	(2,600)
	<u>204,495</u>	<u>218,489</u>	<u>173,246</u>	<u>596,230</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £7,329.04.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £7,520.

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# Accounts

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**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2021**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2021.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
41 Cornmarket Street  
Oxford OX1 3HA

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

		2021			2020
	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>					
Voluntary income	2a	171,531	3,644	-	175,175
Activities for generating funds	2b	7,451	-	-	7,451
Investment income	2c	1,580	7,291	-	8,871
From church activities	2d	20,373	41,719	-	62,091
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-
		<u>200,935</u>	<u>52,654</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>253,588</u>
					<u>241,350</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Fundraising costs	3a	700	-	-	700
Church activities	3b	195,402	74,240	-	269,641
Governance costs	3c	2,400	-	-	2,400
		<u>198,502</u>	<u>74,240</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>272,741</u>
					<u>351,049</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		2,433	(21,586)	-	(19,153)
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>					
on disposal		-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	8,013	12,480	25,010	45,503
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		(28,773)	28,773	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(18,327)	19,667	25,010	26,351
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		243,857	198,137	171,440	613,434
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>225,530</u>	<u>217,804</u>	<u>196,450</u>	<u>639,784</u>
					<u>613,434</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>359,494</u>		<u>313,991</u>
			448,494		402,991
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	1,966		25,515	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>193,020</u>		<u>189,633</u>	
		194,986		215,148	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(3,697)</u>		<u>(4,705)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			191,290		210,443
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£639,784</u>		<u>£613,434</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			217,804		243,857
Endowment funds			196,450		198,137
Unrestricted funds			225,530		171,440
			<u>£639,784</u>		<u>£613,434</u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

H Hughes  
Vice-chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

### b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

### c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

### d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

### e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

f. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2021			Total	2020 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	134,683	-	-	134,683	89,728
Income tax recoverable	21,294	-	-	21,294	56,143
Cash collections at services	-	3,644	-	3,644	5,241
Gifts and cash offerings	15,054	-	-	15,054	43,595
Legacies	500	-	-	500	-
	<u>171,531</u>	<u>3,644</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,175</u>	<u>194,707</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	7,451	-	-	7,451	2,009
	<u>7,451</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,451</u>	<u>2,009</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	24	-	-	24	330
Parsonage Trust	-	2,496	-	2,496	2,410
St Michael's Trust	-	3,573	-	3,573	3,450
Coleshill Fund	1,448	1,222	-	2,670	1,380
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	108	-	-	108	1,421
	<u>1,580</u>	<u>7,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,871</u>	<u>8,991</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	16,196	7,393	-	23,589	14,016
Church rooms	-	6,948	-	6,948	-
Bookstall and magazine	1,042	-	-	1,042	577
Special services	3,135	-	-	3,135	8,611
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	27,378	-	27,378	12,439
	<u>20,373</u>	<u>41,719</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,091</u>	<u>35,643</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2021			Total	2020 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	700	-	-	700	183
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	17,033	1,944	-	18,977	3,617
Parish share	90,131	-	-	90,131	91,092
Other ministry costs	1,047	-	-	1,047	870
Fabric, silver and vestments	-	32,346	-	32,346	147,594
Church running costs and maintenance	49,097	-	-	49,097	23,449
Upkeep of services	3,768	7,581	-	11,348	3,533
Special services fees and costs	-	26,727	-	26,727	11,676
Honoraria (organist)	5,600	-	-	5,600	4,860
Churchyard maintenance	4,363	-	-	4,363	2,140
Parish magazine/bookstall	2,763	-	-	2,763	1,335
Other PCC property upkeep	174	1,337	-	1,511	448
Youth support costs	862	-	-	862	2,400
Church administration	20,564	-	-	20,564	14,868
Church rooms	-	4,305	-	4,305	38,574
	195,402	74,240	-	269,641	346,456
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	-	-	-	1,910
Independent examination	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,500
	2,400	-	-	2,400	4,410

During the year the PCC employed an administrator. It also paid honoraria to both organist and children's leader, none of which came to £60,000 or more. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2021	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2021	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2020	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Coleshill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 21	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 21
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment	56,015	-	-	-	8,013	64,028
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	122,926	-	-	-	17,864	140,790
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	85,875	-	-	-	12,480	98,355
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	49,175	-	-	-	7,146	56,321
	<u>313,991</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,503</u>	<u>359,494</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	289	1,877
VAT recoverable	1,048	23,238
Prepayments and accrued income	630	400
	<u>1,966</u>	<u>25,515</u>

	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	630	400
Other creditors	-	1,705
Accruals	3,067	2,600
	<u>3,697</u>	<u>4,705</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
	2021	resources	expended	movements		2021
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	-	3,644	1,944	-	-	1,700
Special fees	4,800	27,378	26,727	-	-	5,451
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,573	32,346	-	28,773	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	59,278	1,222	-	-	-	60,501
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,545	7,393	7,581	-	-	5,357
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	71,065	2,496	1,337	12,480	-	84,704
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Parker Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church rooms	-	6,948	4,305	-	-	2,643
Organ fund	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
	<u>198,137</u>	<u>52,654</u>	<u>74,240</u>	<u>12,480</u>	<u>28,773</u>	<u>217,804</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	115,535	-	-	17,864	-	133,399
Coleshill fund	55,905	-	-	7,146	-	63,051
	<u>171,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,010</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>196,450</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

The Parker Trust fund is restricted to the ongoing maintenance of St Mary's.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	64,027	98,355	197,111	359,494
Current assets	76,199	119,449	(661)	194,986
Current liabilities	(3,697)	-	-	(3,697)
	<u>225,530</u>	<u>217,804</u>	<u>196,450</u>	<u>639,784</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £724.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £14,570.

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# Accounts

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**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 DECEMBER 2020**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
AMERSHAM WITH COLESHILL PCC**

I report on the accounts of the above parish for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the 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 parish's accounts carried out under s145 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 which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

A Churchill Stone FCA DChA

Mercer Lewin Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
41 Cornmarket Street  
Oxford OX1 3HA

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020			Total £	2019 Total £
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £		
<b>INCOME</b>						
Voluntary income	2a	186,090	8,617	-	194,707	150,048
Activities for generating funds	2b	2,009	-	-	2,009	11,802
Investment income	2c	330	8,661	-	8,991	13,172
From church activities	2d	22,464	13,179	-	35,643	62,419
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-	-
		<u>210,893</u>	<u>30,457</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>241,350</u>	<u>237,441</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Fundraising costs	3a	183	-	-	183	2,109
Church activities	3b	173,888	172,567	-	346,456	215,528
Governance costs	3c	2,500	1,910	-	4,410	5,453
		<u>176,571</u>	<u>174,477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>351,049</u>	<u>223,090</u>
<b>Net Income (Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		34,322	(144,020)	-	(109,698)	14,351
<b>Gains and losses on investment assets</b>						
on disposal		-	-	-	-	-
on revaluation	5	3,604	1,164	10,754	15,522	65,099
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		(102,703)	102,703	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(64,777)	(40,153)	10,754	(94,177)	79,450
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		308,634	238,291	160,686	707,611	628,161
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>243,857</u>	<u>198,137</u>	<u>171,440</u>	<u>613,434</u>	<u>707,611</u>

An adjustment has been made to the brought forward restricted and unrestricted funds for an amendment to an item of expenditure in the prior year.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	4		89,000		89,000
Investments	5		<u>313,991</u>		<u>379,532</u>
			402,991		468,532
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	25,515		8,048	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>189,633</u>		<u>233,931</u>	
		215,148		241,979	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(4,705)</u>		<u>(2,900)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			210,443		239,079
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>£613,434</u>		<u>£707,611</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHURCH</b>					
Restricted funds			198,137		238,291
Endowment funds			171,440		160,686
Unrestricted funds			243,857		308,634
			<u>£613,434</u>		<u>£707,611</u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC on ..... and are signed on its behalf by:

H Hughes  
Vice-chairman

G Coles  
Treasurer

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

a. Basis of preparation

The PCC is a Public Benefit Entity within the meaning of FRS102. These accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' 'True and Fair' provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102(2016) as the applicable accounting standard and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

b. Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds available for the general objectives of the church. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds.

Endowment funds represent endowments, of which the capital must be maintained, and the dividend income used only for the restricted purposes arising from the establishment of the endowments.

c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") when the church becomes legally entitled to the income and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty.

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving is recognised only when received. Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC becomes aware of its legal entitlement and the amount due is quantifiable with reasonable certainty.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is accounted for when the gift is received.

When incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising income) the incoming resources and the related resources expended are accounted for gross in the SoFA.

Interest is accounted for when receivable and includes any recoverable tax.

d. Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for goods or services.

All costs have been directly attributed to the various categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources based on an allocation of actual costs.

As the church is not registered for VAT, all the expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

Governance costs include the costs of the preparation of the annual accounts, the cost of PCC meetings and the legal cost of advice on governance or constitutional matters.

Grants and charitable giving are accounted for when paid over or when awarded, if the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC, provided that there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the church.

e. Pensions

The PCC encourages its employees to join the a Pension Scheme which is a defined contribution pension scheme. The PCC matches contributions made by employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC. The contributions payable by the PCC are charged to the SoFA as they are incurred.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

f. Fixed assets

Fixed assets are originally recorded at cost. Items are capitalised when the component purchase price is over £1,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over four years.

Freehold land and buildings are not depreciated due to estimated residual value not being below carrying amount. Expenditure incurred maintaining the property to its previously assessed standard is written off when incurred.

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s96(2)(a) of the Act.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed on the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired before 2001 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been written off in the SoFA as they arose.

Investments are valued at Market Value.

2. INCOMING RESOURCES	2020			Total	2019 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Voluntary income</b>					
Recurring income					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Tax efficient giving	89,728	-	-	89,728	101,485
Income tax recoverable	56,143	-	-	56,143	26,723
Cash collections at services	1,624	3,617	-	5,241	19,794
Gifts and cash offerings	38,595	5,000	-	43,595	1,745
Legacies	-	-	-	-	301
	<u>186,090</u>	<u>8,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>194,707</u>	<u>150,048</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Activities for generating funds</b>					
Fetes, bazaars, etc	2,009	-	-	2,009	11,802
	<u>2,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,009</u>	<u>11,802</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Income from investments</b>					
Interest, etc	330	-	-	330	2,030
Parsonage Trust	-	2,410	-	2,410	2,340
St Michael's Trust	-	3,450	-	3,450	3,350
Coleshill Fund	-	1,380	-	1,380	1,521
Dividends - JM Finn (Parker Trust)	-	1,421	-	1,421	3,930
	<u>330</u>	<u>8,661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,991</u>	<u>13,172</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>d. Income from Church activities</b>					
Income from use of Church	13,276	740	-	14,016	23,033
Church rooms	-	-	-	-	8,557
Bookstall and magazine	577	-	-	577	1,704
Special services	8,611	-	-	8,611	11,914
PCC fees	-	-	-	-	-
Extra fees	-	12,439	-	12,439	17,211
	<u>22,464</u>	<u>13,179</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,643</u>	<u>62,419</u>

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

3. RESOURCES EXPENDED	2020			Total	2019 Total
	General fund	Restricted funds	Endowment Funds		
<b>a. Fundraising costs</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of fundraising events	183	-	-	183	2,109
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Charitable activities - mission of the Church</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving	-	3,617	-	3,617	10,373
Parish share	91,092	-	-	91,092	94,728
Other ministry costs	870	-	-	870	3,002
Fabric, silver and vestments	-	147,594	-	147,594	11,956
Church running costs and maintenance	23,449	-	-	23,449	23,384
Upkeep of services	2,522	1,010	-	3,533	9,508
Special services fees and costs	-	11,676	-	11,676	13,174
Honoraria (organist)	4,860	-	-	4,860	5,744
Churchyard maintenance	2,140	-	-	2,140	3,714
Parish magazine/bookstall	1,335	-	-	1,335	2,088
Other PCC property upkeep	-	448	-	448	6,344
Youth support costs	2,400	-	-	2,400	15,568
Church administration	14,868	-	-	14,868	6,445
Church rooms	30,352	8,222	-	38,574	9,500
	173,888	172,567	-	346,456	215,528
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>c. Governance costs</b>					
Administration costs	-	1,910	-	1,910	2,953
Independent examination	2,500	-	-	2,500	2,500
	2,500	1,910	-	4,410	5,453

During the year the PCC employed an administrator. It also paid honoraria to both organist and children's leader, none of which came to £60,000 or more. No member of the PCC was paid by the PCC during the year.

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Freehold land and buildings	Equipment and fittings	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	89,000	10,369	99,369
At 31 December 2020	89,000	10,369	99,369
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	-	10,369	10,369
Charge for the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	-	10,369	10,369
Net book value at 31 December 2020	89,000	-	89,000
Net book value at 31 December 2019	89,000	-	89,000

The PCC owns freehold land and buildings comprising the Curate's House (held in trust) and The Church Rooms (which were purchased by the PCC of the Parish of Amersham in July 1930 and registered with the Land Registry in January 2014). No formal valuations have been sought for these properties. The land and buildings comprising St Mary's Church and All Saints Church are vested in the Rector of the Parish of Amersham with Coleshill. The PCC consider that depreciation of the buildings would not be material in the circumstances.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

<b>5. INVESTMENT ASSETS</b>	Value at	Investment	Additions/	Dividends	Unrealised	Value at
All CBF Income Shares	1 Jan 20	charges	(disposals)	reinvested	movements	31 Dec 20
	£				£	£
Coleshill Investment	52,411	-	-	-	3,604	56,015
St Michael's Trust (Endowment)	115,245	-	-	-	7,681	122,926
Coleshill Parsonage Trust (Restricted)	80,510	-	-	-	5,366	85,875
Coleshill Fund (Endowment)	46,103	-	-	-	3,073	49,175
JM Finn (Parker Trust)	85,264	(1,910)	(80,572)	1,421	(4,202)	-
	<u>373,455</u>	<u>(1,910)</u>	<u>(80,572)</u>	<u>1,421</u>	<u>15,522</u>	<u>313,991</u>

Please note that the investments above are shown as their asset values and not their fund splits.

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b>6. DEBTORS</b>		
Gift aid claims made but not received	1,877	2,684
VAT recoverable	23,238	1,810
Prepayments and accrued income	400	3,554
	<u>25,515</u>	<u>8,048</u>
	£	£
<b>7. CREDITORS</b>		
Income received in advance	400	400
Other creditors	1,705	-
Accruals	2,600	2,500
	<u>4,705</u>	<u>2,900</u>

<b>8. FUNDS</b>	At 1 Jan	Incoming	Resources	Investment	Transfers	At 31 Dec
	2020	resources	expended	movements		2020
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Collections for specific purposes	-	3,617	3,617	-	-	-
Special fees	4,037	12,439	11,676	-	-	4,800
Fabric fund - St Mary's	-	3,450	106,153	-	102,703	-
Fabric fund - All Saints'	57,898	1,380	-	-	-	59,278
St Michael's Trust - income	38,368	-	-	-	-	38,368
St Mary's Bell Fund	5,815	740	1,010	-	-	5,545
Coleshill Parsonage Trust	63,737	2,410	448	5,366	-	71,065
Rector's discretionary fund	14,081	-	-	-	-	14,081
Parker Trust	46,133	1,421	43,351	(4,202)	-	-
Church rooms	8,222	-	8,222	-	-	-
Organ fund	-	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
	<u>238,291</u>	<u>30,457</u>	<u>174,477</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>102,703</u>	<u>198,137</u>
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
St Michael's Trust	107,854	-	-	7,681	-	115,535
Coleshill fund	52,832	-	-	3,073	-	55,905
	<u>160,686</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>171,440</u>

Both fabric funds are restricted to the ongoing maintenance of the PCC properties.

St Michael's Trust is held on permanent endowment, the income only from which is for the upkeep and repair of St Mary's.

The Coleshill Parsonage Trust may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose in the parish, not restricted to All Saints'.

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is held for the alleviation of need.

The Coleshill Fund is held on permanent endowment, the income of which is for the upkeep of All Saints'.

The Parker Trust fund is restricted to the ongoing maintenance of St Mary's.

**PARISH OF AMERSHAM AND COLESHILL  
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

<b>9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS</b>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	89,000	-	-	89,000
Investments	56,015	85,875	172,101	313,991
Current assets	103,547	112,262	(661)	215,148
Current liabilities	(4,705)	-	-	(4,705)
	<u>243,857</u>	<u>198,137</u>	<u>171,440</u>	<u>613,434</u>

**10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The amount of expenditure reimbursed to the trustees during the year was £1,240.

The total amount of money donated by the trustees to the charity during the year was £12,660.