

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BEBINGTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1130323

Details

Other names BEBINGTON PARISH CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-06-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 57 Townfield Lane
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Activities

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

Activities: Full details of the many varied activities of the Church may be found in the Annual Report of the Trustees for the year to 31 December 2019

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Burundi
- Chile
- Haiti
- Kenya
- Turkey
- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£375,404	£402,815	-	-
2023-12-31	£599,242	£734,279	£1,129,568	3
2022-12-31	£756,728	£326,033	£1,264,226	3
2021-12-31	£300,838	£332,979	-	-
2020-12-31	£288,561	£315,437	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev David Andrew Vestergaard	Chair	2013-09-17
Brenda Brocklebank		2025-05-25
Bryan Higgins		2019-04-30
CHRISTOPHER JOHN JACKSON		
Callum Peters		2021-05-25
Caroline Adamson		2019-04-30
Catherine Morris		2025-05-25
David Halliday		2015-04-30
Denise Moore		2025-05-25
Esther Darnton		2023-05-16
Gwen Derrig		2025-07-15
IAN WILLIAM HALLIDAY BA HONS		
Ian Swindlehurst		2014-04-02
Joanna Jones		2025-05-25
Judith Battersby		2017-04-26
Kate Muskett		2018-04-26
Kathryn Jones		2025-05-20
Kathryn Sarah Butler		2015-04-30
Laura Clark		2023-05-16
MIKE SHEVLIN		2023-05-16
Mike Ludbrook		2018-04-26
Nathan Storm		2021-05-25
Penny Tomlinson		2023-05-16
Rev Andrew Field-Davies		2024-06-30
Rev Debbi Stott		2025-07-24
Sue Kennaugh		2022-05-25
Susan Allsop		2025-05-20

Name	Role	Appointed
Vivian Halliday		2022-05-25

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Accounts



Bebington Parish

Annual Report 2024

Incorporating Reports and Accounts for the year ended
31 December 2024



Our Vision

A Christ-Centred Family Sharing God's Love

Christ-Centred: Followers of Jesus Christ, grounded in scripture, prayer and worship

Family: A welcoming fellowship where all ages are nurtured and enabled to use their God-given gifts

Sharing God's love: Making Christ known in our daily lives with everyone we meet

Serving and loving each other, our community and beyond



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Rector's Report on St Andrew's

Rector's Report on St Andrew's

Where 2023 was a year dominated by activity relating to buildings, the most significant events during 2024 were warmly welcomed additions to our staff team. Having successfully made an appointment at the end of 2023, we saw Jen Shelton start as our Leader of Children & Families Ministry in January. She has settled into the role very well, and despite the challenges of working across both churches in a part time role, and seeking to both support and expand our ministry, she has achieved an enormous amount during the year. You can read of more (including the new Lego Church initiative) in the Children & Families Hub report. The post is financially provided for from legacy funding which we have set aside for the purpose. We have taken the decision (in early 2025) not to recruit an additional part time worker at this stage, in order to be able to resource the post for longer from this fund, to provide sustainability.

Then, in June, we welcomed our new Curate, Andy Field-Davies, and his family. We are working this differently to previous Curacies, with Andy serving across both churches – this enriches the ministry across the parish, and provides a more varied training experience. Andy has settled in well and we are valuing his ministry, which as the year drew to a close included making preparations to start a new monthly café-style service early in 2025.

Having seen a lot of buildings related activity in 2023, during 2024 we were able to enjoy the benefits of that. It has been good to see the restored stonework on the spire and tower; the external lighting is a great improvement to the churchyard and very welcoming in the winter months; many people have enjoyed the benefit of the church hall refurbishment; our office team are well settled into working in the church hall; and we are well settled into the replacement Rector's house on Quarry Avenue, which is working very well both as a family home and a base for ministry. One relatively minor but very significant building-related project during the year was to remove 10 pews from the church and replace with chairs – these were obtained secondhand so there was limited cost to the project, which has provided much more flexibility for wheelchair users, and a greater supply of more comfortable seating for those who need it.

With an ancient listed church building, work is never finished, and in the latter part of the year we instructed our Architect to begin work on a major window restoration project. Much of the stonework around & within many of the windows needs replacement, so watch this space for developments over the next year. And our Environmental Working Group is looking at options and priorities for improving our care for the environment and working towards environmental awards, which in due course will inevitably include some significant buildings related expenditure.

As always, we were sad to say farewell to a number of church members during the year, as some sadly died, and others moved away. However we welcomed a number of new members during the year, and average attendance at the services remained stable – around 135 at the 10:30am service, and around 20 at the 8am service, with about another 30 (on a conservative estimate) joining the 10:30am livestream online or watching afterwards.



During the year, we ran teaching series including 'Resourcing God's mission', our Vision, 'Journey to the Cross', Luke ch 13-16, Old Testament Bible stories, our Verse for the Year (Colossians 2:6-7), and Prayer. We continued the same service pattern as last year. During February, we welcomed the Bishop of Chester for a Baptism (by full immersion) and Confirmation Service. In June, we were privileged to be able to hold a Civic Service for the Mayor of Wirral, who is one of our local Councillors.

We continue to feel the impact of the pandemic in many ways, but one positive legacy has been the practice of livestreaming services, which we have continued to do. This is enormously valuable for members who are housebound, sick, or unable to attend for other reasons. We also continue to support those who are sick or housebound through our small team of pastoral visitors and with occasional home communions – the number of people needing support, and the limits on our resources, mean that such visits are not as frequent as we might like, but we will continue to look for ways of building on this in the future.

We also continued to run other areas of church ministry as before, and held successful events for the church and community at Easter and Christmas. We run a range of groups and activities for different ages, seeking to serve our community, help people encounter Jesus Christ, and grow in faith and service.

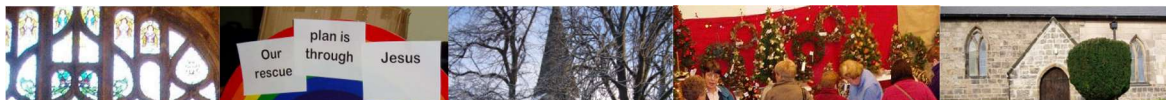
We also ran two Alpha courses during the year, and (a first for St Andrew's) the Freedom in Christ Discipleship Course - we ran this as a trial with a small group and found it worked extremely well, so at the year end we were making plans for a larger course in the new year. These courses enabled a number of people to cement and/or grow their faith significantly. We were also glad to have two church members join the Diocese's 'Foundations for Ministry' course and looking to get more involved in service.

In September we hosted an event titled 'I am Mark', a one man dramatic presentation of Mark's Gospel. Those who came found this both enjoyable and powerful. Then, in October we held a successful Awayday at Barnstondale, with Steve James as the speaker and over 100 people attending for part or all of the day. To make this into a weekend of activities we held a barn dance on the Friday evening, and bring & share lunch on the Sunday, which were enjoyed by all who came. During the year we held a number of breakfasts, lunches and other social events, which were well attended and enjoyed.

Having trialled a prayer breakfast in 2023, we ran these once a term, as an opportunity for people to come together to enjoy fellowship and pray for our church, parish and community. We continued to run a weekly online prayer meeting during term time, and also started from September a weekly simple service of Morning Prayer in church on Tuesday mornings, attended by the clergy team and any others who wish to come. I would love to see more people join us at any of these!

We also saw the beginnings of the 'Flourish' project, a joint venture between the PCC and the Governors of St Andrew's School. This is part of a national C of E pilot project aimed at creating new midweek worshipping communities within schools. You can find out more in the St Andrew's School report.

Once again, we found that despite increases in giving from the congregation during last year, increasing costs meant that we were not covering our outgoings from our regular income. We are very dependent on the generosity of the congregation, who



provide almost all our income. We are grateful to all who give, and to those who were able to increase their giving or start giving during the year – as always this was partially offset by those who died or moved away. We finished the year with a deficit of approximately £12,000, which was considerably better than forecast at the start of the year, but still significant, and not sustainable in the long term. Due to increased costs, and despite the increases in income, we began 2025 with a gap between income and expenditure of over £30,000 for the year. Short of cutting staff (which would be very damaging to our ministry) there is very little we can do to reduce costs, so in order to meet the budget, a combination of people giving more, and more people giving, is needed. So once again we have been asking if you could prayerfully review your financial giving, especially if you have not done so for a while.

I would like to finish with a note of thanks. As always, there are too many people to thank individually, but I am so grateful to our dedicated team of clergy & staff, churchwardens, PCC, maintenance team, and all who have served in many different ways in contributing to our ministry during the year, for their partnership, commitment and support. Our teams work so well together and it is a privilege to serve with them. I'm grateful too to all those who serve in so many different ways in our church groups and activities, enabling us to carry out the wide range of things we do. Once again we have seen a number of people drawn into new areas of service. There are always opportunities for people to get involved in serving, so do please consider prayerfully whether the Lord may be encouraging you into something new.

It is a joy to walk together as disciples of Jesus and members of God's family, in worship, fellowship and service. Seeing people drawn to faith, and others visibly growing in faith, are the greatest joys of ministry, and I trust we will see more of this together in the coming year. I pray that each of you will grow closer to Him in your own daily walk.

David Vestergaard

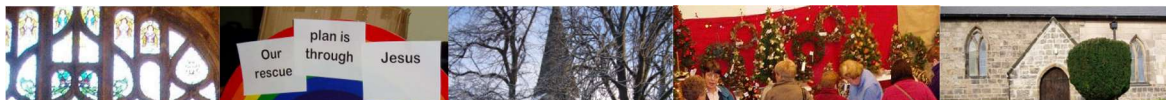
Townfield Report

2024 has been another year of thankfulness for regular things which have continued to happen, week in week out, and it has also been a year of exciting new things.

We are hugely grateful to God for both, because they both come out of God's amazing goodness & generosity to us!

Keeping regular

One of the most important things about church life is that we are a solid, dependable, reliable, trustworthy community, and one of the ways we demonstrate that is by continuing God's work, with amazing energy and resilience. We are grateful to everyone who has so faithfully enabled us to continue meeting together in house groups, at prayer breakfasts, with children and young people in Sunday Clubs and youth activities, as Messy Church, and in community facing groups (joint with St Andrew's) like Little Fishes, Friendly Faces and the Thanksgiving of Women After Childbirth. Many of these activities (such as Friendly Face and Little Fishes) have seen



significant growth over recent years, and it's fantastic to see Townfield members being so involved in such a wide range of activities.

Sundays, are, of course, one of the most public 'regular things' we do, and during 2024 we have seen growth both by being joined by new people, and also by deepening our understanding of, and walk alongside Jesus. In 2024 we dug deeper into: our understanding of Titus; times of waiting with God; the Holy Spirit; some of Paul's missionary journeys; some key female Biblical characters; the Sermon on the Mount; and just how 'down to earth' Jesus is.

And we should also recognise that one of the regular things which enables all this to happen is financial giving, which comes entirely from the congregation. Once again, giving at Townfield increased (thank you!), and our total giving in the year was very nearly on budget (just £500 short). We had been expecting that our costs would be higher than our income, and they were – but the gap was smaller than expected (£6500 instead of £8000). This gap is covered by Parish reserves, and we continue to be grateful for St Andrew's support. But it's also important to highlight the huge steps that Townfield has made in recent years – giving has increased by 52% since 2017, and the gap between our income and spending has been shrinking significantly too.

New things

Church life never stands still, and we have been so excited to see several new things start during 2024.

Firstly, Jen Shelton started as our Leader of Ministry with Children and Families in January. This part-time post is shared 50/50 with St Andrew's, and everyone has been so impressed by how much of a difference Jen has made already. She has brought new energy and enthusiasm to everything we were already doing, and has begun new things, like Lego Church, a new monthly worshipping community which meets on Saturdays, and already attracts up to 20 children (plus their adults). We look forward to seeing how that continues to grow.

We were also so pleased to be joined by Andy Field-Davies and his family, as he began his curacy in the parish in July. Unlike previous curates, Andy's time is shared half and half between St Andrew's and Townfield, and we are definitely benefitting from his ministry among us.

As part of our ongoing thinking about our outreach into the wider community, in October we began an occasional (and experimental) guest service, called Townfield XL. The idea is that this Sunday morning service (happening a couple of times a year) has a feel which is part-way between a mid-week group (like Little Fishes, or Messy Church or Lego Church), and our normal Sunday morning service. It's an opportunity to have a special focus on inviting & involving the large numbers of children and families who take part in our groups, but don't make it to Sundays. It's early days, but, so far, we have been pleased to see good numbers of visitors coming along, which is just one more small step in sharing God's love with the wider community.

We also, through the year, began to develop a "Flourish" project at St Andrew's school (in partnership with the school, St Andrew's church, the diocese, and the national Church of England). Flourish is about starting a new, intergenerational



worshipping community within the school, with children at the heart of its planning and leading. The project began in September, with our first priority being to recruit a new staff member (funded by a grant from the national church) to lead the project. Recruitment took place across the autumn term, and we were very pleased to be able to appoint Amy Walker, who began her role at the start of January 2025 (so look out for next year's report to hear how that's going!).

Signs of growth, and ongoing challenges

There are so many signs of growth at Townfield (and in our work with St Andrew's church and the school):

- Thriving community facing groups such as Friendly Faces and Lego Church
- Growing numbers at Townfield Messy Church (with up to 110 children and adults attending)
- The new worshipping community of Lego Church which is getting well established
- New people joining us on Sundays
- The Flourish Project is all set to begin and grow through 2025
- Good responses to guest services, such as Townfield XL and the Christingle Service (record numbers, every seat used)

We're thankful to God for all his work in that.

But we're not complacent – the challenges remain large. We still struggle not to be 'invisible' in the community due to the limitations of having no building, and although we have great connections with children and families during the week, we're seeing smaller numbers on a Sunday, which we would love to change!

So please do keep praying, keep serving, and keep being equipped and enabled by God!

Al Rodgers

Wardens' Report

2024 has been a time of gradual growth in our church life and we have welcomed a number of new people into our church community. We were particularly delighted to welcome a new curate, Andy Field-Davies and his family, and we are enjoying the gifts, talents and enthusiasm which they have brought to our congregation. The number of people attending our regular services in church has remained steady, and we continue to livestream most of our services so that any unable to attend are able to participate. We are now offering refreshments both before and after the morning service and this has been well received and is helping to build fellowship.

We are very grateful to all those who contribute to our weekly worship, our dedicated sides people, those who lead and preach, those who read and pray, our talented music team, our wonderful refreshment team, our skilled technical team who keep our worship running smoothly. Our thanks also go to all those who help with the regular upkeep of our church building, those who clean brasses, arrange flowers and of course our wonderful Monday Gang. We must not forget the wonderful team of assistant wardens who assist with duties at Sunday services throughout the year.



We have held a number of special events including a well received Good Friday drama outside the Civic Centre, the Carol Service, the Tree Festival and the Christmas Experience. We have continued to hold regular church breakfasts which have proved popular and have been an excellent way of building fellowship across our church community. We have also had a church barbecue and a hot pot supper. In October we had a very successful barn dance and a well attended Church Away Day at Barstondale We have also been running regular prayer breakfasts.

During the last year, most of our church groups have been running regularly including Little Fishes, Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Creche, house groups and Sunday Club. We continue to run a weekly online prayer meeting and a time of prayer on Tuesday mornings in church. The Youth team continue to run an exciting programme of youth activities. The initiative which started life as Warm Spaces has developed into Friendly Faces and has gone from strength to strength, providing a really strong and welcoming community base. We are grateful to the individuals and teams who head up the various activities.

We are particularly grateful to Stuart Waldron who is continuing to head up the Maintenance Team dealing with the fabric and building issues. Jen Shelton, our Children and Families worker, has been working very effectively with existing children's groups to expand their ministry and has also started the new initiative of Lego Church which is proving successful. We are aware that we still need more helpers in some areas of church life and continue to pray that God will provide the personnel we need to run all our ministries effectively.

After the significant changes in our church plant in 2023, 2024 has been a quieter year. David and his family are now well settled in the new rectory and the church office is operating well in its new location in the Church Hall. We have added some sound absorption in the Church Hall and made some other minor changes to improve its function. In the church we have removed a number of pews and replaced them with chairs to increase the accessibility and flexibility of our worship space.

It is great to see the life and ministries of our church continuing to grow and thrive. We are grateful to everyone who contributes to our church community, each and every one of you is valuable. We would both like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love, support and prayer which have surrounded us over the past year.

Kate Butler & Viv Halliday

Church Buildings

Projects completed during the year primarily to maintain the buildings in a fit condition to ensure our ministry can continue and grow.

i) Church External Lighting Scheme

A scheme of external lighting to the main churchyard footpaths and key parts of the church building was given Planning Permission late in 2023 and installed early in 2024. This has greatly improved personal safety when accessing the building at night.

Reconnection of the Narnia Lamp



With new footpath lighting in place on the south side of the church, a new power supply could be provided to the Narnia Lamp. The lamp is now lit on a regular basis.

ii) Heating in the Fielden Chapel

Four of the six under pew heaters in the Fielden Chapel were replaced to improve heating for the 8: 00am Sunday service.

iii) Church Hall

A new replacement convector heater was required in one of the upstairs side rooms.

iv) Relining of Church Foul Sewers

Further to poor drainage being noted within the church toilets, detailed inspections of the foul sewer within the Churchyard were commissioned. These found reduced flow capacity at several locations caused by tree roots and open pipe joints. A specialist contractor was subsequently engaged to line the pipes. All the inspections and works were funded through our Church Building insurance policy.

v) Defibrillator

A fully automatic defibrillator has been provided, stored in a safe cabinet located by the entrance to the Church Hall.

Annual Routine Maintenance

A range of inspections and essential maintenance works are carried out throughout the year as follows:

- Church and Church Hall – Fire Safety Equipment – Annual service
- Church Roof Alarm -Annual service
- Church Gutter and down pipe cleaning – Minimum twice per year
- Gas Safety Certificates/ Central Heating Servicing– Annual checks to all Church buildings
- Church Hall Gas Cooker Safety check – Annual service
- Church Hall Security System – Annual Service

(The cost of this work is in the order of £5,500 annually)

Health and Safety

Health and Safety inspections are undertaken on a regular basis and the results reported to PCC.

Stuart Waldron

Safeguarding Report

At St Andrew's & Townfield, we take our duty to protect all extremely seriously. The PCC has adopted the Church of England Safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance.

All staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are provided with a copy of the C of E's Parish Safeguarding Handbook with our own local supplements, and are required to confirm that they have received and read it. All are also supported with safeguarding training, and Basic Awareness safeguarding training is provided to PCC members and others with a relevant interest. We follow the C of E's



Safer Recruitment process for appointments, including the use of DBS checks and references.

In November, St Andrews and Townfield both observed "Safeguarding Sunday" taking the opportunity to highlight the importance of Safeguarding and to increase awareness of who our Safeguarding Officers are.

If you have any queries or concerns please speak to one of the Parish Safeguarding Officers (contact details available on noticeboards in both churches, or via the church office):

- Richard Lawrence Safeguarding Officer for St Andrew's
- Gwen Derrig Safeguarding Officer for Townfield

(Please note that Gwen is stepping down from this role. We hope to have a new PSO for Townfield in place in time for the APCM.)

Richard Lawrence (St Andrew's) & Gwen Derrig (Townfield)

Treasurer's Report

Regular giving continues to be mainly by monthly standing order giving us certainty of income to cover our regular running costs. At the moment we have 175 payments received each month from this source, with 90% allowing the church to claim Gift Aid.

Gift Aid continues to be an essential source of income, giving us £49,531 in 2024 (£43,000 in 2023). The formalities for most donors are the very simple completion of a Gift Aid form which you should consider if not already doing. We thank Brenda Duffy, the Gift Aid secretary for the work in collating the information and submitting the Gift Aid claims twice each year.

Our regular planned income including Gift Aid in 2024 was £283,904, an increase on the previous year of £25,083 (Dec 2023 £258,821). This figure does not include one off donations, income from investments, rent from Rolleston Drive and wedding & funeral fee income.

The Annual accounts show an overall income in 2024 of £375,404, against expenditure of £402,815, indicating an accounting deficit for the year of -£27,411. This figure however does include expenditure on the external lighting, repairs to Rolleston Drive and to the Church Hall, funded by income collected in the previous year.

Our Regular income to expenditure for 2024 produced a deficit of just over £12000 (previous year £18000). We are fortunate in having reserves to cover these deficits but still need to aim to balance our regular income/expenditure each year to avoid depleting these reserves too much.

Our biggest expenditure each year is Parish Share, 2024 being £143,154. It is only right that we meet this cost as it pays for our clergy income and pensions, makes a contribution to the running of the diocese and a smaller contribution to the administration of the national church.



We are very fortunate during the year in welcoming Andy Field Davies as our curate, adding to our team of David & Al, plus full time Youth worker, Christopher Jarvis, part time Childrens & Family worker, Jen Shelton (legacy funded) and a new Flourish lead in Amy Walker (central grant funded).

We continue to make our resources work hard, and also commit to tithing our income each year, giving away 10% of our General Giving to fund such good causes as Wirral YFC, Ferries Family Groups, CPAS, Crosslinks (supporting overseas mission partners), CMJ, Bible Society, Compassion UK, St Catherine's Church youth ministry, Tearfund, Hasat Ministry and the Anglican church of Chile, in all over £28,000 in the years allocation.

We very much value each contribution to the work at Bebington Parish Church and the impact it can also have beyond the parish.

Bryan Higgins

Report on the activities of the Parochial Church Council

In 2024 we, the PCC, decided that we liked the meetings so much, we'd schedule more of them per year! We also decided we'd start each meeting earlier and not run as late – so actually, we had just about the same amount of time to spend on church business. There was too much of that to list it all, but here are some highlights:

We agreed to the Flourish Project – a collaboration between the Church and St Andrew's School - after receiving funding from the Diocese as part of a C of E pilot scheme with a view to setting up worship activities during the week for school kids and their families. It's primarily aimed at children that wouldn't usually choose to attend church, and we received funding to employ someone – Amy Walker - for two years to head up the scheme. Please pray that it will prove to be a successful partnership.

We sanctioned the removal of some pews from the back and sides of church, and near the front. This required a faculty agreement from the Diocese and allows us greater flexibility of the building, gives more options for where wheelchair users can sit, and provides better for those who struggle to sit on the pews. Users have commented that the chairs are comfier than the pews!

We organised the purchase and fitting of acoustic panels for the church hall to reduce echoing: particularly a problem when the rooms or hall are full. Guides also did some of their own fundraising towards the project, and all users of the hall have subsequently hailed their success.

Some of items we looked at required an element of tact. During lockdown, we didn't ring the church bells, and this continued to be the case for the 8 o'clock service. When something hasn't been happening for an extended period of time it makes any decision to start again a bit more complicated, especially as prior to lockdown we had received complaints about the early ringing. Now you might say, as we did, the adage of the church being here first and people know what they're getting when they move near to a church remains relevant, but the PCC had to weigh up the argument for restarting the



bells against the needs of the wider community. It was concluded that we, the church, should be here to serve the community and anything that places a potential barrier in the way of that should be avoided if possible.

As part of receiving regular reports on the financial wellbeing of the parish we reviewed our giving partners – as we do each year. As a PCC we set aside 10% of our income to give to partners as far afield as Kenya, Chile and er, St Catherine’s. But we constantly review, and if you think there is someone, or an organisation, that could be needing or deserving of our support, let the PCC know.

We arranged an Audacious’ Gospel event; a one-man show – presenting a spoken dramatization of the gospel of Mark – trying ways of getting people into the church building for events other than a service.

Ian Halliday’s Lay preaching licence was renewed, and we agreed to help pay costs towards several members of the congregation as they put themselves forward to undertake the Foundation to Ministry course: overall, a small outlay for the PCC, but potential benefits for the members and wider church are numerous. We also reapplied to the Diocese to continue the practice of admitting children to communion. We completed the CPAS course we had started last year, “Leading your churches in evangelism”, helping us to consider how we could be more effective in sharing our faith and drawing people to Jesus.

One particular item was with regards to the patronage of St Marks, St Catherine’s and Holy Trinity. The PCCs of Holy Trinity & St Marks approached the Rector – currently the Patron for those churches (and therefore responsible for the appointment of their Vicars) – whether he would pass the patronage to a patronage trust of their choice. Whilst they stressed they have no issues whatsoever with the Rector – and as Rural Dean he has the full confidence of the PCC that his experience would be crucial in making a wise decision with regards to new incumbents for their parishes - they are wishing to future-proof themselves in case a future Rector is at odds with their theology. This is the Rector’s decision, but he chose to consult the PCC for their views. Patronage is a more demanding role to fulfil than it used to be and future Rectors could potentially find this challenging, and even experience a conflict of interest with their Bishop. There are advantages to a parish in being placed with a Patronage trust, so this has been given serious consideration. The Rector visited the PCC at both churches to explain the pros and cons, and potential options. The outcome of this is that the patronage of Holy Trinity is being transferred to CPAS. St Mark’s has asked for their patronage to be transferred to the Church Society and this is being considered, taking time to ensure the correct decision is prayerfully reached. The PCC has been supportive of this action.

We were also able to offer a warm welcome to the Field-Davies family, and to Jen Shelton onto the staff. Revd. Andy and Jen have quickly become valued members of the staff team.

Thanks to the Lord for his provision. Each year we set out our expenditure budgets; or a requirement for finance for a particular project, be it the roof, or lighting, or the church hall, and each year I wonder how we’ll possibly fund them; but each time I find myself realising the Lord provides what’s required.



And there was much more. We addressed various buildings-related issues, heard reports on and considered different areas of church ministry and practice, and agreed a range of special events.

A massive thank you to Jenny and Karen in the church office, who ensure the right papers are available at the right time. On behalf of the PCC, I'd like to wish Karen every blessing as she steps down from her role in 2025– reminders that my reports are overdue will never be the same!

Please do get involved – there's always room for more members – at last year's APCM there were two vacancies left unfilled. I can't promise hours of fun, but there is satisfaction in seeing something through from conception to completion. As I say each year – decisions are made by those who turn up.

Finally, thanks to the members of the many smaller groups throughout the church – the reports of which can be read elsewhere – who all contribute to the running of the PCC and Parish, and to the Rector, Revd Al and Revd. Andy for their continued support and faithful leadership.
Please continue to pray for the PCC.

Ian Swindlehurst

Youth Report

Youth Ministry Vision

The vision for the youth ministry is:

"To create a growing community where young people can develop their relationship with God and discover who they are. Now and for the future."

Each year we strive to make sure that everything we do fulfils this statement in some way, and that each element is fulfilled by something that we do.

Weekly Church Groups

Unplugged

Our midweek Bible study groups have had a very positive year. We currently run three groups: year 7, years 8-11, and years 12-13, each of which follows an independent series of topics.

Year 7, which started in September, has primarily been focused on gaining an understanding of where the group members stand in their knowledge and faith. This group has temporarily been commandeered by Alpha Youth, but will return after Easter.

Years 8-11 and Years 12-13 we have talked about identity, influences, and a thorough unpacking of Exodus 34:6-7. After the summer we trialled a new approach by which we asked the young people to share more detail of the highs and lows of their week and then created a session on the spot which addressed some of the issues they were facing. We have kept elements of this approach moving forward into 2025.



With less young people coming up through the children's work, we are likely to see the format of Unplugged change soon as we possibly begin to meld into one larger group on a Sunday evening. We are still in the early stages of exploring this.

Amplify Friday

Friday nights have seen the usual variety of activities, from cooking to crafting, from mock trials to show and tell, from karaoke to film nights, and much more. We have seen the group steadily gain members as the newer generations of young people are much more inclined to invite friends.

Amplify Sunday

Over the course of the year, we have tackled subjects like how to connect to God, how to deal with difficult circumstances, stories of Jesus' miracles and teachings, and how to include God in our decision making. It has been lovely to see how well the group gets on well together and the level of discussion we can achieve in such a short time slot.

Schools Work

Wirral Boys

In Wirral Grammar School for Boys we have been running the regular lunch time group, working our way through the book of Revelation, some of the Gospel of Luke, then a number of short series on topics like patience and joy. We are currently looking for ways to advertise the group to the rest of the school and potentially be more involved in other aspects of school life in the near future.

St. Andrew's Primary

As a staff team, in conjunction with members of Life Church, we lead collective worship (assembly) once a week which is gratefully received. In June I once again ran the Walk Through The Bible material with Year 6, and the interim head is keen to see where we might further support the older years.

Stanton Road Primary

We have a similar, but less frequent, arrangement to lead assemblies in Stanton Road, and we are slowly growing the relationship with the school, hopefully with the potential to serve them more in the coming years.

Special Events

In addition to these, we lead the harvest assembly for Wirral Grammar School for Girls, as well as carol services for all four schools.

Amplivacation

Back in the Easter Holidays we took just over 20 young people up to Whithaugh for their weekend away. I was the guest speaker for a change, talking about how we are made in the image of God; we had a great weekend as we normally do, and look forward to our 2025 weekend early this April.



Other Items

NYMW Conference

In November, Anne Coufopoulos and I went over to Birmingham for the National Youth Ministry Weekend. The main theme was the big adventure of youth ministry and how important the long-term sustainability and consistency is in terms of both quality of ministry but also the individuals taking part. It was a good weekend of rest and encouragement. I look forward to going back again this year.

Journey to the Cross / Christmas Experience

It always makes me feel incredibly proud to see the young people getting involved in our main festival dramas; and often making up the bulk of the cast. This past year was no exception, despite microphone problems at Easter and weather problems at Christmas, they stuck with it to represent the church and themselves wonderfully!

Volunteers

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for my team of volunteers, without whom we literally would not be able to do any of this! Changes in the team, coupled with a growing ministry, means we are always looking for more people to join us in this wonderful journey alongside God and our young people. If you would like to visit any of the groups, or join our team, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Christopher Jarvis

Children & Families Hub

Children & Families Hub

It's been a privilege over the past year to work alongside our incredible teams of volunteers to grow our children and families ministry at both St Andrew's and Townfield churches, and to lead collective worship at St Andrew's and Stanton Road primary schools. As you'll see from the reports, we've seen growing numbers at both Little Fishes and Messy church over the past year. Lego church began in May 2024, and after a few teething issues and changes to the structure we now have a working model that is reaching new families. I've also been involved on a Sunday morning both with Sunday clubs and all-age services at both churches, and have worked alongside Al and Judith to develop Townfield XL – a special all-age service which aims to involve the midweek children's groups in a variety of ways. We have had families from each midweek group come along to join us for these services, along with other visitors too. We also saw a good number of families from all our midweek groups respond to invitations to special events such as the Easter Journey, Christmas Experience, and our all-age services on Christmas Eve. None of these groups or events would have happened without the faithful and generous volunteers who give up so much of their time to the children and families that we meet. Thank you so much for all you do!

Jen Shelton



Leader of Children & Families Ministry

Activities of the various groups during the year are summarised below.

St Andrew's Sunday Club

Sunday Club continues to meet as a single primary school-aged group and a separate pre-school group during school terms, teaching, through fun activities, St Andrews Church members aged between 2 ½ and 11. There are about 17 children between the two groups, a reduction from previous years, though interest and engagement remain strong in our children. Our leaders and helpers are dedicated and committed, building good relationships with the children and helping them grow.

During 2024 we have looked at more of Jesus' life and teaching on earth and the Acts of the early church. When one of our leaders started working with refugees in Wirral, we started to think about the ways in which God calls us to different places and in different ways and the plans He has for us, studying Joshua, Ruth, Daniel, and our heavenly home. The children are encouraged to think about what they hear and what it means, writing down any 'Big Questions' to bring to the wider congregation; these have proved popular with the children and other church members.

Sunday Club now has a display board in Church to share activities and our learning.

We are pleased to welcome new leaders and helpers to work in our team. We thank God for all they do to support the children in their walk with Him.

Alison Collins & Ali Gurr

Townfield Sunday Club

This year we have continued to enjoy the enthusiasm of our children and their contribution to our worship at Townfield before they head off for their own Sunday Club session most weeks. The year began with our dedicated and hard working team of leaders and helpers, (now joined regularly by Jen Shelton, our Children and Families Worker) preparing each week for separate age groups of children. Numbers, however, have remained low to the point where the youngest group would occasionally have no children. Knowing how much time the leaders were putting into preparation we recognised that this was not the best use of that time. Working with Jen, the team agreed that a new way of doing Sunday Club was definitely due for a trial.

So, in June, the new look Sunday Club took off! The older children went up to Amplify – a positive move for them but we do miss them. Now, all the children aged 3 to 11 meet together for (loosely!) structured teaching/prayer/craft/games, while babies and toddlers under 3 come with their parents and join us in their own corner of the same room.

The size of the group can vary with any number from about 2 to 12 across all the ages but it seems to work. The leaders adapt at short notice and the children are learning to work with and help each other while still being fiercely competitive at times!

We are grateful for every member of the team who puts time, prayer, imagination, inspiration and so much more into making every child feel welcome and valued. The



older children have adapted well to the wider age range and we hope having all the children together will help the younger ones to make the move more confidently when the time comes.

We would love to grow our children's work in numbers as well as each child's knowledge and walk with Jesus and this remains one of our focal points. Our hope and prayer is, as always, that more young families will join us as we connect with them through Messy Church, Lego Church and other events.

Carol Parry

Little Fishes

2024 has been a good year for Little Fishes. Throughout the year we have had a well established team of 8 leaders. We have had good numbers of parents and children attending both sessions throughout the year.

Little Fishes continues to be a welcoming, happy place for children and their parents and caregivers. Strong relationships are being built with those who attend regularly. Our visits to church at Christmas and Easter continue to be popular. We also encourage attendance at other church activities such as Christmas Experience and tree festival and regular family services.

Viv Halliday

Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade (CLCGB)

During the past year the CL&CGB have met regularly on a Thursday evening during term time. Whenever possible members have attended family services and Sunday Club.

As a Battalion, along with St Johns Great Sutton, we went to Crazy Golf at New Brighton.

We ran our Annual Camp, in Prestatyn, North Wales, where we enjoyed fun, faith and friendship. With much fundraising we were able to offer places to all who wanted to attend and we were able to keep the costs as low as possible. It was our warmest year in recent records, having to change our programme as it was too hot! We had our Camp Communion service, officiated by Al. David paid us a visit too. We had the deputy Mayor of Prestatyn at our Camp Concert. Many thanks for their support.

Our band continued to practice through the year, with the tuition from Tom Lindsay and Ian Davies we were able to parade for Remembrance Sunday.

The children took part in our National Service of Remembrance at the National Arboretum, in Staffordshire. The children took part in the prayers and readings and Christopher preached for us.

The youngsters helped produce a decorated tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. The younger members have been studying with animated bible stories.

Overall our numbers have been steady and we look for new youngsters.

Our Motto: ' Fight the Good Fight ' (1 Timothy 6 v12)

Richie Clarke



St Andrew's Crèche

The crèche upstairs in church is available for parents to use with children under 3, during any of the services. It is staffed during most services other than family service weeks and school holidays.

There has been a reduction in the number of children using the crèche this year, as some have progressed on to Supercrèche, and we haven't had the same number of new children joining us, so some weeks it isn't used. The team has also got smaller, but we are managing to staff it most weeks so that we can offer this facility to any who need it.

Townfield Messy Church at St Andrew's School

It has been great to hold Messy Church at school on a Friday at the end of the school day. We aim to have a meeting once each half term.

We have a team of 18 adult volunteers who help with planning each session and resourcing the activities. Not everyone is able to attend each session, but God is gracious and we always have enough volunteers to look after each of the activities and help in the kitchens. We also have some young volunteers, and it has been a joy to see them grow in their confidence and leadership.

This year it has been great to have Jen Shelton's input and support.

Attendance has varied with between 30 - 51 children attending each session with their parents or grandparents. The total number of attendees including the volunteers has been between 72-110!

We have often followed a theme following the season of the year e.g. in January the theme was Epiphany – Who are you following? In September we decided to do a series on Christian basics and in September and November we thought about Who is God?

Looking forward to 2025 we plan to have two sessions each looking at Who is Jesus? and Who is the Holy Spirit?

I am very grateful for the support and welcome we have had from the school for Messy Church.

Judith Battersby

Lego Church

Lego church started in May 2024, running once a month on a Saturday afternoon. The first few months involved a lot of trial and error, and didn't seem to be very settled. We decided to change how we ran the session in November, moving into the Ormerod room for the video story and talk, and blocking off the stage to prevent children from climbing up. Since then the sessions have been much calmer, with the children engaged more both during the video and talk, and in following the building themes. We currently have between 15-20 children (plus their adults) attending each month. The session is aimed at primary school-aged children, with duplo and megablocks put out for younger children if they attend. We also have a small craft each session. Throughout the year the families have been invited to various special events (eg Townfield XL, Christmas Experience, Christmas Eve services) and we have had Lego



church families attend each of these events. Thank you to all the volunteers who give up their Saturday afternoon to help run the session!

Jen Shelton

Thanksgiving for Women after Childbirth

Thanksgiving for Women after Childbirth is a very short, simple service giving the opportunity for women to give thanks to God for His hand over them during pregnancy and childbirth. We currently run the service twice a year, in February and October, on a Tuesday morning in the 'gap' between the two Little Fishes sessions. This allows members of Fishes to attend.

The service takes place in church, in the Fielden chapel, with toys & childcare provided at the back and refreshments served afterwards.

Seniors' Hub

Seniors' Hub

The Hub met a couple of times during the year, to review and share information on our different activities. All our regular activities ran during the year, and updates on each are below.

Women's Fellowship

Our membership presently stands at twenty five, which includes ages ranging from 70's through to 90's.

From January to the end of June we met weekly on Tuesdays at the Church Hall at 2.15pm; our activities included, a talk from Revd Al Rodgers, Guide dogs for the blind, with Mr & Mrs Summersby, our local lunch at the 3 Stags, Diamond painting with Mrs Sylvia Roberts, A talk on her visit to Uganda with Mrs Lorna Dewhurst, a talk on the chaplaincy work at Arrowe Park with Revd Canon Malcolm Cowan, March brought our joint meeting with St Mark's Fellowship, Easter Holy Communion with David, and April brought a talk on the sizzling 70s by Mr Graham Loach. In May, Mrs Deane Wiles spoke to us about her life in South Africa, we had a presentation to Mr & Mrs A McGraa whose charity Uganda – with Love was our charity of the year. We ended June with a musical afternoon of golden oldies with pianist Mrs Rose Macpherson plus afternoon tea.

Owing to a lack of leaders, it was sadly necessary to reduce our weekly Tuesday meetings to twice a month. The first Tuesday meeting in the month was our formal meeting with speakers and the third Tuesday in the month was for more informal fellowship with each other, in the form of tea/coffee and chat.

September then brought the start of our twice monthly meeting commencing with Holy Communion and commissioning service. Mrs Helen Thomas was our October speaker. Our first meeting in November brought to us a musical afternoon with Dual Harmony, Chrissie and Chris playing piano and violin, with our second meeting being our Christmas local lunch. December was our Carols by candlelight afternoon and the year was rounded off with Christmas Holy Communion on the 17th December 2024.



Each meeting started with prayer, a hymn, notices, scripture reading and prayers led by members of the Fellowship, after which we had our guest speaker/in house activity.

We are so saddened to have had to reduce our meetings from weekly to twice monthly and would urge church members to search their hearts to see if the Lord is leading them to come on to the team and help the Fellowship to grow again.

**The glory of the young is their strength;
the grey hair of wisdom and experience
is the splendour of the old. Proverbs 20 v29**

Sheila Lindsay

Men's Fellowship

The January 2024 term was attended faithfully by a small cohort of members who value companionship and the stimulation of our speakers. We include a Christian charity in each term's schedule and contribute to their work. This term we learnt about the Liverpool Seafarer's Centre.

In the September term of 2024 we called upon the talents of many of the members of the Fellowship to participate in one of our meetings. Some were interviewed for their "Desert Island Discs", another person gave an expert insight into his lifelong hobby, others talked about a book they had read, and George Cockayne played his ukulele. It helped us to appreciate each other more.

Where invited, the Fellowship visits members in hospital or temporarily confined to their home.

Our group's programme of speakers is available in church or from the office. Members from 4 Wirral churches attend regularly. All are welcome.

Keith Lindsay

Monday Gang

The Monday Gang, comprising a dozen gentlemen with varied skills, are happy to give their time supporting the ministry of the Church. Moreover, sharing fellowship is also an important part of our time together.

Activities we tackle range from keeping the churchyard in a tidy condition and repairing fencing to fitting window blinds and installing and putting the lights on the Church Christmas Tree.

A key challenge in 2024 was to install acoustic panels to the ceilings of the two downstairs side rooms and over the balcony to the main hall of the Church Hall. The foam tiles being quite delicate and required fixing with impact glue in neat rows. This called for an innovative solution as to how we went about the task, as we had to get each application right first time. George was equal to the task and his application board worked a treat. The tiles have made a significant improvement to noise reduction.





Very sadly George is no longer with us as he went to be with the Lord early in 2025. As a stalwart of the Monday Gang for many years he was fully dedicated to giving his best in God's service. He was a much loved friend to us all, he is deeply missed.

We meet every Monday, except Bank Holidays, between 9 00am to 11 30am. Everyone is welcome and there is no obligation to be there every week.

Stuart Waldron

Pastoral Work

Since the pandemic we've had a significantly increased number of members who are largely housebound, so the need for our pastoral team has never been greater. I praise God for the faithful team of visitors who go regularly to the homes of those who cannot get to church, keeping them in touch with what's happening in St Andrew's and encouraging them in their faith and love for God; on occasions practical help is given or the person may be able to be taken somewhere for coffee. Other visitors keep regular contact through phone calls. Some of the visitors are also part of the team who take Communion to those who are housebound. We try to ensure all those who are housebound get an occasional visit from the clergy, usually at Christmas or Easter.

I'm also grateful to the clergy and others who visit those who are in hospital, or unwell for a shorter period. I am conscious that in all of the groups in the Seniors Hub, leaders are providing pastoral care for those who are in the groups.

Amy Haigh

Charlotte House

2024 has been another very encouraging year despite the inevitable sadness when members of our congregation pass away and, where we can, we attend the funeral services. There have been two activities co-ordinators and both have been very supportive of our ministry. Regrettably one left towards the end of the year. Two services, one of them being communion, are held each month on the first and third Wednesday afternoons. The Rector came at Easter, mid-summer and Christmas and residents were very pleased to see him. Andy and Helen joined us for our Christmas Carol service which everyone enjoyed. For understandable reasons, numbers vary but during this year we have often had 20 or so residents attending. Having the opportunity to take part in acts of worship is still very important to many of this generation and it is also lovely to have visiting relatives and friends of residents joining us. After the service, we enjoy refreshments together and a good chat!

Sandy & Carolyn Muir

Safe Harbour

We have continued to offer short, simple services in Safe Harbour nursing home 4 times a year – Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Christmas. These are gratefully received by the residents, and there would be the opportunity to go more frequently if we were able to resource it. If anyone would like to get involved helping with these services, please do get in touch with me.

David Vestergaard



Prayer Team

It has, as always, been a privilege to have prayed with so many members of our church family, but would love to be used more. Our offer, of ongoing, confidential prayer has also proved to be helpful to lots of people.

We thank God for being part of this ministry, in which we seek to give him the glory and thanks for so many answered prayers.

Sylvia Tomlinson

Bereavement Ministry

We did not have enough volunteers to be able to offer a bereavement visiting or telephone service, so the clergy seek to offer some support following funerals, although this is limited due to capacity. We once again held our annual Thanksgiving and Memorial Service in November, which was well attended and appreciated by those who came. We are currently considering how we can develop our bereavement ministry in the future.

David Vestergaard

Heritage Report

We have seen several private tours this year which has kept us on our toes regarding questions.

Jane and I have done most of the tours with Richard 'breaking his duck' when 28 visitors from Wirral Archaeology came just before Christmas. Looking to the future regarding the church history and tour books which are now running low, and will need to be re ordered. I have been writing a new book on early Christianity within Wirral and the church. The team have been very supportive with this project and John Adamson with Michael Peacock have been doing an edit on three chapters so far.

We are looking to warmer weather when we can open the church doors again also to the new Diocesan project to involve more churches to join in the Heritage Week Event in September.

Alan Roberts

Poverty Action Group

As I started to prepare this 2024 report, and looking back to the 2023 report, I noticed many similarities. However, much of the activity of PAG is cyclical. The aims of the group are to respond to poverty locally, nationally and internationally and to reduce isolation which we have attempted to do during the last twelve months.

Planning meetings were held on seven occasions throughout the year and we give God the glory for all we have been able to achieve with the help of the many volunteers from St Andrew's, Townfield and other churches.

Christian Aid

Once again, we joined Christ Church, Higher Bebington in an attic sale in January which raised £1,009. Christian Aid Week in May raised £1,098 by holding a breakfast



and coffee morning together with envelopes collected at both churches, St Andrew's School and those delivered by Guides.

Foodbank

There was a very good response from both churches to the Harvest Appeal which was so appreciated by the Foodbank. The reverse Advent calendar was again made available to encourage Christmas donations. Demands on them are still challenging as sadly requests continue to increase. Please be aware of the containers in both churches for food and other item donations along with the option of sending funds via online banking, cheque or standing order, details of which can be found on their website.

Christmas

The Charity Christmas Card and Gift coffee morning raised £350 which was divided between Tearfund for sanitation needs and Friendly Faces. Some baby clothes were delivered to Arrowe Park Hospital. Cards made by the children at the pre-Christmas Messy Church were delivered to the Foodbank who were most grateful as they were able to pass them on when giving Christmas food to some of the needy families.

Only six Shoe Boxes were delivered to The Entertainer store in response to the Samaritan Appeal. However, £264.34 was collected and spent on toys, along with a large number of toys and gifts brought to the Toy Service. Ferries Families, Social Services Family Matters and The Oak Project in Birkenhead were the very grateful recipients of the generous donations.

Townfield Church responded well to the Forum Housing Association's suggested annual list of items. (Mainly for men). The Friendly Faces team were pleased to provide a tree for the Festival in addition to the PAG tree.

Friendly Faces

Having joined the Place of Welcome network in 2023 we continue to follow their values by providing a warm welcome and free refreshments every week. Copies of their charter were laminated for each of the tables. Thanks to our wonderful volunteer team we remained open during icy conditions and also on Boxing Day. The average weekly attendance is forty-five with thirty-five staying for lunch. In all annual attendance exceeded two thousand.

Throughout the year we have celebrated significant birthdays, or marked a special day eg a MacMillan coffee morning raised £272. Poppies were made and displayed both inside and outside of the church hall along with posters of a soldier, the British saints days were marked appropriately, table decorations, craft and card making activities held and a weekly quiz and chair exercise session. As a result of the interest shown in making the table decorations, a monthly Saturday morning flower group was set up which has proved popular. A book exchange has also been provided.

The lunch menu changed from soup to sandwiches during the summer months followed by baked potatoes as autumn arrived. A Christmas lunch was also provided. Smart phone training provided by Lifelong Learning (Wirral Council) continued very successfully until the summer term when the trainer retired and a suitable replacement has not been found. We had a visit from the local representative from Christians Against Poverty (CAP) who spoke very clearly about budgeting.



In addition a hot pot supper was offered to members and guests of both churches as an extra opportunity to share hospitality and at the same time amazingly provided £552.

A coach trip to Salford Quays proved most successful and left the question 'when is the next one'. Once again the bi-product was a welcome £275.

An Information and Advice Day was arranged in October which attracted over sixty local residents. Agencies such as NHS, Merseyside Fire Service, Citizens Advice Wirral, Community Connectors, Age UK, United Utilities, Energy Plus, Wirral Carer's Support and Merseyside Police were represented to give advice, information and support. We plan to repeat the event this year. (2025) Invitations to a dramatised version of the 'Book of Mark' were offered.

The PCC are continually updated via the Minutes.

God continues to bless this opportunity to meet and share His love with our local community and we have been encouraged to welcome many new friends as numbers continue to increase.

Besom

The demand continues to grow and we are grateful to all those who donate good quality clean household items, furniture and white goods.

A visit to Involve North West, Community Connectors (a charity aiming to offer support with issues affecting quality of life) by signposting people to appropriate help, proved to be a worthwhile exchange of experiences which was very much appreciated by us all. A meeting was held with Mary Gourley from Citizens Advice Wirral to discuss our referral process. Gilly Laing, our lead co-ordinator was interviewed on Radio Merseyside's Daybreak on 15 October when she outlined the work of the charity.

An excellent northern gathering weekend was held on 6/7 October at St Werburgh's Church, Chorlton, Manchester. Instances of positive answers to prayer were shared which inspired the Wirral Besom team to increase their prayer times from roughly termly to weekly. We have experienced God's provision as we have welcomed two new van team members, successful van repairs and the support of Conway Electrics in Birkenhead who service and deliver any white goods we receive. Small items continue to be collected and delivered by one of our committed volunteers which is invaluable. We have a committed team of great volunteers, however we do need a few more to help on the various rotas namely, the van, warehouse and admin. There were insufficient numbers to take the van out during August.

A much appreciated donation of £500 was received from the Conroy Trust. A presentation at St Peter's Church, Heswall was given during November and we later received a donation. The Lighthouse church also donated the collection from their carol service. Although we were unable to respond in all cases, we received 326 Referrals (65 from New Ferry/Rock Ferry/Tranmere/Port Sunlight) and 231 Giver donations.

Recycling



St Andrew's continued to accept used stamps and spectacles (without the cases) when placed in the swing bin at the back of church.

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Matt 7:12 (NIV)

Adrienne Smallthwaite
On behalf of The Poverty Action Group

World Mission Support

Our established practice is to allocate a tenth of the income we receive through regular giving and one-off general gifts to supporting mission. St Andrew's operates a Mission Committee who are responsible for recommending to the PCC the allocation of St Andrew's share of this tithe. The PCC members for Townfield Church fulfil the same role for Townfield.

St Andrew's Mission Committee follows the principle that work supported should have an evangelistic element, although it may also include other aspects such as social action. We also aim to spread the allocation widely in terms of geographical area and type of work. Some of the organisations we support we have been giving to for very many years, others are more recent.

The committee members also each act as representatives for one of our mission partners, being responsible for communication with them and with individual supporters in the congregation, and obtaining updates for prayer and disseminating these. We also aim to welcome visits from mission partners where this is practical, or otherwise representatives share information with the congregation, in the form of a focus spot or presentation, with the aim of covering 2 or 3 mission partners each year in this way.

In 2024, St Andrew's Mission Committee gave support to the following mission partners:

- Bible Society (Rep – Martin Heale, later Neil & Kate Muskett) – promoting access to the Bible worldwide – translating and distributing the Bible in different countries, and providing resources and events to promote the Bible in the UK.
- CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) (Rep – Helen Thomas) – providing children's & youth camps, teaching & leadership resources and training for churches, and acting as Patrons for many C of E churches.
- Anglican Province (formerly Diocese) of Chile (Rep – Amy Haigh) – towards support for the ministry of Alex Cordova, planting a new congregation in San Pedro Church, Concepcion.
- CMJ (the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People) (Rep – David Halliday) – working amongst Jews, Muslims and others in the Middle East and the UK to share and promote understanding of the Christian faith.
- Crosslinks (Rep – David Fearn (from end of year) – to support the work of Jomo Nderitu, the Diocesan Youth Co-ordinator for Marsabit Diocese in Kenya.
- Wirral Youth for Christ (Rep – Christopher Jarvis) – taking the gospel to young people across the Wirral through work in schools, in partnership with churches including ourselves.



- Ferries Family Groups (Rep – Grace Frame (from end of year) – contributing towards the costs of their office base and their staffing, facilitating their work with and witness to families in need of support in various ways.
- St Catherine’s Church, Tranmere (Rep – David Vestergaard) – towards their employment of a young people and families worker.

We have also supported Barnabas Aid (Rep – Rachel Lindsay) in recent years – working to support persecuted Christians around the world and lobbying on their behalf, raising awareness of persecution and seeking action. During 2024, Barnabas Aid was placed under investigation by the Charity Commission. Due to concern about allegations that have surfaced, we have set aside the funds due to be allocated to them but have withheld payment. The Committee will consider this further in 2025 in the light of developments to decide whether we can safely provide funding to them or to choose a different mission partner to support instead.

During the year, we were able to record & show in services interviews with Crosslinks and our Crosslinks partner Jomo; and we welcomed Aaron Eime, General Director of CMJ, to speak at a service in July. We pray for our mission partners at some of the weekly zoom prayer meetings and prayer breakfasts.

If you would like to receive news updates on one or more partners, please contact the church office. Our thanks are due to the Mission Committee for their service.

David Vestergaard

St. Andrew’s C.E (Aided) Primary School

The long-standing and mutually supportive relationship between St Andrew’s school and our churches has continued to flourish (apologies for the soon-to-be-revealed pun!) during 2024.

As always, our churches have been well represented on the school Governing Body by our Foundation Governors, who give their time, energy and (varied and extensive) expertise to enhance the life and ethos of the school. We continue, as a Parish, to support the school financially, with contributions to the Governors’ account (towards the cost of major repairs and building improvements), and we also benefit from school’s support to us, not least in their incredible welcome to Townfield Church each Sunday morning.

There have been some significant changes in leadership in the school during 2024. Towards the end of the summer term, Mrs Lamkin announced that she would be retiring at the end of December. The Governors began a recruitment process, hoping to have a new head in place for January 2025, but unfortunately it wasn’t possible to make an appointment within that time frame. However, the Governors were very pleased to be able to appoint an interim Head (for the Spring and Summer terms of 2025): Mr Neal, an experienced Deputy Head from West Kirby who came highly recommended. As Mr Neal began his role at the start of January 2025, you’ll have to wait for next year’s report to hear more (but spoiler alert: it has been a pleasure to work with Mr Neal so far!).



Mrs Lamkin has been a real asset to the school since 2018, and our thanks go to her for her tireless work, including through the very challenging Covid years. Mrs Lamkin's commitment to the children, the school community, and the school's Christian ethos has always shone through, and we wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life.

2024 was also a year in which a new partnership between our churches and the school began, when we were approached by the Diocese to ask if we would like to be part of a new national pilot called the Flourish Project. With Governor and PCC approval we agreed to take part, which meant that, with national funding, we began the process of working towards starting a new Intergenerational Worshipping Community within the school week. With the project officially launching in September 2024, our priority during the autumn term was to recruit a new member of staff (funded by a national grant) to work for the churches, in the school. We were delighted to be able to appoint Amy Walker, who was, until December, a teacher in the school, and she began as our Flourish School Lead at the start of January 2025. You'll have to wait until next year's report to hear more (but another spoiler alert: Amy has got things up and running very quickly, and it's exciting to see what will grow through the year).

And something else to look out for in next year's report – 2024 saw the Governors begin to explore an opportunity to join the Diocese's new Multi-Academy Trust, with consultations with the school community and stakeholders taking place in early 2025, to help inform those explorations.

We look forward to an exciting future in our church/school relationships, with (at the time of writing) the first Flourish events taking place, and the excellent news that Mr Neal has been appointed to the permanent position of Head Teacher!

Al Rodgers

Deanery Synod

During 2024 we held three meetings as follows.

On 29 January at the Lighthouse Church in Heswall, we had a presentation lead by Peter Froggatt on Stewardship and Giving to which treasurers were invited. This was started as a powerpoint presentation – where would you place yourself re church finances from totally relaxed to very worried? We also heard about issues that cause anxiety and hamper mission. Later on we heard how we might see things better – among them a gracious God, grateful church using every gift of prayer, time, concern and money for Gods mission now and in the future. There is a link on the Diocesan website "building a generous church". How we could do things better – MINT(Mechanisms, Impact, Need, Trust), IDEA(Inspire, Disciple people, Embed, Activate). We also heard from Mrs Bessia Kanengoni the diocesan digital giving adviser. She pointed to encouraging digital giving on the local parish website as well as examples shown of digital giving aids.

On 26 June we had a presentation at St Andrews by Paul Crowther from Embracing Age charity (www.embracingage.org.uk) which looks at a world where older people



are valued, connected and full of hope. This is achieved by equipping churches, mobilising volunteers, combatting loneliness and providing on-going support. We were challenged to think of what older peoples ministry looks like in our churches as well as the opportunities and challenges we face. We were challenged to think long-term about older peoples ministry as we have an ageing population and it increases quicker in the church than it does in society. We were directed to Zechariah 8,4-5. We then looked briefly at how to deal with dementia in our older people.

On 24th October we had a presentation at Christchurch Higher Bebington by Lynn Everton, one of 4 diocesan advisors on Safeguarding to which parish safeguarding officers were invited. Most of the presentation was about the new safeguarding dashboard. As of June 2024, 78% of all parish dashboards (or 266 parishes) were up and working as a management tool for incumbents and Parish safeguarding officers as part of safer recruitment. Each PCC needs a safeguarding action plan and there is a network amongst parish safeguarding officers as well as support for parishes to work through issues. As part of safer recruitment each parish is encouraged to look at how it is doing, training completed as well as how to deal with challenges and look at what is going well. Questions were also taken from individual parishes as to address issues they have found re safeguarding.

Here ends this report from a Deanery with 14 parishes (and 21 places of worship)

Chris Jackson

Diocesan Synod

Diocesan Synod met twice in 2024. The first meeting, in March, was the last meeting for our Diocesan Secretary, George Colville, who has served the Diocese very well for many years.

As the Synod also sits as the Diocesan Board of Finance, the members are also tasked with approving accounts and setting the Diocesan budget, always a challenging task but especially at the present time.

Reports we heard and discussed in March included "From Lament to Action", which is the report of the Archbishops' Anti-Racism Taskforce and the Net Carbon Zero Action Plan.

Most importantly, we looked at the Diocesan Strategy, which is under review. The key question is, and must always be: how do we reach the million and a half people who live in our Diocese who do not know the Lord Jesus as Saviour. The four key strategic streams are Growing our local missional health, Increasing our local missional reach, Planting new missional communities and Developing our missional leadership.

Together, these four sound rather dry, but they are key in addressing how we might reach the 1.5 million.

In the November Synod meeting, we heard the budget proposals, including the trial of a complementary parish share scheme and an update on the process of appointing a new Diocesan Secretary.

A report of the General Synod naturally covered Living in Love and Faith and Safeguarding, high profile issues for the national Church, but also a discussion on Clergy Wellbeing.



The most significant part of the meeting was the Presidential Address, delivered by Bishop Mark. This was in the week after Archbishop Justin had resigned. Bishop Mark highlighted two tendencies the church often falls into: succumbing to activism, which can lead to functional atheism or placing others on unreachable pedestals. He called for humility and intelligent critique within the Diocese and urged honest self-examination and outward compassion.

Ian Halliday

Conroy Trust

The Conroy Trust was established in 1873 to benefit the poor of the Parish of Bebington, as defined by the then parish boundaries. These boundaries include St Andrews Bebington, St Marks, New Ferry and Holy Trinity, Poulton.

The management of the Trust is overseen by 5 trustees. The Trustees during the year were David Vestergaard, Chairperson, Alan McGraa, Betty Cartwright, Helen Brown and Sue Kennaugh.

The annual meeting of parishioners has the power to appoint new trustees when the occasion arises and the appointment process is conducted by a majority vote.

2024 Financial Statement

The summary income and expenditure for 2024 was as follows:

	2024	2023
Income from Investments	6695	6603
Expenditure	9280	11094
Surplus/Deficit	-2345	-4190

During the year we have again managed to support the work of:

- Ferries Family Group
- Wirral Foodbank
- Life Church Bebington
- CLCGB
- Holy Trinity Poulton
- Besom

Along with 2 grants to individuals.

Expenditure during the year was in excess of the current year's income, with the trustees wishing to utilise some accumulated reserves to boost the assistance they can give to as many as possible. Donations are directed to where they can impact numerous people.

As of 31st December 2024 the value of funds under management stood at £255615, compared to £252526 in 2023. Apart from a current account held at HSBC all investments are held

with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, with the largest portion being a stock market investment, which has seen some recovery in 2023 & 2024, growing by over £30,000 in these 2 years (post pandemic recovery)

Grants can be awarded to anyone in the parish who is experiencing financial hardship, with Grants also available to charitable organisations within the parish who are



working to help the poor of the parish. Anyone interested in discussing grants should in first instance refer to the chair of the trustees, Rev David Vestergaard.

Bryan Higgins (Secretary to the Trustees)

In Memoriam

During the year we said a sad farewell to the following members of our congregation:

Joan Ball
 Wendy Clarke
 Denise Connolly
 Dorothy Develing
 Joan Evans
 Beryl Parker

Statistics (St Andrew's & Townfield combined)

	Average Sunday attendance (including children)	Funerals	Weddings	Baptisms	Electoral Roll
2020	315 (including online and at home)	25	2	5	358
2021	380*(including online and at home)	20	4	6	328
2022	250 (including online & at home)	19	3	13	338
2023	270 (including online & at home)	25	2	6	326
2024	266 (including online & at home)	20	4	12	326

*It's very hard to estimate online figures and with hindsight this is probably an overestimate

Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners



held on the 14 May 2024 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall at 7:45pm

In attendance: the Rector, the Revd. David Vestergaard in the Chair, plus 44 parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

1. The meeting opened with a prayer, an act of worship and a reading from Matthew 5.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Caroline Adamson, John Adamson, Judith Battersby, Karen Davies, Ian Halliday, Jenny Jackson, Deric Millington, Carol Parry, Ann Shevlin, Mike Shevlin, Nathan Storm and Ash Vestergaard.

3. Minutes of the meeting of 16 May 2023

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were signed as a true record on a proposal from Viv Halliday, seconded by Ann Renison; with all in favour.

4. Election of Wardens

There being two nominations for the two vacancies – and with no other nominations allowed at the meeting – Kate Butler and Viv Halliday were duly elected for another year; with all in favour. The Rector placed on record his appreciation of their service and for being willing to stand again.

5. Receipt of the Conroy report

Having been previously circulated, the meeting was happy to receive the report.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Minutes of the APCM held on the 14 May 2024 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall at 8pm

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 44 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were as per the Meeting of Parishioners.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 16 May 2023

The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by Chris Jackson, and being seconded by Kate Muskett, signed as being a true record.

3. Electoral Roll Report

The report was given by the Electoral Roll Secretary, Alison Collins. The number on the roll as of 14 May 2024 was 324. This was a fall of 1 from last year's roll – consisting of 20 omissions and 19 additions. She advised that next year there is a full re-populating



of the electoral roll. The Rector expressed his thanks to Alison for her work. The meeting was happy to receive the report.

4. Receipt of the Annual Report

The Annual Report was received. It had been printed in advance of the meeting and gave reports on Townfield Church, Youth activities, Growth Action Planning, Wardens' & Treasurer's reports, Sunday clubs, World mission support, Poverty Action Group, Safeguarding, Children & Families Hub, Seniors, St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Deanery Synod and the activities of the Parochial Church Council.

The receipt of the Rector's, the Wardens Report, the PCC Report, Townfield, Safeguarding, and the Deanery Synod Report were accepted en bloc on a proposal by Stuart Waldron, seconded by David Halliday; with all in favour. All other reports were taken as read.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bryan Higgins. The figures as shown within the annual report were explained in a bit further detail. He highlighted that although the accounts showed we hold total funds of £1.1m, £655,000 of this is valuation of church buildings. We have an investment fund with CCLA which currently stands at £106,000, which together with savings of £73,000 are set aside to finance the Children & Families worker, and general reserves (money set aside so that in dire circumstances we can still meet at least two months' worth of expenditure) of £127,000.

Total expenditure for 2023 was £761,000 which feels like a very large sum, but with £342,000 spent on the spire, £101,000 on the church hall, £9000 on the community kitchen at Townfield and £5000 on external lights, a lot of what was paid out had previously been, and shown, as received in previous years accounts. General expenditure for the year was £270,000.

Income for 2023 was £630,000, including £258,000 from giving and donations, £44,000 from Gift Aid, £27,000 from interest and returns from investment money, and £163,000 from the sale of the rectory. This meant there was an overall deficit to the accounts of £134,000.

Of normal expenditure (those day-to-day expenses we pay out most months) £141,000 was our Parish Share, £47,000 for the maintenance of the church and church hall. Clergy costs and expenses for the year were £11,000; staff salaries came to £51,000, tithe giving of £28,000 and £5000 to the church school. There was also £16,000 of sundry items which includes a wide range of expenses including minor items such as tea, coffee, communion bread and wine.

Regular income included £214,000 from general giving, £44,000 from Gift Aid, £12,000 from donations and £5000 in fees. All of which meant an overall yearly deficit of £18,000.

The Rector extended his thanks to Bryan, and to Libby Higgins, for their work on the accounts throughout the year.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mike Forshaw was appointed as Independent Examiner on a proposal by Amy Haigh, seconded by Paul Humphries; with all in favour.

6. Election to the Deanery Synod

Despite there being 2 spaces there were no nominees. These spaces can be filled during the year.



7. Election to the PCC

Caroline Adamson and Kate Muskett were elected to fill two of the three available spaces to the PCC. Mike Ludbrook was elected to fill one of the two available spaces to the Townfield church council.

There being no other nominees, all were appointed unopposed.

The Rector extended his thanks to those willing to stand, to those already on PCC and Deanery councils, and extended a special thank you to Carol Parry who has stood down having served on the PCC and Deanery council for many years.

8. Rector's report

The Rector reported that 2023 was all about the buildings – the church hall refurb, the spire, external lighting, the sale of the rectory and the moving into the Quarry Road property. The new house is working well, both as a family home and as a base for church things.

He showed a few clips from a longer video that had been shot to show the extent of the works undertaken on the spire.

Looking ahead we will have to prepare for a window repair project, necessary to replace crumbling stonework and broken glass. We are also looking to replace some pews having found that chairs are in short supply but high demand. This will also offer wheelchair access nearer the front of church and greater flexibility with the use of the building.

An environmental working group has been set up to help lead the congregation in caring for God's creation and aim towards Eco awards. They've been producing ideas to help us reach the targets, such as the likes of solar panels – something we've tentatively started looking at.

All this building work has mainly been made possible through legacy money and the sale of the rectory, and we're grateful at being able to fund the works.

He said that he hoped 2024 would be about the people: we have a new curate being ordained at the end of June and we're really looking forward to receiving him. His role will differ slightly from previous curates inasmuch as that he will be working across both churches. This year will also see a Church of England pilot project – Flourish – for which we succeeded in securing funding for resources towards setting up a group at St Andrew's school.

The Rector noted it was ten years since his first APCM: his first congregation list had 380 regular attendees. The intervening years have seen 80 members die, 70 move away and 30 have become housebound. Some others have moved churches or disengaged from church (mainly during the pandemic). So of those members from 10 years ago, there are now around 150 still attending. We have gained around 100 members over the same period – with over 50 since the pandemic – which means it feels like a different congregation to a few years ago, but he welcomes the opportunity of building faith and disciples from new members.

Other challenges include the ongoing need for volunteers – critically short in youth work and worship in particular – and church finances. He asked that we prayerfully listen to the Lord's prompting.



But there is a lot to be thankful for and be excited about. He offered a big thank you to the staff team, highlighting there is a good level of trust within the team and they resource and support each other's ministry.

He concluded by expressing his thanks to the Wardens and the PCC, and too many volunteers to ever be able to name without whom we wouldn't be able to do half of what we do.

9. Minister for Townfield report

Revd. Al reported that the Bishop of Chester had visited Townfield at the beginning of the year and that was a very encouraging visit. Friendly Faces was flourishing and had grown throughout the year, and Messy Church continued to flourish post-covid with around 70/80 children and adults regularly attending.

The year had seen a lot of serving from Townfield members in numerous local charities and groups. Throughout the year Townfield has tried to build community amongst the congregation so that they can support each other. The year had also seen a weekend away and lots of other events.

They had refurbished the community kitchen in St Andrew's School hall thanks to donations and Toast Club. In services they had looked in detail at Galatians, looked at creation and how God calls us to care for it. They had also looked at numerous biblical characters – looking at what they did right, and wrong; plus, prayers of lament at Lent.

All of this was made possible through the generosity of the Townfield members, many of whom have given over and above; and he expressed his thanks for that. Townfield giving increased again and whilst being aware of costs, the aim was to increase income by 11% this year.

Some of the challenges they faced included a reduction in the birth rate meaning less people are looking for schools and a reduction in what is generally a steady stream of people finding Townfield through the school route. So they are trying ways of making themselves more visible – including praying for a street at a time in the parish, writing to neighbours asking them to reply with any prayer requests, putting up a big banner on the school railings on a Sunday and utilising Messy Church. The addition of the children's and families worker should mean they are able to do more.

In summing up, Revd. Al stated that he was very thankful to God for everything that had happened in 2023.

10. Leader of Children and Families Ministry report

Jen Shelton shared with the meeting a summary of her year so far, having only started in the position in January. She expressed her thanks to all the volunteers across the two churches who are making a difference. She has been making connections between the various groups, meeting families and getting to know faces. In particular, Little Fishes are seeing flourishing relationships.

She is working on groups and events having greater visibility on social media and asked for people to interact if they saw something posted online. She reported that she had been doing assemblies at St Andrew's School and had been in to Stanton Road and had organised an Easter egg hunt.



For the future, she hoped to be able to reach more people through the likes of Lego Church and is looking at ways of getting the youth involved in serving in some way, plus helping with the transition of Y6 children from Sunday club to Amplify.

She ended by saying it felt like she had been in the role for longer than five months – but in a good way! And thanked everyone for their support.

11. Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Christopher Jarvis reported that the youth work had had a good year. They had done everything they had planned to do, and they have a wonderful group of young people – pretty much in one big group from Y7 to Y13 – which is great to see.

There is a great group of volunteers who are committed to the youth, but they are few in numbers and more volunteers are needed – particularly for Friday and Sunday groups as they need to maintain the correct ratio between youth and leaders.

They had the weekend away during the year – around 20 youths attended, and the general consensus is that the last couple of weekends away have been the best ones. Amongst the 20 are some from the Friday evening group who don't have any church contact but by going on the weekend get to see Christians being 'normal' and receive teaching and praise.

There was a team away day to assess ministry and re-evaluate where they're headed in the future. The year also saw a Psalm & Sponges event – a cake and art sale – that raised £500 for Wirral Youth for Christ. They will try and do something again this year. Chris concluded that it was a joy to work with the youth and he thanked all those who help out.

The Rector expressed his thanks to Christopher for all his work.

12. Discussion and Questions

David Jack asked about Lay Preachers within the church. This is something that is well controlled by the Diocese so the Rector would be unable to make someone a Lay Preacher. David asked if the Rector would bring to the PCC a way of building lay preaching up within the framework provided.

The Rector replied that it is something the PCC could look at – the key element though is discerning those who are called.

Chris Jarvis mentioned that the Diocese does provide some teaching for *OWLs* – Occasional Worship Leaders – with the emphasis on those leading services rather than preaching.

13. Any other Business

The Rector showed the whole of the spire works video.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with an act of worship and a prayer at 9pm.

The Charity Registration Number is :- 01130323

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and Accounts

31 December 2024

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

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The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington.
The charity is also known by its operating name, Bebington Parish Church, St Andrews' and Townfield Churches.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 01130323.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity, established by Trust Deed. The governing document of the charity is the Trust Deed establishing the charity.

The governing document is dated 24 June 2009

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

St Andrew's Church Hall
Highcroft Ave, Bebington
Wirral, CH63 3EZ
Telephone 01516456478

Email Address office@standrewsbebington.org.uk Web address www.standrewsbebington.org.uk

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

	<i>Appointed</i>	<i>Resigned</i>
Chris Jackson		
Al Rodgers		
David Halliday		
David Vestergaard		
Ian Halliday		
Ian Swindlehurst		
Judith Battersby		
Kate Muskett		
Mike Ludbrook		
Carol Parry		
Caloline Adamson		
Bryan Higgins		
Sharon Mason		
Callum Peters		
Nathan Storm		
Wendy Doran		14/05/2024
Colette Owen		14/05/2024
Viv Halliday		
Kate Butler		
Sue Kennaugh		
Stuart Waldron		
Laura Clark		
Esther Darnton		
Penny Tomlinson		
Mike Shevlin		
Cathy Morris	09/07/2024	
Andy Field-Davies	30/06/2024	

All the trustees are also members of the charity.

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

We have run church services each Sunday, and seasonal services, for St Andrew's and Townfield churches. The main Sunday service at each church, and some seasonal services, were also livestreamed for the benefit of those unable to be present in person. Most of our other regular activities ran through the year, including Little Fishes (carer & baby/toddler group), Children's groups, Youth groups and activities, Women's and Men's Fellowships, prayer events & meetings, house groups and Alpha courses, services in nursing homes, pastoral visiting and home communions, Friendly Faces (place of welcome & hospitality) and hosting & supporting the Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. We ran a large outdoor dramatic event on Good Friday, and a Tree Festival & dramatic performance titled A Christmas Experience in the church in early December. We started a monthly Lego Church running on Saturdays, from May.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

Activities ordinarily carried out and serving the local community include weddings, baptisms and funerals; marriage preparation; baptism preparation; support for the bereaved; youth activities, Little Fishes carer & baby/toddler group; school assemblies; Christmas and Easter school services; services in nursing homes and sheltered accommodation; special community events such as A Christmas Experience and Journey to the Cross; Friendly Faces; and hosting and supporting Guiding groups, Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and other community groups. All of these took place during the year. We have also undertaken financial giving and prayer support for Mission and Christian organisations and activities locally and around the world, promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church. The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

We estimate typical Sunday attendance in church during the year as approx. 215 adults & children. In addition to this, we estimate approximately 45 'at home' worshippers on a typical Sunday, by livestream, cd or dvd, though this number is hard to assess accurately.

As for most churches, this still represents a reduction from pre-pandemic figures (our 2019 total was approximately 324). It shows a marginal reduction on 2023 (220 in church plus 50-55 'at home' worshippers). Our best estimates are that there were 19 who left the congregations (7 by death), and approximately 5 who joined (adults and children). Some of those whom we have classed as left are people who have not returned since the pandemic.

During the year the parish conducted 20 funerals, 4 weddings, and 12 baptisms.

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

Benefits from the activities listed above have included faith development, spiritual and pastoral support, personal encouragement, development of gifts and experience, friendship and companionship, and meeting a range of needs for all ages.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

The activities listed above have provided a wide range of public benefit including faith exploration, spiritual support, pastoral care, provision of services and care for needs at key life moments, and services to local schools.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Decisions are made by the PCC in collaboration with the Clergy and Staff team, and working through subcommittees and together with volunteer leaders for groups and activities. The PCC meets at least 6 times a year in formal meetings of the Council, with additional meetings as necessary. In order to organise its affairs effectively during 2023, the PCC operated the following subcommittees and working groups: St Andrew's Church; Townfield Church; Standing; Finance & Fabric; Youth Hub; Children & Families Hub; Evangelism; Missionary; Poverty Action Group; Environmental Working Group; Maintenance Team. The Seniors Hub still exists but did not need to meet during the year.

Bankers	HSBC Bank plc - 58 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, Wirral, CH62 7ET
Architects	Bryan Martin BA, Dip Arch, RIBA, AABC, Architect, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northamptonshire, NN11 6UX
Surveyors	Gordon Cain, Coach House, Villa Rosa, St Lukes Rd South, Torquay, TQ25NZ
Accountants (payroll)	KBH Accountants Ltd. 255 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 4BT
(Independent examiner)	Haines Watts Chartered Accountants, 3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers, Victoria St, Liverpool, L2 5QQ

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2024

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2024 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income	(27,790)	(134,658)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	1,101,778	1,129,189
Total Funds	1,101,778	1,129,568

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2024 .

Our total income for the year was £375,404 and our total expenditure £403,194 giving an accounting deficit of £27,790.

During 2024 our financial position has indicated that normal running costs were not quite met by our regular income, resulting in reliance on the general reserves.

The pandemic has had a lasting influence on our general income and additionally affected by the general cost of living challenges, deaths of parishioners and a number of families moving away.

The trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be satisfactory.

Policies on reserves.

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately two months' unrestricted payments in addition to £20,000 to cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. At 31 December 2024 unrestricted reserves amounted £1,101,778 (2023 - £1,129,568) of which £125,000 of general cash balances were held to meet this policy.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers

Victoria Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5QQ

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 18 March 2024.



MR BRYAN HIGGINS
Trustee

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charity on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity on pages 9 to 29 for the year ended 31 December 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) adapted to meet the needs of unincorporated organisations, as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 14.

The historical cost of the property was amended by the revaluation.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 6, you, the charity's Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the Governing Document for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the charity's examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am an authorised member of Chartered Accountants , which is one of the listed bodies.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and of the accounting systems employed by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by with Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

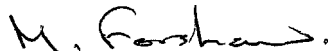
the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-



Mr Michael Forshaw FCA - Independent Examiner

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers

Victoria Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5QQ

This report was signed on __17 April__ 2025

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	333,939	-	333,939	590,541
Charitable activities	A2	19,122	-	19,122	12,061
Investments	A4	22,343	-	22,343	27,990
Total income	A	<u>375,404</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>375,404</u>	<u>630,592</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	402,815	379	403,194	765,250
Total expenditure	B	<u>402,815</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>403,194</u>	<u>765,250</u>
Net income for the year		<u>(27,411)</u>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(27,790)</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	<u>(27,411)</u>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(27,790)</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(27,411)</u>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(27,790)</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:-					
	E				
Total funds brought forward		1,129,189	379	1,129,568	1,264,226
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,101,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,101,778</u>	<u>1,129,568</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income & Endowments from:				
Donations & Legacies	A1	559,191	31,350	590,541
Charitable activities	A2	12,061	-	12,061
Investments	A4	27,990	-	27,990
Total income	A	<u>599,242</u>	<u>31,350</u>	<u>630,592</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	B2	734,279	30,971	765,250
Total expenditure	B	<u>734,279</u>	<u>30,971</u>	<u>765,250</u>
Net income for the year		(135,037)	379	(134,658)
Net income after transfers		<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:-	E			
Total funds brought forward		1,264,226	-	1,264,226
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,129,189</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>1,129,568</u>

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2024

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last year Total Funds 2023 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	1,129,189	379	1,129,568	1,264,226
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	<u>(27,411)</u>	<u>(379)</u>	<u>(27,790)</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>
	1,101,778	-	1,101,778	1,129,568
Closing revenue funds	<u>1,101,778</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,101,778</u>	<u>1,129,568</u>

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last Year Total Funds 2023 £
Revenue accumulated funds	1,101,778	-	1,101,778	1,129,568

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the Companies Act 2006

	2024 £	2023 £
Income		
Income from operations	303,530	558,357
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	49,531	44,245
Investment income		
Income from investments, other than interest receivable	12,761	16,351
Interest receivable	9,582	11,639
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	375,404	630,592
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	375,404	630,592
Expenditure		
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	402,414	764,530
Governance costs	780	720
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-	-
Total expenditure in the year	403,194	765,250
Net income before tax in the financial year	(27,790)	(134,658)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	(27,790)	(134,658)
Retained surplus for the financial year	(27,790)	(134,658)

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Balance

		SORP		2024	2023
	Note	Ref		£	£
Fixed assets		A			
Tangible assets	10	A2		655,132	655,132
Current assets		B			
Debtors	11	B2	26,190	24,909	
Investments held as current assets	12	B3	109,424	106,976	
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	319,632	351,442	
Total current assets			455,246	483,327	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	C1	(8,600)	(8,891)	
Net current assets			446,646	474,436	
The total net assets of the charity			1,101,778	1,129,568	

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Restricted funds				-	379
Unrestricted Funds					
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	16	D3	1,101,778	1,129,189	
			1,101,778	1,129,189	
Total charity funds			1,101,778	1,129,568	

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 8.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.



REV DAVID VESTERGAARD

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 18/03/ 2024

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

Under 3.38 and to comply with 3.14, if there are no uncertainties about going concern this MUST be stated. Under 3.39, if there are uncertainties details must be given. Enter text here to comply

Suggested normal text (which may require modification to meet the circumstances):-

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2024, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

"Major risks for the PCC are currently either financial or property related.

Key risks:

- Income fails to keep pace with increases in Parish Share and public utility charges and ministry is compromised
- Funds are not available to pay staff salaries
- Funds are not available to meet the costs of essential repairs and refurbishment

Actions to mitigate risks:

- Provide periodic explanation to congregation how our funds are used and the need to increase regular giving.
- Regular promotion of regular giving and tax efficient giving schemes
- Special appeals to be launched to meet these costs."

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a payment is received from an estate or is notified as receivable by the executors after the reporting date and before the accounts are authorised for issue but it is clear that the payment had been agreed by the executors prior to the end of the reporting period, then the amount concerned is treated as an adjusting event and accrued as income in the accounting period if receipt is probable.

Where the charity has established entitlement to a legacy but there is uncertainty as to the amount of the payment, details of the legacy are disclosed as a contingent asset until the criteria for income recognition are met. Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised as income until the death of the life tenant.

If it is doubtful that full settlement of a legacy debtor will be received, then an adjustment is made to reduce the amount of the legacy debtor and legacy income rather than charging the adjustment as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated fixed assets are recognised at the current fair value. All such donations are recognised as donation income, and debited to fixed assets.

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.

In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.

If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.

The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.

The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock. When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in '*legacies and donations*'. Goods donated for resale are included in '*Income from other trading activities*'

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Donated services and facilities (including seconded staff and use of property) are included in the accounts on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity.

All donated services and facilities are recognised as donation income when received, (provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably) and recognised as an expense with an equivalent value.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity. However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	<u>1,263</u>	<u>974</u>

5 The contribution of volunteers

We depend heavily on the support of volunteers. Almost every event and activity we have undertaken has been carried out either entirely by them or with their help. Over 200 volunteers committed countless hours to our activities during the year. Their support is valued enormously. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

6 Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	68,731	51,174
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	1,263	974
Total salaries, wages and related costs	<u>69,994</u>	<u>52,148</u>

The average number of part time staff employed in the year was	3	2
The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	1	1
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	3	3

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	3	3
<i>The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above</i>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

7 Defined contribution pension schemes

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

8 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

9 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

Current Year

	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Sundry items under £1000	-	-	-	-
Messy Church (Townfield)	385	-	27	412
Sylvia Walkey legacy	2,240	1,938	-	302
Total	2,626	1,938	27	714

	2024	2023
	£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors	714	2,626

Prior Year

	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Sundry items under £1000	-	-	-	-
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	580	580	-	-
M Blake (Townfield)	1,494	1,494	-	-
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500	500	-	-
Messy Church (Townfield)	385	-	-	385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	2,240	-	-	2,240
Total	5,199	2,574	-	2,626

	2023	2022
	£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors	2,626	5,199

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

10 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2024	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
At 31 December 2024	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
At 31 December 2024	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132
<i>Prior Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
01 January 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132
01 January 2024	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
01 January 2024	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
01 January 2024	655,132	-	-	655,132
01 January 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	971	1,853
Other debtors	25,219	23,056
	26,190	24,909

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

12 Investments held as current assets at market value at 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Other investments	109,424	106,976
		-

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	6,092	6,060
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	714	2,626
PAYE, NIC VAT and other taxes	1,524	-
Other creditors	270	205
	8,600	8,891

14 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 January 2024	1,129,568	1,264,226
Surplus after tax for the year	(27,790)	(134,658)
At 31 December 2024	1,101,778	1,129,568

15 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	455,246	-	-	455,246
Current Liabilities	(8,600)	-	-	(8,600)
	1,101,778	-	-	1,101,778

At 1 January 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	482,948	-	379	483,327
Current Liabilities	(8,891)	-	-	(8,891)
	1,129,189	-	379	1,129,568

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

16 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 15 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2023	Movement in funds in 2024	Transfers between funds in 2024	Funds carried forward to 2025
	£	See note 17 £	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	848,761	(40,457)	-	808,304
Designated Revenue Funds:				
Church School	-	42,300		42,300
Church windows	-	50,000		50,000
Mission/Staff Designated fund	39,703	(39,703)		-
Afternoon tea	161			161
Flowers fund	-	219		219
Flourish	-	7,666		7,666
Hindley Legacy	2,970			2,970
Heritage fund	1,235	305		1,540
Discretionary fund	200	(100)		100
Rolleston Drive	5,903	(4,794)		1,109
J Brock legacy	-	20,000		20,000
Knit & Natter	150			150
Margaret Baker Legacy	230,106	(230,106)		-
Children and Family Worker		167,259		167,259
Total unrestricted and designated funds	1,129,189	(27,411)	-	1,101,778
Restricted funds:-				
Total private sector revenue grants	379	(379)	-	-
Total restricted funds	379	(379)	-	-
Total charity funds	1,129,568	(27,790)	-	1,101,778

17 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 16

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	375,404	(402,815)	-	(27,411)
Restricted funds:-				
Total private sector revenue grants	-	(379)	-	(379)
	375,404	(403,194)	-	(27,790)

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

18 The purposes for which the funds as

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds

These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Designated Revenue Funds

This fund represents the unrestricted funds donated, but where the funds have been allocated for a purpose. This year funds have been ringfenced for the new roof, and also for improved lighting and other small projects.

Restricted funds:-

Total private sector revenue grants

Warm Spaces- grants were received from Wirral Borough Council to support a nationwide initiative of promoting warm spaces for individuals to meet who were suffering hardship during economic difficult times. The grant monies were provided solely to cover some of the expenses incurred by the providers of Warm Spaces , and covered the cost of heat and light and refreshments.

19 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity has unlimited joint and several liability for the debts of the charity.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

20 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts from individuals				
Small donations individually less than £1000	243,420	-	243,420	284,706
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	49,531	-	49,531	44,245
Large donations individually over £1,000	9,700	-	9,700	1,000
Conroy Trust	-	-	-	4,000
Total donations and gifts from individuals	302,651	-	302,651	333,951

Donations and gifts from individuals (Include HMRC refunds on gift aided donations) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Prior year	333,951	-	333,951

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Legacies receivable				
Small legacies individually less than £1000	-	-	-	-
Sylvia Walker legacy	1,938	-	1,938	-
M Baker legacy	-	-	-	59,847
M Blake	-	-	-	1,494
J Brock	20,000	-	20,000	-
Total legacies receivable	21,938	-	21,938	61,341
Legacies receivable - Prior Year analysis				
	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £	
Prior year	61,341	-	61,341	

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies				
Small grants individually less than £1000	600	-	600	-
Wirral BC - Warm Spaces	-	-	-	5,050
Chester Diocese	8,750	-	8,750	163,899
Benefact Trust	-	-	-	6,300
Garfield Weston	-	-	-	20,000
Total private sector revenue grants	9,350	-	9,350	195,249

All the grants in the prior year were unrestricted.

Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies (Include Gift Aid donations from subsidiaries) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Prior Year	163,899	31,350	195,249

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

<i>Current year</i>	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current Year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies A1	333,939	-	333,939	590,541

All the donations and gifts in the prior year were unrestricted.

<i>Prior year</i>	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies A1	559,191	31,350	590,541

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

21 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

<i>Current year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total funds 2023 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading				
Sale of goods and services in accordance with the charity's objects	10,542	-	10,542	2,395
Income from church activities	8,580	-	8,580	9,666
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	19,122	-	19,122	12,061

22 Total Income from charitable activities

Total income from charitable trading	19,122	-	19,122	12,061
Total from charitable activities A2	19,122	-	19,122	12,061

Income from charitable activities - Prior Year analysis

<i>Prior year</i>	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total income from charitable trading	12,061	-	12,061
	12,061	-	12,061

23 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Property Rental Income	7,343	-	7,343	6,451
Dividend Income	2,969	-	2,969	2,924
Bank Interest Receivable	9,582	-	9,582	11,639
Other Investment Income	2,449	-	2,449	6,976
Total investment income A4	22,343	-	22,343	27,990

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	27,990	-	27,990

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

24 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	68,731	-	68,731	51,174
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	1,263	-	1,263	974
Temporary Staff - Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-
Giving outside the parish	36,171	-	36,171	29,893
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & Church office & general running	29,409	379	29,788	10,534
Parish share	27,544	-	27,544	20,499
Church buildings expenses	143,154	-	143,154	141,406
Gifts and presentations	95,618	-	95,618	509,870
Roof project expenditure	118	-	118	180
	27	-	27	-
Total direct spending	402,035	379	402,414	764,530

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

<i>Prior Year</i>	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	51,174	-	51,174
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	974	-	974
Giving outside the parish	25,222	4,671	29,893
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & Church office & general running	10,534	-	10,534
Parish share	20,499	-	20,499
Church buildings expenses	141,406	-	141,406
Gifts and presentations	483,570	26,300	509,870
	180	-	180
Total direct spending	733,559	30,971	764,530

25 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	780	-	780	720
Total Governance costs	780	-	780	720

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

26 Total Charitable expenditure

		Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
<i>Current Year</i>		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	402,035	379	402,414	764,530
Total Governance costs	B2e	780	-	780	720
Total charitable expenditure	B2	402,815	379	403,194	765,250
		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds	
<i>Prior Year</i>		2023	2023	2023	
		£	£	£	
Total direct spending	B2a	733,559	30,971	764,530	
Total Governance costs	B2e	720	-	720	
Total charitable expenditure	B2	734,279	30,971	765,250	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BEBINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1130323

Accounts

Bebington Parish Annual Report 2023



Incorporating a strategic review of the year, the aims and activities of the PCC, financial review and a statement of financial activities



Our Vision

A Christ-Centred Family Sharing God's Love

Christ-Centred: Followers of Jesus Christ, grounded in scripture, prayer and worship

Family: A welcoming fellowship where all ages are nurtured and enabled to use their God-given gifts

Sharing God's love: Making Christ known in our daily lives with everyone we meet
Serving and loving each other, our community and beyond



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Rector's Report on St Andrew's

2023 was a year with lots of buildings related activity!

The anticipated spire & tower repair project was undertaken, running through much of the year to the end of October. We are very happy with the quality of work carried out by Phillips & Curry. The project cost some £314,000 (excluding recoverable VAT). We managed to secure £26,000 in grant funding but repair grants were extremely difficult to find, so we are very grateful that we were able to cover the cost from the large legacy received during 2022/3.

I reported last year that an agreement had been reached to sell the Rectory, with the Diocese providing a more suitable and more modern house. The Diocese's purchase of 95 Quarry Avenue was completed in April, and we moved in June. The house is far better suited to present day needs, and we are finding it works extremely well both for family life and ministry. The sale completed on the Rectory (now known as The Old Rectory) in October, and we are glad to welcome our new neighbours – and pleased that (as planned) the house remains a family home. We were also able to retain part of the grounds, adjacent to the church hall, at no cost other than the installation of fencing, which gives us options for improving the amenity space.

We had an agreement in place with the Diocese that because one wing of the house had been used by the parish for most if not all its life, the parish would receive a portion of the sale proceeds. On the strength of this, in addition to carrying out the works needed to the church hall to enable the office to move, we were able to refurbish the whole church hall internally. This was much needed, and has been appreciated by hall users. The office is now well settled upstairs in the church hall, and the new location is working well.

In addition, having finally obtained planning permission, we were able towards the end of the year to install the new external church & churchyard lighting, which is an enormous improvement both aesthetically and for safety. Our thanks are due to Stuart Waldron for leading the work on many of the building projects.

That's not the end of building matters (it never is!) – repairs are needed to a number of the church windows, including extensive stonework repairs, so that will be the next project. And our new Environmental Working Group is looking at options and priorities for improving our care for the environment and working towards environmental awards, and the Church of England's commitment to Net Zero, which in due course will inevitably include some significant buildings related expenditure.

Of course our buildings are not the focus of our ministry, they are here to serve it, and these developments will enable them to continue to do so, and more effectively, in the coming years.

Although the various building projects took up significant time and resources, probably the most significant development this year was the appointment of a Leader of Children and Families Ministry. After two unsuccessful attempts to recruit a full time worker, we widened the post to offer full time, part time or job share, which encouraged more applicants. Towards the end of the year we were delighted to appoint Jen Shelton to the role on a part time basis, and were looking forward to her taking up the post in early January. As the post is financially provided for from legacy funding, we may at some point look to expand the role with an



additional staff member to create a full time equivalent role as originally planned, but we will review this after Jen has been in post for some time and assess the needs at that point.

We were sad to say farewell to a number of church members during the year, as some sadly died and others moved away. Despite this, however, 2023 was a more positive year for ministry. Having fallen significantly during the pandemic, attendance at St Andrew's slowly climbed through the year, partly due to returning/increased attendance, but also to a significant number of new members. Average attendance at the 10:30am service during the year was around 135, but increasing through the year and beyond, so significantly higher by the year end; in addition to an average of 20 at the 8am service and about another 30 (on a conservative estimate) joining the livestream online or watching afterwards.

During the year, we ran teaching series including the nature of God; Ephesians; Hezekiah; and issues of our day. We continued the same service pattern as during 2022. We also continued to run other areas of church ministry as in 2022, and held successful events for the church and community at Easter and Christmas. Our 'warm space', started in late 2022, ran through the year and became 'Friendly Faces': we found that the greatest need being addressed was not the energy crisis, but social isolation. The group is well attended and providing a valuable service to the congregation and the community.

Continuing growth and changes in the congregation have meant that it feels a very different congregation to a few years ago, and we have continued through social and other events to build fellowship. We held a number of breakfasts, lunches and other social events, which were well attended and enjoyed.

I have long wanted us to develop corporate prayer, and towards the end of the year we held a prayer breakfast, which was an encouraging event with about 30 present. We plan to repeat this probably at least once a term.

As last year, it has been encouraging to see a number of people drawn into new areas of service. However, many of our volunteer teams are still very stretched, and there are many opportunities for people to get involved in service. Do please consider prayerfully whether the Lord may be encouraging you into something new.

During the year, we undertook a stewardship appeal, sharing with you that our income was insufficient to meet all our expenditure. We are very dependent on the generosity of the congregation, from whom comes almost all our income. We are grateful to all who give, and to those who were able to increase their giving or start giving during the year – although this was partially offset by those who died or moved away. We finished the year with a deficit of close to £18,000, which was considerably better than forecast at the start of the year, but still significant, and not sustainable in the long term. Due to increased costs, and despite the increases in income, we began 2024 with a gap between income and expenditure of about £30,000 for the year. Short of cutting staff (which would be very damaging to our ministry) there is very little we can do to reduce costs, so in order to meet the budget, a combination of people giving more, and more people giving, is needed. So once again we are asking if you could prayerfully review your financial giving, especially if you have not done so for a while.

As always, there are too many people to thank individually, but I have been so thankful for our dedicated team of staff, churchwardens, PCC, maintenance team, and all who have served in



many different ways in contributing to our ministry during the year, for their partnership, commitment and support.

Through all the pressures and uncertainties we face in our culture and in the current times, we can be grateful for God's provision for us during the year, and the comfort, inspiration and hope he offers us through Jesus Christ. We look forward to journeying with Him through the coming year.

David Vestergaard

Townfield Report

After about 2000 years of existence, there's still something unique about the Church. In fact there are lots of things that are unique about it: it's the hands and feet of Jesus (the body of Christ); it's *"the only society on earth that exists for the benefit of non-members"* (as William Temple famously said); and it's one of very few organisations that is open to everyone, of any age, and seeks to engage and serve them all at the same time.

That's quite a challenge, but it continues to be a huge encouragement to us at Townfield as we see people of all ages, and many different backgrounds, all growing together, as we seek to love and follow Jesus more. And 2023 has been all of that and more.

As always, Townfield has been a community which has been kept going by the generosity of its members, who have given their time, energy, love, care, prayer, talents, skills, and money in sacrificial ways. We couldn't be Townfield without each and every one of you, and the contributions you have all made are too many to mention in a report like this, but thank you all.

Perhaps a couple of snapshots of life at Townfield in 2023 will give us a bit of a taste of what the year has been like.

The first snapshot is from a sunny weekend in May, when the eyes of the world were on the Eurovision Song Contest, but Townfield were all at the Great Townfield Weekend in Meols (it was booked before we knew that Eurovision would be on the doorstep!). After previous 'proper' weekends away, we had come to realise that it's very difficult to find a venue which is big enough for us all (but not *too* big) and is fully accessible. We were also aware that a more testing financial climate might make the cost of a weekend *away* tricky. So, we decided to do a weekend away ... but not away, and we put together a Saturday and Sunday at a friendly nearby church (St Andrew's URC in Meols), all going home to sleep. And despite being local, a fabulous weekend was had by all, with great numbers attending (including many who wouldn't have been able to join us if we'd been miles away), enabling us to build & strengthen relationships with each other, and with God, for a very thrifty suggested donation of £15 for adults and £5 for children. In fact, it was such a great weekend, feedback suggests a similar event in the future would be very welcome!

And the second snapshot comes from a string of autumn Sunday mornings, when we spent some time thinking about what our mission from God really is. Over 10 weeks, we spent time digging into 5 different aspects of 'mission', exploring the many ways in which we are called to make God's love known, both by what we do, and by what we say, as we seek to: proclaim



the Good News of Jesus; teach, baptise and nurture new believers; respond to human need in loving service; transform unjust structures, challenge violence, and pursue peace; and care for God's creation¹. It was challenging stuff because, as is often the way with God, it made us think beyond ourselves and out own needs, to ask how God might be calling us, as a church, to be less invisible, and to take Jesus outside of our walls more.

Of course, that will be an ongoing journey as we seek to follow God's call to us in the years ahead. So rock on 2024!

Al Rodgers

¹If you're wondering where we got these 5 areas from, they are the Anglican Communion's "Five Marks of Mission":

<https://www.anglicancommunion.org/mission/marks-of-mission.aspx>

Wardens' Report

2023 has been a time of gradual growth and development in our church community. An increasing number of people are attending our regular services in church, and we continue to livestream most of our services so that any unable to attend are able to participate. We are very grateful to all those who contribute to our weekly worship: our dedicated sidespeople, those who lead and preach, those who read and pray, our talented music team, our wonderful refreshment team, our skilled technical team who keep our worship running smoothly. Our thanks also go to all those who help with the regular upkeep of our church building: those who clean brasses, arrange flowers and, of course, our wonderful Monday Gang. We must not forget the wonderful team of assistant wardens who assist with duties at Sunday services throughout the year. We have held a number of special events including a well-received Good Friday drama outside the Civic Centre, the Carol Service, the Tree Festival and the Christmas Experience. We have continued to hold regular church breakfasts which have proved popular and have been an excellent way of building fellowship across our church community. We have also had a church barbecue and a church picnic.

During the last year, most of our church groups have been running regularly including Little Fishes, Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Crèche, house groups and Sunday Club. We continue to run online prayer meetings. The Youth team have managed to run an exciting programme of youth activities but need some extra helpers. An exciting initiative this year has been the starting of Warm Spaces designed to offer a warm, safe and welcoming place to those struggling with increasing costs of living and especially fuel prices. This was very successful and is continuing under the name Friendly Faces. We are grateful to the individuals and teams who head up the various activities.

We are particularly grateful to Stuart Waldron who is continuing to head up the Maintenance Team dealing with the fabric and building issues. We are thankful for the appointment of Jen Shelton as Children and Families worker. We are sure this appointment will enable us to expand our ministry among children and their families. We are aware that we still need more helpers in some areas of church life and continue to pray that God will provide the personnel we need to run all our ministries effectively.



The last year has been a time of significant change in our church plant. We have completed the repair and conservation of the church tower and spire. The external lighting project was largely completed by the end of 2023. The old rectory was sold, and a new rectory building was purchased. The church office was relocated to the Church Hall. The Church Hall itself underwent significant renovation including installing a new kitchen, new chairs, new flooring, redecoration and much more making it a much more attractive and functional venue.

It is great to see the life and ministries of our church continuing to grow and thrive. We are grateful to everyone who contributes to our church community; each and every one of you is valuable. We would both like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love, support and prayer which have surrounded us over the past year.

Kate Butler & Viv Halliday

Church Buildings

A number of major projects were completed during the year.

Repair and Conservation of the Church Tower/Spire

Completed October 2023, final cost £314k excluding VAT that was reclaimed. Funded primarily through legacies and £26k of grants.

The project comprised work to the tower/spire that can be summarised as follows:

- Indented stone repairs primarily to the spire
- New sill stones to 12 lucarnes with new stainless steel bird mesh
- Extensive repointing of the tower and spire
- Overhaul of the weathervane
- Replacement of tie rods to the tower

Under the management of the Church Architect, supported by his Quantity Surveyor, the project was completed on time and to cost, and achieved the aim of providing a sound watertight structure to ensure the church can continue in use for generations to come.

Installation of new external lighting to the church and churchyard footpaths

Substantially completed December 2023, cost £23k, funded through legacies

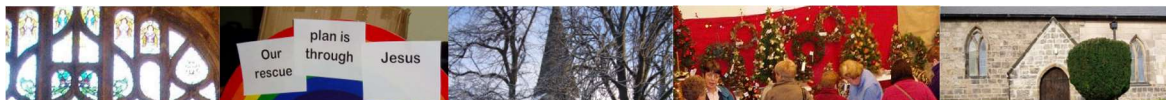
The aim was to provide safer access to the building and this has been achieved through low-level footpath lights and new lights on the building to better illuminate access points to the building. The style of fittings are in keeping with the age of the building.

Church Hall refurbishment and relocation of the church office to the church hall

Completed in the Autumn 2023, approx. cost £100k, funded through the church's allocation from the proceeds of the sale of the Rectory

The main features were:

- Provision of a new kitchen with new worktops, storage units, flooring and washing facilities
- New high-quality flooring throughout
- New chairs for the main hall
- Redecoration throughout



- New office with new desks, chairs, cupboards and carpet
- New storage cupboards and refurbishment of others
- Zoning of heating system and additional radiators for main hall

Maintenance plan

The Monday Gang continues to monitor and undertake regular maintenance activities to the church and hall. Health and Safety inspections are undertaken on a regular basis and the results reported to PCC.

Stuart Waldron

Safeguarding Report

At St Andrew's & Townfield we take our duty to protect all extremely seriously. The PCC has adopted the Church of England Safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidelines.

All staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are provided with a copy of the C of E's Parish Safeguarding Handbook with our own local supplements, and are required to confirm that they have received and read it. All are also supported with safeguarding training, and safeguarding training is provided to PCC members and others with a relevant interest. We follow the C of E's Safer Recruitment process for appointments, including the use of DBS checks and references.

In November, St Andrew's and Townfield both observed "Safeguarding Sunday", taking the opportunity to highlight the importance of Safeguarding and to increase awareness of who our Safeguarding Officers are.

The Diocese held a Thanksgiving for Safeguarding service at Chester Cathedral in July which Richard attended. With the Diocesan Safeguarding team now up to full strength, the Diocese has plans to increase networking amongst Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs), and Richard and Gwen both intend to fully participate.

If you have any queries or concerns please speak to one of the Parish Safeguarding Officers (contact details available on noticeboards in both churches, or via the church office).

Richard Lawrence (St Andrew's) & Gwen Derrig (Townfield)

Treasurer's Report

The pandemic generally forced a rethink on the collection and processing of donations from the congregation, resulting in us now seeing 90% of our income received via the collection of monthly standing orders. This does mean that things are safer in terms of handling cash to the bank, but also means that the monthly flow of cash helps the budget throughout the year. At the present time we have approx. 200 standing order payments received each month into the church bank account.



We have enhanced our card reader offering in the church and improved our online giving platform with the result that we are seeing regular use of these two methods for making one-off donations, particularly from visitors to the church.

As usual we would highlight Gift Aided giving as being enormously valuable to the church enabling us to claim approx. £43,000 each year from the Inland Revenue. The formalities for most donors are the very simple completion of a Gift Aid form. We thank Brenda Duffy, the Gift Aid secretary, for the enormous help in processing these claims twice yearly.

We have seen quite a few changes to the congregation over the last 3 years, with some moving away for family reasons, some now going to more local churches rather than travel across the Wirral, but are encouraged by seeing a good number of new members in church weekly.

Our regular planned income including Gift Aid in 2023 was £258,821, an increase on the previous year of £251,816. Despite this small increase our regular giving has fallen to what it was pre-pandemic in 2019. Our general overall income for the year was £279,904 (including one-off donations, Rolleston Drive rent and wedding & funeral fees) whilst expenditure was £297,856, leaving a deficit for the year of just under £18,000.

The annual accounts will show that in 2023 we received approx. £630,000 in total income (including net sale of the rectory, plus grants to support the spire work), with expenditure at £765,000 (includes cost of church hall and spire work), leaving a deficit in the accounts of £134,000. 90% of this deficit comes from income received in the previous calendar year.

We are very thankful for the increase in committed giving pledged in 2023 which should mean that our planned income including Gift Aid should be at least £275,000 this coming year. There will still be a challenge as our income needs to grow to approx. £304,000 to cover our anticipated expenditure.

You will be aware that we have been in receipt of a large legacy which has enabled us to make some necessary improvements and enhancements to our buildings in 2023. We have completed the very necessary stonework repairs on the spire which, after receiving some grants and Tax recovery where allowed, has cost in the region of £288,000. The sale and purchase of a new rectory by the Diocese has enabled us to make some really worthwhile upgrades to the church hall, costing £105,000 to date with some minor finishing off to do. You may have noticed the external lighting which has made a good improvement to the paths into church and this we were also able to fund at a cost of £25,000.

Apart from these items spent we have set aside sums of money to assist the church school in the near future with some building improvements, and have set up a more considerable fund to enable us to provide a Childrens and Family Worker for at least the next 6 years and possibly beyond.

Finally we have boosted our general funds by £50,000, much needed to ensure that we can fund our annual expenditure, particularly at a time where the general giving is not quite matching our annual expenditure. Naturally we cannot rely on these funds every year and must seek to increase our general giving to match our overall running costs.

Bryan Higgins



Report on the activities of the Parochial Church Council

One of my favourite moments during any service is when Helen Thomas is preaching and very often she will ask, rhetorically, something along the lines of, "... but Helen, what does that mean, I hear you say?" And *of course* I feel obliged to answer – I usually can't help myself – whether the answer is actually wanted or not!

But in that spirit: "Ian, I hear you ask, what does the PCC actually do?"

Well, during 2023, they kept an eye on the finances of the parish – but they always do that, don't they? And they agreed to the church hall refurbishment which has given it a more pleasant aesthetic and made it a better, more useable space. And oversaw the ongoing spire repairs, and the Rectory sale.

The PCC also renewed Christopher Jarvis' contract for another three years – just reward for his excellent leadership of the youth work, *and*

Employed a new Leader of Children and Families Ministry – and we're certain Jen Shelton will do a great job in the role, *and*

Approved the appointment of a new Curate, joining us in Summer 2024, *and*

Covered most of a course by CPAS, "Leading your churches in evangelism", to help us think about sharing our faith and reaching out, *and*

Kept up to date with the Church of England's "Living in Love & Faith" discussions about sexuality and relationships, *and*

Agreed to underwrite the cost of refurbishing the community kitchen at St Andrew's school – an essential element for Townfield's fellowship and socialising, *and*

Reluctantly agreed to cut down dying trees around the church car park for safety purposes (but new ones will be planted at the back at a later date), *and*

Started consultation with church hall users as to how best use the land retained from the sale of the rectory, *and*

Continued with Warm Spaces: now renamed Friendly Faces, *and*

Started planning 2024's church weekend away (now an away day due to costs), *and*

Discussed service times including taking the difficult decision not to restart weekly evening services for the foreseeable future, *and*

Agreed to new signs around the church grounds, *and*

Agreed to youth outings and events, for insurance purposes, *and*

Facilitated the mounting of a defibrillator at the church hall, *and*

Received regular updates on the financial position of the parish and agreed to a stewardship campaign to keep the congregation informed, *and*

Approved a new Christmas experience in lieu of the Christmas Journey, *and*

Set up an environmental working group to see how we can better serve the Lord, and the planet as a whole, through being greener as a church and as individuals, *and*

Continually reviewed church life and all aspects of it.

As well as all this, the two church subcommittees covered various aspects of life for our two churches, ranging from administration of communion, to stewardship & financial giving, to repairs & maintenance, to priorities for ministry, and plans for festivals.

Please forgive my flippancy. If I could just adapt John 21:25 for a moment – The PCC did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down I suppose that even the whole 2023 report would not have room for the items discussed and decisions taken to be written.



As ever – my annual appeal: if you aren't happy with decisions the PCC are making – get involved. If you want a say in how the church is run – get involved. The more voices and the greater range of diversity, the better. There are about 7 meetings per year, each less than a couple of hours: come and have your say.

No report would ever be complete without my declaration of thanks to Karen and Jenny in the church office for all their assistance throughout the year in ensuring agendas, minutes etc. are where they should be; to the members of the many smaller groups throughout the church – the reports of which can be read elsewhere – who all contribute to the running of the PCC and Parish; and to the Rector and Revd Al for their continued support and faithful leadership.

Please keep the PCC in your prayers.

Ian Swindlehurst

Youth Report

Vision

The vision for the youth ministry is “To create a growing community where young people can develop their relationship with God and discover who they are. Now and for the future.”

Each year we strive to make sure that everything we do fulfils this statement in some way, and that each element is fulfilled by something that we do. Currently we are working on developing “now and for the future” so that the impact of the youth ministry is long-lasting, after the young people graduate from it.

Weekly Church Groups

Unplugged

During the spring term Years 7-9 and Years 10-12 looked at various spiritual disciplines. Year 13 took it in turns to cook for each other, as the group was much smaller, and discuss whatever topic was on their minds. This was a particularly interesting term I felt.

During the summer term Year 13 focused on life after graduating from the youth ministry and how to approach the first months of university. Years 10-12 had visitors who shared part of their testimony to help the young people work on theirs ahead of Psalms & Sponges (more on that below). Years 7-9 explored communion ahead of some members being admitted.

During the autumn term, the age brackets move up after the holiday so Years 11-13 and Years 8-10 read through some Biblical books through the week and discussed them during the session. The new Year 7 group did some foundation building by discussing The Bible, prayer, The Church, and more.

As the Year 7 group was small, they were combined with Year 8-9 and as such we have seen more join due to the change of week day.



Amplify Friday

Amplify Fridays returned to the pre-Covid routine of weekly meetings, with Youth Band moving to a Sunday evening. During the spring term we watched *Murder on the Orient Express* and had a visit from the Creepy Crawly Roadshow; in the summer term we played crazy golf and walked from Heswall to Parkgate for fish and chips; the autumn term saw fireworks at Wirral Rugby Club, bowling and laser quest in New Brighton, and ice skating at Deeside.

The group sees a regular attendance of between 15-25 each week, and we have seen 40 young people at least once since September.

Amplify Sunday

Amplify Sundays have grown to match Fridays in terms of numbers, although not entirely the same young people. We have continued to cover a variety of topics from generosity and evangelism to The Holy Trinity and miracles.

Youth Band

Youth Band moved to alternate Sunday evenings; however, due to crucial members leaving and central instruments not being represented, the limited scope of what we could achieve meant that the time and resources required became more difficult to justify. By the summer holidays it was agreed that we would not continue for the time being, but may return in the future.

Schools Work

Wirral Boys

The Christian Union has returned to Wirral Boys, and we have just finished a long stretch of time looking at the book of Revelation. We have continued to be involved in the school's Christmas Carol Concert, and hope to assist with lessons in the future.

Wirral Girls

Unfortunately after the summer holidays, the small group size and busyness of teachers meant that the Christian Union has stopped in the girls' school. We have maintained the connection through Harvest assemblies and the Christmas Carols service; and we are also linked to the new community outreach group within the school that may well bear fruit in the future.

St Andrew's Primary

Last year I was unable to run Walk Through the Bible or transition lessons as the Year 6 teacher was leaving and so the final term was more full than usual. We have continued to be involved in regular assemblies and special events, and I hope to return to providing the Walk Through the Bible lessons this coming summer term.

Stanton Road Primary

We have continued to deliver assemblies on a regular basis at Stanton Road; there are starting to be opportunities to do more, but we are naturally following the school's pacing on this.

Amplivacation

Last year we took 20 young people away to Whithaugh Park again, with Rev. Anthony Clowes as our guest speaker. It was a successful trip once again, thanks to our amazing volunteer



team! This year we are set to take 22 young people away, with me as the guest speaker, so hopefully it will be a success ...

Other items

Psalms & Sponges

In June, the Year 10-12 Unplugged group led a charity bake sale/art exhibition to raise money for Wirral Youth for Christ. It was an overwhelming success, raising over £500 for our partner charity, and we hope to do something similar this year.

NYMW Conference

In November I went to the National Youth Ministry Weekend, this time with Alison Collins in tow. The main theme of the weekend was of an unknown future; with seminar topics including A.I., mental health, and young leadership. We both had a refreshing and informative weekend, and I have tickets for next year.

Christmas Experience

Many young people took part in the Christmas Experience drama, another key element of the youth ministry calendar.

Journey to the Cross

Last year many young people and myself took part in the Good Friday drama outside the Civic Centre, a very moving piece which we are preparing to repeat this year.

Volunteers

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to my team of volunteers, without whom we literally would not be able to do any of this! Special thanks goes to Martin Heale and Damien Williams who have both stepped down from the team in recent months.

Changes in the team, coupled with a growing ministry, means we are always looking for more people to join us in this wonderful journey alongside God and our young people. If you would like to visit any of the groups, or join our team, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Christopher Jarvis

Children & Families Hub

The main focus of Hub meetings during the year was the recruitment of a Leader of Children and Families Ministry. Legacy funding enabled us to offer a full time appointment fully funded for around 5 years. However, in common with other churches advertising similar roles, we found there was a lack of applicants, so after two unsuccessful attempts, we made the post more flexible, offering full or part time or job share. This encouraged more applications, and towards the end of the year we were delighted to be able to appoint Jen Shelton to the post, working part time across both churches, and looked forward to her taking up the role in early January.

Activities of the various groups during the year are summarised below:



St Andrew's Sunday Club

Sunday Club continues to meet as a single primary school-aged group and a separate pre-school group during school terms. While some families have moved away we have welcomed others and numbers remain steady. By the end of the year we had approx. 25 children between 2½ years and 11 years old on the register. Most children attend regularly.

Our teaching material has been based around Scripture Union (SU) material, although we have drawn on some of the lessons in On the Way and other material when we want to share teaching not currently covered by SU. During 2023 we have explored John's account of people that Jesus met, as well as Jesus' teaching through parables, Biblical kings and running the race. We began the new academic year with a look at Creation, linking to the Harvest Festival Family Service. We were blessed by a visit from a member of the wider congregation to share a favourite verse, as well as thinking about the Bible and evolution with our oldest children.

We are pleased to welcome new leaders and helpers to work in our team. We thank God for all they do to support the children in their walk with Him. We are looking forward to working closely with Jen Shelton in her new role.

Alison Collins & Ali Gurr

Townfield Sunday Club

Children and young people have always been just as important to Townfield as any other age group, so we continue to be delighted to see them being part of our life on Sundays, as well as at Messy Church, in our social events, and in our joint youth work with St Andrew's.

A large part of our work with children takes place in Sunday Club, run during our Sunday morning services, by our hugely important and committed team of leaders and helpers. They (seemingly tirelessly) enable Sunday Club to take place week by week, running both a pre-school/younger primary group, and an older primary group (before children graduate to the secondary aged youth group which we share with St Andrew's Church). Even if our volunteers give the impression of being tireless, we don't underestimate the energy they put into working with our children, and we thank them for their commitment.

If you've been with us on Sunday mornings in 2023, you may well have heard us talking a bit about our need to grow our work with younger children and families. This is simply because children have a habit of growing up(!). We are hugely grateful that healthy numbers of children do move on up through our age groups as they get older. But with a reduced birth rate on Wirral in recent years, we have noticed that less new families with young children have been finding us, meaning that our numbers of very young children have been lower than in recent years.

This means that we're aware that an area of growth for us will be to develop new ways of raising our profile with young families in the community, inviting them to discover Jesus alongside us. That will be an ongoing area of prayer and thinking for us *all* as a church community, and we are looking forward to working alongside Jen Shelton, our new Leader of Children and Families Ministry (shared with St Andrew's Church), who was appointed at the very end of 2023. Welcome aboard, Jen!

Al Rodgers



Little Fishes

Little Fishes had both good and bad times during 2023. It was great to welcome some new leaders to our team during the year. Sadly, we also had to say goodbye to some leaders as their personal circumstances changed. At the end of the year we had a well-established team of 7 leaders.

The year started well with good numbers attending both sessions. Unfortunately we had to stop meeting during April and May while the hall was being renovated. We were able to resume meeting in the church in June and were back in the church hall before the end of the Summer term. We had to discard some damaged craft materials and resources but are building these up again.

Numbers were much reduced after the break in meeting. But numbers soon started to build up again and this trend has continued into 2024. Little Fishes continues to be a welcoming, happy place for children and their parents and caregivers. Our visits to church at Christmas and Easter continue to be popular, for some the first time they have been into the church building.

Viv Halliday

Church Lads' & Church Girls' Brigade (CL&CGB)

During the past year the CL&CGB have met regularly on a Thursday evening during term time. Whenever possible members have attended family services and Sunday Club.

As a Battalion, along with St John's Great Sutton, we went to Crazy Golf at New Brighton.

We ran our Annual Camp, in Prestatyn, North Wales, where we enjoyed fun, faith and friendship. With much fundraising we were able to offer places to all who wanted to attend and we were able to keep the costs as low as possible.

Our band continued to practice through the year; with the tuition from Tom Lindsay and Ian Davies we were able to parade for Remembrance Sunday.

The children helped produce a decorated tree for the Christmas Tree Festival and were all involved in our Battalion Carol Service.

Overall, our numbers have increased slightly, with some new members joining, following a presentation in St Andrew's School.

Our company was enrolled on 24th October 1893, just two years after the Church Lad's Brigade started, so this year we celebrated our 130th Anniversary. Our research to date indicates that we hold the record for the oldest Company which has run continually since its formation.

"Fight the Good Fight" 1 Timothy 6 v12

Richie Clarke

St Andrew's Crèche

We have been delighted to welcome some new families into the Crèche this year and we are pleased to see several children continuing their church life by moving into Supercrèche.



Our amazing volunteers aim to provide a fun, safe space for our under 3's where parents/carers have the option of leaving their child with us while they return to the church service or to stay and play with their child.

The Crèche this year has changed its starting time so that it is in line with all of the other children's groups. This gives families the chance to experience a short time of sitting together in the church service.

We have been fortunate this year to have a TV installed in the Crèche so that we can livestream the service – many thanks to the Tech team for providing this for us – we are very grateful.

It is a privilege and a joy to serve God through the Crèche and to support our young families. If anyone would like to join our small, dedicated team do speak to David about this opportunity to serve.

Lisa Ehrlich

Townfield Messy Church at St Andrew's School

It has been great to hold Messy Church at school on a Friday at the end of the school day. We aim to have a meeting once each half term.

Numbers have varied a little but we have averaged around 70 including our volunteers. We met in February, March, May and June. The themes of the meetings were: God's love seen in Jesus the Good Shepherd; Holy Week and Easter; Jesus our King; God our creator and caring for creation.

Unfortunately we were unable to hold Messy Church in the autumn term because of team availability.

We have a good team of volunteers who help with planning sessions, resourcing the activities as well as helping on the day. It has also been a joy to see our junior leaders using and growing in their leadership skills.

I am very grateful for the support and welcome we have had from the school for Messy Church.

Judith Battersby

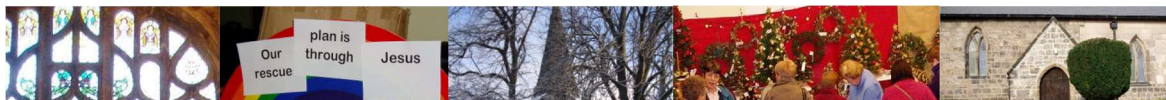
Seniors' Hub

All our regular activities ran during the year, and updates on each are below.

Women's Fellowship

Our membership presently stands at 25 members, which includes ages ranging from 70's through to 90's. We meet every Tuesday afternoon in term time at 2.15pm at the Church Hall, with various speakers and activities during the year.

From January to the end of August 2023 these activities have included: Flower arranging demonstration; afternoon teas; a talk on podiatry; Bible translation with Dr Peter Gopsill; a



shared meeting with St Mark's New Ferry; a talk on Cambodia; poetry afternoon; Holy Communion; musical afternoon; talk by representatives from "Uganda – with love and care"; Coronation tea commemorating HM King Charles III Coronation; talk on New Zealand; Bible bring and buy; coach outing to Bridgemere Garden Centre; and ending in August with 2 summer specials: the Wirral Singers and the Wirral Ukelele Band.

September to Christmas brought a talk on a pilgrimage to Israel; members' favourite hymns; a musical afternoon; Harvest lunch on behalf of Wirral Foodbank; a talk on Wirral's Public Sculptures and another on the History of Storeton; Remembrance Day memories of World War II; Leprosy Mission talk; Christmas Carols by candlelight; ending 2023 with a Christmas film, "The Nativity" from "The Chosen" series, with afternoon tea.

Each meeting starts with prayer, a hymn, notices, scripture reading and prayers led by members of the Fellowship, after which we have our guest speaker/inhouse activity.

Our leadership team is small and rather stretched, so we would welcome new leaders, and new members are of course always welcome.

"The glory of the young is their strength;
the gray hair of wisdom and experience
is the splendour of the old." Proverbs 20 v29

Sheila Lindsay

Men's Fellowship

The January term was attended faithfully by a small cohort of members who value companionship and the stimulation of our speakers. We include a Christian charity in each term's schedule, and contribute to their work. In the September term we enjoyed an address by Ron Povall. All members are encourage to contribute their interests and regularly do so.

Our groups' programme of speakers is available in church or from the office. Members from 5 Wirral churches attend regularly. All are welcome.

Keith Lindsay

Monday Gang

The Monday Gang continues to provide a service to the church with the aim of keeping our buildings in a safe and clean condition, and saving the church money by undertaking minor works and general maintenance tasks. This provides a great opportunity for members to continue to use their many skills and, most importantly, share fellowship together over coffee and biscuits at the end of the morning.

Some examples of our efforts during 2023:

- Relocation of the church office to the hall: assembling furniture, transferring files and equipment, etc.
- Hall refurbishment: clearing old furniture, carpets, etc.; helping with redecoration; works to assist heating engineer.
- Building a shed to accommodate the gardening tools and equipment displaced from the Rectory garage and outbuildings.



- In order to keep the churchyard clean and tidy, regularly cleaning and clearing weeds on the footpaths, cutting back bushes and shrubs so grave inscriptions are visible, and removing litter and other debris.

We meet every Monday morning, except Bank Holidays, from 9.00am to 11.30am. All are welcome.

Stuart Waldron

Pastoral Work

During this year the work of the Visiting Team has been consolidated as new members have established their own routines with the people they are visiting. These 'new' members are working really well with those they are visiting, helping them keep in touch with the main congregation. I believe that the blessing and encouragement of these visits are felt as much by the visitor as by those visited. A number of the visiting team are happy to administer Holy Communion to those they are visiting – particularly at Christmas and Easter – which helps the clergy as the number of sick and housebound is long. There continues to be the opportunity for meeting up with individuals to talk and pray either in their home or in a café somewhere. These are positive encounters.

Although I have done one or two hospital visits, the majority are carried out by David for which I am most grateful.

Amy Haigh

Charlotte House

The activities co-ordinator is very supportive of our services and this has helped make 2023 a very encouraging year. Two services are held each month on Wednesday afternoons; one of them now being communion after previously not being able to do so due to Covid and other illness concerns. The residents have very much welcomed this. The Rector joined us at Easter and Christmas, and residents were pleased to see him. For understandable reasons, numbers attending always vary but there have been occasions when they have exceeded 20. Having the opportunity to take part in acts of worship is still very important to many of this generation. They are precious members of our extended St Andrew's congregation who face many challenges in everyday life. It is also lovely to have visiting relatives and friends of residents joining us. After the service, we enjoy refreshments and a chat!

Sandy & Carolyn Muir

Safe Harbour

We have continued to offer short, simple services in Safe Harbour nursing home four times a year – Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Christmas. These are gratefully received by the residents, and there would be the opportunity to go more frequently if we were able to resource it. If anyone would like to get involved with these services, please do get in touch with me.

David Vestergaard



Prayer Ministry

After a good deal of prayer and discussion, it was wonderful to reintroduce Prayer Ministry after each main morning service in September. We are pleased that a number of our church family have come into the Feilden Chapel for prayer, for themselves or for others, or simply to thank God for answered prayer, as the Bible encourages us to do. We praise God and ask Him to oversee our ministry as we seek to serve our congregation in His name.

Sylvia Tomlinson

Bereavement Ministry

We do not currently have enough volunteers to be able to offer a bereavement visiting or telephone service, so the clergy seek to offer some support following funerals, although this is limited due to capacity. We once again held our annual Thanksgiving and Memorial Service in November, which was well attended and appreciated by those who came.

David Vestergaard

Heritage Report

The past year has seen an increase from organised groups in the area (3Ls, U3A, etc) – from West Kirby, Heswall, Bebington and Bromborough. Wirral Heritage Week in September saw 50 visitors coming into church for tours, and we have two advance bookings in the coming months for tours.

The heritage team has two new members to support us. At present we are looking at how we can enhance the visitor experience and give training to our new members.

One improvement we have trialled is a 15-minute talk on early history and the introduction of Christianity to Wirral, followed by the building of the church using our model. We then take visitors on a guided walk around the building. This has proved popular with some of the elderly or disabled visitors as it cuts the time that they have to stand during the tour.

Alan Roberts

Poverty Action Group

“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.” Matt.7 v12

Yet again it is a privilege to report on the way God has worked through our many volunteers, by responding in some way to poverty locally, nationally and internationally, during the last twelve months.

Planning meetings are held on six occasions throughout the year.

Christian Aid

We joined Christ Church, Higher Bebington in an attic sale in January. Christian Aid week in May raised £1,144 by holding a breakfast and coffee morning together with envelopes collected at both churches, St Andrew's School and those delivered by Guides.



Turkey Earthquake Disaster

£573 was raised at a coffee morning on 4th March which NatWest Bank had agreed to matchfund up to £100k.

Foodbank

Once again there was a very good response from both churches to the Harvest Appeal, which was so appreciated by the Foodbank. Demands on them are challenging as sadly requests continue to increase. Please be aware of the containers in both churches for food and other donated items, along with the option of sending funds via online banking, cheque or standing order. Details can be found on the Foodbank website.

Christmas

The Christmas Card and Gift coffee morning raised £721.36 which was sent to the International Red Cross Appeal to support humanitarian aid in Gaza and Israel. Twenty-seven shoe boxes were delivered to The Entertainer store in response to the Samaritan's Purse Appeal. Ferries Family Groups and Social Services Family Matters were the very grateful recipients of the many toys and gifts bought with the £547.60 which was donated in addition to those brought to the Toy Service. Townfield Church responded very well to the Forum Housing Association's suggested list of items (mainly for men). The Friendly Faces team provided a tree for the Tree Festival, in addition to the usual PAG tree.

Friendly Faces

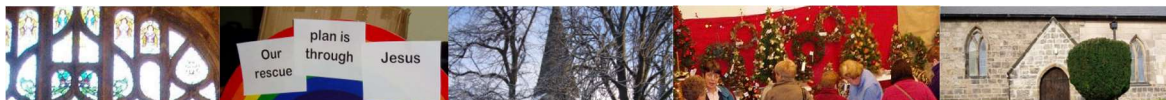
We registered with Places of Welcome, one of 700 across UK, offering a safe friendly place for free tea and biscuits and where local communities can connect, belong and contribute, and where resources and advice are available. We were grateful to those working on the hall alterations that, apart from two weeks over Easter, we were able to meet each week. A new flier produced by Callum Peters accompanied the name and time change from Warm Spaces to Friendly Faces, now meeting from 9.30am-12.30pm. Following the successful Environmental Health inspection in October (rated 5), a light lunch was offered. A six-week smartphone training course was held, followed by card and Christmas table decoration making. God continued to bless this opportunity to meet and share His love with our local community and we have been encouraged to welcome many new friends as numbers increased.

Besom

A visit to Involve North West (a charity aiming to offer support with issues affecting quality of life) proved to be a worthwhile exchange of experiences which was very much appreciated by us all. Gilly Laing, our lead co-ordinator, was interviewed on Radio Merseyside's Daybreak on 15th October when she outlined the work of the charity. An excellent northern gathering weekend as held on 6th-7th October at St Werburgh's Church, Chorlton, Manchester. Instances of positive answers to prayer were shared which inspired the Wirral Besom team to increase their prayer times from roughly termly to weekly. We have experienced God's provision as we have welcomed two new van team members, successful van repairs and the support of Conway Electrics when required, along with a committed team of great volunteers from various churches including St Andrew's and Townfield. A presentation at St Peter's Church, Heswall was given during November. Statistics: January to December 2023 – referrals 333 & givers 186.

Recycling

Unfortunately Superdrug Birkenhead stopped taking large collections of blister packs. Those



stores with a pharmacy continued to accept individual donations. St Andrew's continued to accept used stamps and spectacles (without the cases) when placed in the swing bin at the back of church.

Hope for Justice

The Wirral branch of Hope for Justice sadly closed as the rep moved away.

Whatever we do we do for the glory of God and in his strength.

Adrienne Smallthwaite & the Team

World Mission Support

Our established practice is to allocate a tenth of the income we receive through regular giving and one-off general gifts to supporting mission. St Andrew's operates a Mission Committee who are responsible for recommending to the PCC the allocation of St Andrew's share of this tithe. The PCC members for Townfield Church fulfil the same role for Townfield.

St Andrew's Mission Committee follows the principle that work supported should have an evangelistic element, although it may also include other aspects such as social action. We also aim to spread the allocation widely in terms of geographical area and type of work. Some of the organisations we support we have been giving to for very many years, others are more recent.

The committee members also each act as representatives for one of our mission partners, being responsible for communication with them and with individual supporters in the congregation, and obtaining updates for prayer and disseminating these. We also aim to welcome visits from mission partners where this is practical, or otherwise representatives share information with the congregation, in the form of a focus spot or presentation, with the aim of covering 2 or 3 mission partners each year in this way.

In 2023, St Andrew's Mission Committee gave support to the following mission partners:

- Bible Society (Rep – Martin Heale) – promoting access to the Bible worldwide – translating and distributing the Bible in different countries, and providing resources and events to promote the Bible in the UK.
- CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) (Rep – Helen Thomas) – providing children's & youth camps, teaching & leadership resources and training for churches, and acting as Patrons for many C of E churches.
- Anglican Province (formerly Diocese) of Chile (Rep – Amy Haigh) – towards support for the ministry of Alex Cordova, planting a new congregation in San Pedro Church, Concepcion.
- CMJ (the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People) (Rep – David Halliday) – working amongst Jews, Muslims and others in the Middle East and the UK to share and promote understanding of the Christian faith.
- Crosslinks (Rep – Vacant) – to support the work of Jomo Nderitu, the Diocesan Youth Co-ordinator for Marsabit Diocese in Kenya.
- Wirral Youth for Christ (Rep – Christopher Jarvis) – taking the gospel to young people across the Wirral through work in schools, in partnership with churches including ourselves.



- Barnabas Aid (Rep – Rachel Lindsay) – working to support persecuted Christians around the world and lobbying on their behalf, raising awareness of persecution and seeking action.
- Ferries Family Groups (Rep – Vacant) – contributing towards the costs of their office base and their staffing, facilitating their work with and witness to families in need of support in various ways.
- St Catherine’s Church, Tranmere (Rep – David Vestergaard) – towards their employment of a young people and families worker.

During the year, we had a visit from Osoba Otaigbe of the Bible Society, who spoke at a Sunday morning service. We pray for our mission partners at some of the weekly zoom prayer meetings and prayer breakfasts.

If you would like to receive news updates on one or more partners, please contact the church office. There are several vacancies for mission reps, so If you are interested in taking this role for one of the partners, please speak to me.

Our thanks are due to the Mission Committee for their service.

David Vestergaard

St. Andrew’s C.E (Aided) Primary School

With OFSTED having been in the news in recent months, it’s worth remembering that all Church of England and Methodist schools in England, as well as undergoing regular OFSTED inspections, also have Statutory Inspections of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) to prepare for.

So, St Andrew’s school deserves special mention this year, because it had the double privilege of receiving both OFSTED and SIAMS inspections during 2023!

Although inspections can understandably be stressful experiences for everyone involved in the life of a school, St Andrew’s took both OFSTED and SIAMS in their stride, with very encouraging written reports from both organisations.

SIAMS particularly highlighted that St Andrew’s is “*deeply rooted in its community*”, with its “*inclusive Christian vision... at the heart of school life*”, where “*close working with local churches and families deeply enriches Church school life, nourishing collective worship and the wider curriculum*”. Collective worship within the school was particularly highlighted as “*joyous, reflective and invitational*”, alongside “*a remarkably thriving partnership with local churches, one of which is based in school*” which “*richly enhances worship*”.

OFSTED was equally positive about life at St Andrew’s school, noting that children are “*happy to come to school*”, showing “*great empathy for one another*”, with a “*strong sense of community*” and “*a strong understanding of equality and diversity*”.

Clearly school staff, pupils and governors all deserve our congratulations on these fantastic reports (not least because notification of the SIAMS inspection was the very first phone call received on the first day of the new term in September!). And our thanks also go to the many



members of both St Andrew's and Townfield Churches who support school as Governors, Vision Volunteers, Messy Church volunteers (run by Townfield), prayerfully, and financially (through an annual donation from PCC funds).

We also recognise this partnership is very much a two-way thing, which benefits and enriches us as church communities, with Townfield continually grateful for the outstanding welcome and support we get from Mrs Lamkin (the Head Teacher), Mr Jardine (the Site Manager) and all the school staff on Sundays, as well as for Messy Church and for other events we run in the school buildings.

If you would like to find out more about the partnerships between us as churches and the school, do visit the [school website](#), or speak to a Governor.

Al Rodgers

PS. If you would like to read the full inspection reports, both the [SIAMS](#) and [OFSTED](#) reports are available on the school website.

Deanery Synod

During 2023 the Deanery Synod held two meetings as follows:

On 16th February at Christchurch Higher Bebington we heard from Harriett Roberts the diocesan vision adviser. This was part of a grassroots consultation initiated by Bishop Mark Tanner. Some may remember a similar exercise done one Sunday at both St Andrews and Townfield. As part of what we heard that evening at Christchurch we were invited to cast the net wide and we took part in an exercise making suggestions on paper under various categories – blue sky thinking, outreach, temperature check, people power as well as casting the net in new ways. We were also invited to consider things from an environmental perspective as well as wake up church. All of these suggestions were fed back to a diocesan committee which met in late May to consider the suggestions and how they would shape Chester Diocesan vision and mission.

In the meantime Mike Shevlin joined Deanery Synod after election at the APCM.

On 16th October at St John's Frankby we heard from Wendy Robertson, a Community Missioner with Transforming Lives Together who spoke to us about community engagement. There is still a need out there in the wider community to be able to engage with those needing help. This is against a backdrop of increase in energy debts, foodbank use, mortgage problems and those with energy prepayment meters – there is an increase in working folk needing help with these issues, particularly as surveys point to over half of UK adults feeling anxious or depressed over money. It was pointed out that community engagement can be at other public buildings as well as the local parish hall. Across Chester Diocese there are 47 places of welcome to the local community of which 20 are on Wirral including our own Friendly Faces at St Andrews. As part of this meeting we heard about various initiatives which come via the Church Urban Fund and include charity advocacy for social justice and equality as well as focusing on loneliness. There was also an opportunity for feedback to Wendy and to hear of what other churches are doing and what they come across.



As this report goes to press we have learnt that Carol Parry is stepping back from Deanery Synod and PCC. I would like to join others who have served on PCC and Deanery Synod over the years in thanking Carol for her input and service in this aspect of parish life.

Here ends this report from a Deanery with 14 parishes (and 21 places of worship).

Chris Jackson

Conroy Trust

The Conroy Trust was established in 1873 to benefit the poor of the Parish of Bebington, as defined by the then parish boundaries. These boundaries include St Andrews Bebington, St Marks, New Ferry and Holy Trinity, Poulton.

The management of the Trust is overseen by between three and five trustees. The Trustees during the year were David Vestergaard, Chairperson, Alan McGraa, Betty Cartwright, Beryl Lord and Maureen Preston, with both Beryl and Maureen retiring as at the Annual General meeting in 2023, and replaced by two new elected trustees, Helen Brown and Susan Kennaugh appointed at the meeting of parishioners in May 2023.

A report on their management is presented to the annual general meeting of the parishioners and this report is for the year ending 31st December 2023.

The annual meeting of parishioners has the power to appoint new trustees when the occasion arises and the appointment process is conducted by a majority vote.

2023 Financial Statement

The summary income and expenditure for 2023 was as follows:

	2023	2022
Income from Investments	6603	6645
Expenditure	11094	10894
Surplus/Deficit	-4190	-4248

During the year we have again managed to support the work of:

Ferries Family Groups

Wirral Foodbank

Life Church Bebington (Youth Hub)

CLCGB

St Andrews Youth Weekend

St Marks Youth Work

Along with 3 individual grants.

Expenditure during the year was in excess of the current years income, with the trustees wishing to utilise some accumulated reserves to boost the assistance they can give to as many as possible. As at 31st December 2023 the value of funds under management stood at £252,526, compared to £235,475 in 2022. Apart from a current account held at HSBC all investments are held with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, with the largest portion being a stock market investment, which has seen some recovery in 2023, growing by £20,241.99 as opposed to losing -£28,985.53 in value in 2022.



A modest grant can be awarded to anyone in the parish who is experiencing financial hardship, with Grants also available to be awarded to charitable organisations within the parish who are working to help the poor of the parish. Anyone interested in discussing grants should in first instance refer to the chair of the trustees, Rev David Vestergaard.

Bryan Higgins (Secretary to the Trustees)

In Memoriam

During the year we said a sad farewell to the following members of our congregation:

Barbara Bazley
Alan Breeze
Jill Brock
Hilary Hastie
Alex McMillan
Beryl Roberts
Jack Rudd
Muriel Scully
Leonid Shafran
Bette Thelwell
Ken Walker

Welcome

We were delighted to celebrate the birth of:
Otis Parkin



Statistics (St Andrew's & Townfield combined)

	Average Sunday attendance (including children)	Funerals	Weddings	Baptisms	Electoral Roll
2019	324	28	5	15	359
2020	315 (including online and at home)	25	2	5	358
2021	380*(including online and at home)	20	4	6	328
2022	250 (including online & at home)	19	3	13	338
2023	270 (including online & at home)	25	2	6	326

*It's very hard to estimate online figures and with hindsight this is probably an overestimate



Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners held on the 16 May 2023 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall and online via Zoom at 8pm

In attendance: the Rector, the Revd. David Vestergaard in the Chair, plus 51 parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

1. The Rector opened the meeting with a prayer, an act of worship and a reading from Colossians 2.
2. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Jonathan Breeze, Janet Campbell, Alison Gurr, Ian Halliday, Rob Holmes, Jenny Jackson, Paul Moss, Jill Moss and Ash Vestergaard.
3. **Minutes of the meeting of 24 May 2022**
The minutes, having been previously circulated, were signed as a true record on a proposal from Kate Muskett, seconded by Viv Halliday; with all in favour.
4. **Election of Wardens**
There being two nominations for the two vacancies – and with no other nominations allowed at the meeting – Kate Butler and Viv Halliday were duly elected for another year; with all in favour. The Rector placed on record his appreciation of their service and for being willing to stand again.
5. **Receipt of the Conroy report**
Having been previously circulated, the meeting was happy to receive the report.
6. **Election of Trustees**
There being two vacancies for the roll of Conroy Trust trustee, the two nominations – Helen Brown from St Mark's church, and Sue Kennaugh from St Andrews – were duly elected; with all in favour. The Rector expressed his thanks at their willingness to take on the role.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm



Minutes of the APCM held on the 16 May 2023 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall and online via Zoom at 8.15pm

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 51 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Jonathan Breeze, Janet Campbell, Alison Gurr, Ian Halliday, Rob Holmes, Jenny Jackson, Paul Moss, Jill Moss and Ash Vestergaard.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 24 May 2022

The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by Amy Haigh, and being seconded by Chris Jackson, signed as being a true record.

2a. Appointment of Tellers

Viv Halliday, Judith Battersby and Hannah Shevlin were appointed as Tellers.

3. Electoral Roll Report

The report was given by the Electoral Roll Secretary, Alison Collins. The number on the roll as of 16 May 2023 was 326. This was a fall of 12 from last year's roll – consisting of 18 deletions and 6 additions. The Rector expressed his thanks to Alison for her work. The meeting was happy to receive the report.

4. Receipt of the Annual Report

The Annual Report was received. It had been printed in advance of the meeting and gave reports from the Rector, Townfield Church, Youth activities, Wardens' & Treasurer's reports, World mission support, Safeguarding, Children & Families Hub, Seniors Hub, Poverty Action Group, St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Deanery Synod and the activities of the Parochial Church Council.

The receipt of the Rector's, the Wardens Report, the PCC Report, Townfield, Safeguarding, and the Deanery Synod Report were accepted en bloc on a proposal by Viv Halliday, seconded by Nathan Storm; with all in favour. All other reports were taken as read.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bryan Higgins. The figures as shown within the annual report were explained in some greater detail. He highlighted that net income for 2022 was £430,695: this was in part due to receipt of legacy money, but as Bryan explained, this had already been allocated to the likes of the spire, lighting, and other projects. He explained our ongoing reserves policy of having enough cash held to be able to pay two months' worth of payments, plus £20,000.

Donations and legacy income for the year was £733,917; total expenditure was £325,373. Our biggest expense, as always, was the Parish Share, which accounted for £133,000.

The total assets figure represents an historic valuation which has not been updated as there is no benefit in doing so. He highlighted the importance of Gift Aid, which this year



amounted to £43,742. For information, staff costs for the year came to £48,792 for the two office staff and youth worker.

The Rector extended his thanks to Bryan, and to Libby Higgins, for their work on the accounts throughout the year.

The meeting was happy to receive the accounts on proposal from Ann Shevlin, seconded by Callum Peters; with all in favour.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mike Forshaw was appointed as Independent Examiner on a proposal by Ann Shevlin, seconded by Viv Halliday; with all in favour.

6. Election to the Deanery Synod

There being 5 spaces and 4 nominees, Judith Battersby, Carol Parry, Chris Jackson and Mike Shevlin were all elected unopposed.

7. Election to the PCC

Laura Clark and Esther Darnton were elected to fill the two spaces to the Townfield church council. For information, Laura Clark and Judith Battersby were put forward as Wardens for Townfield and these appointments will be ratified at the next Townfield meeting.

There being five nominees and four spaces; Callum Peters, Nathan Storm, Penny Tomlinson and Ian Swindlehurst were all voted on to the PCC for 3 years following a ballot.

The Rector extended his thanks to those willing to stand, and to those already on PCC and Deanery councils.

8. Rector's report

The Rector started his report by thanking everyone willing to stand and had words of encouragement for those not elected this time. He said that over the past twelve months, like many churches, things at times had felt like a bit of a slog with fewer numbers of members and volunteers, and reduced income; but there were encouraging signs in seeing new members join and their willingness to volunteer and serve. A recent welcome lunch for new(ish) members at St Andrew's was attended by around 80 people. There was also encouragement in the likes of Super Creche – struggling before lockdown but now flourishing; and Warm Spaces – being run with a strong team of volunteers, well attended, addressing isolation and loneliness – which will continue. It feels like we're coming into a new season.

For longer standing members, he acknowledged that change and the relative speed of it, meant some were feeling that church was a different place, and we are looking at ways of rebuilding fellowship and relationships within the church and the community. He acknowledged this may take a bit of work.

Elsewhere the church hall refurbishment is about halfway through with the next phase (kitchen refit) planned for during half-term, and new chairs are being purchased. The catalyst for this has been the need to move the church office following the sale of the



rectory. They move into the Quarry Road property in June and the rectory itself is under offer from someone who is wanting to keep it as a family home. Some of the rectory land, adjacent the church hall boundary has been retained by us for future use.

There are exciting opportunities ahead – the Children & Families worker role hasn't been filled yet and we've found there are currently more vacancies than candidates, but we will advertise the position again later in the year. We are also hoping that we may have a new curate in 2024.

There are lots of possibilities open to us as a church, but it will take everyone playing a part in praying, inviting and witnessing. He encouraged everyone to come and join in with the Thy Kingdom Come initiative.

He ended his report with an expression of thanks to everyone who serves & volunteers – as ever, too numerous to name.

9. Minister for Townfield

The Revd. Al Rodgers reported that there had been a lot to thank God for in 2022, after 2021 which felt a lot like just getting the basics back in place. Messy Church, house groups and home visiting were all now operating pretty much normally, and social events had taken place including a barn dance and a sausage machine!

A first for Townfield saw the baptism pool in the school hall in March, and Christmas eve service was standing room only; give thanks to the Lord. He noted that Townfield is a team effort with 25 people being involved each and every Sunday – a different 25 each week.

They had been using the church's vision statement as a base of a series of teachings over 9 weeks looking at each separate heading for 3 weeks each – taking time to help shape and understand what it is they do going forward. They are, he said, looking to grow in every sense so they can share God's love with the community and ensure they aren't, 'Bebington's best kept secret!'

He gave thanks for the legacy money we'd received and hoped that the leader of the Children & families Ministry is in place sooner rather than later. 2022 had been a bit of a struggle financially after a few years of growth, although income was still higher than 2020. He noted that income was lower than expenditure and this wasn't sustainable in the long term, so a stewardship campaign was being undertaken with emphasis on being thankful. Thankful that Townfield are not on their own – that it's God's will to build up his church and without God being with us all is in vain. But roll on 2023!

10. Youth report

Chris Jarvis reported that he was hopeful this would be the last time we'd have to reference the pandemic. He said that everything we were doing before 2020 we were doing again. Primary school assemblies and senior school lunchtime meetings were all growing. Before the pandemic, numbers in the groups were falling but were now on the rise again, particularly in the years 7-9 range, and one of the young people who had starting attending the Friday evening group had attended Tuesday Unplugged for the first time. Things seem to be in a healthy place right now.



They are now looking ahead to new things they can start with a charity/evangelism event in the early stages of planning. Opportunities of going into schools and participating in actual lessons are possible and the hope is this will help us connect with pupils.

David Jack asked how much we, along with Wirral Youth for Christ, are involved with schools in the parish. Chris explained the YFC's involvement is generally in partnership with us. We are involved in both Grammar schools, and St Andrew's and Stanton Road primary schools.

The Rector expressed his thanks to Chris for all his work.

11. Discussion and Questions

Chris Jackson expressed his thanks to Rob Holmes for his redecoration work in the church hall building and to the Monday gang for their work.

Amy Haigh expressed her thanks for the services being livestreamed and how appreciated they are by people who have to watch at home.

12. Any other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed with an act of worship and the Grace at 9.20pm.

The Charity Registration Number is :- 01130323

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and Accounts

31 December 2023

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

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The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington.
The charity is also known by its operating name, Bebington Parish Church, St Andrews' and Townfield Churches.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 01130323.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity, established by Trust Deed. The governing document of the charity is the Trust Deed establishing the charity.

The governing document is dated 24 June 2009

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

St Andrew's Church Hall
Highcroft Ave, Bebington
Wirral, CH63 3EZ
Telephone 01516456478

Email Address office@standrewsbebington.org.uk Web address www.standrewsbebington.org.uk

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

	<i>Appointed</i>	<i>Resigned</i>
Chris Jackson		
Al Rodgers		
David Halliday		
David Vestergaard		
Ian Halliday		
Ian Swindlehurst		
Judith Battersby		
Kate Muskett		
Mike Ludbrook		
Carol Parry		
Caloline Adamson		
Val Waldron		16/05/2023
Simon Jones		16/05/2023
Bryan Higgins		
Sharon Mason		
Callum Peters		
Nathan Storm		
Wendy Doran		
Colette Owen		
Viv Halliday		
Kate Butler		
Sue Kennaugh		
Stuart Waldron		
Laura Clark	16/05/2023	
Esther Darnton	16/05/2023	
Penny Tomlinson	16/05/2023	
Mike Shevlin	16/05/2023	

All the trustees are also members of the charity.

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

We have run church services each Sunday, and seasonal services, for St Andrew's and Townfield churches. The main Sunday service at each church, and some seasonal services, were also livestreamed for the benefit of those unable to be present in person. Most of our other regular activities ran through the year, including Little Fishes (carer & baby/toddler group), Children's groups, Youth groups and activities, Women's and Men's Fellowships, prayer events & meetings, house groups and Alpha courses, and hosting & supporting the Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. Our Warm Space started in November 2022 ran through the year, rebranded Friendly Faces in the summer, as a place of welcome and hospitality. We ran a large outdoor dramatic event on Good Friday, and a Tree Festival & dramatic performance titled A Christmas Experience in the church in early December.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

Activities ordinarily carried out and serving the local community include weddings, baptisms and funerals; marriage preparation; baptism preparation; support for the bereaved; youth activities, Little Fishes carer & baby/toddler group; school assemblies; Christmas and Easter school services; services in nursing homes and sheltered accommodation; special community events such as A Christmas Experience and Journey to the Cross; Friendly Faces (previously Warm Space); and hosting and supporting Guiding groups, Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and other community groups. All of these took place during the year.

We have also undertaken financial giving and prayer support for Mission and Christian organisations and activities locally and around the world, promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

We estimate typical Sunday attendance in church during the year as approx. 220 adults & children. In addition to this, we estimate approximately 50-55 'at home' worshippers on a typical Sunday, by livestream, cd or dvd, though this number is hard to assess accurately.

As for most churches, this represents a reduction from pre-pandemic figures (our 2019 total was approximately 324), but is an increase on 2022 (250 including 'at home' worshippers).

Our best estimates are that there were 35 who left the congregations (10 by death), and approximately 27 who joined (adults and children). Some of those whom we have classed as left are people who have not returned since the pandemic. The number of people joining, including a significant number of children, is an achievement in this time.

During the year the parish conducted 25 funerals, 2 weddings, and 6 baptisms.

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

Benefits from the activities listed above have included faith development, spiritual and pastoral support, personal encouragement, development of gifts and experience, friendship and companionship, and meeting a range of needs for all ages.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

The activities listed above have provided a wide range of public benefit including faith exploration, spiritual support, pastoral care, provision of services and care for needs at key life moments, and services to local schools.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Decisions are made by the PCC in collaboration with the Clergy and Staff team, and working through subcommittees and together with volunteer leaders for groups and activities. The PCC meets at least 6 times a year in formal meetings of the Council, with additional meetings as necessary. In order to organise its affairs effectively during 2023, the PCC operated the following subcommittees and working groups: St Andrew's Church; Townfield Church; Standing; Finance & Fabric; Youth Hub; Children & Families Hub; Evangelism; Missionary; Poverty Action Group; Environmental Working Group; Maintenance Team. The Seniors Hub still exists but did not need to meet during the year.

Bankers	HSBC Bank plc - 58 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, Wirral, CH62 7ET
Architects	Bryan Martin BA, Dip Arch, RIBA, AABC, Architect, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northamptonshire, NN11 6UX
Surveyors	Gordon Cain, Coach House, Villa Rosa, St Lukes Rd South, Torquay, TQ25NZ
Accountants (payroll)	KBH Accountants Ltd. 255 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 4BT
(Independent examiner)	Haines Watts Chartered Accountants, 3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers, Victoria St, Liverpool, L2 5QQ

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2023

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2023 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income	(134,658)	430,695
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	1,129,189	1,264,226
Total Funds	1,129,568	1,264,226

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2023 .

Our total income for the year was £630,592 and our total expenditure £765,250 giving an accounting deficit of £134,658

During 2023 our financial position has indicated that normal running costs were not quite met by our regular income, resulting in reliance on the general reserves.

The pandemic has had a lasting influence on our general income and additionally affected by the general cost of living challenges, deaths of parishioners and a number of families moving away.

The trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be satisfactory.

Policies on reserves.

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately two months' unrestricted payments in addition to £20,000 to cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. At 31 December 2023 unrestricted reserves amounted £1,129,568 (2022 - £1,264,226) of which £80,000 of general cash balances were held to meet this policy.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers

Victoria Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5QQ

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 19/3 2024.



MR BRYAN HIGGINS
Trustee

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charity on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity on pages 9 to 29 for the year ended 31 December 2023 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) adapted to meet the needs of unincorporated organisations, as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 14.

The historical cost of the property was amended by the revaluation.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 6, you, the charity's Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the Governing Document for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the charity's examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am an authorised member of Chartered Accountants , which is one of the listed bodies.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and of the accounting systems employed by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by with Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-

M. Forshaw

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA - Independent Examiner

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers

Victoria Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5QQ

This report was signed on 19/03/2024

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	559,191	31,350	590,541	733,917
Charitable activities	A2	12,061	-	12,061	12,587
Investments	A4	27,990	-	27,990	10,224
Total income	A	<u>599,242</u>	<u>31,350</u>	<u>630,592</u>	<u>756,728</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	734,279	30,971	765,250	326,033
Total expenditure	B	<u>734,279</u>	<u>30,971</u>	<u>765,250</u>	<u>326,033</u>
Net income for the year		<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>	<u>430,695</u>
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>	<u>430,695</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>	<u>430,695</u>
Reconciliation of funds:-	E				
Total funds brought forward		1,264,226	-	1,264,226	833,531
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,129,189</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>1,129,568</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

All the prior year transactions were unrestricted items, and no further analysis is required

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Income & Endowments from:				
Donations & Legacies	A1	733,917	-	733,917
Charitable activities	A2	12,587	-	12,587
Investments	A4	10,224	-	10,224
Total income	A	756,728	-	756,728
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	B2	326,033	-	326,033
Total expenditure	B	326,033	-	326,033
Net income for the year		430,695	-	430,695
Net income after transfers		430,695	-	430,695
Net movement in funds		430,695	-	430,695
Reconciliation of funds:-	E			
Total funds brought forward		833,531	-	833,531
Total funds carried forward		1,264,226	-	1,264,226

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2023

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Last year Total Funds 2022 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	1,264,226	-	1,264,226	833,531
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	<u>(135,037)</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>(134,658)</u>	<u>430,695</u>
	1,129,189	379	1,129,568	1,264,226
Closing revenue funds	<u>1,129,189</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>1,129,568</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Last Year Total Funds 2022 £
Revenue accumulated funds	1,129,189	379	1,129,568	1,264,226

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

**The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the Companies Act 2006**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Income from operations	558,357	702,762
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	44,245	43,742
Investment income		
Income from investments, other than interest receivable	16,351	8,031
Interest receivable	11,639	2,193
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	630,592	756,728
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	630,592	756,728
Expenditure		
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	764,530	325,373
Governance costs	720	660
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-	-
Total expenditure in the year	765,250	326,033
Net income before tax in the financial year	(134,658)	430,695
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	(134,658)	430,695
Retained surplus for the financial year	(134,658)	430,695

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Balance

	SORP		2023	2022
	Note	Ref	£	£
Fixed assets		A		
Tangible assets	10	A2	655,132	655,132
Current assets		B		
Debtors	11	B2	24,909	24,299
Investments held as current assets	12	B3	106,976	100,000
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	351,442	496,974
Total current assets			483,327	621,273
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	C1	<u>(8,891)</u>	<u>(12,179)</u>
Net current assets			474,436	609,094
The total net assets of the charity			<u>1,129,568</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Restricted funds

379

-

Unrestricted Funds

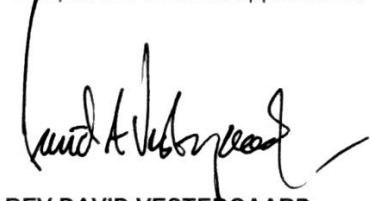
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	16	D3	1,129,189	1,264,226
			<u>1,129,189</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>
Total charity funds			<u>1,129,568</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 8.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.



REV DAVID VESTERGAARD

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 19/3/ 2024

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

Under 3.38 and to comply with 3.14, if there are no uncertainties about going concern this MUST be stated. Under 3.39, if there are uncertainties details must be given. Enter text here to comply

Suggested normal text (which may require modification to meet the circumstances):-

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2024, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

"Major risks for the PCC are currently either financial or property related.

Key risks:

- Income fails to keep pace with increases in Parish Share and public utility charges and ministry is compromised
- Funds are not available to pay staff salaries
- Funds are not available to meet the costs of essential repairs and refurbishment

Actions to mitigate risks:

- Provide periodic explanation to congregation how our funds are used and the need to increase regular giving.
- Regular promotion of regular giving and tax efficient giving schemes
- Special appeals to be launched to meet these costs."

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a payment is received from an estate or is notified as receivable by the executors after the reporting date and before the accounts are authorised for issue but it is clear that the payment had been agreed by the executors prior to the end of the reporting period, then the amount concerned is treated as an adjusting event and accrued as income in the accounting period if receipt is probable.

Where the charity has established entitlement to a legacy but there is uncertainty as to the amount of the payment, details of the legacy are disclosed as a contingent asset until the criteria for income recognition are met. Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised as income until the death of the life tenant.

If it is doubtful that full settlement of a legacy debtor will be received, then an adjustment is made to reduce the amount of the legacy debtor and legacy income rather than charging the adjustment as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated fixed assets are recognised at the current fair value. All such donations are recognised as donation income, and debited to fixed assets.

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.

In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.

If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.

The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.

The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock. When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in '*legacies and donations*'. Goods donated for resale are included in '*Income from other trading activities*'

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Donated services and facilities (including seconded staff and use of property) are included in the accounts on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity.

All donated services and facilities are recognised as donation income when received, (provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably) and recognised as an expense with an equivalent value.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity. However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2023	2022
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	<u>974</u>	<u>876</u>

5 The contribution of volunteers

We depend heavily on the support of volunteers. Almost every event and activity we have undertaken has been carried out either entirely by them or with their help. Over 200 volunteers committed countless hours to our activities during the year. Their support is valued enormously. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

6 Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	51,174	47,916
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	974	876
Total salaries, wages and related costs	<u>52,148</u>	<u>48,792</u>

The average number of part time staff employed in the year was	2	2
The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	1	1
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	3	3

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	3	3
<i>The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above</i>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

7 Defined contribution pension schemes

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

8 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

9 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

<i>Current Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Sundry items under £1000	-	-	-	-
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	580	580	-	-
M Blake (Townfield)	1,494	1,494	-	-
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500	500	-	-
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385	-	-	385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	2,240	-	-	2,240
Total	5,199	2,574	-	2,626
			2023	2022
			£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors			2,626	5,199
<i>Prior Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Sundry items under £1000	-	-	-	-
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	1,000	1,000	580	580
M Blake (Townfield)	1,494	-	-	1,494
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500	-	-	500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385	-	-	385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	8,547	6,307	-	2,240
Total	11,926	7,307	580	5,199
			2022	2021
			£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors			5,199	11,926

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
At 31 December 2023	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
<i>Prior Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
01 January 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
31 December 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
31 December 2022	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
31 December 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132

11 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,853	1,999
Other debtors	23,056	22,300
	24,909	24,299

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

12 Investments held as current assets at market value at 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Other investments	106,976	100,000
		-

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	6,060	6,800
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	2,626	5,199
Other creditors	205	180
	8,891	12,179

14 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 January 2023	1,264,226	833,531
Surplus after tax for the year	(134,658)	430,695
At 31 December 2023	1,129,568	1,264,226

15 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	482,948	-	379	483,327
Current Liabilities	(8,891)	-	-	(8,891)
	1,129,189	-	379	1,129,568

At 1 January 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	621,273	-	-	621,273
Current Liabilities	(12,179)	-	-	(12,179)
	1,264,226	-	-	1,264,226

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

16 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 15 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2022	Movement in funds in 2023	Transfers between funds in 2023	Funds carried forward to 2024
	£	See note 17 £	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	742,371	106,390	-	848,761
Designated Revenue Funds:				
Church Hall Designated fund	39,703	(39,703)		-
Mission/Staff Designated fund	39,703			39,703
Afternoon tea	-	161		161
Iglesia Anglicana Chile	580	(580)		-
Hindley Legacy	2,970			2,970
Heritage fund	1,235			1,235
Discretionary fund	400	(200)		200
Roleston Drive	3,911	1,992		5,903
Iris Jackson Legacy	1,000	(1,000)		-
Knit & Natter	150			150
Margaret Baker Legacy	432,203	(202,097)		230,106
Total unrestricted and designated funds	1,264,226	(135,037)	-	1,129,189
Restricted funds:-				
Warm Spaces	-	379	-	379
Total restricted funds	-	379	-	379
Total charity funds	1,264,226	(134,658)	-	1,129,568

17 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 16

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2023	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	599,242	(734,279)	-	(135,037)
Restricted funds:-				
Warm Spaces	31,350	(30,971)	-	379
	630,592	(765,250)	-	(134,658)

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

18 The purposes for which the funds as

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds

These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Designated Revenue Funds

This fund represents the unrestricted funds donated, but where the funds have been allocated for a purpose. This year funds have been ringfenced for the new roof, and also for improved lighting and other small projects.

Restricted funds:-

Warm Spaces

Warm Spaces- grants were received from Wirral Borough Council to support a nationwide initiative of promoting warm spaces for individuals to meet who were suffering hardship during economic difficult times. The grant monies were provided solely to cover some of the expenses incurred by the providers of Warm Spaces , and covered the cost of heat and light and refreshments.

19 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity has unlimited joint and several liability for the debts of the charity.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

20 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Donations and gifts from individuals				
Small donations individually less than £1000	284,706	-	284,706	227,132
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	44,245	-	44,245	43,742
Large donations individually over £1,000	1,000	-	1,000	2,000
Conroy Trust	4,000	-	4,000	3,750
Total donations and gifts from individuals	333,951	-	333,951	276,624

Donations and gifts from individuals (Include HMRC refunds on gift aided donations) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Prior year	276,624	-	276,624

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Legacies receivable				
Sylvia Walker legacy	-	-	-	6,307
M Baker legacy	59,847	-	59,847	450,000
M Blake	1,494	-	1,494	-
Total legacies receivable	61,341	-	61,341	456,307

Legacies receivable - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Prior year	456,307	-	456,307

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies				
Chester Diocese - Energy grant	-	-	-	986
Wirral BC - Warm Spaces	-	5,050	5,050	-
Chester Diocese	163,899	-	163,899	-
Benefact Trust	-	6,300	6,300	-
Garfield Weston	-	20,000	20,000	-
Wirral BC	-	-	-	-
Total private sector revenue grants	163,899	31,350	195,249	986

Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies (Include Gift Aid donations from subsidiaries) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Prior Year	986	-	986

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

<i>Current year</i>		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current Year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	559,191	31,350	590,541	733,917
<i>Prior year</i>		Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £	
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	733,917	-	733,917	

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

21 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

<i>Current year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total funds 2022 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading				
Sale of goods and services in accordance with the charity's objects	2,395	-	2,395	-
Income from church activities	9,666	-	9,666	12,587
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	12,061	-	12,061	12,587

22 Total Income from charitable activities

Total income from charitable trading	12,061	-	12,061	12,587
Total from charitable activities A2	12,061	-	12,061	12,587

Income from charitable activities - Prior Year analysis

<i>Prior year</i>	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Total income from charitable trading	12,587	-	12,587
Income from funders	-	-	-
	12,587	-	12,587

23 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Current year Total Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2022 £
Property Rental Income	6,451	-	6,451	6,569
Dividend Income	2,924	-	2,924	1,462
Bank Interest Receivable	11,639	-	11,639	2,193
Other Investment Income	6,976	-	6,976	-
Total investment income A4	27,990	-	27,990	10,224

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	10,224	-	10,224

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

24 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	51,174	-	51,174	47,916
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	974	-	974	876
Giving outside the parish	25,222	4,671	29,893	33,886
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & Church office & general running	10,534	-	10,534	20,112
Parish share	20,499	-	20,499	14,918
Church buildings expenses	141,406	-	141,406	133,312
	483,570	26,300	509,870	74,353
Total direct spending	733,559	30,971	764,530	325,373

<i>Prior Year</i>	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	47,916	-	47,916
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	876	-	876
Giving outside the parish	33,886	-	33,886
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & Church office & general running	20,112	-	20,112
Parish share	14,918	-	14,918
Church buildings expenses	133,312	-	133,312
	74,353	-	74,353
Total direct spending	325,373	-	325,373

25 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	720	-	720	660
Total Governance costs	720	-	720	660

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2023 as required by the SORP 2015

26 Total Charitable expenditure

		Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
<i>Current Year</i>		2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	733,559	30,971	764,530	325,373
Total Governance costs	B2e	720	-	720	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	734,279	30,971	765,250	326,033

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
<i>Prior Year</i>		2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	325,373	-	325,373
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	326,033	-	326,033

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BEBINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1130323

Accounts

Bebington Parish Annual Report 2022



Incorporating a strategic review of the year, the aims and activities of the PCC, financial review and a statement of financial activities



Our Vision

A Christ-Centred Family Sharing God's Love

Christ-Centred: Followers of Jesus Christ, grounded in scripture, prayer and worship

Family: A welcoming fellowship where all ages are nurtured and enabled to use their God-given gifts

Sharing God's love: Making Christ known in our daily lives with everyone we meet
Serving and loving each other, our community and beyond



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Rector's Report on St Andrew's

2022 was the year during which we found ourselves emerging from the pandemic, but more slowly than we may have expected and in a rather stop-start fashion.

There were however some significant developments during the year. Last year I reported that we were due to receive a very large legacy. Some £450,000 of this was received during 2022, with up to another £50,000 to follow. We are very grateful for this provision. Legacy funds are an opportunity to invest in something which we would not otherwise be able to do, which will bear fruit for the Kingdom of God and benefit our parish. Of course the natural temptation in the current climate is that this would give us a cushion against the cost of living crisis and reduced income from congregational giving. However, the PCC agree that wherever possible such funds should not be used for regular expenditure, as they are not a reliable source of income and to be sustainable, the costs of ongoing ministry need to be met from regular giving and income. This exceptional legacy provided us with a unique opportunity, so the PCC set up a working group to consider options for its the use – of which there were many! The following priorities were agreed:

- Covering the cost of essential repair works to the spire and tower (total cost approx. £308,000 excluding recoverable VAT, with grants of £26,000 having been secured). This puts us in a position to carry out this essential work before costs rise further, and without having to fundraise from the congregation during a cost of living crisis. At the year end, we were working towards the project commencing early in 2023.
- Funding a full time post for a Leader of Children and Families Ministry, for 5 years. It was our stated aim just before the pandemic to work towards funding a post. Following the impact of the pandemic we are agreed that this is now more important than ever for the future of our ministry, and the legacy funding makes it possible. Our first recruitment drive was unsuccessful, so at the end of the year we were preparing to readvertise the post. (We already had £39,000 from a previous legacy to put towards this).
- Completing the church lighting project by installing the proposed external lighting, once planning permission is received. At the year end we were still awaiting this. The expected cost is around £20,000.
- Providing assistance to our church school, in addition to our annual donation, towards the cost of refurbishing the Year 5-6 accommodation. The anticipated cost is around £600,000, of which the school has to cover 10%. We have set aside £40,000 for this purpose.

This use of the funds will ensure that our historic building continues to serve the parish, and will make a significant impact on our community through our ministry and that of our church school.

Another major development during the year was the agreement between myself, the PCC and the Diocese that the current Rectory will be sold, and a more suitable and more modern house provided by the Diocese. This followed extensive discussion and unanimous agreement by the PCC, and an open meeting. Much as we and others love the current house, the financial cost and work involved in keeping and maintaining it make it unsustainable for the present day both for a clergy household and for the Diocese. At



the year end, the purchase of a very suitable house on Quarry Avenue, 5 minutes' walk from the church, was in hand and the Rectory was due to be placed on the market in the new year. The Diocese also agreed that we could retain part of the rectory grounds, at no cost to us other than that of erecting a new fence. This will provide us with more amenity space around the church hall.

The Rectory sale will also entail moving the office into the church hall, which has long been an aspiration of the PCC. Various options for this were considered. We have had an agreement in place with the Diocese for some years that in the event of the Rectory being sold, the PCC will receive a small percentage of the proceeds. This is unusual, and reflects the historic use of part of the house for the office and meeting room. This funding will enable us to undertake necessary alterations to the church hall to accommodate the office, and to carry out some much needed refurbishment. At the year end, plans were being put in place for this and options and costs considered by the PCC. Turning to our regular ongoing ministry, morning services were able to run as normal throughout the year, but in common with most churches, we found that numbers attending were lower, many people were coming less regularly, and we had fewer volunteers, compared with before the pandemic.

The 8am service, whilst smaller than before, has been very stable, with attendance in the late teens or sometimes over 20. The main service has gradually regrown, but numbers have tended to climb a little, then plateau or drop back, with this pattern repeated throughout the year. For much of the year the typical attendance was around 120. We have continued to livestream the main service on Youtube each week. Whilst the viewing figures are difficult to analyse we know a good number of people are joining regularly, including many of those who are housebound, and it has also provided an opportunity for people to trial our services privately before deciding whether to come along. We have also continued to send out dvd's or cd's of services to those who need them.

During the year, we ran teaching series including Frontline Sundays (equipping us to live out our faith wherever we spend our time during the week); Gardens & the Gospel (the gospel told through a series of Bible stories set in gardens); Conversations with Jesus in the Gospels; the "I Am" sayings of Jesus; God's welcome for all; and Who is this King? Resources and congregation numbers have made it impractical to restart the monthly 9:30am service, although this has had the advantage of keeping our main service to the same time (10:30am) every week. Similarly we have not been able to restart evening services, although numbers at these had been falling for some time before the pandemic, towards a level where they were likely to have become unsustainable. Our intention is to consider trialling some stand-alone occasional evening services, events or short series, as & when resources allow.

Most of our other activities ran during the year, though a few have not restarted (the other reports in this pack will give you more information).

We saw some people returning to church who had not done so during the previous year, and it is very encouraging that we have also welcomed a significant number of new members, of all ages. Some of our members have become housebound or too unwell to attend regularly, some appear unlikely now to return, and sadly some have died during the year. All this means that for some, the congregation feels very different, and we have made efforts to begin rebuilding fellowship through social and other events, which we plan to continue.

We were able to draw many people into new areas of service, which has been encouraging and has enabled us to run most of our normal activities. It was particularly



good to see a large number volunteering to run our new 'warm space' in the church hall, which started weekly in November in partnership with other local churches and receiving funding from Wirral Council. This has been a great way to serve our community. At the same time, many of our volunteer teams are stretched. I would encourage you to consider prayerfully whether the Lord may be leading you into an area of service that is new for you.

Also in common with many churches, we have seen a financial impact from a combination of the pandemic, reduced membership, and the cost of living crisis. We are grateful to God and to all who give financially, enabling us to finish 2022 with a deficit of around £6,000, which is significantly lower than we might have expected. However, at current income levels, we are looking towards a deficit of up to £40,000 for 2023, which is not sustainable. (our energy bills alone are likely to increase by around £20,000 over the coming year, most of our fixed rate deals now having expired). Almost all our income comes from the congregation, and around 94% of our expenditure is accounted for by staffing (including Parish Share which covers the cost of our clergy, housing & pensions and a share of Diocesan support), essential building running costs, and 10% given to Christian mission, leaving us little flexibility to reduce expenditure. We recognise that many are finding things challenging financially in the current climate, but we also need to increase our regular income if we are to sustain our current ministry. Could I gently encourage you to prayerfully review your current financial giving, especially if you have not done so for a while?

As always, I have been so grateful to our dedicated team of staff, churchwardens, PCC, maintenance team, and all who have served in many different ways in contributing to our ministry during the year, for their partnership, commitment and support. Although there are too many people to thank individually I would particularly like to express thanks to those who have carried an additional load due to the reduced number of volunteers, or to working on new areas of development, but to all of you too for your participation in many different ways.

It has been another challenging year for most people individually as well as for us as a church. But through all this we can be encouraged and inspired by God's love, his work in the world and in our parish today, and the sure and certain hope he gives us through Jesus Christ. May He continue to guide us forward through the coming year.

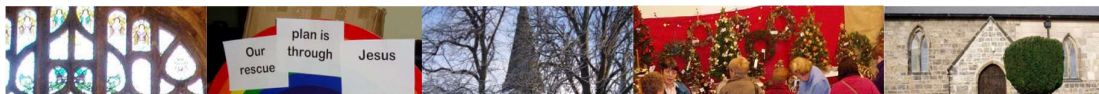
David Vestergaard

Townfield Report

As always, there is so much to thank God, and each other for, as we look back over 2022, recognising that it was a year of continuing to rebuild after the disruptions of Covid. While 2021 enabled us to re-start more 'normal' looking Sunday morning services, 2022 has given us lots of opportunities to rebuild our wider areas of church life, getting much closer to 'business as usual'.

It is, of course, always risky to mention particular highlights from the year (there are





too many highlights to mention, and we'll always miss mentioning something we should have done!), but when I flick back through the diary for 2022, some highlights which stand out are:

- A service of baptism, admission to communion and affirmation of baptismal faith in March, which saw a giant pool set up in the school hall (with thanks to Mrs Lamkin and Mr Jardine at school for their enthusiastic help and support), and the baptism of Lissa, Amelie and Joel, the admission to Communion of Rosie, Isaac, Lissa, Amelie and Joel, and the affirmation of baptismal faith by Cathy.
- The re-starting of Friday afternoon Messy Church (twice a term), with an enthusiastic and dedicated team ready to relaunch such an important part of church and school life.
- A return to more normal pastoral visiting and home communions, as restrictions had lifted, and confidence was returning.
- A whole raft of regular, community-building church social events: A church lunch in July, a church picnic in August, a quiz night in September, a Harvest lunch in October, a memorable barn dance in November, and a series of 'open house' events.



Alongside all these highlights, we are also very grateful for the opportunities we have had to continue what might be called our week-to-week 'core activities' of Sunday services, our house groups, our children's and youth activities, and the numerous teams which keep things running (music, coffee, welcome, sound and streaming, furniture shifting, cleaning, prayer ministry, youth and children's work). A recent activity of writing thank you letters to everyone who were serving behind-the-scenes one Sunday morning revealed that over 20 people were volunteering in one way or another on that day alone. If we multiplied that up to see the number of

volunteers involved to keep *all* of our activities going all year, we'd begin to see how much of a team effort Townfield really is!

Towards the end of the year we had a hunch that after all the disruption of the last few years, it would be good for us to spend some time with God, thinking about our vision as a church. The aim wasn't to come up with a new vision, but was to create some space to think afresh about the opportunities we have to live out our existing vision, to be a *Christ-Centred Family, Sharing God's Love*. So, in the autumn term we spent 9 weeks prayerfully working through this vision, working together to think





about how we could grow in 1) discipleship (being *Christ-Centred*), 2) mutually-supportive community (being *'family'*) and 3) outreach (*'sharing God's love'*). At the same time we began the process of relaunching our vision groups to take a lead in these areas, and we very quickly began to see positive results, with increased engagement right across the congregation, and a number of initiatives re-starting.

But the year wasn't just about what goes on within the church community. We were delighted to be able to engage with the wider local community in a number of ways. Schools visits were able to re-start 'in person' (rather than through a screen), lots of Townfield members were able to be part of the parish-wide Christmas Journey event, and we were delighted to be absolutely packed on Christmas Eve for our Christingle service (an encouraging reminder that lots of people from the local community are still pleased to respond to a well-timed invitation through their letter box or school bag).

Despite all these encouragements, we recognise that there are still some challenges. 2022 was, for many, an economically testing year, and this is reflected in a slightly reduced giving income at Townfield, which we will be prayerfully responding to this year, trusting that God will lead, and provide for the work that he calls us to.

So, thank you to every single member of Townfield for all your contributions of time, energy, prayer, money and enthusiasm in 2022. We look forward to where God will take us in 2023 and beyond!

Al Rodgers

Wardens' Report

The period since our last APCM in May 2022 has been a time of gradual growth and a return to a more normal pattern of worship and activities in our church community. An increasing number of people are attending our regular services in church, and we continue to livestream most of our services for those unable to attend for any reason. We are very grateful to all those who contribute to our weekly worship, our dedicated sides people, those who lead and preach, those who read and pray, our talented music team, our wonderful refreshment team, our skilled technical team who keep our worship running smoothly. Our thanks also go to all those who help with the regular upkeep of our church building, those who clean brasses, arrange flowers and of course our wonderful Monday Gang. We must not forget the wonderful team of assistant wardens who assisted with duties at Sunday services throughout the year. We have held a number of special events including the Carol Service, the Tree Festival and the Christmas Journey at Christmas. We had a very successful house party attended by about fifty people at Cloverley Hall in September and most recently we put on a very well received Good Friday drama outside the Civic Centre. We have held regular church breakfasts which have proved popular and have been an excellent way of building fellowship across our church community. At time of writing, we have a Welcome lunch planned for those who have joined the congregation in the past few years.

During the last year, most of our church groups have been running regularly including Little Fishes, Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, Crèche, house groups and Sunday



Club. We continue to run online prayer meetings. The Youth team have managed to run an exciting programme of youth activities. We are grateful to the individuals and teams who head up the various activities. We are particularly grateful to Stuart Waldron who has agreed to head up the Maintenance Team which deals with the fabric and building issues. We are aware that we are still short of helpers in many areas of church life and pray that God will provide the personnel we need to run all our ministries effectively. In particular, we pray for the ongoing process of appointing a Children and Families worker, which we hope will enable us to expand our ministry among children and their families.

The last year has been a time of significant change in our church plant. We have had repairs to the organ and the heating in church. The external lighting project is still ongoing. We are currently in the midst of the Spire project which involves some very impressive scaffolding and is hoped will result in some much-needed repair work. One of the most notable decisions during the year was to sell the existing rectory, in cooperation with the Diocese, and to purchase a smaller more economically viable property to serve this purpose. As a result of this decision, it was also necessary to relocate the church office which is currently situated in the rectory. Its new location will be in the Church Hall, which consequently is undergoing extensive refurbishment. This involves new flooring, new storage, new kitchen, replacement LED lighting, a false ceiling upstairs and redecoration.

It is great to see the life and ministries of our church growing and thriving again after the difficulties of the lockdown period. We are grateful to everyone who contributes to our church community, you are many and each of you is valuable. We would both like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love, support and prayer which have surrounded us over the past year.

Viv Halliday and Kate Butler

Church Buildings

A number of projects have been progressed or completed during the year:

Relocation of Vestry Screen

The screen, that forms the entrance to the Church kitchen and toilets, was relocated to provide straight access for wheelchairs into the toilets, with the opportunity taken to provide improved storage for the Flower Team and Monday Gang. The work was undertaken by the Monday Gang.

Installation of Church Organ Canopy

Further to considerable damage to the organ caused by the ingress of rainwater through joins in the roof lead gully linings, on completion of the repairs covered by our insurance policy, a protective canopy has been installed that will channel any future ingress into a collection vessel. This was funded by the Church

Replacement of Handrail to Church Boiler Room



Monday Gang has installed a new steel handrail to the concrete stairs down to the boiler room.

Progress of External Lighting Planning Application

Further to the necessary Planning Application for the proposed improvements to the external lighting to the pathways of the Church being submitted in November 2021, in the Spring 2022 the Council advised of additional information to be provided to enable consideration of the application. The main element of this was the provision of a full set of 'at scale' drawings of the four elevations and required the commissioning of a qualified surveyor to complete. The Church Architect had indicated these drawings will be very helpful for future projects.

The additional information was subsequently submitted to the Council in Summer 2022, and a decision is expected to enable the installation of the new lighting early in 2023.

Progress of Church Tower and Spire Project

Our Church Architect and Quantity Surveyor completed the preparation of the contract documents and a contractor has been appointed. Work is programmed to start early in the new year 2023.

The project is being largely funded through a legacy that has generously been left to the church. Grants to the value of £26,000, have been secured from the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Benefact Trust. Further grants are being sought.

Maintenance Plan

The Monday Gang continues to monitor and undertake regular maintenance activities to the Church and Hall. Health and Safety Inspections are undertaken on a regular basis and the results reported to the PCC.

Stuart Waldron

Safeguarding Report

At St Andrew's & Townfield, we take our duty to protect all extremely seriously. The PCC has adopted the Church of England Safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance.

All staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults are provided with a copy of the C of E's Parish Safeguarding Handbook with our own local supplements, and are required to confirm that they have received and read it. All are also supported with safeguarding training, and Basic Awareness safeguarding training is provided to PCC members and others with a relevant interest. We follow the C of E's Safer Recruitment process for appointments, including the use of DBS checks and references.



The above practices have been very relevant in 2022 as the restarting of activities post-Covid continued, in many cases after a significant gap and/or with new leaders. And new activities have started, e.g. Warm Spaces.

If you have any queries or concerns please speak to one of the Parish Safeguarding Officers (contact details available on noticeboards in both churches, or via the church office):

Richard Lawrence Safeguarding Officer for St. Andrew's
Gwen Derrig Safeguarding Officer for Townfield.

Treasurer's Report

The year 2022 has shown some recovery to fairly, but not wholly, normal levels of activity following the couple of years of pandemic where activities were modest and fewer services meant that expenditure was down on typical levels.

The pandemic forced the streamlining of our accounting methods so that we see very little cash on a weekly basis with most donations now made by standing order, and some by card machine in church. This has other positives in that there is less risk of handling, storing and delivering cash to the bank weekly. The giving by standing order on a regular basis helps enormously with our budgeting, and encouraged some more donors to realise the benefit of being able to increase their giving via Gift Aid. At the present time we have approx. 200 standing order payments received each month into the church bank account.

I would highlight Gift Aided giving is enormously valuable to the church and enables us to claim approx., £43,000 each year from the Inland Revenue. The formalities for most donors are the very simple completion of a Gift Aid form. We thank Brenda Duffy, the Gift Aid secretary for the enormous help in processing these claims twice yearly

A number of families have moved away from Bebington and St Andrews over the last 2 years, having made the decision in the pandemic to travel less and go to more 'local to home' churches. This has had an impact on our giving, although some new members have partly bridged the gap.

Our regular planned income including Gift Aid in 2022 was £251,816, a decrease on the previous year of £257,195. This regular planned giving has seen a fall in the last few years and is back to approx. 2019 levels.

Our general overall income for the year was £273,633 including one off donations, Rolleston Drive rent and wedding & funeral fees whilst expenditure was £279,655, leaving a deficit for the year of £6000.

Some may be aware that we rent out Rolleston Drive, the curacy house, whilst we await a new curate (which will not occur until 2024). 50% of this income goes to support our everyday costs, whilst the remainder is creating a fund that will enable us to maintain and make improvements to the property when the time is right.



The Annual Accounting records for 2022 illustrate an overall income for the church and its activities of £756,728 against expenditure of £326,033, a surplus of £430,695. This surplus is as a result of the receipt of a large legacy which is not intended for general day to day expenditure.

The receipt of a large legacy has enabled the PCC to plan for a number of things over the coming 12 months. The church spire has much crumbling masonry and it is necessary at this stage to spend approx. £330,000 on repairs and maintenance, something we could not have done without the legacy. The PCC have also set aside a sum of money to fund a Childrens and Family worker for a period of 5 years. We will also be making improvements to the church external lighting to enable safer walkways to and from the church. Finally, part of the legacy enables the PCC to make a contribution to planned improvements to the church school, something which the church is obliged to undertake as Trustees. We are much encouraged that all these works can be undertaken without the need to fund raise and ask the congregation for contributions.

We continue our work on a separate budget for Townfield with appropriate apportionment of costs, so that Townfield members can see how their giving supports the work of their church.

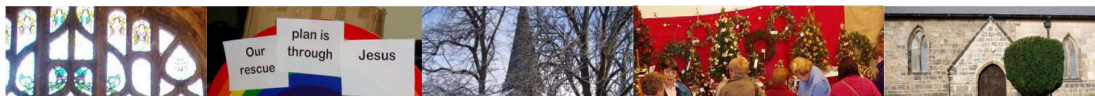
Bryan Higgins

Report on the activities of the Parochial Church Council

What would you do if someone presented you with £500,000? *<insert jokey comment here about wanting to go on personal spending spree involving cars, parties and holiday but stopped by PCC members being good stewards of the money>* And so, instead, we been able to fund some essential works.

We have been able to pledge money to St Andrew's School to fund their required portion of the next phase of works to the building, providing a better learning environment for the pupils. We have set aside money to cover the salary of the incoming Children & Families Worker. It is important we can show we are committed to the role as a church, and having money ringfenced for a few years will mean the leader can concentrate on their work rather than have to fret about starting to find a new job halfway through their contract.

And then there is the spire. You may well have gasped, as the PCC have, on hearing the cost is around £300,000 to complete the works. It is a lot of money and I'm sure there are many times we'll have asked ourselves, what else could we do with that? St Andrew's is a beautiful building, with an amazing history stretching back a thousand years, so unfortunately repairs don't come cheap. We were faced with two options: do just the work identified as essential for now and return when the other works have deteriorated further; or undertake all the works now and save money on not having to erect scaffolding again in a few years' time. Obviously, we don't know what the future holds, but to spend the money on other things then leave ourselves in a position where



we then had to find substantial funds for the spire in another few years was – correctly – felt to be the wrong way forward by the PCC.

We've committed to covering the outstanding costs to complete the external lights. These would have been finished already with speedier responses from Wirral Council planning department!

There has also been the sale of the rectory. The Diocese indicated to the PCC that when we next changed Incumbent*, they would look to replace the rectory to a more modern home in line with their current policy. The PCC felt that if this was something we were going to have to do at some point in the future it would be less intrusive to do it now. It was not lost on the PCC that this is an emotive subject but changing sooner rather than later will mean one less thing to worry about when trying to select and employ a new rector.

With the imminent sale of the rectory, we turned our thoughts to the church hall and the renovations required to provide office and meeting space lost from the rectory. This has been a long-held desire of the PCC and 2023 will see a lot of renovations and redecoration making it a more flexible space and a better environment for all the groups that use it.

Minor decisions throughout the year included approval of letting the Rolleston Drive property whilst we await news of a new curate (likely to be summer 2024 at the earliest); approval of the church weekend away; approval of the return of refreshments after the service – a cornerstone of any Anglican establishment! There was also approval for a new canopy installed above the organ to protect it from future water damage and agreement to the installation of a defibrillator to the external of the church hall.

It's an old saying but, decisions are made by those in the room: if you aren't happy with decisions – get involved. If you want a say in how the church is run – get involved. The more voices and the greater range of diversity, the better. The PCC is always at its best when alternative points of view are put forward to ensure decisions are properly dissected. There are about 6 meetings per year of about a couple of hours: come and have your say.

No report would be complete without my declaration of thanks to Karen and Jenny in the church office for all their assistance throughout the year in ensuring agendas, minutes etc. are where they should be; to the members of the many smaller groups throughout the church – the reports of which can be read elsewhere – who all contribute to the running of the PCC and Parish; and to the Rector for his continued support and faithful leadership.

Please keep the PCC in your prayers.

*Please note: the Rector is not planning on leaving any time soon.

** Please note: all decisions regarding staying are subject to the Lord's will and prompting of the Spirit.



Ian Swindlehurst
PCC Secretary

Youth Report

Heading into 2022 we were more or less out of the shadow of the pandemic and meeting as normal again. Although the number of young people we engage with is lower than before 2020, it has seen steady growth again and the depth of conversation we often have has increased drastically. It has been a good year which will hopefully set us up for future success.

Weekly Church Groups

Unplugged

During the first half of the year the older group worked through the Living in Love and Faith material, the middle group looked at the book Questions of Faith, and the younger group made their way through the book of Acts. In the second half of the year, the now much smaller older group switched to a pattern of alternating between meals and discussion together and one to one mentoring, the middle group looked at the book of Daniel, and the younger group had their turn with Questions of Faith.

Amplify

Amplify has grown this past year as the new younger young people have started to invite friends from outside church, something their older peers rarely do. Running alternate weeks with Youth Band we have waked to Parkgate to get fish & chips and ice cream, played hide and seek in the church, supported the IGNITE youth service at Life Church, and done various craft/cooking activities in the hall; amongst other things.

Youth Band

Youth band has continued to run alternate Fridays and has seen the confidence of the young people grow incredibly. The youth band performed a piece at the Christmas Carol Concert, led worship for the weekend away, and several members have been involved in family services at St. Andrew's as part of the main worship band.

Sunday Mornings

Sunday morning sessions continue to be alternated between St. Andrew's and Townfield, we have explored topics such as the characteristics of Jesus, and other characters who showed great commitment to God.

Schools Work



Last year I was able to run the Walk Through The Bible and It's Your Move material once again, and by the end of the year assemblies and special services were more or less back to normal. The Pulse C.U. returned to Wirral Girls, although the number attending is quite low. In December we were able to start running Pulse in Wirral Boys again which is great news.

Mentoring

I have done some more one to one mentoring, in a new pattern of six weekly meetings with particular young people who seem to need particular support at a particular time, rather than a rolling monthly meeting with a select few.

Amplivacation

In April we took over 20 young people way to Whithaugh again, with Sam Johnson of Hope Church as our guest speaker. It was good to be able to run this again after cancelling due to the pandemic. This trip is always the highlight of the year and this was no exception!

Other Items

In the summer I completed my Level 3 Counselling course which has already been influential in my work with the young people. I hope to advance to Level 4 and become a qualified counsellor but that will be some time in the future as it is quite an undertaking.

In November I attended the National Youth Ministry Weekend in Birmingham which was incredibly beneficial. I have already booked a ticket for the 2023 conference, and will be taking one or two volunteers with me.

Towards the end of the year we combined all the various volunteers into one central Youth Ministry Team and launched a new mission statement for the youth ministry of St. Andrew's & Townfield:

"To create a growing community where young people can develop their relationship with God and discover who they are. Now and for the future."

Christopher Jarvis



Children & Families Hub

Children & Families Hub

As we emerged from the pandemic, the Hub began to meet again, meeting 3 times during the year. Our first main task was to review our pre-pandemic recommendation to employ a children & families worker. We agreed that the need was greater than ever; and that as we are less well resourced than before, and there is much opportunity, we should aim for a full time worker so that they have capacity for expanding our outreach as well as shaping and developing our existing activities. The PCC supported this approach, and as a generous legacy enabled funding to be set aside to support the post, we began the process of recruitment. The first round, in the autumn of 2022, was unsuccessful (there are currently a lot of Christian children & youth work posts available and fewer suitable candidates than posts) so we prepared to re-advertise in the new year.

Activities of the various groups during the year are summarised below.

St Andrew's Sunday Club

Sunday Club has continued to meet as a single primary school-aged group and a separate pre-school group during school terms. Numbers have continued to grow, and we have welcomed new families to church. By the end of the year we had approx. 25 children between 2½ and 11 on the register. Most children attend regularly.

Our teaching material has been based on: Scripture Union Mosaic, which provides all-age teaching and activities, as well as Pete Grieg's How to Pray. We've learned about: God's rescue plan for the Israelites, linking to Jesus' sacrifice at Easter; the Biblical meaning of Jubilee to link to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee; the Armour of God; and how to talk and listen to God in prayer. We aim to provide appropriate material to engage different ages and abilities in the group, enabling children to explore and build their relationship with God.

Over the year and in 2023, we have said goodbye and thank you to some long-standing leaders and helpers, including Kate Butler, Linda Wright and Jennie & Jonathan Askew. We and our children are grateful for all we have learned from their service, dedication and prayer. We have welcomed new helpers this year and look forward to working with them in 2023.

Alison Collins & Ali Gurr

Townfield Sunday Club

Children and young people have always been part of the DNA of Townfield, with Townfield itself growing out of a Sunday School which ran at the school before the church was founded in 1992.

Our children and young people continue to be just as important as any other member of the church, and it is a privilege to have them with us, in Sunday Club, and in our services when we're all together. We don't take them for granted, recognising that, even if our weekly numbers are a little lower than they were pre-pandemic, national church statistics show that in some areas, children in church are a bit of a rarity.

So, as well as valuing our children, we also value the volunteers who work with them in our Sunday Club. Our teams work on rota systems, aiming for a good balance between continuity of leaders and helpers on the one hand, and the opportunity for volunteers to regularly take part in the service themselves. Our volunteers show their dedication in



continually leading and assisting in age-appropriate sessions which engage and inspire our children, helping them to grow as followers of Jesus, usually following Scripture Union material (but sometimes coming up with their own material, or using short series from elsewhere, such as EcoChurch material). Feedback from leaders tells us that they often feel privileged to work with the children, appreciating their fun and questions, and their growing, uncomplicated faith.

There is, of course, always room for more volunteers (do let us know if you're interested!), which means special thanks goes to our existing volunteers, when they've stepped up to do a few more sessions than expected, to keep the show on the road. And of course, we're grateful to God. It's not us that attracts children and young people to be part of Townfield – it's God who calls. And it's also God who provides and equips as our volunteers seek to serve God in this important work. We will be continuing to seek God's guidance and provision in the coming year, especially as we are aware that, after the pandemic, we are seeing less new families with young children joining us on Sundays.

Al Rodgers

Little Fishes

Little fishes is St Andrew's and Townfield churches parent and carer pre school group. We meet on a Tuesday in term time and run two sessions, 9.30am and 11am. We regularly get up to 20+ children in the 1st session, the 2nd session is smaller but some people still prefer smaller numbers post covid so we haven't overly tried to promote it. The day Little Fishes is on changed this year because of a change in leader's availability due to work, we saw smaller numbers at first but it has built up with old faces and new ones. We have ran two sessions in St Andrew's church - one at Christmas which David attended and one at Easter which Al attended. We were so encouraged to see our families enjoying being over in the church and spending time with our church leaders. Some of the changes we put in place when we opening post covid we have kept as they work well but others have slowly dropped. We have seen an increase in the team recently which has been highly encouraging from both St Andrews and Townfield church, some old faces coming back and some new ones!

The sessions consist of open play, snacks, Christian story and rhyme time with parachute games and bubbles.

We continue to pray for opportunities to show God's love and care to our community through the work of little fishes.

Sarah-Joy Davies

Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade (CLCGB)

During the past year the CL&CGB have met regularly on a Thursday evening during term time. Whenever possible members have attended family services and Sunday Club. We only managed one Battalion event, being a trip to the Crazy Golf.

We were able to run our Annual Camp, in Prestatyn, North Wales, where we enjoyed fun, faith and friendship. With much fundraising we were able to offer places to all that wanted to attend and were able to keep the costs as low as possible.

Our band was reformed in September and were able to parade for Remembrance Sunday. The children helped produce a decorated tree for the Christmas Tree Festival.

Overall our numbers have stayed steady; with several members moving to the older Senior section we need to look at recruitment for the younger sections (ages 5-10).

'Fight the Good Fight' 1 Timothy 6 v12 *Richie Clarke*



St Andrew's Crèche

St Andrew's Crèche continues to provide a fun space for the youngest members of our church family. We are fortunate to have many toys, puzzles and books for the children and the toy kitchen and garage continue to be big favourites. The children also helped to make lovely decorations for a tree in the Christmas Tree Festival this year which will hopefully become a new tradition.

We try to have volunteers every Sunday morning except in the Family service on the first Sunday of the month (new volunteers are always welcome). There are several families who join us regularly now and we have had a few very busy mornings during baptism services.

Lisa Ehrlich

Townfield Messy Church at St Andrew's School

It has been great to restart Messy Church at school on a Friday at the end of the school day. Our first Messy Church was held on Dec 9th with an Advent theme, and we planned to have further events in February and March 2023 on the themes of Jesus the Good Shepherd and Holy Week/Easter. We aim to have one session each half term.

We have a good team of volunteers who help with planning sessions, resourcing the activities as well as helping on the day. It has also been a joy to have two members of Amplify join our team.

I am very grateful for the support and welcome we have had from the school for Messy Church.

Judith Battersby

St Andrew's Messy Church

We have not so far been able to restart Messy Church at St Andrew's, due to insufficient resources. For the time being, we're concentrating our resources on activities which have restarted but are short of leaders, including Sunday Club, Youth work and Little Fishes.

David Vestergaard

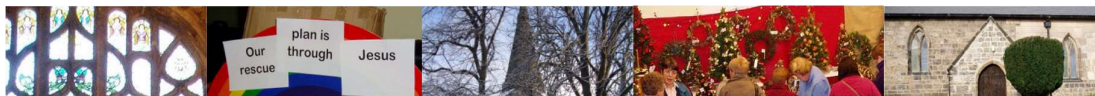
Seniors' Hub

The Hub has not yet restarted meeting since the pandemic, but many of our activities have restarted. Updates from the various groups are included below.

Women's Fellowship

There are currently 25 members of Women's Fellowship and we meet every Tuesday afternoon, from 2.15pm at the church hall. We are still not at the previous capacity pre covid, but most ladies have now returned, as confidence has grown.

We have various speakers on a range of subjects, mostly with a Christian theme, with Holy Communion together twice a year. We enjoy afternoon tea at various times throughout the year, with specials such as Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee afternoon tea in June, our joint meeting with St Marks Women and Mens Fellowship in March, St Andrews school choir, quizzes, talks: The Fabulous 60's, the Policeman on the beat and many more.



We would value prayer for younger older ladies to come along to the Fellowship for fellowship and service to the Lord and to each other and also prayer that the Lord will bless each and everyone in the Fellowship with steadfast courage, a greater knowledge and love of Him and abounding, strengthening joy in Him.

Sheila Lindsay

Men's Fellowship

The January term was attended faithfully by a small cohort of members who value companionship and the stimulation of our speakers. We welcomed new members but, inevitable, frailty and loss continue to diminish the membership. In the September term meetings were changed from Tuesday to the first Wednesday in the month, to accommodate other changes in the parish ministry. This also affected membership but has been successful.

Our group's programme of speakers is available in church or from the office. Members from 4 Wirral churches attend regularly. All are welcome.

Keith Lindsay

Monday Gang

The Monday Gang, comprising a group of retired men, both church members and from the local community, willingly give up their Monday morning to help with regular upkeep jobs and small maintenance projects on the church, churchyard, hall and other church properties.

For example, we completed the repositioning of the old Vestry Screen at the entrance to the kitchen and toilets, giving improved access particularly for wheelchair users.

Outside, the graveyard, although the responsibility of the Council, requires constant attention to keep weeds, brambles and overhanging branches at bay and the footpaths clean and tidy. This is one area where we are very grateful for the help of a local resident who is very keen to help in maintaining and improving the local environment. During the year, much progress was made in rectifying damage caused by the severe storms late in 2021.

We particularly value the time, at the end of the morning, when we all come together in Church to share a cup of coffee or tea together and chat about what is going on in church, Bebington and the wider world.

All contributions are appreciated and we meet from 9.00am to 11.30am every Monday except Bank Holidays. All are welcome.

Stuart Waldron

Pastoral Work

Once permission was given to be able to visit people safely after Covid, we faced the problem of too few visitors to meet the greatly increased demand that there is currently within the congregation. It was impossible to be able to visit as regularly as we would have liked to do. The work continued with visits, phone calls and Home Communion at Easter and Christmas. A request for volunteers –in October - brought a very good response and all but two of those willing to serve as visitors, have now been established with people to visit. This appears to be going very well and can only get stronger in the months ahead. Some of our older members have opted to have a regular phone call and only have a visit when Home Communion is being taken to them. The building up of the



visiting team in this way allows me to be able to meet up with other women within the congregation who may need help.

Amy Haigh

Charlotte House

2022 started with covid restrictions still in place in nursing homes and we were unable to take services in person. The activities co-ordinator, Dawn, was very willing to take them and so we prepared them in PowerPoint and sent them to her every 2 weeks. We kept in touch to see how things were going generally and Dawn advised that the residents very much valued the services. It was good to be able to return in person in April though this required covid tests on the morning and face masks were required whilst in the home. Restrictions were relaxed later in the year and, although there has been the occasional 'covid hiccup' since, we have continued to take services reasonably normally. Acquiring a loud speaker before Christmas has proved a great success and numbers attending have sometimes been as high as the middle teens which is really encouraging. Having the opportunity to take part in acts of worship is still very important to many of this generation.

Sandy & Carolyn Muir

Safe Harbour

Following the relaxation of pandemic restrictions, we were again invited into Safe Harbour Nursing Home to take a simple service. We are currently doing so about four times a year, led by one of the clergy, and they are greatly appreciated by the residents, who also watch our weekly 10:30am service on Youtube. If anyone would like to get involved helping with the occasional services there, please do get in touch with me.

David Vestergaard

Prayer Ministry

Due to a lack of available volunteers, our prayer ministry after Sunday services did not restart during the year. Prayer support is important and powerful and we hope to be able to begin offering this again during the coming year.

We continue to operate a "prayer chain" by email, under which prayer requests can be sent out to participating church members by the Rector or the church office, and to include a list in the weekly newsletter of people in particular need of public prayer, who have asked to be supported in this way.

David Vestergaard

Bereavement Team

In the past, team members have contacted the bereaved next of kin a few weeks after a funeral, to offer support by way of a telephone conversation or pastoral visit. For various reasons most of our previous team members have had to stand down, and we do not currently have sufficient volunteers to be able to offer this service. We hope to be able to do so again in the future.

We have continued our annual Thanksgiving and Memorial Service in November, which once again was well attended and appreciated by those who came.

David Vestergaard



Heritage Report

Due to tour guide sickness and covid restrictions, it was not possible to open the church on a regular basis this past year.

However, the church was opened to the public on several occasions for tours and several private tours were arranged by request. We did open the church for the September Wirral Heritage Event, which was well attended and with favourable reviews from the general public.

Alan Roberts

Knit and Natter

The group started up for the year on 3rd February 2022 in the church hall. After a couple of meetings we moved over into the Ormerod room for a little more comfort as there were so few of us.

As leader of the group for over 7 years the intention was to step down from leading, and was announced accordingly offering the post for someone from the group to take over leadership. Sadly no one wanted to take on the commitment.

On 12th May the last meeting was held and closed as a group. Remaining funds of £150 were donated by agreement to the St Andrews and Townfield Sunday Clubs, which was gratefully accepted.

However, following the opening of our Warm Space in November, the opportunity became available for anyone from the group to come along on a Thursday morning where one could bring knitting and enjoy mixing with other members of the community.

Sylvia Roberts.

Poverty Action Group

Responding to poverty locally, nationally & internationally –

..... faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. James 2 : 17b

Writing these reports gives a useful opportunity to recall what has been achieved during the previous twelve months and to give thanks to God for providing the group and additional volunteers, recognising that we could not have done it without him or each other.

Ukraine

- A Quiz Night at St Andrew's school was an excellent evening when £562 was raised with support from parents, Townfield and St Andrew's churches and friends. Grateful thanks were offered to Irene at Tapleys Art shop for donating two excellent prizes which prompted the planning of the event.
- A Coffee Morning raised £1,056 and a further donation of £65 was added from Little Fishes.

The question of holding raffles in the church hall was raised with the PCC who are producing guidelines.



Christian Aid

- £1,449.50 was raised which included the Coffee Morning total of £430.

Hope for Justice – Tricia Migos

- Tricia joined a PAG meeting and provided a helpful insight into the charity, set up in 2008 aiming to end modern day slavery. The UK Modern Slavery Act was set up in 2017 when a National Referral Mechanism was introduced in an effort to protect the most vulnerable. More information is available from their website <https://hopeforjustice.org>

Besom

You may already be aware of Besom a Christian charity who act as a bridge between those on The Wirral who have and those who are in need. It's all about the giver, having a heart to give in whatever area is right for them, through donating household items, time, skills, or money. Members of both churches are very heavily involved with Besom and we thank God for all their help and support.

- Jane and Gwen accepted a request to give a talk at Ladies Fellowship during September.
- Small teams have given presentations recently explaining what Besom is all about at St Peter's, Heswall, Worship on the High Street (while the new Lighthouse church is at the building stage), and during a Bel Canto concert in Bromborough.
- Besom were invited to have a table at Prayer for Wirral, in Woodchurch High School at the beginning of December which was a lively and encouraging evening of worship and prayer with one or two presentations.
- Lots of warehouse tidying carried out, particularly of household items, bedding, crockery, cutlery etc.
- Besom was nominated by Katy, Practice Education Facilitator, The Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation for their System Partner Award as a result of the support given by Besom as they welcomed international nurses onto The Wirral. The application described Besom as 'helping hundreds of Wirral families who are in need, providing early help preventing them from getting into or supporting them out of crises' which was both humbling and satisfying.

The project was to supply general household items along with a limited amount of furniture as unfurnished flats had been identified for the nurses and Besom was pleased to be able to help. We had not carried out such a project before (neither had they) and we found it hard work but very rewarding working together.

Demand for help comes from many agencies including Involve North West, Social Services, Housing Associations, NHS, Education, Churches and Citizens Advice Bureau. Referrals have increased considerably as we do our best to supply furniture, white goods and other household items to those in need, sometimes as they move into a flat or house often with no possessions having escaped domestic violence, as refugees or asylum seekers, or having been made homeless.



Statistics - January to December, 2022 : Referrals 655 & Givers 184

Projects - There is still the occasional request for someone to fit a curtain rail, paint a room or tidy a garden which we sadly have to decline as we currently have no one to co-ordinate project work.

Foodbank

- There was a good response to the Foodbank's 'Harvest Shopping List' and 260 kilos was collected between the two churches.

Christmas

- Regretfully and due to a number of valid reasons, Scout & Guide Post was unable to continue offering the Wirral Christmas post service after Covid.
- Toy Service, again provided an option of bringing toys or donating for PAG to buy toys and gift vouchers. £371 was collected to buy toys which along with toys donated we passed on to Ferries Families, Social Services and The Oak Project. Townfield provided an excellent response to the Forum appeal by donating hats, gloves, scarves and hygiene products.
- Shoe Box Appeal, boxes were purchased, and the option given to fill and return to church or deliver personally to The Entertainer store.
- We participated with a PAG Christmas Tree for the Festival.

Cost of Living/Energy Crisis

- Support for living/energy crisis was considered and donations from Christmas coffee morning of £635 were divided between Ferries Families and the Neo Community, Rock Ferry. Awareness was raised to enable donations to be made to enable funds to be available for those struggling with energy bills.
- Wirral Debt Agency continue to offer invaluable support to those in financial difficulty.

Warm Spaces

When this was suggested the group agreed it was something they would very much like to support with the help of sufficient volunteers. Between the two churches an amazing twenty-five responded to the appeal which resulted in having four teams of six to cover the usual four Thursdays in a month. However many enjoy the friendly, welcoming atmosphere (and possibly the toast) and come along more often. There really is a warm friendly welcome for everyone who arrives. We have sufficient volunteers who would like to continue throughout what we hope will be warmer days so watch out for the rebranding and 'Come and See'. We indeed praise the Lord for his provision as we see the positive effect it is having particularly in the area of well being and we are very excited as we wait to see where God is leading us with this new opportunity to serve him.

Recycling

- Medicine blister packs are the latest items we accept both at St Andrew's and Townfield. St Andrew's also accept used stamps and spectacles which can be placed in the swing bin at the back of church.



Whatever we do we do for the glory of God and in his strength.

Adrienne Smallthwaite

World Mission Support

Our established practice is to allocate a tenth of the income we receive through regular giving and one-off general gifts to supporting mission. St Andrew's operates a Mission Committee who are responsible for recommending to the PCC the allocation of St Andrew's share of this tithe. The PCC members for Townfield Church fulfil the same role for Townfield.

St Andrew's Mission Committee follows the principle that work to which we are contributing should have a directly evangelistic element, although it may also include other aspects such as social action. We also aim to spread the allocation widely in terms of geographical area and type of work. Some of the organisations we support we have been giving to for very many years, others are more recent.

The committee members also each act as representatives for one of our mission partners, being responsible for communication with them and with individual supporters in the congregation, and obtaining updates for prayer and disseminating these. We also aim to welcome visits from mission partners where this is practical, or otherwise representatives share information with the congregation, in the form of a focus spot or presentation, usually covering several mission partners each year in this way.

In 2022, St Andrew's Mission Committee gave support to the following mission partners, :

- Bible Society (Rep – Martin Heale) – promoting access to the Bible worldwide – translating and distributing the Bible in different countries, and providing resources and events to promote the Bible in the UK.
- CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) (Rep – Helen Thomas) – providing children's & youth camps, teaching & leadership resources and training for churches, and acting as Patrons for many C of E churches
- Anglican Province (formerly Diocese) of Chile (Rep – Amy Haigh) – towards support for the ministry of Alex Cordova, planting a new congregation in San Pedro Church, Concepcion.
- CMJ (the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People) (Rep – David Halliday) – working amongst Jews, Muslims and others in the Middle East and the UK to share and promote understanding of the Christian faith.
- Crosslinks (Rep – Vacant) – to support the work of Jomo Nderitu, the Diocesan Youth Co-ordinator for Marsabit Diocese in Kenya.
- Wirral Youth for Christ (Rep – Christopher Jarvis) – taking the gospel to young people across the Wirral through work in schools, in partnership with churches including ourselves.
- Barnabas Aid (Rep – Rachel Lindsay) – working to support persecuted Christians around the world and lobbying on their behalf, raising awareness of persecution and seeking action.



- Ferries Family Groups (Rep – Wendy Doran) – contributing towards the costs of their office base and their staffing, facilitating their work with and witness to families in need of support in various ways.
- St Catherine’s Church, Tranmere (Rep – David Vestergaard) – towards their employment of a young people and families worker.

During the year, we had visits from David Dean of Barnabas Aid, and James Lawrence of CPAS, who both spoke at Sunday morning services. We pray for our mission partners at some of the weekly zoom prayer meetings.

If you would like to receive news updates on one or more partners, please contact the church office. If you are interested in serving as a mission rep for one of the partners, please speak to me.

Our thanks are due to the Mission Committee for their service.

David Vestergaard

St. Andrew’s C.E (Aided) Primary School

In 2022 we have, once again, seen a close and fruitful relationship between our churches and St Andrew’s school. That’s seen in many different ways.

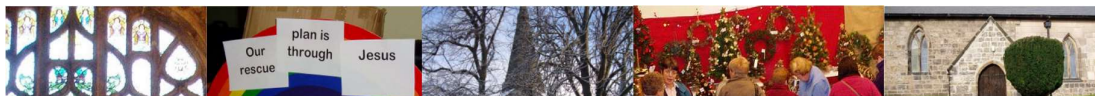
We share opportunities to worship together, with school Christmas and Easter services being held in St Andrew’s church, weekly involvement of the churches in Collective Worship, and for the first time in 2022, a Communion service being held in school attended by Key Stage 2 and some members of Townfield (this enabled children to not only learn about Communion in theory, but also to see what a Communion service is actually like).

Members of both churches continue to serve as Governors, which is a privilege as well as a responsibility, drawing on the professional and life-experiences of members of our church communities.

Townfield was delighted to be able to re-start Messy Church in school at the end of the autumn term (meeting once per half term, after school on a Friday, for craft, fun, food, and an act of worship), with encouraging numbers attending, despite the Covid-enforced break!

And, of course, Townfield meets weekly in the school buildings, and is hugely grateful for the enthusiastic encouragement that Mrs Lamkin and the school staff give (with special thanks for them being so accommodating when we asked if we could set up a large baptism pool one Sunday last spring!).

As we reported last year, the pandemic has changed some of the ways in which we, as churches, previously were able to support the school community (for example, there is no longer an opportunity to run a creche during parents’ evenings, and Toast Club no longer meets). But there are still opportunities to be involved, with school launching a Vision Volunteers scheme. So if you think you might be able to help with things like the library, art & music, extra-curricular clubs, hospitality, fundraising, the environment,



educational visits, reading or charity events, do visit the school website to find out more: <https://standrews.wirral.sch.uk/volunteer/>

Al Rodgers

Deanery Synod

In February 2022 at St Marys Upton, we heard from three Mission examples – Andy Greenhough from St Marks New Ferry who described work via the Wirral Gospel Partnership dating from 2010 Life Mission and 2014 mission with Roger Carswell to Passion for Life with Glen Scrivener (speaklife.org.uk). One thing that came out was presenting the Gospel and letting Jesus change lives. Next we heard from Moira Barber of St Marys Upton about CAP(Christians against Poverty) drawing its inspiration from Isaiah & Luke 4 of preaching the good news to the poor. CAP traces its roots back to the 1990s starting in Bradford and now has 300 centres in the UK. St Marys set up a link 10 years ago and does workshops on various practical matters where volunteers get trained up. We also had a presentation by our very own David Vestergaard on the work done through Christmas Journey and Easter Journey events over the last few years as well as being involved with the local schools and mission events.

In June 2022 at St Johns Meols, we met with Jonny Masterson the diocesan adviser for Youth, Children's and Family work as we considered the Growing Faith Adventure. In this we looked at how to reach out to children and young people. Children's Ministry was viewed as important (in a diocese where 65% of churches have 5 children or less in their Sunday clubs – bear in mind we had just come out of a pandemic situation). We also broke up into smaller groups to look at how we bring young people into church and the Kingdom. We also need to reflect on what works and doesn't work in reaching young people. We were also encouraged/challenged to be a light in our communities and go where children and young people are.

In October 2022 St Marys community church building hosted an event in which we were encouraged to consider environmental matters. We had a brief presentation from Rev Joe Kennedy from St Saviours Oxtan the area coordinator of the diocesan environmental forum – we were reminded that subdue and dominion meant careful service not exploitation. At that same meeting we heard from Faiths4Change (Zarah and Annie) who outlined the need for a drive towards zero carbon by 2030(a target set by Church of England). As part of this various audits need doing of our carbon footprint including buildings – clergy housing as well as other buildings would be looked at throughout 2023/2024. Faiths 4 change (faiths4change.org.uk) had already engaged with Liverpool diocese with its 120 schools and 224 churches. One church referred to in Liverpool diocese was St James (Grade 1 listed).

In November we hosted a presentation by Richard Mawdsley from Peel Land and Property a private plc involved in regeneration in Birkenhead. This was Peels opportunity to follow examples of port redevelopment like Salford Quays. Port decline is not unique to Liverpool and it showed how Rotterdam, Hamburg and Bristol have managed to change in spite of port decline. Chester diocese has put forward some input for a church presence in this regeneration area not necessarily tied to buildings. Elsewhere in Area Deanery, we welcomed Rev Brian Bell to St Andrew West Kirby and Rev Chris Slater to Barnston & Pensby. We now have a new chair – our own David Halliday.



Here endeth the report from an area which has 14 parishes with 21 places of worship.

Chris Jackson

Conroy Trust

The Conroy Trust was established in 1873 to benefit the poor of the Parish of Bebington, as defined by the then parish boundaries. These boundaries include St Andrews Bebington, St Marks, New Ferry and Holy Trinity, Poulton.

The management of the Trust is overseen by between three and five trustees. The Trustees during the year were David Vestergaard, Chairperson, Alan McGraa, Betty Cartwright, Beryl Lord and Maureen Preston, with both Beryl and Maureen retiring this year leaving two vacancies to be filled at this year's APCM.

A report on their management is presented to the annual general meeting of the parishioners and this report is for 2022

The management has the power to appoint new trustees when the occasion arises and the appointment process is conducted by a majority vote.

2022 Financial Statement

The summary income and expenditure for 2022 was as follows:

	2022	2021
Income from Investments	6645	6410
Expenditure on grants	10894	7572
Surplus/Deficit	-4248	-1162

During the year we have again managed to support the work of:

- Ferries Family Group
- Wirral Foodbank
- Life Church Bebington – Youth Hub
- CLCGB
- St Andrews Youth Weekend

Along with some individual grants.

Expenditure during the year was in excess of the current years income, with the trustees wishing to utilise some accumulated reserves to boost the assistance they can give as much as possible.

As at 31st December 2022 the value of funds under management stood at £235,475, compared to £269709 in 2021. Apart from a current account held at HSBC all investments are held

with CCLA Investment Management Ltd, with the largest portion being a stock market investment

which was down by approx.£29,000 as at the balance sheet date, in line with general stock market valuations in the final quarter of 2022.

A modest grant can be awarded to anyone in the parish who is experiencing financial hardship, with Grants also available to be awarded to charitable organisations within the parish who are working to help the poor of the parish. Anyone interested in discussing grants should in first instance refer to the chair of the management, Rev David Vestergaard.

Secretary to the Trustees
Bryan Higgins



In Memoriam

During the year we said a sad farewell to the following members of our congregation:

David Allsop
Iris Bradley
Hazel Eyres
David Renison
Alan Rigby
Eirlys Tripp
Enid Walker

Welcome

We were delighted to celebrate the birth of:

Theo Silver

Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners held on the 24 May 2022 at St Andrew's, Bebington, church hall and online via Zoom at 7.55pm

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 51 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

1. The meeting opened with an act of worship and a reading from Jeremiah 17

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Karen Davies, Jenny Jackson, Sue Kennaugh, Mavis Nicholson, Beryl Parker, Callum Peters, Ann Shevlin, Mike Shevlin, Geoff Stone, Ash Vestergaard, Stuart Waldron and Val Waldron

3. Minutes of the meeting of 25 May 2021

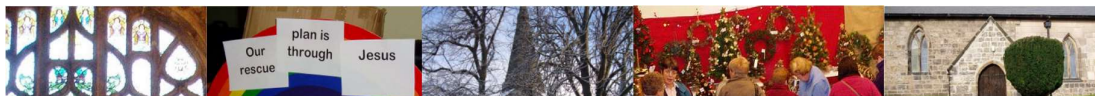
The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by Amy Haigh and being seconded by Viv Halliday, signed as being a true record.

4. Election of Wardens

Viv Halliday and Kate Butler were both willing to stand for another year and were both duly elected unopposed with all in favour.

The Rector thanked them for being willing to stand again, and for all their work.

5. Receipt of the Conroy Trust Report



Having been printed in the Annual Report, the report was duly received based on a proposal from Viv Halliday, seconded by Chris Jackson; with all in favour.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Minutes of the APCM held on the 24 May 2022 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall and online via Zoom at 8.10pm

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 51 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

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Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Karen Davies, Jenny Jackson, Sue Kennaugh, Mavis Nicholson, Beryl Parker, Callum Peters, Ann Shevlin, Mike Shevlin, Geoff Stone, Ash Vestergaard, Stuart Waldron and Val Waldron

2. Minutes of the meeting of 25 May 2021

The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by David Halliday and being seconded by Wendy Doran, signed as being a true record.

3. Electoral Roll Report

The report was given by the Electoral Roll Secretary, Alison Collins. The number on the roll as 24 May 2022 was 338. This was a fall of 10 from last year's roll – consisting of 19 omissions and 9 additions. The Rector expressed his thanks to Alison for her work. The report was accepted on a proposal by Kate Butler, seconded by Jane Bozier; with all in favour.

4. Receipt of the Annual Report

The Annual Report was received. It had been printed in advance of the meeting and gave reports from the Rector; Townfield Church; Wardens; Safeguarding; Treasurer; Youth, Children & Families and Seniors Hubs; Poverty Action Group; World mission support; St Andrew's Church of England Primary School; Deanery Synod; Conroy Trust; and the activities of the Parochial Church Council.

The receipt of the Rector's, the Wardens Report, the PCC Report, Townfield, Safeguarding, the Deanery Synod Report, and the Treasurer's Report were accepted en bloc on a proposal by Laurence Bozier, seconded by Alison Collins; with all in favour.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bryan Higgins. The figures as shown within the annual report were explained in some greater detail. He highlighted that, as of the 31 December 2021, the total assets of the church came to £833,531 but a majority of this figure is our church buildings. Total income for the year was £300,838 and total expenditure was £315,437 – the expenditure figure includes payment for items for which money would already have been collected.

Total monies received through regular giving and legacies in the year was £284,418 but budgets were balanced due to reduced expenditure during the year.

He highlighted the importance of Gift Aid, which this year accounted for £43,397.



Our cash in bank is £172,456 which is broken down into various smaller pots earmarked for funds towards a Children's and families worker, lighting and £60,000 held in reserve as best practice to be able to meet two months' worth of expenditure.

For information, our giving outside the parish was £29,500; and our Parish Share cost was £134,453. Expenditure also included £104,000 on church buildings, but this included £77,000 paid towards the lighting project.

Looking towards the end of the year, he indicated that without increasing our giving there is the potential for a £30,000 deficit. He noted that contributions from parishioners who had left or died during the past year amounted to around £2200 per month – quite a considerable sum.

The Rector extended his thanks to Bryan, and to Libby Higgins, for their work on the accounts throughout the year.

The meeting was happy to receive the accounts.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mike Forshaw was appointed as Independent Examiner on a proposal by Chris Jackson, seconded by Viv Halliday; with all in favour.

6. Election to the Deanery Synod

There were no nominations this time. The vacant position can be filled during the year.

7. Election to the PCC

There were 4 St Andrew's spaces available for the PCC and 4 nominations. There was 1 Townfield place available on the PCC and 1 nomination. Therefore, to the PCC were elected Bryan Higgins, Caroline Adamson, Stuart Waldron, Sue Kennaugh and (for Townfield) Sharon Mason.

All were elected unopposed. The Rector extended his thanks to those willing to stand, and to those already on PCC and Deanery councils.

8. Rector's report

The Rector started his report with some bad news – the latest Quinquennial report runs to 116 pages, showing the extent of the works required to the spire. He highlighted by presentation some of the issues to be faced including, missing meshes and louvres, eroded sills, required pointing and internal supports. Prior to lockdown we had received a quote of around £140,000 but expect this to rise in the current economic situation. It is our intention to work directly with the contractor who undertook the recent works to the roof due to their high standard of work and expect our QS to ensure we receive good value for money.

The good news: the legacy we've received of around £500,000 means we can do the works and pay for the completion of the external light project. The Rector addressed why were still worrying about a deficit in the accounts if we have this legacy. Essentially, long term, we need to ensure expenditure is covered by normal income because legacies and donations cannot be guaranteed year-to-year. He recognised this



is a tricky situation with the current cost of living crisis but encouraged all members to review their giving.

The PCC have set up a working group to look at priority areas for the legacy money and they've identified the spire, lighting and making a difference to the church's mission in the community. Before covid, the PCC had agreed to fund a children and families worker. We have £40,000 set aside and the intention was to ask the congregation to contribute. However, this is no longer necessary. We will invest some of the legacy money to fund a 5-year post. We are a smaller congregation now with fewer volunteers. A new leader for the C&F ministry will give us more time to cover all areas of mission. For information, the job description and advert will be done over the next few months, and we hope to have the right person in position by the new year.

We were also able to support St Andrew's school. As it's a church aided school the governors are required to find 10% of any building repair & improvement costs. Phase 1 of a 3 phase renovation project has been completed and with phase 2 expected to be around £500,000 the donation of £40,000 means the work can go ahead when the diocese releases the rest of the funds.

Any other uses for the legacy will be looked at over time rather than rushing into any decision.

The Rector expressed his thanks – not individually because names sometimes get missed – to the many people who make our church what it is. We have come through a difficult period because of the work put in by staff and large number of volunteers.

9. Minister for Townfield

Rev. Al Rodgers reported on the works of Townfield church. He noted that 2021 had not been as they'd hoped – 'a funny sort of a year.'

Covid had affected Townfield: it meant they weren't able to worship at St Andrews School until October and meeting in the church hall – for which he extended his thanks to St Andrew's for allowing the use of – meant only a third of the congregation were able to meet in person. A team of 29 volunteers came forward to help clean the school hall to enable Townfield to meet in the school once again and he noted that the services are busier than they have been for some time.

They are still trying to work through the effects of covid – things are not as they should be. They feel there is still a long way to go of prayerful work together.

He noted they are about to start on a refocus of their vision – covid has meant that focus has very much been on the short-term but now is the time to grow in at least one area of their vision.

He expressed a huge thank you to Townfield. Historically Townfield never had their own budget, but this has been reassessed over the last couple of years. Not having a budget of their own has meant they have been unable to set goals for the likes of their giving. Once a target had been set, they aimed for a 6.5% increase in giving – they got 13.7%. This was the fifth consecutive year Townfield have increased their giving meaning they could meet over 95% of expected expenditure from their own giving.



The Rector thanked Revd. Al and spoke of how it was encouraging to hear of how well Townfield were doing.

10. Youth report

Chris Jarvis reported that although the pandemic did have an impact, youth work was classed as an essential area and made meeting in person possible from Easter. Some members left during lockdown, but Chris noted that they were engaged with around 30 families over the two churches and youth work is growing rather than receding. They are working on a new mission statement, which is in the early stages but will have more to report over the next few months.

Ongoing groups include bible study groups during the week, and Fridays have the social meeting and youth band practice. He has now been allowed back into schools to continue his work there and reported that generally, things are close to where they were pre-covid. He appealed for more volunteers: to relieve those already volunteering, but also to provide differing voices and points of view.

He hoped to undertake a charity event soon – noting that they were about to do one just as covid struck.

The Rector expressed his thanks to Chris for all his work.

11. Discussion and Questions

There were none forthcoming.

12. Any other Business

For information, at their last meeting, the PCC approved the continued ministry of Amy Haigh and Judith Battersby. The Rector expressed his particular thanks to them for their ministry.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with a prayer at 9.05pm.

The Charity Registration Number is :- 01130323

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and Accounts

31 December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

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The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington.

The charity is also known by its operating name, Bebington Parish Church, St Andrews' and Townfield Churches.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 01130323.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity, established by Trust Deed. The governing document of the charity is the Trust Deed establishing the charity.

The governing document is dated 24 June 2009

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

St Andrew's Church Hall

Highcroft Ave, Bebington

Wirral, CH63 3EZ

Telephone 01516456478

Email Address office@standrewsbebington.org.uk Web address www.standrewsbebington.org.uk

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Appointed

Chris Jackson

Al Rodgers

David Halliday

David Vestergaard

Ian Halliday

Ian Swindlehurst

Judith Battersby

Kate Muskett

Mike Ludbrook

Carol Parry

Caloline Adamson

Val Waldron

Bryan Higgins

Sharon Mason

Callum Peters

Nathan Storm

Wendy Doran

Colette Owen

Viv Halliday

Simon Jones

Kate Butler

25/05/2022

Sue Kennaugh

25/05/2022

Stuart Waldron

25/05/2022

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

We have run church services each Sunday for St Andrew's and Townfield churches. Pandemic restrictions having been lifted, services were able to take place normally all through the year, but the main service at each church, and some seasonal services, were also livestreamed each Sunday for the benefit of those unable to be present in person. Most of our other regular activities ran through the year, including Little Fishes (carer & baby/toddler group), Children's groups, Youth groups and activities, Women's and Men's Fellowships, prayer events, and hosting & supporting the Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. Some activities restarted during the year, including house groups. Some activities such as Alpha/Enquirers' courses and prayer meetings have been able to take place either in person or online or a combination of the two. We have not to date restarted some previous activities, including Messy Church and weekly evening services, due to reduced resources.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

Activities ordinarily carried out and serving the local community include Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals; Marriage Preparation; Baptism Preparation; Bereavement Ministry; Youth activities, Little Fishes Carer & Baby/Toddler Group; school assemblies; Christmas and Easter school services; services in nursing homes and sheltered accommodation; special Community Events such as Christmas Journey and Easter Journey; and hosting and supporting Guiding groups and other community groups. All of these were able to take place during the year.

We have also undertaken financial giving and prayer support for Mission and Christian organisations and activities locally and around the world, promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

Average Sunday attendance is much harder to measure, because a proportion of the congregation join online and online viewing figures are difficult to analyse. We estimate typical Sunday 'attendance', including online, in church when permitted, and by cd/dvd as approx. 250 including children. As for most churches, this represents a reduction from pre=pandemic figures (our 2019 total was approximately 324); 2020 & 2021 were extremely difficult to calculate with any accuracy due to extended periods of worship being wholly or mainly online.

Our best estimates are that there were 61 who left the congregations (7 by death), and approximately 35 who joined (adults and children). Many of those whom we have classed as left are people who have not returned since the pandemic. The number of people joining, including a significant number of children, is an achievement in this time. We have also retained many of our families, children and young people, despite the extended period without in person provision during the pandemic.

During the year the parish conducted 19 funerals, 3 weddings, and 13 baptisms. We were unable to resource our usual large event at Easter, but did manage to do so (on a slightly smaller scale) at Christmas, and connected with many people through our online ministry.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

Benefits from the activities listed above have included faith development, spiritual and pastoral support, personal encouragement, development of gifts and experience, friendship and companionship, and meeting a range of needs for all ages.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

The activities listed above have provided a wide range of public benefit including faith exploration, spiritual support, pastoral care, provision of services and care for needs at key life moments, and services to local schools.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Decisions are made by the PCC in collaboration with the Clergy and Staff team, and working through subcommittees and together with volunteer leaders for groups and activities. The PCC meets at least 6 times a year in formal meetings of the Council, with additional meetings as necessary. In order to organise its affairs effectively during 2022, the PCC operated the following subcommittees and working groups: St Andrew's Church, Townfield Church, Standing; Finance & Fabric; Youth Hub; Evangelism; Missionary; Poverty Action Group; Evening Services; Legacy planning; Maintenance Team. The Children and Families Hub and Seniors Hub still exist but did not need to meet during the year.

Bankers	HSBC Bank plc - 58 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, Wirral, CH62 7ET
Architects	Bryan Martin BA, Dip Arch, RIBA, AABC, Architect, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northamptonshire, NN11 6UX
Surveyors	Gordon Cain, Quantity Surveyor, Rose Cottage, 13 Spring Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 2HB
Accountants (payroll)	KBH Accountants Ltd. 255 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 4BT
(Independent examiner)	Haines Watts Chartered Accountants, 3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers, Victoria St, Liverpool, L2 5QQ

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2022

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2022 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income	430,695	(32,141)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	1,264,226	833,531
Total Funds	1,264,226	833,531

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2022 .

Our total income for the year was £756,728 and our total expenditure £326,033 giving an accounting surplus of £430,695

During 2022 our financial position has indicated that normal running costs are generally on budget, despite a fall in planned giving due to the pandemic, but alleviated by a corresponding reduction in expenditure on church activities due to periods of closure.

The trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be satisfactory.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Policies on reserves.

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately two months' unrestricted payments in addition to £20,000 to cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. At 31 December 2022 unrestricted reserves amounted £1,264,226 (2021 - £833,531) of which £80,000 of general cash balances were held to meet this policy.

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants

3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers

Victoria Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5QQ

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 11th May 2023.



MR BRYAN HIGGINS
Trustee

Bebington Parish Church

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charity on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity on pages 10 to 29 for the year ended 31 December 2022 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) adapted to meet the needs of unincorporated organisations, as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW), and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 14.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 7, you, the charity's Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the Governing Document for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the charity's examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am an authorised member of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a *review* of the accounting records kept by the charity and of the accounting systems employed by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the *view* given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

Bebington Parish Church

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

The gross income of the charity in the year ended 31 December 2022 appears to exceed the sum specified in Section 145(3) of the Act, namely £250000, and that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner in accordance with that section by virtue of my being a qualified member of Chartered Accountants ;

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by with Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.



Mr Michael Forshaw FCA - Independent Examiner

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers
Victoria Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L25QQ

This report was signed on 11 May 2023

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds
		2022	2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£	£
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	733,917	-	-	733,917
Charitable activities	A2	12,587	-	-	12,587
Investments	A4	10,224	-	-	10,224
Total income	A	756,728	-	-	756,728
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	326,033	-	-	326,033
Total expenditure	B	326,033	-	-	326,033
Net income for the year		430,695	-	-	430,695
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	430,695	-	-	430,695
Net movement in funds		430,695	-	-	430,695
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward		833,531	-	-	833,531
Total funds carried forward		1,264,226	-	-	1,264,226

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As per paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement
Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	284,418	-	-	284,418
Charitable activities	A2	8,424	-	-	8,424
Investments	A4	7,996	-	-	7,996
Total income	A	300,838	-	-	300,838
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	332,979	-	-	332,979
Total expenditure	B	332,979	-	-	332,979
Net income for the year		(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers		(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Net movement in funds		(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward		865,672	-	-	865,672
Total funds carried forward		833,531	-	-	833,531

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Resource Statement for the year ended 31 December 2022 towards fixed assets for Charity use:-

	2022
	£
Funds generated in the year as detailed in the SOFA	430,695
Net resources available to fund charitable activities	<u>430,695</u>

The resources applied on fixed assets for charity use represents the cost of additions less proceeds from disposals.

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2022

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	833,531	-	-	833,531
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	430,695	-	-	430,695
	1,264,226	-	-	1,264,226
(From)/To unrestricted revenue funds	-	-	-	-
Closing revenue funds	<u>1,264,226</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,264,226</u>

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Revenue accumulated funds	1,264,226	-	-	1,264,226

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington - Balance Sheet as at 31/12/22

	SORP		2022	2021
	Note	Ref	£	£
Fixed assets	A			
Tangible assets	10	A2	655,132	655,132
Total fixed assets			<u>655,132</u>	<u>655,132</u>
Current assets	B			
Debtors	11	B2	24,299	24,312
Investments held as current assets	12	B3	100,000	-
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	496,974	172,456
Total current assets			<u>621,273</u>	<u>196,768</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	C1	<u>(12,179)</u>	<u>(18,369)</u>
Net current assets			609,094	178,399
The total net assets of the charity			<u><u>1,264,226</u></u>	<u><u>833,531</u></u>

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	17	D3	1,264,226	833,531
Unrestricted Revaluation Reserve	17	D4	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>1,264,226</u></u>	<u><u>833,531</u></u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 9.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

REV DAVID VESTERGAARD

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 21/03/ 2023

The notes attached on pages 14 to 29 form an integral part of these accounts.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , effective January 2016, , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2020, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

"Major risks for the PCC are currently either financial or property related.

Key risks:

- Income fails to keep pace with increases in Parish Share and public utility charges and ministry is compromised
- Funds are not available to pay staff salaries
- Funds are not available to meet the costs of essential repairs and refurbishment

Actions to mitigate risks:

- Provide periodic explanation to congregation how our funds are used and the need to increase regular giving.
- Regular promotion of regular giving and tax efficient giving schemes
- Special appeals to be launched to meet these costs."

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a payment is received from an estate or is notified as receivable by the executors after the reporting date and before the accounts are authorised for issue but it is clear that the payment had been agreed by the executors prior to the end of the reporting period, then the amount concerned is treated as an adjusting event and accrued as income in the accounting period if receipt is probable.

Where the charity has established entitlement to a legacy but there is uncertainty as to the amount of the payment, details of the legacy are disclosed as a contingent asset until the criteria for income recognition are met. Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised as income until the death of the life tenant.

If it is doubtful that full settlement of a legacy debtor will be received, then an adjustment is made to reduce the amount of the legacy debtor and legacy income rather than charging the adjustment as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated fixed assets are recognised at the current fair value. All such donations are recognised as donation income, and debited to fixed assets.

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.

In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.

If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.

The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.

The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock. When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in '*legacies and donations*'. Goods donated for resale are included in '*Income from other trading activities*'

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Donated services and facilities (including seconded staff and use of property) are included in the accounts on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity.

All donated services and facilities are recognised as donation income when received, (provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably) and recognised as an expense with an equivalent value.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity.

However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2022	2021
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	876	822

5 The contribution of volunteers

We depend heavily on the support of volunteers. Almost every event and activity we have undertaken has been carried out either entirely by them or with their help. Over 200 volunteers committed countless hours to our activities during the year. Their support is valued enormously. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

6 Staff costs and emoluments

<i>Salary costs</i>	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	47,916	46,107
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	876	822
Total salaries, wages and related costs	48,792	46,929

The average number of part time staff employed in the year was	2	2
The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	1	1
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	3	3

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	3	3
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above	3	3

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

7 Defined contribution pension schemes

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

8 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

9 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

<i>Current Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	1,000	1,000	580	580
M Blake (Townfield)	1,494			1,494
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500			500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385			385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	8,547	6,307		2,240
Total	11,926	7,307	580	5,199

	2022 £	2021 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	5,199	11,926

<i>Prior Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	460		540	1,000
M Blake (Townfield)	2,006	(512)		1,494
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500			500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385			385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	-		8,547	8,547
W Baker donation	200	(200)		-
Mission funds	3,850	(3,850)		-
Jean Griffiths	2,588	(2,588)		-
Total	9,989	(7,150)	9,087	11,926

	2021 £	2020 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	11,926	9,989

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

10 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
At 31 December 2022	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132

<i>Prior Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
01 January 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
Net book value				
31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132

11 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,999	2,411
Other debtors	22,300	21,901
	24,299	24,312

12 Investments held as current assets at market value at 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other investments	100,000	-
	100,000	-

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	6,800	5,122
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	5,199	11,926
Other creditors	180	1,321
	12,179	18,369

14 Pension commitments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Pension commitments under defined benefit/defined contribution schemes		
within one year	180	163
	180	163

15 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2022	2021
	£	£
At 1 January 2022	833,531	865,672
(Deficit)/surplus after tax for the year	430,695	(32,141)
At 31 December 2022	1,264,226	833,531

16 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2022	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	621,273	-	-	-	621,273
Current Liabilities	(12,179)	-	-	-	(12,179)
	1,264,226	-	-	-	1,264,226
At 1 January 2022	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Endowment funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	196,768	-	-	-	196,768
Current Liabilities	(18,369)	-	-	-	(18,369)
	833,531	-	-	-	833,531

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

17 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 16 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2021	Movement in funds in 2022	Transfers between funds in 2022	Funds carried forward to 2023
	£	See Note 18 £	See Note 18 £	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	743,294	(923)	-	742,371
Designated Revenue Funds:	-	-	-	-
Church Hall Designated fund	39,703	-	-	39,703
Mission/Staff Designated fund	39,703	-	-	39,703
Jean Griffiths Legacy	2,588	(2,588)	-	-
Wendy Baker legacy	200	(200)	-	-
Iglesia Anglicana Chile	1,000	(420)	-	580
Hindley Legacy	2,500	470	-	2,970
Heritage fund	946	289	-	1,235
Descretionary fund	-	400	-	400
Roleston Drive	3,597	315	-	3,911
Iris Jackson Legacy	-	1,000	-	1,000
Knit & Natter	-	150	-	150
Margaret Baker Legacy	-	432,203	-	432,203
Total unrestricted and designated funds	833,531	430,695	-	1,264,226
Total charity funds	833,531	430,695	-	1,264,226

18 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 17

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2022	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	756,728	(326,033)	-	430,695
	756,728	(326,033)	-	430,695

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

19 The purposes for which the

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use. These funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.
Designated Revenue Funds:	This fund represents the unrestricted funds donated, but where the funds have been allocated for a purpose. This year funds have been ringfenced for the new roof, and also for improved lighting and other small projects.

20 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity has unlimited joint and several liability for the debts of the charity.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

21 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Donations and gifts from individuals					
Small donations individually less than £1000	227,132	-	-	227,132	233,658
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	43,742	-	-	43,742	43,397
Large donations individually over £1000	2,000	-	-	2,000	3,500
Conroy Trust	3,750	-	-	3,750	-
Total donations and gifts from individuals	276,624	-	-	276,624	280,555

Donations and gifts from individuals (Include HMRC refunds on gift aided donations) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Prior year	280,555	-	-	280,555

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Legacies receivable					
Sylvia Walker legacy	6,307	-	-	6,307	-
M Baker legacy	450,000	-	-	450,000	-
Anonymous	-	-	-	-	3,863
Total legacies receivable	456,307	-	-	456,307	3,863

Legacies receivable - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Prior year	3,863	-	-	3,863

Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies (Include Gift Aid donations from subsidiaries)

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies					
Chester Diocese - Energy grant	986	-	-	986	-
Total private sector revenue grants	986	-	-	986	-

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	733,917	-	-	733,917	284,418
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Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Endowment Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £	
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	284,418	-	-	284,418

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required by the SORP 2015

22 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

<i>Current year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total funds 2021 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading					
Income from church activities	12,587	-	-	12,587	8,424
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	12,587	-	-	12,587	8,424

23 Total Income from charitable activities

<i>Current year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Total income from charitable trading	12,587	-	-	12,587	8,424
Total from charitable activities A2	12,587	-	-	12,587	8,424

24 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2022 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2022 £	Current year Total Funds 2022 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2021 £
Property Rental Income	6,569	-	-	6,569	7,975
Dividend Income	1,462	-	-	1,462	-
Bank Interest Receivable	2,193	-	-	2,193	21
Total investment income A4	10,224	-	-	10,224	7,996

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	7,996	-	-	7,996

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required by the SORP 2015

25 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	47,916	-	-	47,916	46,107
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	876	-	-	876	822
Giving outside the parish	33,886	-	-	33,886	29,562
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	20,112	-	-	20,112	2,953
Church office & general running expenses	14,918	-	-	14,918	12,432
Parish share	133,312	-	-	133,312	134,453
Church buildings expenses	74,353	-	-	74,353	104,006
Gifts and presentations	-	-	-	-	463
Roof project expenditure	-	-	-	-	1,521
Total direct spending	B2a 325,373	-	-	325,373	332,319

<i>Prior Year</i>	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2021
	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	46,107	-	-	46,107
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	822	-	-	822
Giving outside the parish	29,562	-	-	29,562
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	2,953	-	-	2,953
Church office & general running	12,432	-	-	12,432
Parish share	134,453	-	-	134,453
Church buildings expenses	104,006	-	-	104,006
Gifts and presentations	463	-	-	463
Roof project expenditure	1,521	-	-	1,521
Total direct spending	B2a 332,319	-	-	332,319

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Bebington

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2022 as required by the SORP 2015

26 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	660	-	-	660	660
Total Governance costs	660	-	-	660	660

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

27 Total Charitable expenditure

<i>Current Year</i>		Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	325,373	-	-	325,373	332,319
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	326,033	-	-	326,033	332,979

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

<i>Prior Year</i>		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Endowment Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2021	2021	2021	2021
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	332,319	-	-	332,319
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	332,979	-	-	332,979

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BEBINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1130323

Accounts

Bebington Parish Annual Report 2021



Incorporating a strategic review of the year, the aims and activities of the PCC,
financial review and a statement of financial activities



Our Vision

A Christ-Centred Family Sharing God's Love

Christ-Centred: Followers of Jesus Christ, grounded in scripture, prayer and worship

Family: An inclusive fellowship where all ages are nurtured and enabled to use their God-given gifts

Sharing God's love: Making Christ known in our daily lives with everyone we meet

Serving and loving each other, our community and beyond



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Rector's Report on St Andrew's

The Coronavirus pandemic had a major impact on our churches and activities throughout the year. We had to continue to be "light on our feet" and adapt continually to changes in the situation and in regulations and guidance; it was not possible to look ahead and plan in the usual way.

As the year began, we entered another lockdown, and although this time the choice whether to hold in-person services was left up to individual churches to decide, the PCC agreed that we could not do so during this period – although there was a range of views, we did not have sufficient volunteers who felt comfortable at that point fulfilling the necessary roles, to enable us to proceed. So we reverted to online services, with St Andrew's pre-recording and compiling remotely, and Townfield livestreaming from the church hall with a small team. We continued to open the church regularly for private prayer.

St Andrew's restarted 10:30am services in the church on Palm Sunday, and the 8am service on Easter Day. We continued a pre-recorded online service as well, which for a while enabled us to cater to some degree for the differing needs of online and in-person congregations (for example the latter were not allowed to sing for some time), but this was demanding on resources & preparation time. After a long wait for broadband to be installed, we were able to start livestreaming services from late June onwards, and it is our plan to continue doing so for the foreseeable future. Whilst we would much rather people come in person when they are able, we recognise that there will always be some for whom this is not possible for various reasons, and one positive legacy from this period is that we have found ways to enable those who are not able to attend to take part. We have also continued to send out dvd's or cd's of services to those who need them.

During the year, we ran teaching series including Scenes from the cross, Meeting with Jesus in Luke, Ruth, Characteristics of a Christ centred family, How to share God's love (these last two focusing on our vision statement); How to serve God, and Meeting the King. We also were able to continue the daily online "Thought for the Day" for most of the year, until October half term. By that point, demand (as shown by viewing figures) had reduced significantly, and it was getting more difficult for us to resource, so we took the decision to bring that to an end. I'm glad that we managed to run this for some 18 months throughout the main period of the pandemic.

Some of our other activities restarted at various points during the year (the hub reports will give you more information). It was not until September that we were properly able to restart Sunday club and Sunday youth groups, and even then not every week. This has had a big impact on families, for whom it has been much harder to engage online. Some other activities had not yet been able to restart at the end of the year, mainly due to resourcing issues.

By the end of 2021, many people had returned to church, but we had noticed some significant changes. A number of new people had joined us, in which we rejoice. Some others had left, having either moved away, or taken the decision to join a church more locally to where they live. That in itself is healthy, but of course we miss them. A



significant number had not yet felt confident to return in person, either being understandably wary of larger gatherings, or being vulnerable. Some, sadly, were (either temporarily or long term) no longer physically able to come, whilst some others had quietly disengaged or found other things to do. The combined effect of this was that our Sunday attendance in person was at most 50-60% of usual numbers before the pandemic. Some of the gap can be accounted for by those joining online.

We also found that the number of people available to serve on our various volunteer teams was greatly reduced. In addition to two years' natural wastage, as activities restarted it was a natural point for people to review their commitments and consider whether they were able to continue, and a number took the opportunity to stand down. Some change in people serving on teams is of course healthy as it's important that anyone can stand down when the time is right for them, and that there are opportunities for new areas of service.

We have recruited many volunteers for different areas – some teams, including livestreaming and creche, are completely new, whilst others have a number of new leaders or helpers. We're very grateful to all those who have stepped into new roles, or continued to serve in old ones. As the year closed, however, there were still many gaps, and some activities unable to run, or running less frequently, or with an uncertain future as a result. Please do think and pray with an open mind, asking whether the Lord is leading you into a new area of service.

There are some financial challenges too, partly due to the loss of giving from those who left or, sadly, died during the year. There was a positive response to the teaching & information we gave about financial giving during the year, but this was largely offset by the losses. We will need to continue to encourage financial giving, to cover increasing costs and resource our ministry. As always, I am enormously grateful for God's provision and to the members of our congregation for their sacrificial giving which enables us to undertake our ministry. During the year we were also advised of a sizeable legacy to the church which we expect to receive during the coming year when the estate is wound up, which will enable us to cover the cost of some significant forthcoming repairs to the spire and tower, and will provide a rare opportunity to develop our facilities and ministry. The PCC will be considering options for this over the coming months.

Perhaps one of the most significant effects of the pandemic though has been on the loss of fellowship. Even whilst we were able to meet in person, the reduced numbers present, the inability to offer refreshments or hospitality for much of the year, and the inability of some housegroups or other activities to run, has had a dramatic impact. It will take time to rebuild fellowship and this is something we will need to work on over the coming year. All of these issues are common to very many churches.

We saw a complete change in the wardens' team for St Andrew's during the year. Both Mike Smith and Mike Shevlin stood down as wardens, and Paul Roberts as Assistant Warden. We are very grateful to them for their service, and to Mike Smith for his extensive and very time consuming work on the lighting project and fire safety improvements, which were completed by the summer (save for the external lighting for which we are still obtaining planning permission).



Being aware that the Churchwarden's role was extremely demanding, we have restructured things to make it more manageable. We now have a larger team of assistant wardens in place to support with opening up for & overseeing services, and a maintenance team under Stuart Waldron's leadership has taken responsibility for most of the building maintenance work. Viv Halliday was elected as Churchwarden, and at the end of the year we were hopeful of filling the vacant place soon.

More than ever this year, I have been so grateful to our dedicated staff team, our Wardens Team and all the PCC, and to all who have served in different ways in contributing to our very different ministry during the year, for their partnership, commitment and support. Although there are too many people to thank individually I would also like to express thanks to all those who have stepped up to support in new ways during this period – especially with livestreaming & technology, and running family services and children's & youth work in various ways during the year.

Once again it has been an extraordinarily challenging year for most people individually as well as for us as a church. But unlike those who are battling this situation without faith, we can, and must, hold fast to the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Let us focus on Him to lead us forward, as we seek to discern priorities and direction over the coming year.

David Vestergaard



Townfield Report

Like pretty much every organisation, we found that 2021 was a year of holding on to hope, as the longed-for horizon kept on slipping slightly further into the distance!

But Townfield, being Townfield, didn't give up easily! With continued restrictions in place, the patterns of informal mutual support, prayer and practical help continued, and house groups, prayer groups and other activities found innovative ways of carrying on, as we kept on being church for more than just Sundays. Everyone has been a part of that, and everyone deserves our thanks as we have continued to work out how we, together "are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" (1 Corinthians 12.27).

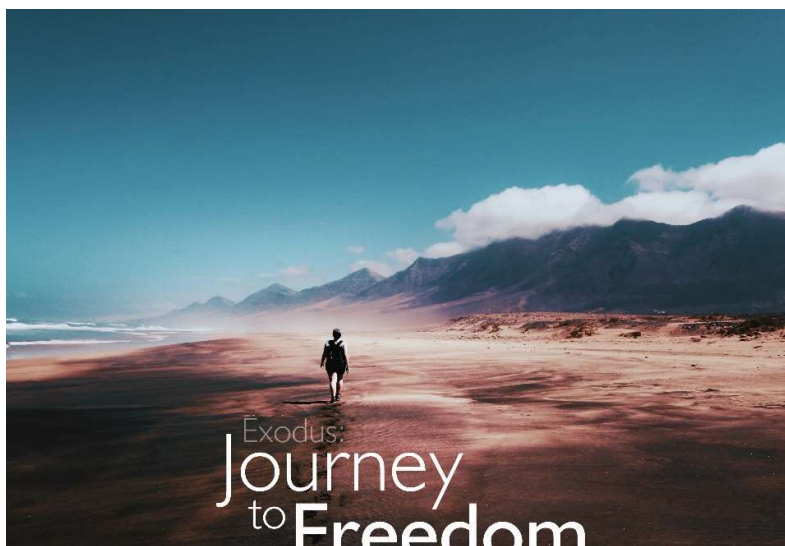
Although church is about more than *just* Sundays, it is *also* about Sundays, as both our main moment of being together, and as our 'shop window' of how we are the Body of Christ. And, of course, Sundays continued to be a challenge in 2021, not just because of the pandemic, but also because, as a church community without a building, we were dependent on national rules about how education settings could be used during the pandemic.



Our theme for Sundays in Spring 2021

That meant that, for most of 2021, we were unable to meet in St Andrew's school (much to our regret and theirs), and (with our thanks to St Andrew's Church) we met in the Church Hall instead. Although this was better than nothing, it was far from ideal. The Church Hall was too small to accommodate more than 1/3 of our regular congregation (sometimes less, depending on the restrictions in force), and for many, it didn't feel like

'home', so out of choice or necessity, the majority of our congregation remained online for the first part of the year.



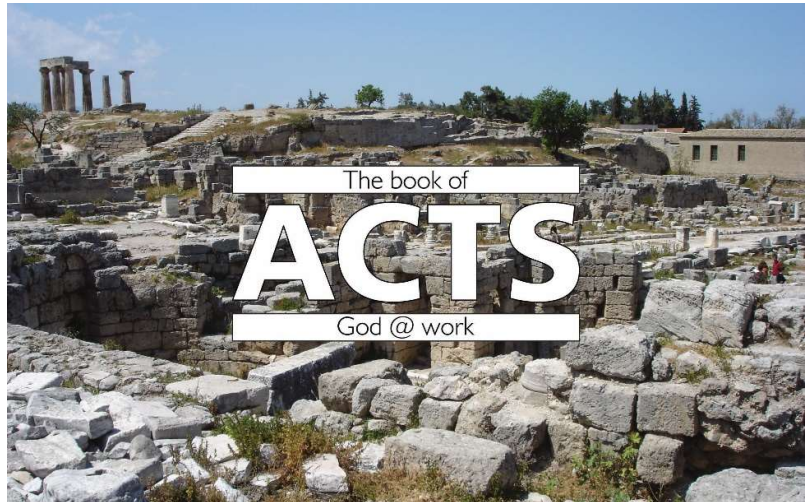
Our theme for Sundays in Summer 2021

But it felt like a great moment of celebration when we were able to return to meeting in the school from October 2021.



Our thanks go to Mrs Lamkin (the head teacher), Richard Walker-Glen and Peter Jardine (the previous, and current site managers at school), and all the school staff, for being so helpful in enabling us to return to the school hall. It would have made life much easier for them to delay our return to a later date, but they all went above and beyond the call of duty to see how we could safely, and within all the relevant Department for Education regulations, 'come home' as a church.

Our thanks also go to the Townfield congregation. In preparation for our return to school we began recruiting volunteers in a number of areas, some old (chair set up, coffee rotas, music, sound) and some new (Covid-safe cleaning, Livestreaming), and we had a fantastic response. Within days, we had a team of 29 people ready to be trained for the extensive post-service cleaning that would be needed, and in many other areas we had more volunteers than we'd ever had before the pandemic – thank you all!



Our theme for Sundays in Autumn 2021

It was easy to see how much the congregation appreciated the opportunity to be meeting back in school – our numbers dramatically increased straight away, averaging close to pre-pandemic numbers in October, and it has been fantastic to be regularly joined by new people who found us online during the closures.

Numbers have fluctuated a bit in the months since our return to school (mostly due to people attending less frequently, rather than because people have stopped coming altogether). Our numbers have been reduced most among children and younger families, which seem to reflect the experience of churches nationally, and will, no doubt, be a focus of our future thinking as circumstances allow us to do more.

Although, in many ways, things were beginning to look quite 'normal' on Sundays towards the end of 2021, it's important to remember that we have a long way to go in rebuilding Townfield after such a challenging 2 years: while Sundays are the most 'public facing' parts of church, many of the less public, but equally important parts of church life will take time to rebuild, especially if we want to not only be a mutually supportive community of believers, but also want to be an *outward facing* "Christ Centred Family, Sharing God's Love".

That should give us lots to pray, and work on in 2022 and beyond!

Al Rodgers



Wardens' Report

It is very easy to forget how different our circumstances were when I was appointed as church warden in May 2021. At the time, only a small number of people were attending live services in church and most of the congregation were watching pre-recorded online services at home. Covid19 restrictions were still in place and all attendees at live services were still required to book in advance and sign in as they arrived. There was no congregational singing at our services and no refreshments. We are very grateful to a small but dedicated group of sidespeople who manned the doors through this period and to all those who helped in various ways in leading and assisting in the church building on Sunday mornings. Our thanks also go to all those who were responsible for recording and producing the various elements of the online services. We must not forget the wonderful team of assistant wardens who assisted with duties at Sunday services throughout the year. I am particularly grateful to Kate Butler who was willing to join me in the role of church warden in February. David Vestergaard's sabbatical in July and August coincided with a national relaxation of restrictions for Covid, the need to book for services ended then and congregational singing returned, much to everybody's delight. The need to sign in ended in September and refreshments were back on the menu in October. There was a brief tightening of restrictions over the Christmas period, but we still managed to have successful Carol Services, the Tree Festival and the Christmas Journey, and the slow return to normality and increasing physical church attendance has continued into 2022.

At the beginning of this period, most of our church groups were still unable to meet. Little Fishes had started up in a very restricted format in April and we were running online prayer meetings, daily thoughts for the day and an online Alpha Course, as well as some in person youth activities. Monday Gang resumed their labours at the end of June for which we are all grateful. Many more church groups were able to restart in the autumn including Men's Fellowship, Knit and Natter, Women's Fellowship, Crèche and Sunday Club. During the lockdown a number of leaders stepped down from the positions they had previously held. We thank them for the faithful service they have given in that capacity, and we are also grateful to those who have stepped up into these roles. We are particularly grateful to Stuart Waldron who has agreed to head up the Maintenance Team which deals with the fabric and building issues. Whilst we are very grateful to all who have taken on new responsibilities, we are aware that we are short of helpers in many areas of church life and pray that God will provide the personnel we need to run our ministries effectively.

Following the relocation of the sound desk the live streaming hardware and the new lighting controller have now been integrated into it. TV screens have also been installed in the central area of the church to enhance visibility, by reducing blind spots caused by the historic pillars. The lighting project installation took place from May to July and is now completed and working well. Livestreaming of our services became possible in June and that too is now working very well. We are very grateful to the team who have taken on this responsibility. Another new acquisition is a card reader to enable electronic payments to be made to the church. A group of people have been trained in using this.



We would like to thank Mike Smith for all his work in overseeing the lighting project and the many other projects from which the church plant is currently benefitting. We would also like to express our gratitude to Mike for the meticulous detail of his record keeping and the care he showed in every aspect of church life.

Following the departure of the previous tenants, redecorating and various minor repairs have been completed at 8 Rolleston Drive to enable its reletting. This brings in welcome revenue for the church.

We would both like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love, support and prayer which have surrounded us over the past year.

Viv Halliday and Kate Butler



Church Buildings

As Covid restrictions eased through the year a number of church projects and building activities were able to recommence.

Church Lighting

The major project to renew the great majority of the internal lighting was undertaken during the summer of 2021. The old lighting was replaced with an intelligent and programmable LED system, with some 152 fittings, set largely at wall plate and truss level. In addition, fire safety lighting was improved and the crèche lighting also upgraded. Although minor adjustments are still required the new lighting has greatly enhanced our services and events.

With regard to the external lighting proposals, informal consultation with Wirral Council identified the need for a full Planning Application to be submitted primarily due to heritage implications and the potential impact on local residents. The initial Application was submitted in November and further information has been required by the Council. This is currently being compiled.

Toilet Facilities in Church

The wooden screen at the access to the toilets in church has been relocated to create greatly improved access for wheelchair users. Many thanks to the Monday Gang for undertaking this project.

Heating has also been provided to the toilets, resolving the long-standing problem with damp, not to mention making them more comfortable to use!

Trees in Churchyard

Three yew trees have been lost during the recent winter storms and a number damaged. Urgent action was taken by the church to ensure the building remained open and no damage to the structure occurred. The Council remain responsible for the churchyard.

Planning and Records

An Annual Maintenance Plan has been instigated involving coordinated Health and Safety inspections and monitoring the condition of the church infrastructure and fittings and also covers the other church properties.

Full records will be held in a digital format and the outcomes will assist with the planning and delivery of regular planned maintenance and specific projects.

Quinquennial Inspection

The latest Quinquennial Inspection was completed and submitted by the Church Architect in October 2021. The recommendations have been approved by PCC and progressing them will be subject to further development and funding considerations. The Church Architect has been instructed to draft the Specification and Schedule of Works for the previously identified Church Tower project.

Stuart Waldron



Safeguarding Report

St Andrew's and Townfield take our obligation and duty to protect everyone seriously. The PCC has adopted the Church of England safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance. During 2020 safeguarding training has been available on line.

All staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been provided with a copy of the C of E's Parish Safeguarding Handbook with our own supplements, and have been required to confirm that they have received and read it. All are supported with Safeguarding Training and Basic Awareness safeguarding training is provided to PCC members and others with a relevant interest. We follow the C of E's safer recruitment process for appointments, including the use of DBS checks and references.

In June Penny Tomlinson, who has been Safeguarding officer for St. Andrew's, passed this role onto Richard Lawrence.

If you have any queries or concerns, please speak to one of the Parish Safeguarding Officers.

*Richard Lawrence for St. Andrew's
Gwen Derrig for Townfield.*



Treasurer's Report

The year 2021 continued in a similar way to 2020 for a major part of the year, seeing a reduction in services and other activities, and with Covid having a financial impact on some of the congregation.

With the reduction in weekly services there has been an impact on the income received in cash on the weekly plate, but the majority of church members give generously via their bank, having moved to weekly or monthly standing order. This giving on a regular basis helps enormously with our budgeting, and many more have realised the benefit of being able to increase their giving via Gift Aid.

A number of families have moved away from Bebington and St Andrews during the year, having an impact on our giving, but we also welcomed many new members to church.

Our regular planned income including Gift Aid in 2021 was £257,195, an increase on the previous year of £251,665. A number of donations were received which compensated for the reduction of cash collected weekly, and many church members have increased their level of support.

The annual accounting records for 2021 indicate an overall income for the church and its activities of £296,988 against expenditure of £332,979, a deficit of £35,991. This deficit of spending over income has been incurred by the completion of the lighting project, with spending undertaken during 2021 utilising reserves set aside and built up from 2018 to 2020.

The church has also utilised some legacy funds during the year to provide equipment for our streaming of services, with approx, £6000 spent on equipment, wiring, speakers and pc equipment.

The internal lighting project was completed in 2021 at a total cost of £77800, including VAT. Although funds held for the Lighting Project were a little short of the cost of the internal works, it was felt expedient to progress the project, utilising existing unrestricted General reserves. The funds raised for the lighting work was £73900, including VAT reclaimed.

During 2021 we have continued working on a separate budget for Townfield with appropriate apportionment of costs, so that Townfield members can see how their giving supports the work of the church. Townfield saw a generous boost to its income in 2021, with many members reviewing their giving during the year.

We wish to thank Brenda Duffy, our Gift Aid secretary, for the additional work in managing the weekly cash mostly on her own and continuing with the work of managing the Gift Aid Claims twice yearly. The office staff have also had to manage additional correspondence and handle gifts & donations routed via the Office during the closure of the church, much of the time whilst working remotely.

Bryan Higgins



Report on the activities of the Parochial Church Council

As if 2021 wasn't strange enough, it brought us something new to a PCC meeting – Mike Ludbrook chairing a meeting. We were thankful for his stepping in whilst the Rector completed his well-deserved sabbatical; but he had put himself forward as vice-chair, so he knew what he was getting himself in to!

We continued to make use of the words, 'Zoom' 'online' and 'Hybrid' but the work of the church thankfully continued and whichever way we did it, the Council were able to regularly meet throughout the year.

The lights inside the church were finally installed and they make a massive difference. Our thanks to Mike Smith, the Rector and others who worked on the project. Thoughts and works now turn to the external lights...

We said goodbye and thank you to Mike Smith and Mike Shevlin, who stepped down from their roles as church wardens and were thankful to Viv Halliday (and latterly, Kate Butler) for being willing to stand.

We installed broadband at St Andrew's which allowed us to start livestreaming services and received permission to fit tv screens to the pillars in church – they'll come into their own during busy services, allowing people stuck behind pillars to see what's going on.

The quinquennial inspection was undertaken and fortunately, with the exception of the works to the spire - which we were already aware of – there is nothing like the amount of work to undertake that the previous inspection highlighted.

Some of the larger items we looked at included looking into the use of Sunday evenings and the possible format of any evening services or other events when resources permit. Consultations are still ongoing, but it offers us exciting possibilities ahead.

We started to think about questions of faith, life and love, and all things connected with them, as the Church of England look to the future and ask parishes what direction they feel we should be taking with the likes of relationships, marriage, identity, and sexuality.

During the year Townfield worked with the parish treasurer to consider Townfield's giving income, and expenses. Historically Townfield has not had a separate budget, and this was identified as unhelpful, because it means that the congregation doesn't have the opportunity to shape their spending priorities, and it also makes it more difficult to present a costed vision as part of the annual Townfield stewardship conversations. Therefore it was agreed that Townfield would have its own annual budget (as part of the wider parish budget) to enable more strategic spending planning, clearer recognition of the financial contribution Townfield makes to shared parish costs, and facilitate better informed fundraising initiatives.



We were lucky to receive notification of a very generous legacy donation, which prompted the setting up of another PCC working group, to consider possibilities for the best use of these funds as an investment for the future to the benefit of the parish.

The Diocese asked every PCC to consider the welfare and wellbeing of their clergy and so the meetings set aside some time to discuss how best we can support our parish clergy and their families - be it spiritually, mentally, practically; and how we can look to set healthy boundaries. It has been revealing as the Rector has shared some of his hopes, joys, and sorrows of his time in Bebington.

It may essentially be a cut and paste from previous reports, but no less pertinent: thanks, as always, to Karen and Jenny in the church office for all their assistance throughout the year in ensuring agendas, minutes etc. are where they should be, and to the Rector for his continued support and faithful leadership. Please keep the PCC in your prayers.

Ian Swindlehurst



Youth Report

Weekly Church Groups

Unplugged

After Easter we returned to face to face groups and have been meeting in person ever since. All three groups have seen consistent engagement from core young people and have been free to delve deeper into Bible study as a result. The middle and youngest groups have been working through Nicky Gumbel's book 'Questions for Life' while the older group have recently covered the Living in Love and Faith material released by the Church of England. We are soon to welcome the new Year 6's up into the youngest group and say goodbye to the Year 13's.

Amplify

Amplify has been running alternate Friday's in person since Easter with a group of 15-20 attending most weeks. Young people are starting to invite friends again which is causing the group to extend beyond church family young people and we hope to introduce some small scale faith-based content soon. In the past year we have made pizza, played mini golf, walked from Heswall to Park Gate for fish and chips, and held a Christmas party, amongst other things.

Youth Band

Youth band has continued to run alternate Fridays and has seen the confidence of the young people grow incredibly. The youth band performed a piece at the Christmas Carol Concert, led worship for the weekend away, and several members have been involved in family services at St. Andrew's as part of the main worship band.

Sunday Mornings

Like most groups, Sunday morning Amplify returned to face to face sessions after Easter and is now in a pattern of alternating between the church hall and Townfield to meet and discuss various aspects of God and Christianity.

Schools Work

Between Easter and the summer, the Pulse group (C.U.) returned in Wirral Girls (though not yet in Wirral Boys) while primary school assemblies remained online. I look forward to other normal activities returning, in both our primary and secondary schools.



Mentoring

Mentoring has been on the shelf for most of this past year but is starting to slowly return to the ministry.

Amplivacation

Due to the pandemic, our annual youth weekend away was postponed, then cancelled. As the year ended we were progressing plans for and greatly looking forward to a weekend away at Whithaugh before Easter.

Other Items

The prayer partners scheme we tried to launch did not quite take off, but instead we are hoping to have every group within the ministry prayed for by committed individuals on a regular basis.

I am undertaking a year long training course in counselling which has already been put into practice working with some of the young people who are dealing with difficult times.

Similar to other church ministries, the cohort of volunteer leaders has been smaller than it was pre-pandemic. With the current number of leaders, we are able to deliver the core youth activities - although we are stretched, and keen to recruit more leaders. Should the number of young people attending increase as we would like to see, we will need more volunteer capacity.

Chris Jarvis



Children & Families Hub

The Hub didn't meet during the year, because activities were so curtailed due to the pandemic. During the course of the year we were gradually able to restart some activities as below.

St Andrew's Sunday Club

Sunday Club runs throughout term time in the Church Hall for pre and primary school aged children, with an average of 12 children attending each week. There are 3 groups: Super Crèche (pre-school); Scramblers (KS1) and Explorers (KS2). After virtual sessions at the beginning of the year, we were delighted to meet again in person in the Church Hall garden during the summer, when we linked with Euro 2020 and explored the challenges and rewards of being in Jesus' team, as well as Bible stories about people joining together to celebrate.

We have adapted to sharing the Church Hall with Townfield and challenges over leader and helper numbers by running All Together sessions for KS1 and KS2 children, initially with Townfield and now in the Hall. We are able to sing and learn verses, as well as helping our children understand how God provides for them through Noah, Elijah and Nehemiah, leading to God's greatest gift at Christmas.

Super Crèche continues to offer their lovely introduction to our children with play and a Bible story, usually linked to the same topics.

We were sorry to say goodbye to a number of team members including Louise Hilder, Richard and Julie Watson, Zander Smith and Kate Butler (who kindly came back to help cover in the autumn term). Thank you to them for their commitment and service, as well as our current team of faithful leaders.

Alison Collins & Ali Gurr

Little Fishes

Little Fishes started up again mainly communicating via the Facebook page and in the early part of the year, distributing monthly craft bags to local families to keep contact over lock down.

We re-opened after Easter with a booking system and very small numbers which has gradually increased as Covid restrictions have lifted, we now no longer book places.

We now have up to 25 at the 1st session and up to 15 at the 2nd session.

The children are babies up to school age and attend with a mix of grandparents, parents, childminders and foster carers.

We have restructured the sessions so that we now have two shorter sessions, all taking place in the morning, which is more manageable for team members.

However the core team of helpers is much smaller than it used to be and we could do with expanding the team, especially for the first session.

We have run our Christmas and Easter sessions fully over at the church building, which has been brilliant and a bridge from Fishes to the church.

The atmosphere is friendly and welcoming. Especially after lockdown we are very aware of people's need to chat and have fellowship; for some children this was the first group they have ever been to.



The aim is to be a welcoming God centred session that presents simple Bible stories and songs alongside nursery rhymes, bubbles and fun for our local families to show them the love of Christ.

Sarah-Joy Davies

Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade (CLCGB)

During the past year the CL&CGB have met regularly on a Thursday evening during term time when Covid rules allowed, and met on zoom at other times. As you will appreciate most activities have been curtailed, but great to see our youngsters back and enjoying fun, faith and fellowship, even though some was at a distance.

Whenever possible members have attended family services and Sunday Club.

We only managed one Battalion event, being a trip to the Crazy Golf.

We unfortunately had to cancel our annual camp, but look to 2022 for a hopeful return on Thursday nights during term time and attending Family Services.

Our band has taken a rest but we hope to be back soon.

The children helped produce a decorated tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. The year was finished with a trip to the Gladstone Theatre to see their annual pantomime. Oh yes they did.

Overall our numbers have stayed steady, with several members moving to the older Senior section we need to look at recruitment for the younger sections (ages 5-10).

Richie Clarke

Crèche

The crèche restarted in October 2021 with a new team of enthusiastic volunteers. It is available for children from birth to the age of 3 and parents/carers can stay and play or leave their child with our volunteers. We aim to have two volunteers in every session during each Sunday morning service (except the Family Service). We have many age appropriate toys and books and the play kitchen is proving to be very popular. We currently have three families regularly using the crèche which has been a lovely number to get started with. We look forward to welcoming more families as more people return to services post pandemic.

Lisa Ehrlich

Townfield Sunday Club report

It goes without saying that 2021 was a challenging year for children's work at Townfield (just like any church). The fact that we were unable to hold our Sunday services in the school for most of the year made things a bit more complicated for us (and also for St Andrew's), as the Church Hall was not large enough to accommodate anything like our normal congregation numbers, and the number of rooms available for children's groups was too limited for either St Andrew's or Townfield. However, everyone pulled together and thanks to our fantastic volunteers we were able to:

- Make use of a national resource, *Virtual Sunday School* to provide weekly session opportunities for younger children.
- Our year 4-6 team ran weekly online sessions at 12.00 each Sunday, which were well attended.
- We were able to run a few joint 'in person' Sunday Club sessions with St Andrew's.



Once we were able to return to meeting in the school (from October 2021), things became much more normal, and thanks to a fantastic response to our recruitment drive, our Sunday Club groups now have a larger regular volunteer base than they did before the pandemic.

We have all valued being able to be back in the school, and have been able to operate weekly Sunday Club groups for all age groups (apart from the occasional week hijacked by self-isolation and illness) – so a huge thank you to all our volunteers!

We have noticed that numbers of children have been reduced since the pandemic (often due to people attending less frequently rather than not attending at all) so part of our pandemic recovery will be to look at how we can revitalise this part of our church life.

Al Rodgers

Messy Church

We have not so far been able to restart Messy Church at either St Andrew's or Townfield. The kind of activities and mixing involved, and for Townfield lack of access to the school, made it impractical to consider running through much of the year, but there is also an issue of resourcing. We are very grateful to Marie & Will Beale, who had led St Andrew's Messy Church throughout its ten years, but prior to the pandemic they had already indicated the need to stand down from this and we don't currently have sufficient team members to restart. For the time being, we're concentrating our resources on activities which have restarted but are short of leaders, including Sunday Club, Youth work and Little Fishes.

David Vestergaard

Who Let the Dads Out?

Our Who Let the Dads Out group only launched a few months before the pandemic struck, but had made an encouraging start. We hope to be able to relaunch the group at some point, but have not been able to so far, due to the need to focus our resources on a manageable number of activities.

David Vestergaard



Seniors' Hub

The Hub didn't meet during the year, because our activities were so curtailed due to the pandemic. Updates from the various groups are included below

Knit and Natter

Having been unable to meet for some time due to the pandemic, when we restarted after the summer holidays we chose to use the Church hall. We felt that the Rectory room was too small to be able to keep the required distance. Now our meeting day has changed to Thursday as this was the day the church hall was free. However the hall was vast for our little group so the Ormerod room seemed to be a better option.

On 10th Dec there was the usual Christmas trip for Dinner, this time at the Hare and Hounds near Frodsham. It went very well. The group finished then for Christmas break. Unfortunately this year we were unable to decorate our Christmas tree for the Tree Festival in church due to lack of resources.

We resumed on 3rd Feb. Sadly we have lost two of our members who have gone to be with our Lord. Also our numbers have reduced by another three members who have left the group, but we do have one new member, bringing us to 14.

We do not have any projects going at present. It is just nice for folk to gather together once again for company and a cuppa. Some wearing masks others not. Others would be welcome to join us.

Sylvia Roberts

Monday Gang:

The Monday Gang, comprising a group of retired men, both church members and from the local community, willingly give up their Monday morning to help with regular upkeep jobs and small maintenance projects on the church, churchyard and our other properties. All contributions are appreciated and valued, and it has been great to welcome new members over recent months.

But in addition and most importantly we value the time, over a cup of coffee at the end of the morning, we can share together and chat about what is going on in church, locally and the wider world.

For 2021, after Covid restrictions eased in the later part of the year, we were able to resume our get togethers and Alan Roberts kindly offered to continue to lead the group for the foreseeable future. Sadly, due to ill health he had to give this up at short notice, but we are all pleased he is making good progress. We wish him a full and speedy recovery, and look forward to him joining us, even if only for a cup coffee, in the near future.

We meet from 9.00am to 11.30am every Monday except Bank Holidays.

Stuart Waldron

Charlotte House

Despite changing covid circumstances in the last year, nursing homes have continued to be very cautious in allowing outsiders to visit and this has affected our ability to take services in person. So, we have been sending services by email and PowerPoint every 2 weeks to the activities co-ordinator, Dawn, who agreed to take them. The services have



included talks, prayers and hymns either from CDs or from YouTube links. Dawn has given us regular feedback and says that the residents have very much valued the services during the year. We are now hopeful of returning in person for our Easter service.

Sandy & Carolyn Muir

Pastoral Work

During the last twelve months, much of the pastoral work has been done via the telephone but this hasn't prevented help and prayer being offered. More recently, the opportunity has opened up for face to face visiting in people's homes. There are currently six people available to visit. Two of those work as a pair visiting someone who lives near them. The others are visiting as circumstances allow and are continuing with phone conversations as well. The list of those needing to be visited is still quite long - more people joining the team would be welcomed. There has also been an opportunity to visit in some nursing homes, as long as the requirement of a Covid Lateral Flow test is carried out on the day of the visit.

The taking of Holy Communion to those currently housebound was re-established at Christmas; those receiving this ministry, very much appreciated it. It is expected that this will happen again at Easter and, God willing, in the months ahead.

Amy Haigh

Women's Fellowship

This year began with tentative plans to restart after Covid restrictions were lifted, and we began to meet again in October 2021.

We meet weekly, on Tuesday afternoon, 2.15 to 3.15, except for school holiday times. Our numbers are down on previous years, varying between 15 and 25. For various reasons the leadership team has altered somewhat and we are immensely grateful for Sheila Lindsay joining the team and Wendy Doran for becoming our treasurer. Cathy Morris has also brought great inspiration and encouragement. We thank Julie Rigby for her service as treasurer and great encourager and also Christine Vale for long and faithful service in various capacities in the leadership and running of the fellowship.

We are currently seeking God's will as to how we can reach out to more women in the church and community and share the good news of Jesus with them.

Alison Wolfe

Men's Fellowship

The Fellowship did not meet between March 2020 and September 2021, in the interests of members during the pandemic. Communication was maintained by regular telephone conversations and Christmas cards. All members remained healthy. There was an eagerness to resume when safe to do so. Meetings resumed in September 2021. There are a few new members, regular or occasional.

Keith Lindsay.

Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is an up close, confidential ministry, so due to Covid and Covid regulations, we have not been able to function as we normally would after the Morning Services.



During this period of time, the Prayer Team set up a private WhatsApp group, which has enabled us to pray into several situations that people have contacted me about. God has answered many of these prayer requests, which we have found encouraging. We prayerfully hope to begin our ministry in church again, once we feel it is the correct time.

Sylvia Tomlinson

Bereavement Team

The bereavement team's ministry has similarly been very curtailed, limited to telephone contact during the year but also with a number of team members unable to be involved at least for now due to personal circumstances. We hope to be able to restart the ministry over the coming months.

David Vestergaard



Poverty Action Group

Responding to poverty locally, nationally & internationally –

Like everything else, PAG's normal activities changed with the outbreak of Covid. As restrictions relaxed we held our first Zoom meeting in June 2020 when the main topic was starting Besom up again after the break of three months and having to operate within safe guidelines and restrictions. However, with the permission of the Trustees, a couple of family groups agreed to deliver by leaving items at the doors whilst checking the occupant was at home. An on-line system was set up to keep the admin up-to-date without visiting Heswall Parish Centre. No collections were made during this time. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers, everything worked well.

For those who felt they could not do anything, the opportunity to pray was a blessing to both the pray-ers and for those for whom we prayed. We continued to update prayer requests from Besom, Foodbank, The Ark, Ferries Family Groups, Wirral Change, Wirral Debt Advice, Christians Against Poverty and The Oak Project.

We zoomed again in July 2020 to consider involvement with both Harvest and Toy Services.

Delivering Harvest flowers was not going to be an option but it was decided to offer a cash collection to buy Christmas toys. We were very grateful to the church family for their donations totalling £545.29 which was spent on toys which were delivered to Social Services.

Though we were unable to collect filled Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes empty boxes were made available in church and instructions circulated regarding collection points or how to make financial donations.

Wirral Scout Post had suspended their normal service but were trying an E-card alternative.

We next met in September 2021 to review the situation and the future of PAG. Whilst acknowledging that we needed to encourage younger people to be involved, the group was keen to continue. Prior to Covid, attendance at coffee mornings giving an opportunity to alleviate social isolation and at the same time raise a contribution to a variety of worthy causes had been steadily growing. We wanted to be able to offer a Covid safe coffee morning before Christmas and managed to achieve this during November.

It is always a temptation to include December to the present activities in this annual report but suffice to say, PAG is gradually resuming our support to those in need, locally, nationally and internationally, particularly thinking of the Ukraine situation. So thank you to all who have contributed in any way to our being able to help with what we have been able to achieve during the recent challenging times. We have a small but amazing team of reliable, supportive and loving volunteers from both churches and in the case of Besom, some from other churches for whom we also thank our gracious loving Lord.

Our next meeting was February 2022 but more about that in our next Report.



BESOM – Receiving household items, time, skills, or money to pass on to those in need.

Referrals :

2020 January to June – Covid restrictions

2020 July to December – 153

2021 January to December - 225

Givers :

2020 January to June – Covid restrictions

2020 July to December – 104

2021 April to December – 131

Projects -

The opportunity for a small group to carry out a decorating project or tidy a garden had been very worthwhile both to those on the teams and of course, to those on the receiving end but, even prior to Covid, it had become difficult to find sufficient volunteers so we have been unable to continue offering help in this area.

It would be helpful to have one or two who could carry out simple DIY jobs from time-to-time.

WIRRAL FOODBANK-

Weekly food collections changed with the onset of Covid. Alternative ways to send financial contributions were encouraged. We still receive a very small amount of food which is kept until there is sufficient to justify taking it to the Foodbank. Townfield appeal for food items from time-to-time.

RE-CYCLING – We continue to collect various items in the plastic bins at the back of church for recycling. Used postage stamps currently for RNLI, spectacles for Africa via The Lions, Jewellery and watches incl. broken for Wirral Society of the Blind & Partially Sighted & foreign coins, mobile phones & ink cartridges for Age UK.



World Mission Support

Our established practice is to allocate a tenth of the income we receive through regular giving and one-off general gifts to supporting mission. St Andrew's operates a Mission Committee who are responsible for recommending to the PCC the allocation of St Andrew's share of this tithe. The PCC members for Townfield Church fulfil the same role for Townfield.

St Andrew's Mission Committee follows the principle that work to which we are contributing should have a directly evangelistic element, although it may also include other aspects such as social action. We also aim to spread the allocation widely in terms of geographical area and type of work. Some of the organisations we support we have been giving to for very many years, others are more recent.

The committee members also each act as representatives for one of our mission partners, being responsible for communication with them and with individual supporters in the congregation, and obtaining updates for prayer and disseminating these. We also aim to welcome visits from mission partners where this is practical, or otherwise representatives share information with the congregation, in the form of a focus spot or presentation, covering several mission partners each year in this way.

In 2021, St Andrew's Mission Committee gave support to the following mission partners. All of them have faced challenges through the pandemic and have needed to adapt and change their way of working:

- Bible Society (Rep - Martin Heale) - promoting access to the Bible worldwide - translating and distributing the Bible in different countries, and providing resources and events to promote the Bible in the UK.
- CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) (Rep - Helen Thomas) - providing children's & youth camps, teaching & leadership resources and training for churches, and acting as Patrons for many C of E churches
- Anglican Province (formerly Diocese) of Chile (Rep - Amy Haigh) - towards training Alex Cordova for ordination, and following his ordination, towards support for his ministry planting a new congregation in San Pedro Church, Concepcion.
- CMJ (the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People) (Rep - David Halliday) - working amongst Jews, Muslims and others in the Middle East and the UK to share and promote understanding of the Christian faith.
- Crosslinks (Rep - Vacant) - to support the work of Jomo Nderitu, the Diocesan Youth Co-ordinator for Marsabit Diocese in Kenya.
- Wirral Youth for Christ (Rep - Chris Jarvis) - taking the gospel to young people across the Wirral through work in schools, in partnership with churches including ourselves.
- Barnabas Fund (Rep - Rachel Lindsay) - working to support persecuted Christians around the world and lobbying on their behalf, raising awareness of persecution and seeking action.



- Ferries Family Groups (Rep – Vacant) – contributing towards the costs of their office base and their staffing, facilitating their work with and witness to families in need of support in various ways.
- St Catherine’s Church, Tranmere (Rep – David Vestergaard) – towards their employment of a young people and families worker.

The Pandemic made mission partner visits impractical during the year. We hope to be able to restart these soon, supplemented by videos from those unable to visit in person. We pray for our mission partners at some of the weekly zoom prayer meetings.

If you would like to receive news updates on one or more partners, please contact the church office. If you are interested in serving as a mission rep for one of the partners, please speak to me.

Our thanks are due to the Mission Committee for their service.

David Vestergaard



St. Andrew's C.E (Aided) Primary School

Looking back to 2021, and writing this very close to Townfield's 30th birthday, it's made me realise that last year must have been one of the strangest in Townfield's existence. Apart from the obvious direct Covid implications, the pandemic has meant significant changes in the way that Townfield Church and St Andrew's School have been able to be involved in each other's lives. And that has brought sadness with it, because, as you know, the relationship between school and church has always been a key part of our identity. So it has felt strange that many of the things we used to do together had to stop, or change, during the pandemic. Toast Club was no longer possible, parent's evenings went online (so didn't need childcare provision), and Messy Church had to stop... although members of both churches were able to continue as school Governors (online), and our involvement in school's Collective Worship (online) was able to continue, when technology allowed!

But, thankfully, many of the limitations and restrictions lifted during the year. And it was with huge celebration that, in October 2021, we were able to move back into school for our regular Sunday services. We are hugely grateful to Mrs Lamkin, Richard Walker-Glen and Peter Jardine (the former and current school site managers), and all the school staff, for their support in welcoming us back. In a time when school staff had so much on their plates already, it would have been easy (and understandable) if they had decided that it was one job too many to find ways for us to safely, and within the regulations, meet in school. But we have been bowled over by the kindness and helpfulness of everyone at school, as they have made it possible for Townfield to 'come home'. So thank you all!

And while we're on thanks, we should note our formal thanks here to all the Toast Club volunteers who, for so many years, tirelessly ran a short before school club. During 2021, Toast Club volunteers and Governors agreed that Toast Club would not be re-starting after the pandemic closure. Although finding enough volunteers to run the club would have been a challenge, it was agreed that the changing needs of the school community (which now has its own professionally run before and after school provision) meant that Toast Club was no longer providing the essential service it once was. So thank you to all of those volunteers who got up early for so many years to provide a friendly pre-school welcome!

Al Rodgers

As a school, we have gradually been able to return to our normal school life. We began our school year with our younger children returning to a newly refurbished Infant department, thanks to funding from Chester Diocese and St Andrew's CE School Governors Fund. This has made such a difference to our children with more space to enjoy their learning. Other areas were also refurbished including a new staffroom, which we have all enjoyed using.

One of our joys this year has been enabling our children to mix together again, coming away from 'bubbles'. Just seeing our older children making friends with our younger



children has been delightful to observe, such as children from different year groups enjoying eating their lunch or playing in the playground with children from across the school and different classes.

If I was asked what has been my most positive point this year, I would have no hesitation in saying returning to whole school collective worship. Our first whole school collective worship took place in St Andrew's Church for our Easter Service, which was led by our Year 5 children. The children were so excited to be returning or visiting church for the first time ever as our last visit was in December 2019. A big thank you to St Andrew's for facilitating the whole school.

Our wonderful 'Clergy Team' has continued throughout the year to lead collective worship either remotely, by Key Stage or whole school in school – aren't they amazing! As a school that loves to sing, 'Come and Praise' collective worship is the highlight of my week. I was in our Reception class the other day and one of the children was singing 'My Lighthouse' as they were making a huge dinosaur out of Lego! What a privilege it is to serve as the Headteacher in a church school.

*Mrs Lamkin
Headteacher*



Deanery Synod

Deanery Synod is made up of elected lay members and clergy of the Deanery. We celebrated the enthronement of Bishop Mark Tanner, Bishop of Chester, in June, 2021. We welcomed the announcement of the appointments of the Venerable Julie Conalty and the Revd Canon Sam Corley as Bishops of Birkenhead and Stockport respectively and celebrated their subsequent consecration in July. Danny Sedano (former Trainee Minister) was ordained priest and continued his curacy at Frankby, St John in July.

In July, Lay Canon Betty Renshaw announced her retirement from General Synod and 35 years of dedicated service to Deanery and Diocesan Synods.

In February, David Halliday was elected as Lay Chair of DS, following the end of Lesley Young's term of office.

Three meetings of DS were held during the year.

9th June 2021 via Zoom with 37 people participating

David Vestergaard welcomed the Revd Sarah Fenby, Diocesan Director of Vocations.

After a brief explanation of her role she introduced the topic 'Let's talk vocations'.

In breakout rooms we discussed how we can grow a vocation culture in our churches, recognising that vocation isn't just about ordained ministry.

10th November 2021 at St. Chad's, Irby

Presentation by Jane Proudfoot, member of the Diocesan Advisory Group on Living in Love and Faith. It included the need for a safe space to speak about identity, sexuality, relationships, marriage without feeling judged. Churches were encouraged to run the LLF course and report back to the House of Bishops.

Covid update: similar experience in most churches – attendance down or less often, people stepping back from roles. Positives – more opportunity and appetite for change.

7th February 2022 at St. Mary's, Upton

Mission Andy Greenhough outlined plans for the forthcoming Life Mission, led by Glen Scrivener. Evening and daytime meetings planned, details on Wirral Gospel Partnership website. Reminder that 'The Word does the work'.

Christians against Poverty Mrs Moira Barber spoke about CAP's work at St. Mary's, for the last 10 years helping people with financial problems and lack of household equipment. Review had been carried out of Heswall cf Bidston, the latter showing much lower %age life expectancy and higher %age financial problems. Clients are also offered spiritual help and prayer and some go on to Alpha courses and church.

Christmas and Easter events David Vestergaard and Al Rodgers (St. Andrew's and Townfield churches) reported on Christmas Journey held in the rectory grounds and the Christmas tree festival in church. Members of both churches acted out scenes from the events of the Christmas story. People were given literature to invite them to Christmas services and an opportunity to join an Alpha course. A similar Easter Journey had been run for several years on Good Friday.



Living in Love and Faith Nikki Eastwood (Chair, Diocesan Advisory Group) reminded Synod about resources for LLF, help available to run courses, responses due by 30th April 2022 to feed into report to General Synod.

On 7th July 2022 Wallasey, Birkenhead and Wirral North Deaneries have joint meeting arranged to update on how Everyday Faith (formerly Setting God's People Free) is progressing and being implemented.



Conroy Trust

The Conroy Trust was established in 1873 to benefit the poor of the Parish of Bebington, as defined by the then parish boundaries. These boundaries are maintained today.

The management of the Trust is overseen by between three and five trustees. A report on their management is presented to the annual general meeting of the parishioners and this report is for 2021.

The management has the power to appoint new trustees when the occasion arises and the appointment process is conducted by a majority vote.

The current Trustees are Rev. David Vestergaard, Mrs B Cartwright, Mrs Beryl Lord, Mrs Maureen Preston and Mr Alan McGraa.

2021 Financial Statement

The summary income and expenditure for 2021 was as follows:

	2021	2020
Income from Investments	6410	6303
Expenditure on grants	7572	3300
Surplus/Deficit	-1162	3303

During the year we have managed to support the work of Ferries Family Group and Life Church Bebington, along with a couple of individual grants. Expenditure during the year was in excess of the current years income, but in reliance of reserves.

As at 31st December 2021 the value of funds under management stood at £269709 compared to £239904 in 2020. Apart from a current account held at HSBC all investments are held with CCLA Investment Management Ltd.

A modest grant can be awarded to anyone in the parish who is experiencing financial hardship. Grants can also be awarded to charitable organisations within the parish who are working to help the poor of the parish. Anyone interested in discussing grants should in first instance refer to the chair of the management, Rev David Vestergaard.

Secretary to the Trustees
Bryan Higgins

In Memoriam

During the year we said a sad farewell to the following members of our congregation:

Wally Creed
Barbara Favager
Bill Pace
Alan Soderberg

Welcome

We were delighted to celebrate the birth of:

Lucian Williams



Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners held on the 25 May 2021 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall and online via zoom at 7.30pm

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 48 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

The meeting opened with an act of worship and a reading from Psalm 34

Apologies for their inability to attend were received Karen Davies, Mike Shevlin, Ann Shevlin, Sylvia Tomlinson and Ash Vestergaard

Minutes of the meeting of 20 October 2020 having been previously circulated, following a proposal by Mike Smith and being seconded by Richie Clarke were signed as being a true record.

Election of Wardens

There being only one nomination for the position of warden, Viv Halliday was duly elected for the coming year. That means there is one position outstanding and legally the current warden – in this instance, Mike Smith – continues in the role to the end of July. The Rector commended the vacant position to our prayers as it is a vital role within the church.

The Rector, on behalf of the Parish, went on record in expressing his thanks to both Mike Smith and Mike Shevlin for all their work over the last few years.

Receipt of the Conroy Trust Report

Having been printed in the Annual Report, the report was duly received based on a proposal from Ann Renison, seconded by Amy Haigh; with all in favour.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm.



**Minutes of the APCM
held on the 25 May 2021 at St Andrew's, Bebington church hall
and online via Zoom at 7.50pm**

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 48 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were received Karen Davies, Mike Shevlin, Ann Shevlin, Sylvia Tomlinson and Ash Vestergaard

Minutes of the meeting of 20 October 2020

The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by Christine Smith and being seconded by Stuart Waldron, signed as being a true record.

Electoral Roll Report

The report was given by the Electoral Roll Secretary, Alison Collins. The number on the roll at 25 May 2021 was 348. This was a fall of 10 from last year's roll. The Rector expressed his thanks to Alison for her work. The report was accepted on a proposal by Margi Lewis, seconded by Nathan Storm; with all in favour.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bryan Higgins. The figures as shown within the annual report were explained in some greater detail. He explained that, as of the 31 December 2020, the total assets of the church came to £865,672 but the majority of this figure is our buildings. Total income for the year was £288,561 and total expenditure was £315,437 – the expenditure figure includes things such as deposits for the lights and work connected to the roof – for both of which funds would already have been collected.

Total monies received through regular giving in the year was £251,665 – slightly down on the previous year – meaning there was a slight deficit at year end of £3300. This is less than it could have been due to reduced expenditure during the year.

He highlighted the importance of Gift Aid, which this year accounted for £43,051.

Our cash in bank is £203,961 which is broken down into various smaller pots earmarked for funds towards a Children's and families worker, church hall improvements, lighting and £60,000 held in reserve as best practice to be able to meet two months' worth of expenditure.

For information, our giving outside the parish was £24,850; and our Parish Share cost was £128,486.

The Rector extended his thanks to Bryan, and to Libby Higgins for her their work on the accounts throughout the year.

Receipt of the Annual Report

The Annual Report was received. It had been printed in advance of the meeting and gave reports on Townfield Church, Youth activities, Growth Action Planning, Wardens' & Treasurer's reports, Sunday clubs, World mission support, St Andrew's Church of England Primary School and the activities of the Parochial Church Council.



The receipt of the Wardens Report, the PCC Report, the Deanery Synod report and the Treasurer's Report were accepted en bloc on a proposed by Kate Muskett, seconded by Viv Halliday; with all in favour of receiving these reports.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mike Forshaw was appointed as Independent Examiner on a proposal by Chris Jackson, seconded by Steve Burrows; with all in favour.

Election to the Deanery Synod

There were no nominations this time. Whilst no nominations are allowed during the meeting, the vacant position can be filled during the year.

Election to the PCC

There were 3 St Andrew's spaces available for the PCC and two nominations. There were 2 Townfield PCC places available and 1 nomination. Therefore, for St Andrew's were elected Kate Muskett and Wendy Doran, and for Townfield was elected Mike Ludbrook.

For information, Townfield have one warden – technically, an assistant warden- and have requested an extra one. Judith Battersby indicated her willingness to fill the position, alongside Mike Ludbrook, and this will be formally accepted at the next meeting.

These were agreed to on a proposition from Christine Smith, seconded by Mel Heale; with all in favour.

The PCC would look to fill the vacancies during the year.

Townfield Report

The Revd. Al Rodgers expanded on the work of Townfield church. He explained that Townfield are currently halfway through a series on Exodus: the story of Exodus tells us a better future is on the horizon, but it takes some time to get there. This feels like a good allegory for the church at the moment.

Currently worshipping in the church hall and can only get eleven families in. This isn't ideal and not where they want to be. From what they've learned they know God takes people from bleak places and lifts them up to better so they are confident things will happen but don't know when. St Andrew's school are happy to have Townfield back but they are governed by Department of Education guidelines with regards to cleaning etc. Townfield are starting a weekly meeting specifically around rebuilding Townfield church.

Rector's report

The Rector expressed his thanks to volunteers, staff and readers who have all pulled together in these strange circumstances, for their continued support and their flexibility!

Looking forward, he recognised there's so much we can't know about what the future holds but was excited the contractors had finally commenced installation of the lights in church. He extended his thanks to Mike Smith for all his hard work on the project over the last couple of years. He noted that it is intended to have broadband installed in the church building which will allow us to live stream services rather than pre-record them.



Alongside this we have applied for permission to install tv screens in church but it has been a long time in the planning stage. The Rector expressed his pleasure in the restarting of Little Fishes and thanked all those involved.

He acknowledged there is likely to be plenty of logistical obstacles in the restarting of other church groups and whilst no decision has been made with regards to distancing, mask wearing etc, we will try to remain flexible. In his opinion, the Rector thinks things will remain changeable until at least September. He noted that Penny Tomlinson had handed over the safeguarding officer position to Richard Lawrence and taken over the leadership of the worship group from Chris Smith and Little Fishes, with Sarah Davies, from Viv Halliday. For information, Louise Hilder had stepped down from her Sunday Club leadership role and a number of other people had also indicated they would step down from various roles within the church. He ended by acknowledging the ongoing focus would be on rebuilding fellowship within the church and welcoming new members.

Youth report

Chris Jarvis reported that the Unplugged groups are pretty much back to being as they used to be – albeit with some distancing restrictions in place. Amplify has mainly been outside but hopeful of getting back indoors and being able to visit places such as bowling. Some assemblies have been possible online and the hope is that it will be possible to take a class in person with Yr 6 before they leave. There is a joint initiative with Wirral YFC to try and launch a listening service that will help the youth to talk about, and process, what they've gone through. The youth weekend away will hopefully take place in 2022 after postponements and cancellations. There is also a look at Friday night Amplify groups and how they'll look in the future as Chris feels it may have lost its focus as an entry point to other meetings such as Unplugged.

Any other Business

A letter of thanks has been received from Mavis Nicholson and Beryl Parker.

The letter also asks whether the trees overhanging the path to the lychgate can be given some attention. Some small measure of maintenance can be undertaken by the church but anything major would be undertaken by Wirral Council.

Alison Gurr expressed her thanks to the leadership team and all those involved with the online services which has meant church has been possible. The Rector reciprocated those thanks to Alison, Lou Hilder and Alison Collins for their online work with Sunday club during the pandemic.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with an act of worship and a prayer at 8.40pm.

The Charity Registration Number is :- 01130323

Bebington Parish Church

Report and Accounts

31 December 2021

Bebington Parish Church

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

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Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- Bebington Parish Church.

The charity is also known by its operating name, St Andrews' and Townfield Churches.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 01130323.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity, established by Trust Deed. The governing document of the charity is the Trust Deed establishing the charity.

The governing document is dated 24 June 2009

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

The Rectory, Church Road

Bebington, Wirral

Merseyside, CH63 3EX

Telephone 01516456478

Email Address office@standrewsbebington.org.uk Web address www.standrewsbebington.org.uk

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Appointed

Chris Jackson
Al Rodgers
David Halliday
David Vestergaard
Ian Halliday
Ian Swindlehurst
Judith Battersby
Kate Muskett
Mike Ludbrook
Carol Parry
Caloline Adamson
Val Waldron
Bryan Higgins
Sharon Mason
Callum Peters
Nathan Storm
Viv Halliday
Wendy Doran
Simon Jones
Colette Owen

25/05/2021

25/05/2021

21/09/2021

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31 December 2021 :-

In addition to the above the trustee who served during the period but resigned/retired during the period were:

Name

Resigned/Retired

Mike Shevlin

25/05/2021

Mike Smith

31/07/2021

Mel Heale

27/08/2021

Gill Brady

25/05/2021

Kate Butler

25/05/2021

Geoff Stone

25/05/2021

At the Annual General Meeting members who served for 3 years retire as trustees, but are eligible for reappointment.

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

We have run church services each Sunday for St Andrew's and Townfield churches. Due to the pandemic and consequent restrictions, all services were online from January until Easter. We opened the church for services when able, and the church hall for Townfield until October when we were able to return to the School. Both churches have also run services online each Sunday and during some festivals, either by livestreaming or pre-recorded services. Many other regular activities restarted in person at various stages during the year, including Little Fishes, Children's groups, Youth groups and activities, Women's and Men's Fellowships, some House Groups, prayer events, and hosting & supporting the Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade and Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. Some activities, including Alpha, were run online for part or all of the year. Some others, including Messy Church, did not restart during the year.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

Activities ordinarily carried out and serving the local community include Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals; Marriage Preparation; Baptism Preparation; Bereavement Ministry; Youth activities, Messy Church; Little Fishes Toddler Group; St Andrew's School Toast Club; school assemblies; Christmas and Easter school services; services in nursing homes and sheltered accommodation; special Community Events such as Christmas Journey and Easter Journey; and hosting and supporting Guiding groups and other community groups.

Due to the pandemic, many of these activities were paused or held online for at least part of the year. During the pandemic we opened the church weekly for private prayer for much of the year; and continued our online programme developed last year including services, reflections and prayer times. Youth and children's ministry was run online for the first part of the year then returned to in person activities when able. We produced cd's and dvd's of services for those without internet access, and provided pastoral support by telephone, and by visiting when able, in addition to some practical support with shopping and other needs.

We have also undertaken financial giving and prayer support for Mission and Christian organisations and activities locally and around the world, promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.
The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

Average Sunday attendance could not be measured in the normal way, because services were online only for the first months of the year and then a combination of in person and online. Online viewing figures are difficult to analyse. We estimate typical Sunday 'attendance', including online, in church when permitted, and by cd/dvd as approx. 380 including children. This represents an increase on last year (315) and on 2019 (300, in person only) due to including online attendance, which is an estimate.

Our best estimates are that there were 35 who left the congregations (4 by death), and approximately 14 who joined (adults and children). During the year the parish conducted 20 funerals, 4 weddings, and 5 baptisms (all of these having been affected by the pandemic restrictions). We were unable to hold our usual large event at Easter, but did manage to do so (on a slightly smaller scale) at Christmas, and connected with many people through our online ministry

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

Benefits from the activities listed above have included faith development, spiritual and pastoral support, personal encouragement, development of gifts and experience, friendship and companionship, and meeting a range of needs for all ages.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

The activities listed above have provided a wide range of public benefit including faith exploration, spiritual support, pastoral care, provision of services and care for needs at key life moments, and services to local schools.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Decisions are made by the PCC in collaboration with the Clergy and Staff team, and working through subcommittees and together with volunteer leaders for groups and activities. The PCC meets at least 6 times a year in formal meetings of the Council, with additional meetings as necessary. In order to organise its affairs effectively during 2021, the PCC operated the following subcommittees and working groups: St Andrew's Church, Townfield Church, Standing; Finance & Fabric; Youth Hub; Evangelism; Missionary; Poverty Action Group; Evening Services; Legacy planning; Maintenance Team. The Children and Families Hub and Seniors Hub still exist but did not need to meet during the year.

Bankers	HSBC Bank plc - 58 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, Wirral, CH62 7ET
Architects	Bryan Martin BA, Dip Arch, RIBA, AABC, Architect, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northamptonshire, NN11 6UX
Surveyors	Gordon Cain, Quantity Surveyor, Rose Cottage, 13 Spring Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 2HB
Accountants (payroll)	KBH Accountants Ltd. 255 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 4BT
(Independent examiner)	Haines Watts Chartered Accountants, 3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers, Victoria St, Liverpool, L2 5QQ

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2021

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2021 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income	(32,141)	(26,876)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	833,531	865,672
Restricted Revenue Funds	-	-
Endowment Revenue Funds	-	-
Total Endowment funds	-	-
Total Funds	833,531	865,672

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2021 .

Our total income for the year was £300,838 and our total expenditure £332,979, giving an accounting deficit of £32,141.

During 2021 our financial position has indicated that normal running costs are generally on budget, despite a fall in planned giving due to the pandemic, but alleviated by a corresponding reduction in expenditure on church activities due to periods of closure.

The trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be satisfactory.

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Policies on reserves.

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately two months' unrestricted payments in addition to £20,000 to cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. At 31 December 2021 unrestricted reserves amounted £833,531 (2020 - £865,672).

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers
Victoria Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L2 5QQ

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 10th May 2022.


MR BRYAN HIGGINS
Trustee

Bebington Parish Church

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charity on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity on pages 10 to 32 for the year ended 31 December 2021 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) adapted to meet the needs of unincorporated organisations, as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 16.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 7, you, the charity's Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the Governing Document for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the charity's examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am an authorised member of Chartered Accountants , which is one of the listed bodies.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and of the accounting systems employed by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

Bebington Parish Church

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

The gross income of the charity in the year ended 31 December 2021 appears to exceed the sum specified in Section 145(3) of the Act, namely £250000, and that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner in accordance with that section by virtue of my being a qualified member of Chartered Accountants ;

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by with Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;


the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-



Mr Michael Forshaw FCA - Independent Examiner

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers
Victoria Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L2 5QQ

This report was signed on 12th May 2022

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	284,418	-	-	284,418
Charitable activities	A2	8,424	-	-	8,424
Investments	A4	7,996	-	-	7,996
Total income	A	300,838	-	-	300,838
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	332,979	-	-	332,979
Total expenditure	B	332,979	-	-	332,979
Net income for the year		(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Net movement in funds		(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward	E	865,672	-	-	865,672
Total funds carried forward		833,531	-	-	833,531

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As re paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	282,926	-	-	282,926
Charitable activities	A2	4,056	-	-	4,056
Investments	A4	1,579	-	-	1,579
Total income	A	288,561	-	-	288,561
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	315,437	-	-	315,437
Total expenditure	B	315,437	-	-	315,437
Net income for the year		(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers		(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Net movement in funds		(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Reconciliation of funds:-	E				
Total funds brought forward		892,548	-	-	892,548
Total funds carried forward		865,672	-	-	865,672

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

Bebington Parish Church - Resources applied in the year ended 31 December 2021 fixed assets for Charity use:-

	2021 £
Funds generated in the year as detailed in the SOFA	(32,141)
Net resources available to fund charitable activities	<u>(32,141)</u>

The resources applied on fixed assets for charity use represents the cost of additions less proceeds disposals.

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2021

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Endowment Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	865,672	-	-	865,672
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	(32,141)	-	-	(32,141)
	833,531	-	-	833,531
(From)/To unrestricted revenue funds	-	-	-	-
Closing revenue funds	833,531	-	-	833,531

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Endowment Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Revenue accumulated funds	833,531	-	-	833,531

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

**Bebington Parish Church
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required
Companies Act 2006**

	2021 £
Income	
Income from operations	249,445
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	43,397
Investment income	
Income from investments, other than interest receivable	7,975
Interest receivable	21
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	<u>300,838</u>
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	<u>300,838</u>
Expenditure	
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	332,319
Governance costs	660
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-
Total expenditure in the year	<u>332,979</u>
Net income before tax in the financial year	(32,141)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	<u>(32,141)</u>
Retained surplus for the financial year	<u>(32,141)</u>

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	SORP		2021	2020
	Note	Ref	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10	A2	655,132	655,132
Current assets				
Debtors	11	B2	24,312	24,938
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	172,456	203,961
Total current assets			<u>196,768</u>	<u>228,899</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	C1	<u>(18,369)</u>	<u>(18,359)</u>
Net current assets			178,399	210,540
The total net assets of the charity			<u>833,531</u>	<u>865,672</u>

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	16	D3	833,531	865,672
Unrestricted Revaluation Reserve	16	D4	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total charity funds			<u>833,531</u>	<u>865,672</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 9.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

REV DAVID VESTERGAARD

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 10/05/2022

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , effective January 2016, , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2020, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

"Major risks for the PCC are currently either financial or property related.

Key risks:

- Income fails to keep pace with increases in Parish Share and public utility charges and ministry is compromised
- Funds are not available to pay staff salaries
- Funds are not available to meet the costs of essential repairs and refurbishment

Actions to mitigate risks:

- Provide periodic explanation to congregation how our funds are used and the need to increase regular giving.
- Regular promotion of regular giving and tax efficient giving schemes
- Special appeals to be launched to meet these costs."

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a payment is received from an estate or is notified as receivable by the executors after the reporting date and before the accounts are authorised for issue but it is clear that the payment had been agreed by the executors prior to the end of the reporting period, then the amount concerned is treated as an adjusting event and accrued as income in the accounting period if receipt is probable.

Where the charity has established entitlement to a legacy but there is uncertainty as to the amount of the payment, details of the legacy are disclosed as a contingent asset until the criteria for income recognition are met. Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised as income until the death of the life tenant.

If it is doubtful that full settlement of a legacy debtor will be received, then an adjustment is made to reduce the amount of the legacy debtor and legacy income rather than charging the adjustment as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated fixed assets are recognised at the current fair value. All such donations are recognised as donation income, and debited to fixed assets.

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.

In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.

If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.

The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.

The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock. When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in '*legacies and donations*'. Goods donated for resale are included in '*Income from other trading activities*'

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Donated services and facilities (including seconded staff and use of property) are included in the accounts on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity.

All donated services and facilities are recognised as donation income when received, (provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably) and recognised as an expense with an equivalent value.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity.

However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2021	2020
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	<u>822</u>	<u>802</u>

5 The contribution of volunteers

We depend heavily on the support of volunteers. Almost every event and activity we have undertaken has been carried out either entirely by them or with their help. Over 200 volunteers committed countless hours to our activities during the year. Their support is valued enormously. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

6 Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	46,107	45,307
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	822	802
Total salaries, wages and related costs	<u>46,929</u>	<u>46,109</u>

The average number of part time staff employed in the year was	2	2
The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	1	1
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	3	3

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	3	3
<i>The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above</i>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

7 Defined contribution pension schemes

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

8 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

9 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

<i>Current Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	460		540	1,000
M Blake (Townfield)	2,006	512		1,494
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500			500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385			385
Sylvia Walkey legacy	-		8,547	8,547
W Baker donation	200	200		-
Mission funds	3,850	3,850		-
Jean Griffiths - Bibles and Projector	2,588	2,588		-
Ferries Families	-			-
Toilet Twinning	-			-
Total	9,989	7,150	9,087	11,926

	2021 £	2020 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	11,926	9,989

<i>Prior Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	30		430	460
M Blake (Townfield)	2,006			2,006
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500			500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385			385
W Baker donation	200			200
Mission funds	3,850			3,850
Jean Griffiths			2,588	2,588
Total	6,971	-	3,018	9,989

	2020 £	2019 £
These deferrals are included in creditors	9,989	6,971

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
At 31 December 2021	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
At 31 December 2021	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
 <i>Prior Year</i>				
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
02 January 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
Net book value				
31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
01 January 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

11 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	2,411	1,484
Other debtors	21,901	23,454
	<u>24,312</u>	<u>24,938</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	5,122	7,279
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	11,926	9,989
Other creditors	1,321	1,091
	<u>18,369</u>	<u>18,359</u>

13 Pension commitments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Pension commitments under defined benefit/defined contribution schemes		
within one year	163	157
	<u>163</u>	<u>157</u>

14 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2021	2020
	£	£
At 1 January 2021	865,672	892,548
(Deficit)/surplus after tax for the year	(32,141)	(26,876)
At 31 December 2021	<u>833,531</u>	<u>865,672</u>

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

15 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	196,768	-	-	-	196,768
Current Liabilities	(18,369)	-	-	-	(18,369)
	833,531	-	-	-	833,531
At 1 January 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	228,899	-	-	-	228,899
Current Liabilities	(18,359)	-	-	-	(18,359)
	865,672	-	-	-	865,672

16 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 15 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2020 £	Movement in funds in 2021 £	Transfers between funds in 2021 £	Funds carried forward to 2022 £
		See Note 17	See Note 18	
		£	£	
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	865,672	(32,141)	-	833,531
Total unrestricted and designated funds	865,672	(32,141)	-	833,531
Total charity funds	865,672	(32,141)	-	833,531

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

17 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 16

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	300,838	(332,979)	-	(32,141)
	300,838	(332,979)	-	(32,141)

18 The purposes for which the Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds

These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use. These funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated Revenue Funds

This fund represents the unrestricted funds donated, but where the funds have been allocated for a purpose. This year funds have been ringfenced for the new roof, and also for improved lighting and other small projects.

19 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity has unlimited joint and several liability for the debts of the charity.

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

20 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Donations and gifts from individuals					
Small donations individually less than £1000	233,658	-	-	233,658	217,575
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	43,397	-	-	43,397	43,051
Large donations individually over £1000	3,500	-	-	3,500	6,500
Total donations and gifts from individuals	280,555	-	-	280,555	267,126

Donations and gifts from individuals (Include HMRC refunds on gift aided donations) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £	
Prior year	267,126	-	-	267,126	
	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Legacies receivable					
Anonymous	3,863	-	-	3,863	-
Total legacies receivable	3,863	-	-	3,863	-

Legacies receivable - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Prior year	-	-	-	-

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Revenue grants from government and public bodies					
National Heritage	-	-	-	-	15,800
Total public sector revenue grants	-	-	-	-	15,800
Revenue grants from government and public bodies - Prior Year analysis					
	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £	
Prior Year	15,800	-	-	15,800	

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	284,418	-	-	284,418	282,926
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Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Endowment Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
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Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	282,926	-	-	282,926
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21 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

Current year

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total funds 2020 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading					
Activities for generating funds	-	-	-	-	-
Income from church activities	8,424	-	-	8,424	4,056
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	8,424	-	-	8,424	4,056

22 Total Income from charitable activities

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2021 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2021 £	Current year Total Funds 2021 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2020 £
Current year					
Total income from charitable trading	8,424	-	-	8,424	4,056
Total from charitable activities	A2	8,424	-	8,424	4,056

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

23 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Property Rental Income	7,975	-	-	7,975	1,450
Bank Interest Receivable	21	-	-	21	129
Total investment income	A4 7,996	-	-	7,996	1,579

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	1,579	-	-	1,579

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

24 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	46,107	-	-	46,107	45,307
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	822	-	-	822	802
Giving outside the parish	29,562	-	-	29,562	24,850
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	2,953	-	-	2,953	10,127
Church office & general running expenses	12,432	-	-	12,432	17,456
Parish share	134,453	-	-	134,453	128,486
Church buildings expenses	104,006	-	-	104,006	75,145
Gifts and presentations	463	-	-	463	3,524
Roof project expenditure	1,521	-	-	1,521	9,080
Total direct spending	B2a 332,319	-	-	332,319	314,777
<i>Prior Year</i>	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	
	2020	2020	2020	2020	
	£	£	£	£	
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	45,307	-	-	45,307	
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	802	-	-	802	
Giving outside the parish	24,850	-	-	24,850	
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	10,127	-	-	10,127	
Church office & general running expenses	17,456	-	-	17,456	
Parish share	128,486	-	-	128,486	
Church buildings expenses	75,145	-	-	75,145	
Gifts and presentations	3,524	-	-	3,524	
Roof project expenditure	9,080	-	-	9,080	
Total direct spending	B2a 314,777	-	-	314,777	

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required by the SORP 2015

25 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	660	-	-	660	660
Total Governance costs	660	-	-	660	660

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

26 Total Charitable expenditure

<i>Current Year</i>		Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2021	2021	2021	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	332,319	-	-	332,319	314,777
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	332,979	-	-	332,979	315,437

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

<i>Prior Year</i>		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Endowment Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2020	2020	2020	2020
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	314,777	-	-	314,777
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	315,437	-	-	315,437

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BEBINGTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1130323

Accounts

Bebington Parish Annual Report 2020



Incorporating a strategic review of the year, the aims and activities of the PCC,
financial review and a statement of financial activities



Our Vision

A Christ-Centred Family Sharing God's Love

Christ-Centred: Followers of Jesus Christ, grounded in scripture, prayer and worship
Family: An inclusive fellowship where all ages are nurtured and enabled to use their God-given gifts
Sharing God's love: Making Christ known in our daily lives with everyone we meet
Serving and loving each other, our community and beyond



Rector's Report on St Andrew's

I began my last report by saying that we had experienced a year of stability and steady positive progress. What a difference a year makes!

The year began on a positive note and continuing our normal programme, but as reports of a distant epidemic developed into a pandemic and full scale lockdown, we were thrown at very short notice into the closure of all in-person services and activities. It was a steep learning curve as we adapted to working online.

However with the support of staff team members and many others we managed to put things together fast and managed an online service of sorts on the first Sunday of lockdown (22 March), developing quickly into a format loosely resembling an in-church service, which continued throughout the year, alongside in-church services at the times when they were permitted. I have been grateful that we have been able to use home-produced worship music from some of our own musicians and for the way that many have stretched their knowledge and experience in order to take part in online ministry. Our teaching programme was changed to reflect the current situation. During the year, we ran series including "standing firm through the storm", Exodus (trusting in God in a strange land) and Hebrews 11 (heroes of faith).

In addition we developed an online programme which included initially 3 events daily Monday to Friday: a morning Thought for the Day, midday prayer and evening prayer. We continued evening prayer (run by Danny Sedano) until the time of Danny's departure in May, and midday prayer (run by Al Metcalfe) until August, when viewing numbers and staff resources meant they were no longer sustainable, but retained Thought for the Day throughout the year. We began production of cd's and dvd's of the services and Thought for the Day for those without internet access who wanted them. A little later, we started a weekly prayer meeting on Zoom. Our Youth Hub and Children & Families Hub reports will tell of the online programmes we put in place for our children and young people; I am very grateful to all involved for all the hard work they have put in, in difficult circumstances, to enable this to happen.

We put pastoral systems in place to do our best to keep in touch with members of the congregation, and to ensure that people could access support for shopping if they needed it, again supported by volunteers. We significantly increased use of the prayer chain which we switched to email for efficiency. We opened the church for private prayer for one session each week when it was permitted. We adapted communication to mainly email and social media.

We were glad to find new people joining us for online services, from locally or further afield, and also new members joining in person when we were able to be open on Sundays. At the same time, some have understandably struggled to engage with online ministry, and even when we have been able to open for services it has been a shadow of our normal corporate worship, with numbers greatly reduced and singing and fellowship curtailed. We have all missed aspects of our normal church life, and fellowship and interaction with one another.



When we leave the pandemic behind we can expect that life will be different in some ways. We have learned some positive things during this time, which we can take forward. We are likely to continue some online ministry in the long term, maintaining connection with some of those who are ill, housebound or unable to join us for other reasons. Some activities are likely to continue online: for example our weekly prayer meeting on zoom has proved easier to attend for many and therefore more popular than our monthly in-person prayer meeting was. Some meetings are easier online, saving on travelling time and avoiding the need for childcare for example.

In other respects we are longing to return to a more normal way of life. We look forward to restarting many of our usual activities when we are able to do so. It may well be however that we will find that some are no longer sustainable and are not able to restart.

The enforced break from usual activities has brought other benefits for some. Whilst we have missed the company of others, and many have endured additional pressures, others have found they have not missed the extraordinary busyness of 21st century life. For some, it has been an opportunity to review their involvement in ministry and to conclude this is the right time to step down from roles they have held for some time; for others, it will be (as things restart) an opportunity to begin something new. I therefore expect a fair number of changes of role amongst our extensive volunteer team.

We have enjoyed a period with a full staff team, and were especially grateful for this as the pandemic took hold and we needed to make major changes to our way of working. Sadly, though, we had to say farewell to Danny Sedano in June on completion of his training for Ordination, and to Al Metcalfe in October on completion of his curacy. We have been very thankful for their ministries here and wish them every blessing in their new posts. We also as usual said farewell to a few church members during the year who moved on for a variety of reasons, and as mentioned above welcomed new ones.

I reported last year that we were looking towards some significant developments during the year, and highlighted:

- Consideration whether to work towards employing a paid Children and Families worker. Early in the year, the PCC agreed that we wanted to work towards this. Subsequent events put that on hold, but it remains an aim for the future.
- Evangelistic opportunities through our involvement with the More to Life mission and through joint events with Life Church. We held a joint youth event with Life Church early in the year which was very positive, but all subsequent events and the mission had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The mission is currently scheduled for 28 Mar-1 April 2022.
- Completion of the church lighting project. This was delayed because of the pandemic, which caused long delays in the permissions procedure and the manufacture of the lighting. We now anticipate that the internal work at least will be carried out during May/June 2021, and are in the process of obtaining planning consent for the external work.
- A giving appeal to bring us onto a more financially secure footing: because of the widespread impact of the pandemic, and our ministry being mainly online, it did



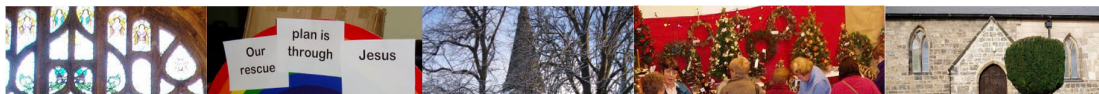
not seem to be the right time for the kind of stewardship campaign we had envisaged at the start of the year. We included in our programme some teaching and information about giving, and encouraged people wherever possible to switch from envelope or open plate giving to direct giving through their bank account. The response to this has been very positive as the Treasurer's report will show. We are very grateful to those who have been able to make additional donations during the year.

As always, I am enormously grateful for God's provision and to the members of our congregation for their sacrificial giving which enables us to undertake our ministry. Unsurprisingly in the circumstances, our income fell during the year, but due to pausing many activities we made some significant cost savings. As a result, despite some additional costs to enable our online ministry, we finished the year with only a small shortfall. We will however need to seek to increase our income in the future as normal activities resume.

I am also very grateful to our dedicated staff team, and to our Wardens Team and all the PCC, and to all who have served in different ways in contributing to our very different ministry during the year, for their partnership, commitment and support.

It has been an extraordinarily challenging year for many. We have sadly lost some members of our congregation, to Covid or other causes; many of our members have lost loved ones. Some have been adversely affected financially. Many have battled with isolation. All have felt the effects in a variety of ways. As the challenges continue, but hopefully in many respects lessen over the coming months, let us hold fast to the hope we have in Jesus Christ. As others have said, we do not know what the future holds, but we do know the One who holds the future.

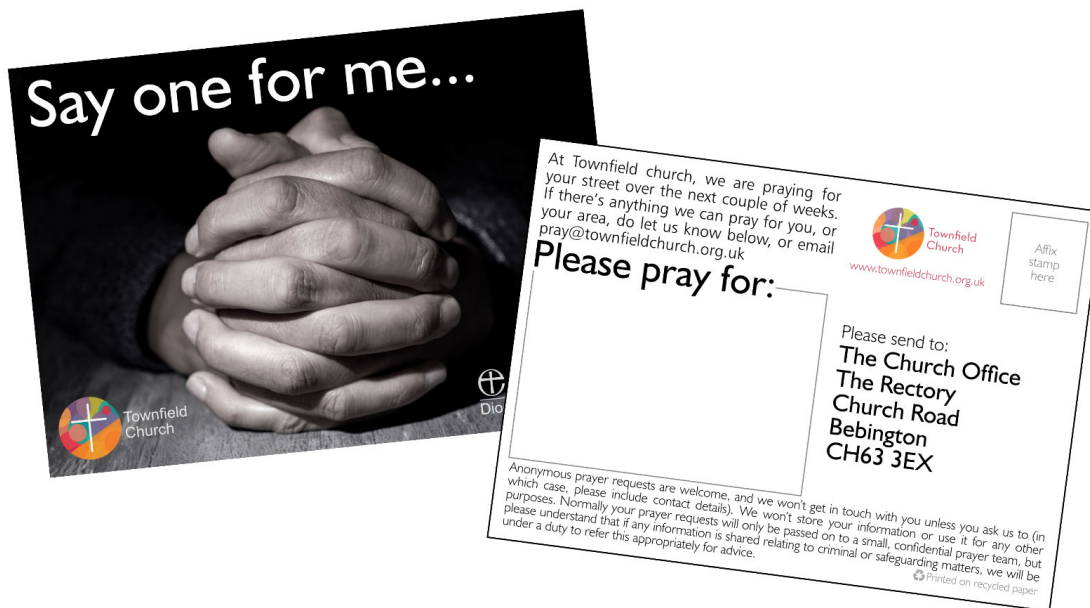
David Vestergaard



Townfield APCM report – Looking back at 2020

Well, 2020 wasn't quite what we were expecting was it?

We began 2020 by looking forward to lots of new things. We had plans for a series of Lent Events, for community-building social events throughout the year, and initiatives to build stronger links with households at the Townfield 'end' of the parish by distributing small Easter gifts and invitations for prayer requests.

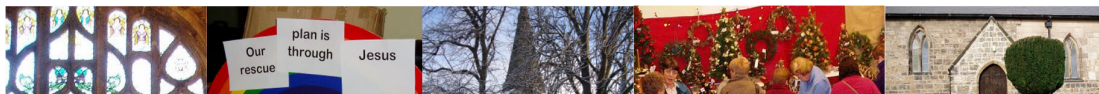


Our community prayer cards, on hold for now!

And then, in March 2020, we had to put almost all of those plans (and our regular activities) on hold as we rapidly re-imagined how to be church without being in the same building together.

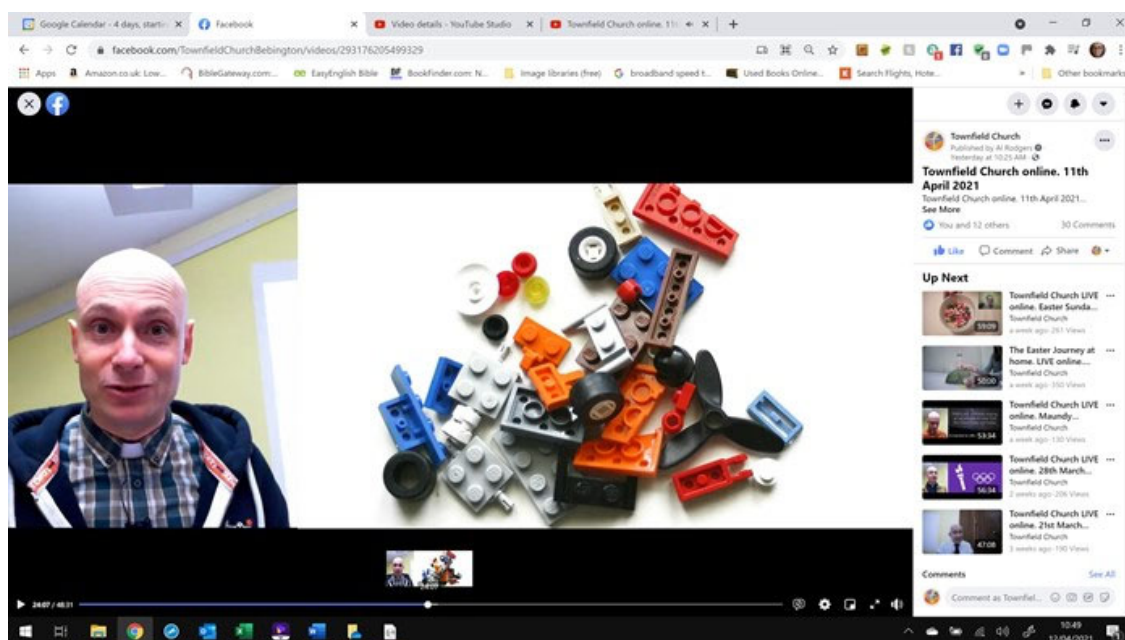
As I think back to those very busy weeks at the start of the first lockdown, I must pay tribute to the whole of the Townfield Church community. From the first announcements about restrictions coming into place, Townfield showed remarkable resilience, creativity, determination, love and willingness to help. The whole church family very quickly proved that we are so much *more* than buildings, services, or meetings. We're about a community that prays, supports, rings up, shops, shows practical love, and goes the extra mile. We're a community which finds imaginative ways of staying in touch, and keeping: house groups connected; children and young people engaged; prayer groups praying; and socials 'meeting', even when we can't be together. All of that has been a huge team effort, run by so many unsung heroes – thank you to all of you. And we recognise that this *continues* to be a difficult time in many ways, as everyone has had to face the challenges of lockdowns, and as many have faced uncertainties, illness, and loss. We continue to pray for each other.

Even if lockdown has proved that church is so much more than services, right from the start, we were very aware that Sunday services are the times when we all come together to worship, pray, listen out for God, and encourage each other. So, we have been



determined to do whatever we can to keep that important part of church life going. It's been a steep learning curve, but we are grateful to God (and the technology that God gives us) that we have been able to keep 'meeting', live, from the very first Sunday of lockdown. It has taken some experimentation along the way, and we have learned a lot, but we have especially valued the way that so many people have been involved, whether that's by live interaction online, or by people venturing outside of their comfort-zones to read, pray, lead or speak online. Thank you all for taking risks, and for stepping out in faith!

Several people have described our weekly opportunities to 'meet' on Sundays as a lifeline, for which we are all very grateful to God. And it has been a privilege to have been joined by brand new members through our online services (both by Christians whose own churches don't have online provision, and by enquirers who are exploring faith for the first time). We have also been blessed to be joined regularly by Townfield members, and extended family and friends in China, Italy, Greece, and lots of parts of the UK.



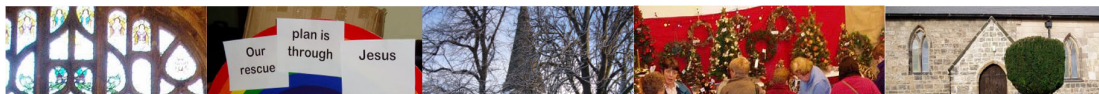
Church as we never expected to see it!

Despite the amazing ways that technology has allowed us to stay connected during 2020, one very obvious ongoing challenge for us is our lack of meeting space. We have been unable to meet in St Andrew's school since the first lockdown (for obvious reasons), and we are not sure when that may change. We are grateful that St Andrew's Church Hall has been made available to us since July, meaning that we have been able to broadcast our live Sunday services with a small congregation present. But we are also very aware of the limitations - the Church Hall is only able to hold about 1/3 of our pre-lockdown congregation, and it doesn't have space for us to run our normal children's activities. In addition, we realise that St Andrew's will be wanting to re-start their children's activities before too long, which will also need space in the Church Hall. So, there is much to be praying for as we wait to see how the current roadmap out of restrictions unfolds in 2021.



But we can do that praying with confidence – I have been struck, as I have read the Bible and prayed through these strange times, that God has led his people through wilderness, exile, and uncertainty many, many times before. In fact, we hear much more about times of wilderness in the Bible, than we do about times of plenty. So, just as God has led his people safely out of the wilderness so many times before, I am certain God will lead us through, *and beyond*, the wilderness again. Our journey may not follow quite the route we expect, and I'm sure there will be many more things for us to learn along the way, but God is not flummoxed by 2020, even if we have been sometimes!

Al Rodgers



Wardens' Report

Covid19, the resultant national lockdowns, and clinically vulnerable shielding restrictions, made this a very different term of office for the warden's team.

Mike Shevlin has had to take the full weight of warden's responsibilities for all physical interaction with contractors and the weekly commitments for the church and church hall. My thanks to him for his dedication to do all that has been required of him. The most significant of which was the Church boiler room flooding when, due to heavy rains for prolonged periods, the boiler room under the church building was submerged in ~1.5M of water, necessitating days of work to pump it out and organise the resultant repairs to both boilers and the associated sump water removal system.

Other regulatory and breakdown works have also been covered by Mike throughout the period.

Our appointed Structural engineer and architect carried out a detailed inspection of the Church tower and spire. This has now been developed into a scope of work. The tower and Spire project faculty application work has begun, and is now awaiting the detail scope of work, associated drawings and calculations from the Structural engineer and architect.

The Byre house (a listed building), located on the South side of the church was found to be compromised. When one of its walls and part of the roof collapsed this left the building vulnerable and requiring emergency structural support. Temporary repairs were carried out by contractors. The council is now taking responsibility for the building, and a decision about its future (to demolish or rebuild) is awaited.

Relocation of the sound desk (part of the lighting project) was carried out inhouse. Our thanks to Nathan Storm, Sarah and Richard Clark for procuring materials and equipment, as well as for their hard work extending underfloor cabling and physically relocating and rebuilding the desk centrally at the back of church. Modifications to make it wider to accommodate the new lighting controller as well as the live streaming equipment have been carried out. The encasing design of the desk has yet to be determined and completed. In addition to this, the live streaming hardware and the new lighting controller will be integrated later this year.

The TV screens have yet to be installed in the central area of the church to enhance visibility, by reducing blind spots caused by the historic pillars. This work is planned for later this year.

Physical Church has restarted, albeit in a different format and environment. General duties have returned with a very different dynamic. Our thanks to all those who have volunteered to be involved and committed to help, without your support services couldn't and wouldn't happen.



Work was carried out at 8 Rolleston drive to enable it's letting. This is bringing in welcomed revenue for the church, while a decision regarding a potential curate is awaited.

Work on the Lighting Project has continued throughout the year, with designers, suppliers and installers. The project has now been divided into two phases (internal and external), due to the diocese stipulating local council and heritage England involvement for the pathway lighting and cable excavations. To date, the control equipment has been purchased and the internal light fittings have been dispatched from the manufacturer. A provisional installation date of May/June this year is envisaged for phase one – internal lighting.

Monday gang haven't been able to meet, for Covid reasons, during this uncertain time, mainly due to the age and vulnerability of the team. It is with great sadness that I report the deaths of two of "the gang" - Bob Baxter and Bill Pace, both dedicated and hardworking members of the team, who will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families.

We would both like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love, support and prayer which have surrounded us over the years of our service, as we both step down, as of the APCM 2021.

Mike Shevlin and Mike Smith



Safeguarding Report

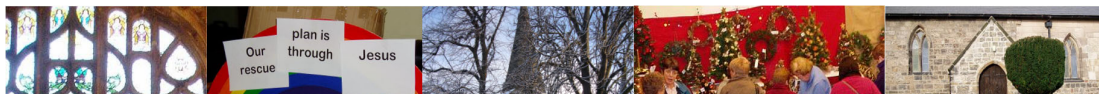
St Andrew's and Townfield take our obligation and duty to protect everyone seriously. The PCC has adopted the Church of England safeguarding Policies and Practice Guidance. During 2020 safeguarding training has been available on line.

All staff and volunteers working with children, young people and vulnerable adults have been provided with a copy of the C of E's Parish Safeguarding Handbook with our own supplements, and have been required to confirm that they have received and read it. All are supported with Safeguarding Training and Basic Awareness safeguarding training is provided to PCC members and others with a relevant interest. We follow the C of E's safer recruitment process for appointments, including the use of DBS checks and references.

In June Penny Tomlinson, who has been Safeguarding officer for St. Andrew's, will pass this role onto Richard Lawrence.

If you have any queries or concerns, please speak to one of the Parish Safeguarding Officers.

*Penny Tomlinson / Richard Lawrence for St. Andrew's
Gwen Derrig for Townfield.*



Treasurer's Report

As with all aspects of church life in 2020, the management of the church finances necessitated making some changes to meet the challenges presented. With fewer church services and the need to observe social distancing and hygiene considerations, we have in general moved away from the collection of cash, reducing the need for counting teams and multiple trips to the bank with cash.

Throughout the year we have encouraged contributors to the churches finances to consider moving to bank standing order, with the result that over 50 new standing orders have been set up during the year from new givers and parishioners moving from cash or the weekly giving envelope scheme. At the start of the year, we had approx. 40 using the envelope scheme, which is now down to 5 regular users.

With the reduction in weekly services there has been an impact on the income which was received in cash on the weekly plate, although a large number of contributors have now moved to bank standing order. The giving on a regular non cash basis helps enormously with our budgeting, and some have additionally discovered that their regular giving can be Gift Aided.

We wish to thank the many parishioners who, realising that the year would have an impact on the church finances have given additional donations to support the production of online services and distribution of CD's and printed material. This has helped in upgrading laptop and PC capabilities along with additional broadband capacity for the Church Hall, plus covering increased copyright licensing costs to enable us to stream music.

Our regular planned income including Gift Aid in 2020 was £251,665 , a reduction on the previous year which was £257,580. A number of donations have been received which in some way compensate for the reduction of cash collected weekly. The annual accounting records for 2020 indicate an overall income for the church and its activities of £288,561 against expenditure of £315,437, a deficit of £26,876. However, the expenditure includes deposits paid for the Lighting project of £20,016 from reserves held for that purpose, plus £6783 of repairs and maintenance costs funded by unrestricted legacy funds.

The church has greatly benefited from a number of legacies over the last few years, with some £6784 of these funds allocated during 2020 for electrical and other one off maintenance costs.

The lighting project is in advanced stage with deposits having been made for equipment and materials , which are on order and due to be received in May. Although funds held for the Lighting Project are a little short of the cost of the internal works, it was felt expedient to progress the project, utilising existing unrestricted non General reserves.

During 2020 we have been working on a separate budget for Townfield for use in 2021. The Treasurer in conjunction with Al Rodgers and Mike Ludbrook have identified



appropriate apportionment of costs and income so that Townfield have a budget for regular activities.

We wish to thank particularly Brenda Duffy, our Gift Aid secretary, for the additional work in managing the cash mostly on her own and fielding multiple emails from the Treasurer. The office staff have also had to manage additional correspondence and handle gifts & donations routed via the Office during the closure of the church, much of the time whilst working remotely.

Bryan Higgins



Report on the activities of the Parochial Church Council

I recently met a neighbour having not spoken to him since midnight, New Year's Eve: "What have you been up to?" "Nothing. You?" "Nothing." I suspect that is a fairly standard conversation between individuals over the last twelve months as everyone has come to terms with a very strange and difficult situation. You'll be happy to know though, that this doesn't apply to the business of the PCC. We've been as busy as ever – but mainly from the comfort of our own homes. Having had a look through previous minutes of PCC meetings and APCM's, I'm pretty sure 2020 was the first time the phrase, 'I'll send a link for the online meeting,' has ever been used in this respect! And I'd like to go on record expressing my gratitude to David, the staff, readers, helpers and everyone who has been involved in ensuring services, meetings, Thoughts for the Day and the like, have been available throughout the pandemic. It has been a constant encouragement knowing that some level of interaction was possible even when forced apart.

The PCC started the year by setting a budget and, for obvious reasons, had to reassess everything. There was an extra meeting where we agreed to the employment – subject to funding – of a Children's and Family Hub worker. And then had to put the venture on hold. We organised, but then had to postpone, the More to Life mission, and joint services and events with Life Church; we even had to move the APCM to October. We also asked ourselves, did we still wish to employ a full-time youth worker? We did; and were we happy for it still to be Chris Jarvis? I'm pleased to confirm it was an easy decision to renew Chris' contract for a further 3 years; Chris is a valuable member of the staff team.

A big change happened to the structure of PCC meetings. It was recognised that TCC members who also sit on the PCC were essentially attending double the number of meetings of others. So, to address this the PCC and TCC meetings now take place on the same night with church-specific agendas in separate meetings before coming together to discuss parish-wide matters. Early signs of how this is working are encouraging.

Amongst other items agreed by the PCC over the year, emergency lighting and fire safety items were upgraded or installed around the church building. It was arranged to have the names of the last few incumbents engraved on the board in church. Whilst maybe seen as not a particularly important item, it is a link to our church heritage and generates interest during tours of the building. Obviously, this is still to be undertaken due to coronavirus.

We said goodbye to Al Metcalfe and Danny Sedano during the year - their leadership and presence will be missed. As a result of the Metcalfe's move, the PCC agreed to lease the Rolleston Drive property until such time that we get a new Curate. This ensures the house remains occupied and provides a stream of income.

Large financial items included the final signing off on the lighting project and the commencement of a project to undertake repairs to the spire. Our thanks to Stuart Waldron for taking on *another* large building project.



As ever, as a personal note, I would like to express my thanks to Karen and Jenny in the church office for all their assistance throughout the year in ensuring agendas, minutes etc. are where they should be, and to the Rector for his continued support and faithful leadership. Please keep the PCC in your prayers.

Ian Swindlehurst



Youth Report

Weekly Church Groups

Unplugged

During the first lockdown all Unplugged groups switched onto Zoom with reasonable success. There have been some young people who have not taken to Zoom and have found it hard to engage, but across all Unplugged groups we have continued to meet with the majority of our young people.

After Easter we started a new Unplugged group with the current Yr 7-8 cohort which is small but has a stable core of young people. Then in July we said goodbye to the eldest group as all but two went off to university after the summer.

The current groups managed to have one or two face to face groups at the start of the academic year, but almost all sessions have been on Zoom. However, since the Easter holiday 2021 we hope to have seen the last of online sessions.

Amplify

Amplify also switched over to Zoom at the start of the pandemic, and saw a huge drop in numbers as it did so. We ran this way until July but running the kind of material we would normally do at Amplify, online, is very difficult and limited, so we did not continue to run Amplify between September and December.

After Christmas we decided to run Amplify on a fortnightly basis to avoid the limited activities we could do from becoming stale, however we continued to see an engagement in the single digits.

The first Friday after Easter we ran our first face to face group in over a year and took 18 young people to Meyer Park for some social distanced games.

Youth Band

Between September and December we launched the Youth Band in place of Amplify on a Friday as a space for the young people to practice playing worship songs together in a group with little pressure of having to perform for anyone. We have seen a number of young people not previously associated with the worship of the church grow in confidence and experience even in such a short time; for the time being this will continue to run on alternate Fridays to Amplify.

Sunday Mornings

In the early days of lockdown we attempted to run Sunday morning provision via Facebook live but saw little engagement. This was therefore stopped and there was no Sunday morning provision for young people for



most of 2020. From January we relaunched Sunday mornings with an informal chat between the young people, Charlie, and myself over lunch time which has seen small but regular attendance. Since Easter we have begun to introduce more structure to the sessions in preparation for the current Yr 6s to join the youth work after the May/June half term holiday.

Schools Work

During the pandemic all schools work has been put on hiatus apart from primary school assemblies which we have been able to continue online as a team.

I am currently working on a post COVID listening service alongside Wirral Youth For Christ to offer secondary school students the opportunity to process the lockdowns and how they have been affected by them in a safe space.

Mentoring

As safeguarding in a one to one context relies heavily on being in a public space, the closure of pubs, cafes, and restaurants has made mentoring impossible to continue during the pandemic. As these venues start to open back up again we are hoping to start meeting with young people one to one once again soon.

Amplivacation

The 2020 trip was due to go ahead a matter of weeks after the first lockdown was implemented and so had to be cancelled. The booking was postponed to October 2020, then again to March 2021, and is now fully cancelled until we can safely take the young people away, likely to be Spring 2022.

Other Items

During the past year we have been working on a prayer partner system which will link every willing young person with an older member of the congregation to receive regular prayer. We have sent out the first batch of invites to pray-ers and are in the process of collecting responses from them before we officially invite the young people to join too.

Chris Jarvis



Children & Families Hub

Children & Families Hub

The Children and Families Hub was started in June 2017, and normally meets termly. It is made up of leaders of Messy Church and Sunday Club for both churches, Little Fishes, Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade, Holiday Club, Family Services and Baptism Preparation, and the clergy and communications co-ordinator. To this we had planned to add a representative of our Dads & toddlers group, "Who let the Dads out?" which started in December 2019.

The role of the Hub is to monitor groups from both our churches working with children and families, ensuring they are adequately resourced, providing mutual support, sharing ideas and co-ordinating activities; developing vision for the work; and to improve communication and publicity between the groups and with the wider community.

At the start of 2020, we finalised a discussion document for the PCC on whether an employed Children & Families Worker might be the best way forward for the parish. We had spent considerable time in 2019 researching and discussing this and the Hub recommended this as the way forward.

Then, the coronavirus pandemic struck Britain, and in March all of our regular activities were paused. The Hub met on 29th June to review what we had learned so far during the pandemic, what things we had started that we might wish to continue, what aspects of "normal" ministry and church life we had not missed, and so on. The outcome of this and similar meetings of other hubs and leaders fed into a PCC discussion. At that stage most of us expected the restrictions would soon be over!

Because of continuing restrictions on our activities, the hub did not meet in the second half of 2020.

Reports from the individual groups are below. Sincere thanks are due to leaders and team members for their committed service, before the pandemic and where possible during it:

Little Fishes

2020 started in the usual way for Little Fishes, but we took the decision to close in March slightly before being enforced to do so by the lockdown, because of the risks involved. Viv Halliday indicated that she would need to stand down as leader because of other commitments. In the autumn, we began to make plans to restart Little Fishes in a different, smaller, covid-safe format, under the leadership of Penny Tomlinson and Sarah Joy Davies. We were unable to do this before the end of the year, but put plans in place to restart in 2021. We are very grateful to former and new leaders and team members for their commitment and service.

David Vestergaard

St Andrew's Messy Church

Due to the pandemic, we had to close Messy Church in March 2020 and it has not yet been able to reopen. We provided some virtual activities during the first lockdown, and have kept in periodic contact with families through social media. After running Messy Church since it first started at St Andrew's, Marie & Will Beale have felt for a while that they needed to step back from this ministry, so are now standing down. We are very



grateful to them for their continual hard work and commitment over the years and the many families they have generated and maintained contact with.

David Vestergaard

St Andrew's Sunday Club

Sunday Club began the year meeting in the Church Hall following our regular activities, singing, learning Bible verses before age-related Bible teaching. Online Sunday Club began at the beginning of May, with pre-recorded lessons covering Paul's conversion and missionary journeys as well as Jesus' miracles. During the summer short videos led the children through Psalm 23, verse by verse. Since September our primary-aged children have been gathering virtually on Sunday mornings (family services excepted), enabling leaders to continue to build relationships with the children as well as build their knowledge and understanding of the love God has for them. Supercrèche (pre-school) are also able to access Bible story videos. Leaders have worked very hard to ensure lessons are entertaining and informative and their effort is much appreciated. We have marked Christmas and Easter with treats for the children and themed sessions including games and craft. The children have enjoyed these events, although we are aware that numbers are lower than in March 2020. We are exploring ways to encourage children and parents to re-engage with Sunday Club.

Louise Hilder, Ali Gurr & Alison Collins

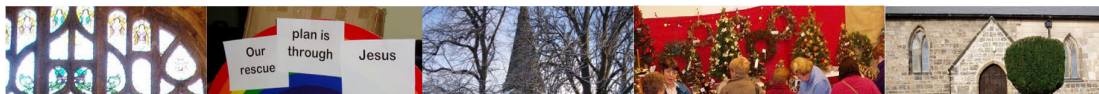
Townfield Sunday Club & Messy Church

Like churches everywhere, work with children and families has been especially challenging during the pandemic, as we have been unable to continue the face to face work which has been such a big part of Townfield's life. But, we have done everything we can to make the most of the opportunities available to us, and have been committed to providing something for children and young people from the very first week of online Church in March 2020.

At first this took the form of varied weekly 'do it at home' challenges, with a 'younger' and an 'older' option, put together with the help of some of our fantastic Sunday Club volunteer leaders. Then, in the summer term, as we realised we were in for a longer spell of online church, we put together a more organised plan:

- For children up to about year 3, we used the brilliant weekly *Virtual Sunday School* sessions put together by 4Front Theatre Company (based in Worcester).
- For years 4-6, our fantastic Sunday Club leaders (and some new volunteers – thank you!) have run weekly sessions at 12.00, which have been very much enjoyed, and even continued right through the summer holidays.
- For Secondary School age groups, we continued with a mixture of Zoom sessions and 'do it home' activity resources, until a parish-wide monthly (and then weekly) Sunday youth Zoom, was started towards the end of 2020.

We are grateful for the ongoing commitment of so many people which has made all of this possible. And we continue to pray for our children, young people and families,



recognising that while online and Zoom sessions are working well for some, for others, they are no substitute for the real thing of meeting in person.

Al Rodgers

Summer Mayhem

Because of the pandemic we were not able to make any plans for a holiday club style event this year.

David Vestergaard

Baptism Preparation

The pandemic has meant that for most of the year baptisms were either not permitted at all, or were so severely restricted that they were not very practical for us to hold and families preferred to wait. It has also not been possible to conduct baptism preparation in the usual way. Towards the end of the year we began making plans to run some preparation online in early 2021 as a short term measure.

We continue to be grateful to Martin & Mel Heale, Kevin & Jane Slack, Ian & Helen Westcott and Alison Wolfe for their involvement in this ministry. Ian & Helen asked to stand down during the year, so we will be looking for more team members to share in running the preparation in the future.

David Vestergaard & Mel Heale

Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade

As we all know the last twelve months have been a big challenge. We met briefly until the first lock-down. When lock-down came in we quickly switched to a weekly zoom meeting. At first we knew little about the technology or response from the youngsters, but both were positive.

There were a few youngsters who chose not to join us, but for those who joined us online we had opening messages from the clergy and youth leader, animated Bible stories, quizzes, games and prayers. CDs were delivered to band members for training purposes.

Unfortunately we were unable to run our annual camp, although a few of the leaders did have an informal camp, in Prestatyn.

We were able to organise a socially distanced crazy golf for families in July.

At the start of September we met outside for a few weeks and were able to 'pre-record' a service at the War Memorial, before the second lockdown and we reverted back to weekly zoom meetings.

We invited our families for the Christmas nativity walk.

All in all a tough year, as it was for everyone. We have managed to keep in touch with most of our families and youngsters and hope to welcome them back face-to-face, as soon as restrictions are sufficiently lifted.

Richie Clarke



Who Let The Dads Out?: (WLTDO)

Our Who Let the Dads Out? Dads & toddlers group started running monthly on Saturday mornings in December 2019 and over the first few months worked well, with around 10-12 children at the sessions; normally, this was a 50/50 split between members of St. Andrews & Townfield and those with no church connection. We are thankful to Danny Sedano and the team for their work in setting up the group. We stopped meeting in March due to the pandemic and the group has not yet reopened.

David Vestergaard



Seniors' Hub

The Senior's Hub was started in early 2018, and normally meets termly. It is made up of the clergy and communications officer, and leaders of each of our activities which aim at/cater for people of retirement age upwards. The role of the Hub is to support groups from both our churches working with older people; to ensure groups are adequately resourced, provide mutual support, sharing ideas and co-ordinating activities; to improve communication and publicity between the groups and with the wider community; and to develop strategy for the work with seniors.

The Hub met in February, and discussed plans for the "More to Life" mission (which was subsequently cancelled), flyers for publicity, and possibilities for engaging with the community. We also began a discussion on whether there were a potential future role for an employed seniors worker, if this were possible at some point. We met again in June, to consider what we had learned from the pandemic, what we had missed, and what we could take forward. This fed into a wider PCC discussion. Because of the pandemic closing our activities, the hub did not meet in the second half of the year.

All our activities involving seniors were forced to close in March due to the coronavirus pandemic, and at the end of the year, had not yet been able to reopen. These included Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship, Knit & Natter, Monday Gang, prayer ministry on Sundays, pastoral visiting and home communions, and services in Charlotte House, Leverhulme Court and Safe Harbour. Bereavement care has been limited to telephone support.

We have supported members as far as possible through telephone contact (including involving volunteers to keep in contact with those who particularly wanted a regular telephone call), providing cd's or dvd's of services and printed newsletters to those unable to access the internet, and have provided printed services to Charlotte House to be led by a member of staff. The prayer ministry team has been unable to meet but members have continued to pray for those in need, and we have increased use of the prayer chain which is now operated by email.

For Charlotte House, we have been sending services by email every 2 weeks to the activities co-ordinator who agreed to take them. The services have included talks, prayers and hymns either from CDs, which we sent in, or from YouTube links. We had hoped that we might be able to start taking them via zoom but there was a problem with the system in the home. We understand that the residents have very much valued the services during this time, which have sometimes been attended by more than 20.

David Vestergaard



Heritage Project

On-line Activity Report

The Heritage Project created as part of the Roof Repair project with grant funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, included a dedicated St Andrew's Heritage Website that was launched in July 2018. A Facebook heritage page had been running since May 2017.

Website: www.standrewsheritage.uk

Facebook: @standrewsbebheritage

The Heritage Website went live in time for the Heritage Project launch festival in July 2018. It included key information on the project, snippets of information about the church's heritage and fully searchable burial records. Visitors can also contact the church via the website, and find out more about how to visit. In considering how to maintain interest, it soon became apparent that Image-driven Post on Facebook were the most popular for attracting attention, particularly for events.

July 2018 to October 2018 - Key Outputs:

1,452 Website views – 126 Individual Visitors

7,997 People were reached on the Facebook event page for the Launch Festival of which 210 responded either with 'interested' or 'going'.

2020 Actions

In the Autumn of 2020, additional information was added to the burial records in the form of graveyard inscriptions, these being very popular with people searching family history. As events could not be undertaken over the year, the Facebook page had a series of quizzes around the church and village's history.

Latest - Key Outputs

8,060 Website views since launch – average 20/day

19,169 People who have seen Facebook content in 2020 alone. Quizzes and factsheets proved very popular.

We've had visitors from the UK, Australia, France, India, the Netherlands and Spain.

Acknowledgements

Alan Roberts and fellow members of the local Family History Group for all their efforts to record and digitise the graveyard inscriptions.

Callum Peters and Mark Woodger for managing and developing/producing content for the Website and Facebook page.



World Mission Support

Our established practice is to allocate a tenth of the income we receive through regular giving and open plate collections to supporting mission. St Andrew's operates a Mission Committee who are responsible for recommending to the PCC the allocation of St Andrew's share of this tithe. Townfield Church Committee (TCC) fulfil the same role for Townfield.

St Andrew's Mission Committee follows the principle that work to which we are contributing should have a directly evangelistic element, although it may also include other aspects such as social action. We also aim to spread the allocation widely in terms of geographical area and type of work. Some of the organisations we support we have been giving to for very many years, others are more recent.

The committee members also each act as representatives for one of our mission partners, being responsible for communication with them and with individual supporters in the congregation, and obtaining updates for prayer and disseminating these. We also aim to welcome visits from mission partners where this is practical, or otherwise representatives share information with the congregation, in the form of a focus spot or presentation, covering several mission partners each year in this way.

In 2020, St Andrew's Mission Committee gave support to the following mission partners. All of them have faced challenges through the pandemic and have needed to adapt and change their way of working:

- Bible Society (Rep – Martin Heale) – promoting access to the Bible worldwide – translating and distributing the Bible in different countries, and providing resources and events to promote the Bible in the UK.
- CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) (Rep – Helen Thomas) – providing children's & youth camps, teaching & leadership resources and training for churches, and acting as Patrons for many C of E churches
- Anglican Province (formerly Diocese) of Chile (Rep – Amy Haigh) – towards training Alex Cordova for ordination, a much-needed new member of clergy for the Southern Diocese.
- CMJ (the Church's Ministry amongst Jewish People) (Rep – David Halliday) – working amongst Jews, Muslims and others in the Middle East and the UK to share and promote understanding of the Christian faith.
- Crosslinks (Rep – Vacant) – to support the work of Jomo Nderitu, the Diocesan Youth Co-ordinator for Marsabit Diocese in Kenya.
- Wirral Youth for Christ (Rep – Chris Jarvis) – taking the gospel to young people across the Wirral through work in schools, in partnership with churches including ourselves.
- Barnabas Fund (Rep – Rachel Lindsay) – working to support persecuted Christians around the world and lobbying on their behalf, raising awareness of persecution and seeking action.
- Ferries Family Groups (Rep – Vacant) – contributing towards the costs of their new office base and their staffing, facilitating their work with and witness to families in need of support in various ways.



- St Catherine's Church, Tranmere (Rep – David Vestergaard) – towards their employment of a young people and families worker.

The Pandemic prevented mission partner visits for most of 2020. However we were able to arrange interviews on Zoom with Jomo Nderitu (Crosslinks/Kenya) and James Hennessey (Wirral YFC), and had a short video slot for CPAS. This is a format which would be useful to continue in the future. We also had an online event with CMJ.

We pray for our mission partners at some of the weekly zoom prayer meetings. It has not been so easy to distribute copies of the various prayer letters from our different partners.

If you would like to receive news updates on one or more partners, please contact the church office. If you are interested in serving as a mission rep for one of the partners, please speak to me.

Our thanks are due to the Mission Committee for their service.

David Vestergaard

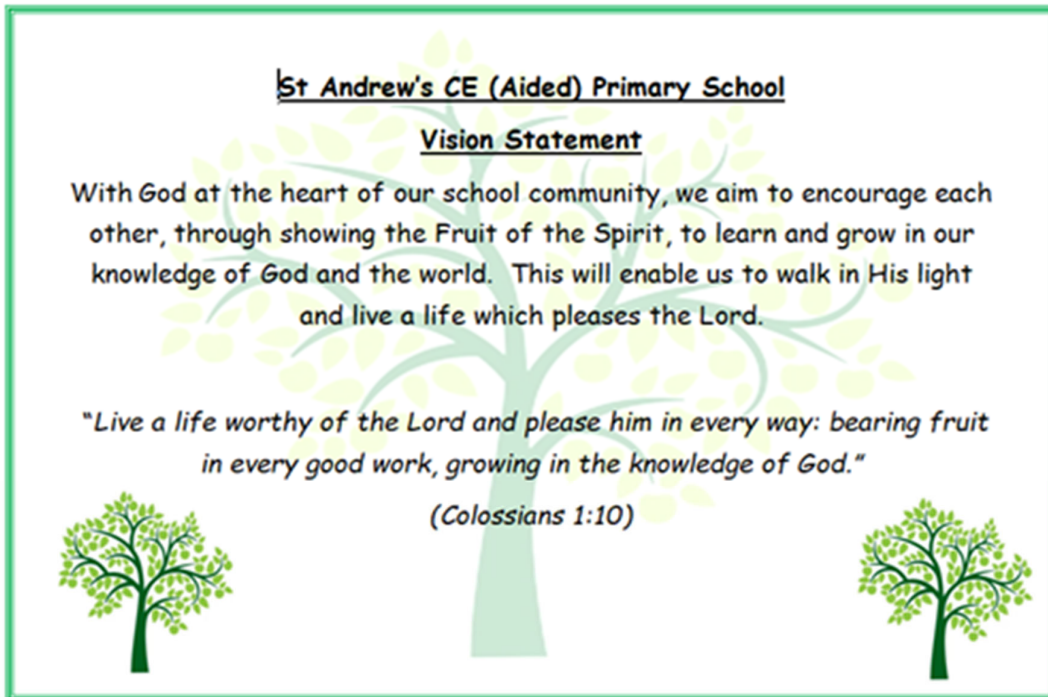


St. Andrew's C.E (Aided) Primary School

As every report will have said in one way or another, it's been an unusual year, and that has certainly been true for our interactions with St Andrew's School. At Townfield we have particularly noticed this, missing our Sunday services in the school, and the opportunity they give us to see all the evidence of the vibrant school life, in the displays around the buildings. We have also missed the opportunities to serve the school community through Toast Club, childcare at parents' evenings, Messy Church and other events, but we do look forward to exploring new opportunities as soon as we are able. And, as Mrs Lamkin's report shows, although it has been a year of limitations, there have still been many things to celebrate!

Al Rodgers

It certainly has been a different year for all of us at St Andrew's Primary School! Throughout two partial school closures and only one full term with all the children in school during the past year, we have still been embedding our school vision in many ways.



Although we were unable to enjoy our usual Christmas performances and church service, the children instead took part in a 'Christmas Journey' which involved each class taking a part of the Christmas story and completing art work around this which was then displayed in the school grounds. The children were then able to take the 'journey' round the story. It was a very special day for the children which we were able to share with our school community through videos on our school website.

Since all our children returned to school in September 2020, we have focused on Collective Worship in school as we have been unable to meet as a whole school for this.



This means that we have been holding virtual whole school collective worship which has been a new experience for us all. We have also developed our 'Worship at Home' part of the school website to raise the profile of worship, which has engaged families during the most recent school closure. We have been very grateful to the clergy from St Andrew's and Townfield, as well as Life Church, for supporting us in recording a Collective Worship shared with all the children both in school as well as those who were home learning. We finished the Spring Term, as all the children returned for the last few weeks, with a lovely Easter Service online which all the classes took part in and were able to show and talk about their Easter led activities they had taken part in leading up to Holy Week. We also held a Lent Cross Challenge (both at home and in school) which was part of the Easter trail with St Andrew's Church. We are all looking forward to having our first whole school collective worship hopefully soon, which I know will be a very special occasion for us all in school. I have so missed hearing our children sing in our weekly Come and Praise Collective Worship.

Other highlights of the year have included celebrating Interfaith Week and having the school community support the 'Heart 4 Refugees' charity with a reverse Advent Calendar and Christmas Care Bags for local refugees to develop courageous advocacy and Christian compassion.

As a school community, we are really missing our normal interaction with St Andrew's Church and Townfield.

Mrs Lamkin



Deanery Synod

We have held two meetings this year. A further meeting planned as a Lay Forum at Chester Cathedral was cancelled due to measures in connection with the Covid 19 pandemic.

4th March 2020 at St Andrew West Kirby

After a welcome from Rev'd Peter Froggatt (Area Dean), we had a presentation from Rev'd Canon Jane Brooke (Vice Dean & Canon Missioner at Chester Cathedral) entitled "Chester Cathedral will follow Christ through discovery, encounter and faith". This was a five year plan implemented shortly after the arrival (in 2018) of the current Dean Very Rev'd Tim Stafford. The plan outlines seven different aspects to the Cathedral's vision, namely Share the story, Increase resources responsibly, Nurture a healthy organisational culture, Revitalise heritage, Encourage holy encounter, Support the Diocese, Bishop and Christian community and Improve participation and partnership. During 2020, churches were encouraged to have prayer stations in the cathedral. Other activities include a children's corner, links to street pastors and homeless along with education and exhibitions. In the future the cathedral hopes to be a resource for churches and the diocese.

16th September 2020 via Zoom

Peter Froggatt welcomed Archdeacon Mike Gilbertson who outlined more about Setting God's People Free – hoped to roll out this project across the diocese when possible after the pandemic. Thanks were expressed by Mike Gilbertson for all those helping to navigate through this pandemic period especially parishes utilising technology available to produce services. On the diocesan website there is a "Back to Better" section to support lay and clergy as well as podcasts of conversations with people about everyday faith. We were also encouraged to pray for local schools and encourage youth workers to try and take school assemblies again.

Among the staff changes, Bishop Mark took up the pastoral aspect of his role in late September 2020. Danny Sedano was ordained Deacon in October and Rev'd Al Metcalfe moved to St Augustine's Ipswich as an incumbent.

Our Area Dean Rev'd Peter Froggatt became Diocesan Director of Outreach (wef January 2021) leaving a vacancy at Barnston and a new Area Dean to oversee the 14 parishes of Wirral North Deanery. In early January 2021, Rev'd David Vestergaard was commissioned as our new Area Dean.

Chris Jackson



Conroy Trust

The Conroy Trust was established in 1873 to benefit the poor of the Parish of Bebington, as defined by the then parish boundaries. These boundaries are maintained today.

The management of the Trust is overseen by between three and five trustees. A report on their management is presented to the annual general meeting of the parishioners and this report is for 2020.

The management has the power to appoint new trustees when the occasion arises and the appointment process is conducted by a majority vote.

The current Trustees are Rev. David Vestergaard, Mrs B Cartwright, Mrs Beryl Lloyd, Mrs Maureen Preston and Mr Alan McGraa.

In 2019 the Secretary, Mrs Jean Pilkington retired, and was replaced by Mr Bryan Higgins.

2020 Financial Statement

The summary income and expenditure for 2020 was as follows:

	2020	2019
Income from Investments	6303	6209
Expenditure on grants	3300	11114
Surplus/Deficit	3003	-4905

As at 31st December 2020 the value of funds under management stood at £239904 compared to £223779 in 2019. Apart from a current account held at HSBC all investments are held with CCLA Investment Management Ltd.

A modest grant can be awarded to anyone in the parish who is experiencing financial hardship. Grants can also be awarded to charitable organisations within the parish who are working to help the poor of the parish. Anyone interested in discussing grants should in the first instance refer to the chair of the management, Rev David Vestergaard.

Secretary to the Trustees
Bryan Higgins



In Memoriam

During the year we said a sad farewell to the following members of our congregation:

(From Townfield)

Bridget Gee
Pat Hughes
Olive Murray

(From St Andrew's)

Mary Foster
Colette Kemp
Pearl McMillan
Vera Peake
Mary Pickford
Sylvia Walkley
Shirley Williams

Welcome

We were delighted to celebrate the birth of:

(From Townfield)

Calliandra Taylor



**Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners
held on the 20 October 2020 at St Andrew's, Bebington
church hall
and online via Zoom at 7.30pm**

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 47 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

The meeting opened with an act of worship and a reading from Isaiah 31.

Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Mel Heale, Kate Muskett, Deric Millington, Beryl Parker, Mavis Nicholson, Linda Smallthwaite, Jenny Jackson, Geoff & Rachel Stone and Mike Shevlin.

Minutes of the meeting of 30 April 2019 having been previously circulated, following a proposal by Mike Smith and being seconded by David Jack were signed as being a true record.

Election of Wardens

There being two nominations for the positions of warden, Mike Smith and Mike Shevlin were duly elected for the coming year.

The Rector, on behalf of the Parish, wished to go on record in expressing his thanks to both Mikes for all their work over the past twelve months and their willingness to serve another term.

Receipt of the Conroy Trust Report

Having been printed in the Annual Report, the report was duly received based on a proposal from Viv Halliday, seconded by Christine Smith; with all in favour.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm.



**Minutes of the APCM
held on the 20 October 2020 at St Andrew's, Bebington
church hall
and online via Zoom at 7.45pm**

Present: The Rector, the Reverend David Vestergaard in the Chair, and 47 Parishioners and members of the electoral roll.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for their inability to attend were received from Mel Heale, Kate Muskett, Deric Millington, Beryl Parker, Mavis Nicholson, Linda Smallthwaite, Jenny Jackson, Geoff & Rachel Stone and Mike Shevlin.

Minutes of the meeting of 30 April 2019

The minutes, having been previously circulated were, following a proposal by Alan Roberts and being seconded by David Jack, signed as being a true record.

Electoral Roll Report

The report was given by the Electoral Roll Secretary, Alison Collins. The number on the roll as of 20 October 2020 was 358. This was a fall of 1 from last year's roll – 8 additions and 9 deletions. The Rector expressed his thanks to Alison for her work. The report was accepted.

Receipt of the Annual Report

The receipt of the Wardens Report was proposed by Martin Heale and seconded by Karen Davies.

The receipt of the PCC Report was proposed by Amy Haigh and seconded by Ann Renison.

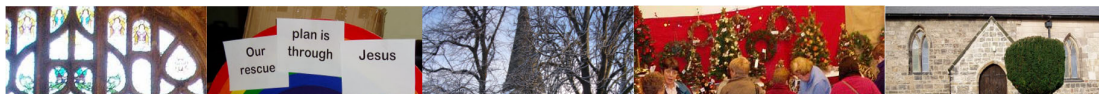
The receipt of the Deanery Synod report was proposed by Barbara Bazeley and seconded by Sylvia Tomlinson.

All were in favour of receiving these reports.

The Annual Report was received. It had been printed in advance of the meeting and gave reports on Townfield Church, Youth activities, Growth Action Planning, Wardens' & Treasurer's reports, Sunday clubs, World mission support, St Andrew's Church of England Primary School and the activities of the Parochial Church Council.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bryan Higgins. The figures were explained in some greater detail. Looking to the overall figures, income for the year was £295,000 and total expenditure was £277,000 leaving a surplus of £18,000. Most of this has come from received legacies throughout the year – something we don't budget for as we can't ever predict what we may receive. Income through ordinary giving was £264,000 which would have left a deficit of just over £10,000. This included nearly £45,000 from the Government through Gift Aid, and Bryan highlighted the importance of Gift Aid to our income.

Explaining where some of our expenditure had gone, Bryan highlighted our Parish Share of £125,000 – by far our largest outgoing; the £26,754 for giving outside of the



Parish: 10% of our income; and noted that the church building expenses include for the likes of repairs as well as insurances and council tax.

For 2020, Bryan explained the budgets had included for a sizeable uplift in giving of 7.5% which was to be part of an appeal during the year. The year-to-date figure is showing a deficit on the planned budget of about £15,000 based on where we hoped to be. Reduced costs due to the pandemic meant the deficit was actually more like £4000, and if it hadn't been for necessary expenditure on the church spire, the accounts to date may have shown to us to be breaking even.

The Rector extended his thanks to Bryan, and to Libby Higgins, for her their work on the accounts throughout the year.

The receipt of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Anne Worswick and seconded by Judith Battersby; with all in favour.

Appointment of Independent Examiner

Mike Forshaw was appointed as Independent Examiner on a proposal by Chris Jackson, seconded by Viv Halliday; with all in favour.

Election to the Deanery Synod

This year we have 5 spaces available rather than the usual 4. This is because the Diocese have afforded us an extra place. Carol Parry and Chris Jackson both indicated their willingness to stand again. David Halliday has been 'promoted' to the Diocesan Synod which means he automatically receives a place on the Deanery Synod, and as our 4th representative from last year – Danny Sedano – has now left, we have 3 available spaces for anyone willing to stand. It was agreed to leave the filling of these positions to the PCC.

Election to the PCC

There were 4 St Andrew's spaces available for the PCC and two nominations. Therefore, Val Waldron and Ian Swindlehurst were elected. There were 3 Townfield places available on the PCC and 3 nominations. Therefore, Judith Battersby, Simon Jones and Sharon Mason were elected. The Rector expressed his thanks to the PCC for their work through the year and to those who were willing to stand. He said the PCC would look to fill the vacancies during the year.

Youth work

Chris Jarvis presented a Youth Report giving an update on what had happened since the end of 2019, as an update to the written report. 2020 has very much been a mixed bag. The year started well, but everything had to go online following the initial lockdown in March. This was okay for a month or so, but Chris explained that it proved difficult to spiritually connect under such circumstances, so the meetings became more social in their nature. There was the availability of a Bible study which Chris regularly uploaded to YouTube. There were occasional online meetings over the summer and a resumption of online meetings since the start of term. Unplugged meetings have subsequently moved to in-person meetings in the church hall - youth groups of up to 15 people can meet up whilst adhering to government guidelines. There is also a new youth band practice that has started on Friday evenings to give experience to younger members who are interested in worship. A leaders' meeting will take place after half-term to decide what Friday night youth work will look like in the short term. Chris also



mentioned that no work in schools was currently being undertaken for obvious reasons but there is some hope this may change after Christmas. Finally, it was noted that 5 youths had started university this term and had settled well: thanks were given for our prayers in that situation.

The Rector expressed his thanks to Chris for all his hard work.

Townfield Report

The Revd. Al Rodgers expanded on the work of Townfield church. New initiatives were about to start just before the pandemic struck. These included Lent events, social events, initiatives to connect with non-church households at the Townfield end of the parish. A postcard, entitled, '*Say one for me,*' was to be posted through doors inviting people to write any prayers that they wished to have said for them and return them to the church. Easter gifts were planned for to be given to residents of Townfield Lane and other close roads inclusive of Easter decorations and thought provoking wording. Unfortunately, none of these went ahead because of lockdown. Services in the church hall are now being streamed live which allows for interaction. This consists of around 30 attending in the hall and around 40 to 50 watching online. It's been noted that some regular newcomers were watching online. The challenge ahead lies in keeping in touch with people, especially for families with younger children, because of the difficulty in engaging with children online. Our prayers are welcomed for Townfield church.

Rector's report

The Rector provided his St Andrew's report, and set out plans for 2020. One of them was looking to employ a children's and family hub worker. The PCC agreed to this at the beginning of the year and whilst in the changing circumstances it is a way off, it remains an aspiration. *More To Life* was planned for Easter but, having been initially postponed to 2021 has now been postponed again until 2022 in light of how things are going to be looking for the next few months. We had joint youth events planned with Life Church. We were able to hold one such event - which was very successful - and hope to continue this when allowed. We should have the church lighting project completed over the next year. Unfortunately, lockdown brought the Diocese's approval process to a halt. However, we have now received permission and can go ahead with the purchase and installation of the internal lights. External lights still require planning permission from the local council. The PCC agreed to continue with the project despite the current circumstances, as by doing the lights it will allow us to benefit from live streaming services rather than prerecording, as well as providing for future use of the building. Financially, we have raised all the monies required to undertake the internal works. To complete the external lights, we are still searching for around £11,000. We had planned to undertake a giving appeal during the year, but this was put on the back-burner and, instead, proceeded with a gentler approach - trying to encourage people to move their giving to direct through their bank rather than cash. The giving appeal will be looked at as things improve. Looking to the future, we are in a good position: we have good resources and are not financially dependent on giving although, the Rector expressed his slight concern that giving had dipped below the previous year's figure. Significant expenditure will be required at some point for works to the Spire. There was also concern with regards to engaging with families and people who don't readily have access to the internet. Obviously, we have no idea as how long it will be until we can commence meetings in person again. This poses real concerns for the likes of Little



Fishes parents/carers & tots group and Messy Church as we don't know if we'll have volunteers willing or able to run the groups when things can restart.

The Rector expressed his thanks to volunteers, staff and readers who have all pulled together in these strange circumstances, for their continued support and their flexibility!

Questions were invited:

- Is it likely that wifi will be installed in St Andrew's?

Yes. It won't be straightforward, but it will make it a lot easier for the likes of live-streaming services and virtual giving.

- Will the installation of wifi mean contactless giving is possible?

Yes.

- Will the Diocese provide any assistance towards the wifi?

Nothing financial, but they have provided parishes with a £2000 grant towards covid expenditure.

Any other Business

The Diocese have recently relaxed and simplified the rules on the likes of the PCC and APCM. One such area is allowing postal voting at next year's annual meeting. The Rector indicated this was a way forward. A query was raised as to how this would work in reality as nominations for PCC members are allowed up to and including the Annual meeting. Would proxy voting be better? The Rector indicated that he would seek guidance from the Diocese on the subject and rather than take a vote on it now, he will bring it back to the PCC in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with an act of worship and the Grace at 8.45pm.

The Charity Registration Number is :- 01130323

Bebington Parish Church

Report and Accounts

31 December 2020

Bebington Parish Church

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

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Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- Bebington Parish Church.

The charity is also known by its operating name, St Andrews' and Townfield Churches.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 01130323.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity, established by Trust Deed. The governing document of the charity is the Trust Deed establishing the charity.

The governing document is dated 24 June 2009

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

The Rectory, Church Road

Bebington, Wirral

Merseyside, CH63 3EX

Telephone 01516456478

Email Address office@standrewsbebington.org.uk Web address www.standrewsbebington.org.uk

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Chris Jackson
Al Rodgers
David Halliday
David Vestergaard
Geoff Stone
Gill Brady
Ian Halliday
Ian Swindlehurst
Judith Battersby
Kate Butler
Kate Muskett
Mike Ludbrook
Mike Smith
Carol Parry
Val Waldron
Mel Heale
Bryan Higgins
Mike Shelvin
Chris Jarvis
Simon Jones
Sharon Mason
Callum Peters
Nathan Storm
Caroline Adamson

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31 December 2020 :-

In addition to the above the trustee who served during the period but resigned/retired during the period were:

Name	Appointed	Resigned/Retired
Al Metcalfe		04/10/2020
Liz Tudor		20/10/2020
Ann Shevlin		15/01/2020
Danny Sedano		31/05/2020
Sharon Mason	20/10/2020	
Callum Peters	10/11/2020	
Nathan Storm	10/11/2020	
Chris Jarvis	10/11/2020	

At the Annual General Meeting members who served for 3 years retire as trustees, but are eligible for reappointment.

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year.

We have run church services each Sunday for St Andrew's and Townfield churches. Due to the pandemic and consequent restrictions, in March all services switched to online. We have opened the church for services too when able, and the church hall for Townfield (its usual venue being unavailable), but have continued online services throughout the rest of the year. Other regular activities in the early part of the year included Little Fishes; Messy Church; House Groups; Youth Groups and Activities; Children's Groups; Women's Fellowship; Men's Fellowship; Alpha; Prayer Events; and hosting and supporting the Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade, in addition to the activities below. However due to the pandemic these activities were all either paused or moved online from March onwards.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

Activities ordinarily carried out and serving the local community include Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals; Marriage Preparation; Baptism Preparation; Bereavement Ministry; Youth activities, Messy Church; Little Fishes Toddler Group; St Andrew's School Toast Club; school assemblies; Christmas and Easter school services; services in nursing homes and sheltered accommodation; special Community Events such as Christmas Journey and Easter Journey; and hosting and supporting Guiding groups and other community groups.

For much of the year, due to the pandemic, many of these activities had to be paused, or run online. During the pandemic we opened the church weekly for private prayer when permitted; developed an online programme including services, reflections and prayer times, and youth and children's ministry; produced cd's and dvd's of services for those without internet access; and provided pastoral support by telephone and where possible by practical support with shopping and other needs.

We have also undertaken financial giving and prayer support for Mission and Christian organisations and activities locally and around the world. Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The main achievements and performance of the charity during the year.

Average Sunday attendance could not be measured in the normal way, because from March services moved online due to the pandemic and viewing figures are difficult to analyse. We estimate typical Sunday 'attendance', including online, in church when permitted, and by cd/dvd, as approx. 315 including children. Our best estimates are that there were 22 who left the congregations (10 by death), and approximately 16 who joined (adults and children). During the year the parish conducted 26 funerals, 2 weddings and 4 baptisms (all these having been affected by the pandemic restrictions). We were unable to hold our usual large events, but connected with many new people through our online ministry.

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The difference the charity's performance during the year has made to the beneficiaries of the charity.

Benefits from the activities listed above have included faith development, spiritual and pastoral support, personal encouragement, development of gifts and experience, friendship and companionship, and meeting a range of needs for all ages.

The degree to which the achievements and performance during the year have benefited wider society.

The activities listed above have provided a wide range of public benefit including faith exploration, spiritual support, pastoral care, provision of services and care for needs at key life moments, and services to local schools.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Decisions are made by the PCC in collaboration with the Clergy and Staff team, and working through subcommittees and together with volunteer leaders for groups and activities. The PCC meets at least 6 times a year in formal meetings of the Council, with additional meetings as necessary. In order to organise its affairs effectively during 2020, the PCC operated the following subcommittees: Standing; Finance & Fabric; Townfield Church; Youth Hub; Children and Families Hub; Growth Action Planning; Evangelism; Missionary; Poverty Action Group; Repair Project.

Bankers	HSBC Bank plc - 58 Bromborough Village Road, Bromborough, Wirral, CH62 7ET
Architects	Bryan Martin BA, Dip Arch, RIBA, AABC, Architect, 36 Banbury Lane, Byfield, Northamptonshire, NN11 6UX
Surveyors	Gordon Cain, Quantity Surveyor, Rose Cottage, 13 Spring Lane, Kenilworth, CV8 2HB
Accountants (payroll)	KBH Accountants Ltd. 255 Poulton Road, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 4BT
(Independent examiner)	Haines Watts Chartered Accountants, 3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers, Victoria St, Liverpool, L2 5QQ

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2020

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2020 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2020	2019
	£	£
Net income	(26,876)	17,775
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	865,672	892,548
Restricted Revenue Funds	-	-
Endowment Revenue Funds	-	-
Total Endowment funds	-	-
Total Funds	865,672	892,548

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2020 .

Our total income for the year was £288,561 and our total expenditure £315,437, giving an accounting deficit of £26,876.

During 2020 our financial position has indicated that normal running costs are generally on budget, despite a fall in planned giving due to the pandemic, but alleviated by a corresponding reduction in expenditure on church activities due to periods of closure.

Any financial implications of the Roof Project have been finalised during 2020 on receipt of a final grant payment from HLF, and settlement of any bills relating to the project.

As at 31st December 2020, we held funds towards the Lighting project amounting to £40,296, having paid out £20,017 in deposits for materials and equipment towards the end of the year

The trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be satisfactory.

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Policies on reserves.

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately two months' unrestricted payments in addition to £20,000 to cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. At 31 December 2020 unrestricted reserves amounted £865,672 (2019 - £892,548).

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Mr Michael Forshaw FCA

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers
Victoria Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L2 5QQ

Bebington Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, charity law requires the Trustees, if they prepare accounts on an accruals basis, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 11 May 2021.


MR BRYAN HIGGINS
Trustee

Bebington Parish Church

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charity on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity on pages 10 to 32 for the year ended 31 December 2020 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) adapted to meet the needs of unincorporated organisations, as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW), and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 16.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 7, you, the charity's Trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the Governing Document for the conducting of an audit. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

- a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;
- b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the charity's examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am an authorised member of Chartered Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. 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 setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and of the accounting systems employed by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

Bebington Parish Church

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

The gross income of the charity in the year ended 31 December 2020 appears to exceed the sum specified in Section 145(3) of the Act, namely £250000, and that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner in accordance with that section by virtue of my being a qualified member of Chartered Accountants ;

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by with Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-



Mr Michael Forshaw FCA - Independent Examiner

Haines Watts Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor, Pacific Chambers
Victoria Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L2 5QQ

This report was signed on 11th May 2021

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds
		2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	282,926	-	-	282,926
Charitable activities	A2	4,056	-	-	4,056
Investments	A4	1,579	-	-	1,579
Total income	A	288,561	-	-	288,561
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	315,437	-	-	315,437
Total expenditure	B	315,437	-	-	315,437
Net income for the year		(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Transfers between funds	C	-	-	-	-
Net income after transfers	A-B-C	(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Net movement in funds		(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward		892,548	-	-	892,548
Total funds carried forward		865,672	-	-	865,672

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As per paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Sheet.

A Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is included as a primary statement in these accounts.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	280,858	-	-	280,858
Charitable activities	A2	14,544	-	-	14,544
Investments	A4	212	-	-	212
Total income	A	295,614	-	-	295,614
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	277,839	-	-	277,839
Total expenditure	B	277,839	-	-	277,839
Net income for the year		17,775	-	-	17,775
Transfers between funds	C	11,064	(9,774)	(1,290)	-
Net income after transfers		28,839	(9,774)	(1,290)	17,775
Net movement in funds		28,839	(9,774)	(1,290)	17,775
Reconciliation of funds:-					
Total funds brought forward	E	863,709	9,774	1,290	874,773
Total funds carried forward		892,548	-	-	892,548

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020 £
Surplus for the year :-	
Net excess of income over expenditure from operations before tax	(26,876)
Realised gains on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-
<i>Income from operations before tax in the Statement of Financial Activities</i>	<u>(26,876)</u>
<i>Add/(deduct) non income and expenditure items:-</i>	
Grants for the acquisition of fixed assets	-
Net Movement in funds before taxation	<u>(26,876)</u>
Funds generated in the year as shown on Statement of Financial Activities	<u>(26,876)</u>

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Resources applied in the year ended 31 December 2020 towards fixed assets for Charity use:-

	2020 £
Funds generated in the year as detailed in the SOFA	(26,876)
Net resources available to fund charitable activities	<u>(26,876)</u>

The resources applied on fixed assets for charity use represents the cost of additions less proceeds on disposals.

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2020

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Endowment Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	892,548	-	-	892,548
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	(26,876)	-	-	(26,876)
	865,672	-	-	865,672
(From)/To unrestricted revenue funds	-	-	-	-
Closing revenue funds	865,672	-	-	865,672

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Endowment Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Revenue accumulated funds	865,672	-	-	865,672

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

**Bebington Parish Church
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2020 as require
Companies Act 2006**

	2020 £
Income	
Income from operations	243,931
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	43,051
Investment income	
Income from investments, other than interest receivable	1,450
Interest receivable	129
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	288,561
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	288,561
Expenditure	
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	314,777
Governance costs	660
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-
Total expenditure in the year	315,437
Net income before tax in the financial year	(26,876)
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	(26,876)
Retained surplus for the financial year	(26,876)

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church - Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	SORP		2020	2019
	Note	Ref	£	£
Fixed assets				
		A		
Tangible assets	10	A2	655,132	655,132
Current assets				
		B		
Debtors	11	B2	24,938	26,157
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	203,961	225,836
Total current assets			<u>228,899</u>	<u>251,993</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	C1	<u>(18,359)</u>	<u>(14,577)</u>
Net current assets			210,540	237,416
The total net assets of the charity			<u>865,672</u>	<u>892,548</u>

The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	16	D3	865,672	892,548
Unrestricted Revaluation Reserve	16	D4	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total charity funds			<u>865,672</u>	<u>892,548</u>

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of charity legislation with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 9.

The Trustees are satisfied that, although the charity is not registered under the Companies Acts, if it were so registered, it would be eligible to prepare accounts in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

REV DAVID VESTERGAARD

Trustee

Approved by the board of trustees on 11/05/ 2021

The notes attached on pages 16 to 32 form an integral part of these accounts.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , effective January 2016, , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015, (as amended by the Bulletin issued in October 2018 and applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2020, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

"Major risks for the PCC are currently either financial or property related.

Key risks:

- Income fails to keep pace with increases in Parish Share and public utility charges and ministry is compromised
- Funds are not available to pay staff salaries
- Funds are not available to meet the costs of essential repairs and refurbishment

Actions to mitigate risks:

- Provide periodic explanation to congregation how our funds are used and the need to increase regular giving.
- Regular promotion of regular giving and tax efficient giving schemes
- Special appeals to be launched to meet these costs."

Policies relating to categories of income and income recognition.

Nature of income

Gross income represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

Categories of Income

Income is categorised as income from exchange transactions (contract income) and income from non-exchange transactions (gifts), investment income and other income.

Income from exchange transactions is received by the charity for goods or services supplied under contract or where entitlement is subject to fulfilling performance related conditions. The income the charity receives is approximately equal in value to the goods or services supplied by the charity to the purchaser.

Income from a non-exchange transaction is where the charity receives value from the donor without providing equal value in exchange, and includes donations of money, goods and services freely given without giving equal value in exchange.

Income recognition

Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

All income is accounted for gross, before deducting any related fees or costs.

Accounting for deferred income and income received in advance

Where terms and conditions relating to income have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether the charity can meet any terms or conditions otherwise within its control, income is not recognised but is deferred as a liability until it is probable that the terms or conditions imposed can be met.

Any grant that is subject to performance-related conditions received in advance of delivering the goods and services required by that condition, or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside the control of the recipient charity, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. Deferred income is released to income in the reporting period in which the performance-related or other conditions that limit recognition are met.

When income from a grant or donation has not been recognised due to the conditions applying to the gift not being wholly within the control of the recipient charity, it is disclosed as a contingent asset if receipt of the grant or donation is probable once those conditions are met.

Where time related conditions are imposed or implied by a funder, then the income is apportioned to the time periods concerned, and, where applicable, is accounted for as a liability and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income. When grants are received in advance of the expenditure on the activity funded by them, but there are no specific time related conditions, then the income is not deferred.

Any condition that allows for the recovery by the donor of any unexpended part of a grant does not prevent recognition of the income concerned, but a liability to any repayment is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

Income from legacies

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them, that where required, probate has been granted, the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate, that it is probable that the amount will be received by the charity, and the amount to be received can be estimated with sufficient accuracy, and that any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Where a payment is received from an estate or is notified as receivable by the executors after the reporting date and before the accounts are authorised for issue but it is clear that the payment had been agreed by the executors prior to the end of the reporting period, then the amount concerned is treated as an adjusting event and accrued as income in the accounting period if receipt is probable.

Where the charity has established entitlement to a legacy but there is uncertainty as to the amount of the payment, details of the legacy are disclosed as a contingent asset until the criteria for income recognition are met. Where a legacy is subject to the interest of a life tenant, the legacy is not recognised as income until the death of the life tenant.

If it is doubtful that full settlement of a legacy debtor will be received, then an adjustment is made to reduce the amount of the legacy debtor and legacy income rather than charging the adjustment as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donated goods, facilities and services

Donated fixed assets are recognised at the current fair value. All such donations are recognised as donation income, and debited to fixed assets.

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.

In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.

If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.

The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.

The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock. When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in *'legacies and donations'*. Goods donated for resale are included in *'Income from other trading activities'*

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Donated services and facilities (including seconded staff and use of property) are included in the accounts on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity.

All donated services and facilities are recognised as donation income when received, (provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably) and recognised as an expense with an equivalent value.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

Policies relating to expenditure on goods and services provided to the charity.

Recognition of liabilities and expenditure

A liability, and the related expenditure, is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, and when it is more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and when the amount of the obligation can be measured or reliably estimated..

Liabilities arising from future funding commitments and constructive obligations, including performance related grants, where the timing or the amount of the future expenditure required to settle the obligation are uncertain, give rise to a provision in the accounts, which is reviewed at the accounting year end. The provision is increased to reflect any increases in liabilities, and is decreased by the utilisation of any provision within the period, and reversed if any provision is no longer required. These movements are charged or credited to the respective funds and activities to which the provision relates.

Volunteers

In accordance with the SORP, and in recognition of the difficulties in placing a monetary value on the contribution from volunteers, the contribution of volunteers is not included within the income of the charity.

However, the trustees value the significant contribution made to the activities of the charity by unpaid volunteers and this is described more fully in Note5.

Policies relating to assets, liabilities and provisions and other matters.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at their original cost value, or subsequent revaluation, or if donated, as described above. Cost value includes all costs expended in bringing the asset into its intended working condition.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Pensions - defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal or as implied by law.

Endowment funds are funds donated to the charity, where the funds shall be invested and the charity shall enjoy the benefit of the income from the capital fund, but where restrictions are placed on the use of the capital.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2020	2019
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	<u>802</u>	<u>733</u>

5 The contribution of volunteers

We depend heavily on the support of volunteers. Almost every event and activity we have undertaken has been carried out either entirely by them or with their help. Over 200 volunteers committed countless hours to our activities during the year. Their support is valued enormously. The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value in monetary terms and have not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

6 Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2020	2019
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	45,307	45,005
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	802	733
Total salaries, wages and related costs	<u>46,109</u>	<u>45,738</u>

The average number of part time staff employed in the year was	2	2
The average number of full time staff employed in the year was	1	1
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	3	3

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year was:-

Engaged on charitable activities	3	3
<i>The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed as above</i>	3	3

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

No employees received emoluments (excluding pension costs) in excess of £60,000 per annum.

7 Defined contribution pension schemes

Any liabilities and assets associated with the scheme are shown under debtors and creditors.

8 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

9 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

<i>Current Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Donations for Iglesia Anglicana	30		430	460
M Blake (Townfield)	2,006			2,006
B Fletcher (Curtains)	500			500
Messy Curch (Townfield)	385			385
Townfield weekend	-			-
W Baker donation	200			200
Mission funds	3,850			3,850
Jean Griffiths - Bibles and Projector	-		2,588	2,588
Ferries Families	-			-
Toilet Twinning	-			-
Total	6,971	-	3,018	9,989

	2020	2019
	£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors	9,989	6,971

<i>Prior Year</i>	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Sundry items under £1000	510	(480)		30
Indonesia appeal	3,623	(1,617)		2,006
M Blake - Townfield	500	-		500
Ferries Families	385	-		385
Townfield weekend	310	(310)		-
W Baker donation	200			200
Mission fund	3,100	(1,100)	1,850	6,050
Indonesia Appeal	231	(231)		462
Ferries Families	600	(600)		1,200
Toilet Twinning	232	(232)		464
Total	9,691	(4,570)	1,850	6,971

	2019	2018
	£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors	6,971	9,691

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

10 Tangible fixed assets

<i>Current Year</i>	Land and Buildings	Plant & Machinery	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
At 31 December 2020	-	-	-	-
Net book value				
At 31 December 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
At 31 December 2019	655,132	-	-	655,132
 <i>Prior Year</i>				
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
01 January 2019	655,132	-	-	655,132
01 January 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
Depreciation				
Net book value				
01 January 2020	655,132	-	-	655,132
01 January 2019	655,132	-	-	655,132

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

11 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,484	4,082
Other debtors	23,454	22,075
	24,938	26,157

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accruals	7,279	5,988
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	9,989	6,971
Other creditors	1,091	1,618
	18,359	14,577

13 Pension commitments

	2020	2019
	£	£
Pension commitments under defined benefit/defined contribution schemes		
within one year	157	159
	157	159

14 Income and Expenditure account summary

	2020	2019
	£	£
At 1 January 2020	889,548	874,773
(Deficit)/surplus after tax for the year	(26,876)	14,775
At 31 December 2020	862,672	889,548

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

15 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2020	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	228,899	-	-	-	228,899
Current Liabilities	(18,359)	-	-	-	(18,359)
	865,672	-	-	-	865,672
	<hr/>				
At 1 January 2020	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Endowment funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible Fixed Assets	655,132	-	-	-	655,132
Current Assets	251,993	-	-	-	251,993
Current Liabilities	(14,577)	-	-	-	(14,577)
	892,548	-	-	-	892,548

16 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 15 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2019	Movement in funds in 2020	Transfers between funds in 2020	Funds carried forward to 2021
	£	See Note 17 £	See Note 18 £	£
<i>Unrestricted and designated funds:-</i>				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	892,548	(26,876)	-	865,672
Total unrestricted and designated funds	892,548	(26,876)	-	865,672
	<hr/>			
Total charity funds	892,548	(26,876)	-	865,672

Bebington Parish Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

17 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 16

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2020	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	288,561	(315,437)	-	(26,876)
	<u>288,561</u>	<u>(315,437)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,876)</u>

18 Details of transfers between

The transfers shown in note 16 above are:-

	2020 £
To/(from) Unrestricted Revenue Funds in accordance with the accounting policy 'Accounting for capital grants and fixed asset funds'.	-
To/(from) Restricted Revenue Funds	-
To/(from) Endowment Revenue Funds	-
Net transfers	<u>-</u>

19 The purposes for which the

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use. These funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.
Designated Revenue Funds	This fund represents the unrestricted funds donated, but where the funds have been allocated for a purpose. This year funds have been ringfenced for the new roof, and also for improved lighting and other small projects.

20 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity has unlimited joint and several liability for the debts of the charity.

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

21 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Donations and gifts from individuals					
Small donations individually less than £1000	217,575	-	-	217,575	222,319
Refunds from HMRC on gift aided donations	43,051	-	-	43,051	44,951
Large donations individually over £1000	6,500	-	-	6,500	2,161
Total donations and gifts from individuals	267,126	-	-	267,126	269,431

Donations and gifts from individuals (Include HMRC refunds on gift aided donations) - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £	
Prior year	269,431	-	-	269,431	
	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Legacies receivable					
Anonymous	-	-	-	-	8,427
Total legacies receivable	-	-	-	-	8,427

Legacies receivable - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Prior year	8,427	-	-	8,427

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Revenue grants from government and public bodies					
National Heritage	15,800	-	-	15,800	-
Total public sector revenue grants	15,800	-	-	15,800	-

Revenue grants from government and public bodies - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £	
Prior Year	-	-	-	-	
	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Capital grants from non public bodies					
Garfiels Weston Foundation	-	-	-	-	-
Archbishops Council	-	-	-	-	3,000
Total private sector capital grants	-	-	-	-	3,000

Capital grants from non public bodies - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Prior Year	3,000	-	-	3,000

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies

Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	282,926	-	-	282,926	280,858
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Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds 2019 £	Restricted Funds 2019 £	Endowment Funds 2019 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
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Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	A1	280,858	-	-	280,858
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22 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

Current year

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total funds 2019 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading					
Activities for generating funds	-	-	-	-	2,365
Income from church activities	4,056	-	-	4,056	12,179
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	4,056	-	-	4,056	14,544

23 Total Income from charitable activities

Current year

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2020 £	Current year Endowment Funds 2020 £	Current year Total Funds 2020 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2019 £
Total income from charitable trading	4,056	-	-	4,056	14,544
Total from charitable activities	A2	4,056	-	4,056	14,544

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

24 Investment income

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Endowment Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Property Rental Income	1,450	-	-	1,450	-
Bank Interest Receivable	129	-	-	129	212
Total investment income	A4 1,579	-	-	1,579	212

Investment income - Prior Year analysis

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds
Prior Year	212	-	-	212

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

25 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds		
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	45,307	-	-	45,307	45,005
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	802	-	-	802	733
Giving outside the parish	24,850	-	-	24,850	26,754
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	10,127	-	-	10,127	15,094
Church office & general running expenses	17,456	-	-	17,456	23,799
Parish share	128,486	-	-	128,486	125,352
Church buildings expenses	75,145	-	-	75,145	52,251
Gifts and presentations	3,524	-	-	3,524	270
Roof project expenditure	9,080	-	-	9,080	(12,079)
Total direct spending	B2a 314,777	-	-	314,777	277,179
<i>Prior Year</i>	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	
	Funds	Funds	Funds		
	2019	2019	2019	2019	
	£	£	£	£	
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities	45,005	-	-	45,005	
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities	733	-	-	733	
Giving outside the parish	26,754	-	-	26,754	
Church mission (incl youth, weekend & school)	15,094	-	-	15,094	
Church office & general running	23,799	-	-	23,799	
Parish share	125,352	-	-	125,352	
Church buildings expenses	52,251	-	-	52,251	
Gifts and presentations	270	-	-	270	
Roof project expenditure	(12,079)	-	-	(12,079)	
Total direct spending	B2a 277,179	-	-	277,179	

Bebington Parish Church

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2020 as required by the SORP 2015

26 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

<i>Current Year</i>	Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds		
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	660	-	-	660	660
Total Governance costs	660	-	-	660	660

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

27 Total Charitable expenditure

<i>Current Year</i>		Current year	Current year	Current year	Current year	Prior Year
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds	Funds		
		2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	314,777	-	-	314,777	277,179
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	315,437	-	-	315,437	277,839

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

<i>Prior Year</i>		Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year	Prior Year
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total Funds
		Funds	Funds	Funds	
		2019	2019	2019	2019
		£	£	£	£
Total direct spending	B2a	277,179	-	-	277,179
Total Governance costs	B2e	660	-	-	660
Total charitable expenditure	B2	277,839	-	-	277,839