

**Annual Report
and
Financial Statements
of the
Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of Welwyn and Woolmer Green**

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Team Rector:

The Reverend Dr David Munchin
The Rectory
2 Ottway Walk
Welwyn
Herts AL6 9AS

Bank:

Barclays Bank plc
The Welwyn Group
12/12A The Howard Centre
Welwyn Garden City
Herts AL8 6ER

Independent examiner:

Chris Burton BA, FCA
Chartered Accountant
13 Warren Way
Welwyn
Herts AL1 0DQ

Registered Charity no. 1130415

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Aim and purposes

The PCC of the parish has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Rev'd Canon Dr David Munchin, in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, including its pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical vision. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for St Mary the Virgin, Welwyn, St Michael and All Angels, Woolmer Green, St Michael's House and Church House.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our two churches and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer, scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance for charities on the advancement of religion. Primarily, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of our two churches, St Michael's House and Church House.

Plans for the future

Our new Mission Action Plan from the last year has highlighted three areas that need attention over the next 3-5 years. Firstly financial stability, particularly after the high rise in costs in the first half of 2023. A stewardship appeal made good inroads into a projected deficit. It has been decided that an annual 'giving weekend' that focusses on stewardship would be a good way to maintain momentum, this happened with good results in May 2024 and will be repeated in 2025. Secondly was a revitalising of our work with children. Junior church is now on a more stable footing with regular volunteers and material. However our attempt to restart CraTea was not successful due to lack of children wanting to attend. On the other hand Junior Choir has been started again, and is so far going quite strongly with a dozen new members. There are also the continuing Choral Scholarships for older children. Our third aim was to look at starting a more informal service on the fourth Sunday morning. This would be accompanied by a choral service, sometimes Eucharistic on the fourth Sunday evening. This was begun in the autumn of 2024, and has so far proved successful and popular.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present, there are 256 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll.

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services during the week that our community finds both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Quiet spoken Eucharist services are held on weekdays and on Sunday mornings. Sung Eucharist services are held every Sunday morning and on major festivals. On the fourth Sunday this has now become a well-established Café style service. Evensong services are held in St Mary's on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays of each month, with this generally being choral on the second Sunday. Services especially aimed at families and young children are held on a regular basis, usually in the more informal setting of Church House, such as the bi-monthly 40-minute pram service. Monthly services are held at various care homes and day centres for the elderly throughout the parish.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Special preparation classes are run for those who wish to get married in the churches and for those wishing to have their children baptised. Baptisms take place during normal Sunday morning services, enabling families to be welcomed by the church community. This is usually on the fourth Sunday of the month.

We have a notable choral tradition, which enhances worship. We have a large and able choir, complete with children and young people, offering an outstanding musical contribution to our worship. Over the past year this has seen further development, not least in the offering of an organ scholarship and various events such as a ‘Come and sing’ Messiah with orchestra.

Pastoral Care

There is a trained team within the congregation to provide Baptism preparation and a team to welcome newcomers and visitors. Pastoral care is largely provided by the clergy, and informally by members of the congregation on an ad hoc basis.

A Memorial service is held annually in November at St Mary’s for those who have been bereaved during past years. This is followed by refreshments and a time for fellowship and support.

Mission and Outreach

The PCC has a policy of making donations to local, national and international charities, mostly through the fundraising work of church members, equivalent to at least 15% of the annual voluntary donations received by St Mary’s. This target was met in 2024 – see Note 4 for further details.

Each year the parish produces 10 issues of the Welwyn Magazine with Woolmer Green, which contains both church and local information. It is sold widely throughout the parish.

The Welwyn Community Café, set up in November 2009 in conjunction with the Welwyn Parish Action Plan Group and in line with the Welwyn Parish Plan, has continued to be successful. The café runs most Tuesday mornings, from 10am until noon, in Church House. Church House also provides a venue for other community groups, such as a twice-weekly sewing and knitting group, a bridge club and a monthly community lunch.

There are many opportunities for Bible Study and other forms of Christian education; the website and the weekly pew bulletin give extensive details of these.

We take a key role as participant and venue in Welwyn Week. In addition, the parish runs a walking group, two book groups, a theatre group, and Saturday Breakfast events, which are open to church and non-church members. We produced a successful pantomime in 2024, which was well attended, entertaining and raised money for a charity. Further details of activities and up to date information can be found on our website.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Financial Review

Income

Total income was £241,024, a small increase of £2,625 on last year (2023: £238,399).

There was a 7.4% increase in regular giving to £120,637 (2023: £112,308). The Giving Weekend in May highlighted the importance of all those who are able signing up to regular giving, ideally via the Parish Giving Scheme and with the inflationary increase option. The popular monthly Saturday recitals at St Mary's raised £5,558 after deduction of expenses. We received legacies of £5,254 (2023: £12,417) and grants of £250 (2023: £2,750).

Income from charitable activities was £22,992 (2023: £19,263) and from other trading activities was £27,199 (2023: £26,974).

We are very grateful for the generosity of the church community – for donations of money, time and talents – all of which enable the running costs of the buildings to be met and the church's mission in the two communities of Welwyn and Woolmer Green to continue.

Expenditure

Total expenditure was £245,755, a small increase of £1,246 on last year (2023: £244,509). St Michael's House, the property in London Road, Woolmer Green, which was used as accommodation for the curate, was sold in the Autumn following the curate's move to Codicote. This resulted in a very small loss on disposal of £1,202.

Summary

Overall the charity recorded a deficit of £4,606 (2023: deficit of £5,636). There was capital expenditure of £6,020 (2023 £6,005). The cash balances (in bank and deposit accounts) rose to £799,698, which includes the proceeds of the sale of St Michael's House (2023 £169,022).

Reserves

The charity's total funds dropped by £4,606 to £889,413 (2023: £894,019). Restricted and endowment funds were £8,169 (2023: £8,044). Designated unrestricted funds for emergency expenditure and capital for church groups and activities rose to £49,639 (2023: £46,004), and a new designated fund of £628,236 was set up with the proceeds of the sale of St Michael's House for the purchase of a new curate's house, which is anticipated in 2025. General unrestricted funds dropped to £203,369 (2023: £214,971).

Unrestricted cash reserves (i.e. undesignated money freely available to spend on the charity's purposes) were £119,249 (2023: £120,686). The PCC's reserves policy is to hold sufficient unrestricted cash reserves to cover at least four months' operating expenses, which the trustees believe will provide stability for the charity, and they are satisfied with its current position.

Risk Assessment Policy

The PCC is actively involved in the day-to-day running of the charity. Its members have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have satisfied themselves that systems have been established, or that other appropriate measures have been taken, to mitigate those risks, insofar as is reasonably practicable, but it is recognised that systems cannot give absolute assurance that risks have been eliminated. Training of trustees and volunteers has been provided to mitigate the safeguarding risks associated with young people.

The PCC is aware of its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). It has appointed Safeguarding Officers for each church and approved the House of Bishops' Model Policies for safeguarding of

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Risk Assessment Policy (continued)

children and vulnerable adults (this is done annually and the policies are displayed in the churches, with additional information). In addition at each meeting a report is given on any safeguarding incidents. No safeguarding incidents occurred in 2024.

Matters associated with financial losses have been identified as a risk too. Because regular monthly expenditure exceeds regular monthly giving income, there is a reliance on one-off donations, legacies and appeals to raise sufficient funds to break even. Please see the above section on 'Plans for the future' and Mission Action Planning for information on how we are attending to this.

Volunteers

The PCC appreciates and thanks all the volunteers, at both St Mary's and St Michael's, who give their time and effort so willingly.

Structure, governance and management

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC operates through a number of action groups and committees, most of which meet on a regular basis.

Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Fabric Action Group:

Deals with the maintenance, repair and development of the church buildings, St Michael's House and Church House.

Giving Action Group:

Deals with the allocation of donations to chosen charities, both at home and abroad, and is responsible for encouraging parishioners to commit to regular giving, both of time and money, to ensure the well-being of the church and its functions.

Church House Management Action Group:

Responsible for the management, maintenance and usage of Church House.

St Michael's Meeting:

Acts like an Action Group and deals with all matters relevant to St Michael's Church.

As the PCC has ultimate responsibility for a wide range of matters affecting the parish, it is important that the PCC adopts appropriate training procedures. Training courses arranged by the diocese are attended by a PCC representative who reports back to the PCC as a body, with any relevant reading matter being distributed.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Administrative information

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006). The Charities Act 2006 removed 'excepted status' from charities with incomes over £100,000 and therefore, during 2010, the PCC was required to register as a charity with the Charity Commission; its registration number is 1130415. The PCC's administrative office is located at St Mary's Church, Church Street, Welwyn, AL6 9LX.

During 2024, the following served as members of the PCC:

<i>Incumbent:</i>	Rev'd Dr David Munchin	Chairman
<i>Clergy:</i>	Rev'd Christie Gilfeather	
<i>Readers:</i>	Mr Colin Hull (Deanery Synod Rep.) Mrs Usha Hull Mr John Burnapp	
<i>Church Wardens:</i>	Mr Stuart Westley Mrs Diane Jenkin	
<i>Deanery Synod Reps.:</i>	Mrs Vernonne Allan Mrs Mavis Francis	
<i>Elected Members:</i>	Mrs Jacqueline Davis Mrs Joan Shelley Mrs Georgina Beck Mr Stuart Jenkin Mrs Margaret Varco Ms Crystal Lam Mrs Elizabeth Hesketh Mrs Christine Allday Mrs Helen McKay	
<i>Secretary (not a PCC member):</i>	Mrs Louise Hughes	

Signed on behalf of the PCC by

.....
The Rev'd Dr David Munchin (Chairman)

.....
Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

I report to the charity's trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust, as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Chris Burton BA, FCA
Chartered Accountant
13 Warren Way
Welwyn
Herts AL6 0DQ

.....
Date

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	2024 TOTAL £	2023 TOTAL £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and legacies	2a	181,876	3,254	-	185,130	189,888
Charitable activities	2b	22,992	-	-	22,992	19,263
Other trading activities	2c	27,199	-	-	27,199	26,974
Investments	2d	4,566	-	152	4,718	2,274
Insurance claim		985	-	-	985	-
TOTAL INCOME		<u>237,618</u>	<u>3,254</u>	<u>152</u>	241,024	238,399
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds	3a	4,921	-	-	4,921	2,764
Charitable activities	3b	239,480	-	152	239,632	241,745
Other costs – loss on disposal of fixed assets	3c	1,202	-	-	1,202	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>245,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>152</u>	245,755	244,509
NET INCOME		(7,985)	3,254	-	(4,731)	(6,110)
NET GAINS ON INVESTMENTS	7	-	-	125	125	474
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS		<u>3,254</u>	<u>(3,254)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(4,731)	-	125	(4,606)	(5,636)
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2024		<u>885,975</u>	<u>2,574</u>	<u>5,470</u>	<u>894,019</u>	<u>899,655</u>
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2024		<u>881,244</u>	<u>2,574</u>	<u>5,595</u>	<u>889,413</u>	<u>894,019</u>

The notes on the pages following the balance sheet form part of these accounts

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	6	84,646	717,713
Fixed asset investments	7	<u>5,595</u>	<u>5,470</u>
		90,241	723,183
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock		0	242
Debtors	8	7,878	13,412
Short term deposits		744,434	33,123
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>55,264</u>	<u>135,899</u>
		807,576	182,676
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	9	<u>(8,404)</u>	<u>(11,840)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>799,172</u>	<u>170,836</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>889,413</u>	<u>894,019</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Expendable endowment funds	11c	5,595	5,470
Restricted funds	11c	2,574	2,574
Unrestricted funds	11c	881,244	260,975
Revaluation reserve	11c	<u>0</u>	<u>625,000</u>
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		<u>889,413</u>	<u>894,019</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
The Rev'd Dr David Munchin (Chairman)

The notes on the pages following the balance sheet form part of these accounts

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, together with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) ('the SORP'). The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, modified by the revaluation of investments and land and buildings, which are shown at fair value.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

Going concern

The Trustees believe that the charity's financial resources and contingency planning is sufficient to ensure the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, being at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Funds

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

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent for restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in Note 11. Endowment funds, where the capital must be retained, are also explained in Note 11.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Income and Endowments

The following gives details of how and when income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities

Donations and legacies

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

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants, legacies and endowment income are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt is reasonably certain.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Donations and legacies (continued)

Donated services are included in income (and at the same time in resources expended) at the estimated value to the PCC of the service received.

Charitable and other trading activities

Rental income from letting church premises is recognised when the rent becomes due.

Funds raised by social events are accounted for gross, after the event has taken place.

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross, when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest is accounted for when received.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on the revaluation of investments at 31 December each year.

Expenditure

The financial statements have been prepared under the accruals basis, inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT. Expenditure and any related liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable.

Donations

Donations are recognised when a commitment has been made externally.

Other costs

Governance costs include the cost of the independent examination of these accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Pensions

The charity contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme for its staff members. Contributions payable to the scheme are charged to the SOFA as incurred.

Fixed assets

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Church Wardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property, unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2001, there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fixed assets - *Consecrated property and movable church furnishings (continued)*

Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been capitalised and depreciated in the financial statements over their currently anticipated useful economic life on a straight-line basis. All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, or individual items costing less than £1,000, or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2001, is written off when incurred.

Freehold land and buildings

Freehold land and buildings owned by the PCC are carried at fair value based on an open market valuation. Any changes in the valuation are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over five years for office equipment and ten years for Church House and church equipment. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £250 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified and included in expenditure for the year.

Investments

Listed investments are included at market value at the Balance Sheet date.

Net gains/losses arising on the revaluation and disposal of investments are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Income deriving from these investments is accounted for on a receivable basis and is recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors, less a provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks. Short term deposits consist of cash held on deposit with the CBF Church of England Funds or other PCC-approved institutions.

Financial instruments

The PCC has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Accounting for financial assets and financial liabilities' of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019 to all its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors, are initially measured at transaction price, including transaction costs, and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, when the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Government grant income

Grants from government bodies and other sources are received for specific purposes and are recognised in accordance with their individual terms and conditions. Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, which is when any performance conditions attached are met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured. Grant income will be deferred if received in advance of meeting performance conditions or if the funder specifically states that the income must be spent in a future accounting period.

Operating leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2 INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>2a Donations and Legacies</i>					
Regular giving	120,637	-	-	120,637	112,308
One off donations	3,571	-	-	3,571	7,985
Online and card reader donations	11,010	-	-	11,010	12,425
“Open plate” collections at services	6,243	-	-	6,243	6,765
Sundry donations	4,567	-	-	4,567	3,383
Income tax recoverable	33,598	-	-	33,598	31,855
Grants received	250	-	-	250	2,750
Legacies	2,000	3,254	-	5,254	12,417
	181,876	3,254	-	185,130	189,888
<i>2b Charitable Activities</i>					
Fees for Weddings, Funerals etc	10,662	-	-	10,662	9,087
Choir	-	-	-	-	200
Coffee	1,580	-	-	1,580	1,166
Church groups and activities:					
Arpeggios	-	-	-	-	-
Bell Ringers	836	-	-	836	1,225
Fellowship	465	-	-	465	421
Flowers	4,115	-	-	4,115	2,205
Parish Magazine Sales	5,334	-	-	5,334	4,959
	22,992	-	-	22,992	19,263
<i>2c Other trading activities</i>					
Church and Church House lettings	10,282	-	-	10,282	10,615
St. Michael’s House letting	-	-	-	-	-
Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events	8,120	-	-	8,120	6,958
Church groups and activities:					
Bookstall	218	-	-	218	465
Fair Trade	-	-	-	-	984
Parish Magazine Advertisements	8,579	-	-	8,579	7,952
	27,199	-	-	27,199	26,974
<i>2d Investments</i>					
Dividends and interest	4,566	-	152	4,718	2,274
<i>2e Insurance claim</i>	985	-	-	985	-
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	237,618	3,254	152	241,024	238,399

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3 EXPENDITURE	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<i>3a Raising funds</i>					
Fetes, bazaars, other fund-raising events	4,921	-	-	4,921	2,764
<i>3b Charitable activities</i>					
Mission giving and donations	8,620	-	-	8,620	8,337
Ministry:					
Diocesan parish share	126,699	-	-	126,699	123,516
Clergy expenses	2,294	-	-	2,294	3,146
Church running expenses:					
Salaries	14,630	-	-	14,630	14,292
Insurance	5,887	-	-	5,887	5,394
Utilities	24,060	-	-	24,060	29,331
Other running costs	4,248	-	-	4,248	3,592
Upkeep of services	7,704	-	-	7,704	7,973
Subcontract costs – verger and organists	9,020	-	-	9,020	10,175
Church maintenance	9,837	-	-	9,837	9,482
Upkeep of churchyard	2,602	-	152	2,754	2,554
Major repairs/replacements	-	-	-	-	-
Church House costs	3,191	-	-	3,191	3,641
St Michael's House, London Road	257	-	-	257	63
Training and Mission	-	-	-	-	-
Youth costs	386	-	-	386	406
Choir expenditure	2,518	-	-	2,518	1,752
Depreciation of New Church House equipment	389	-	-	389	102
Depreciation of Church equipment	9,260	-	-	9,260	8,940
Depreciation of St. Michael's House equipment	-	-	-	-	878
Bank charges	389	-	-	389	428
Independent examination fee	-	-	-	-	-
Church groups and activities costs:					
Arpeggios	-	-	-	-	-
Bell Ringers	576	-	-	576	811
Bookstall	376	-	-	376	531
Fair Trade	-	-	-	-	900
Fellowship	-	-	-	-	38
Flowers	3,035	-	-	3,035	1,682
Parish Magazine	3,502	-	-	3,502	3,781
	239,480	-	152	239,632	241,745
<i>3c Other costs – loss on disposal of fixed assets</i>	1,202	-	-	1,202	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	245,603	-	152	245,755	244,509

During the year, two clergy (2023: two) were reimbursed expenses totalling £2,294 (2023: £3,146), relating mainly to travel and other costs incurred on behalf of church ministry.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

4 MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING

The two churches donated £8,620 directly to a variety of charities in the UK and abroad (see table below). In addition, £6,386 (2023: £9,583) was raised for charities as a result of fundraising activities organised by the churches.

	Donations		No. of institutions/ individuals	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£		
Support of disadvantaged people - UK	3,244	3,415	12	11
Support of disadvantaged people - Overseas	5,376	4,221	9	9
Natural disaster appeals - Overseas	-	701	-	2
Total donations to Institutions	8,620	8,337	21	22

5 STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	14,200	13,984
Social security costs	-	-
Other pension costs	<u>430</u>	<u>308</u>
	<u>14,630</u>	<u>14,292</u>

A voluntary Director of Music was in post and the PCC contracted for the services of a verger and relief organists, who are paid on a contractor basis on presentation of their invoices. No-one on the payroll, nor the verger or relief organists, earned £60,000 pa or more. The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2023: 2).

The church operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is available for all staff to join.

There were no other disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, persons closely connected with them or other related parties.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold land and buildings	Office equipment	Church House equipment	St. Mary's & St Michael's Churches and St. Michael's House equipment	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£
ACTUAL COST OR VALUATION					
At 1 January 2024	625,000	6,985	37,034	209,890	878,909
Additions/disposals	-		2,765	3,255	6,020
Disposals	<u>(625,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,378)</u>	<u>(5,548)</u>	<u>(631,926)</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>6,985</u>	<u>38,421</u>	<u>207,597</u>	<u>253,003</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2024	-	6,658	35,773	118,765	161,196
Charge for the year	-	69	389	9,191	9,649
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,378)</u>	<u>(1,110)</u>	<u>(2,488)</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>6,727</u>	<u>34,784</u>	<u>126,846</u>	<u>168,357</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2023	<u>625,000</u>	<u>327</u>	<u>1,261</u>	<u>91,125</u>	<u>717,713</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>258</u>	<u>3,637</u>	<u>80,751</u>	<u>84,646</u>

St Michael's House, London Road, Woolmer Green, which was used as accommodation for the curate, was sold in the Autumn of 2024. The proceeds of the sale are held in a CCLA CBF Deposit fund account by the diocese, with the intention to purchase a newer property to accommodate future curates.

7	INVESTMENTS	2024 £	2023 £
	Quoted Investments:		
	Investments at 1 January 2024	5,470	4,996
	Unrealised gains – increase in market value	<u>125</u>	<u>474</u>
	Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>5,595</u>	<u>5,470</u>
	Historic cost	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>

Represented by 242 (2023: 242) shares in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund.

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

8 DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	5,222	6,595
Other debtors	1,729	1,670
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>927</u>	<u>5,147</u>
	<u>7,878</u>	<u>13,412</u>

9 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income	350	-
Trade creditors	387	3,911
Accruals	4,378	4,346
Other creditors	<u>3,289</u>	<u>3,583</u>
	<u>8,404</u>	<u>11,840</u>

10 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

The future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, in respect of other equipment, is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable within 1 year	1,015	955
Payable between 1 and 5 years	<u>875</u>	<u>1,830</u>
	<u>1,890</u>	<u>2,785</u>

11 FUND DETAILS

11a Analysis of net assets by fund category at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total £
Fixed Assets for Church use	84,646	-	-	84,646
Investment Fixed Assets	-	-	5,595	5,595
Current Assets	805,002	2,574	-	807,576
Current Liabilities	<u>(8,404)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,404)</u>
Fund Balances	<u>881,244</u>	<u>2,574</u>	<u>5,595</u>	<u>889,413</u>

Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Welwyn and Woolmer Green

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

11 FUND DETAILS (continued)

11b Description of funds

Endowment fund

The St Michael's Churchyard Endowment fund is a permanent endowment that requires income to be spent on the grave of Stanley Victor Sales.

Restricted funds

Fund	Purpose of fund – to pay for:	Movements during the year
St. Mary's Memorial Garden	New tools and gardening equipment	No income or expenditure.
St Mary's Organ	Repair costs	No income or expenditure.
St Mary's Fabric	Fabric expenditure	A legacy of £3,254 was received which was spent on the new pathway lighting

Designated funds

Fund	Purpose of fund – to pay for:	Movements during the year
St Mary's Reserve	Fabric expenditure and emergency works	£628 received from the Community lunches was spent on maintaining the fabric of the church.
Curate's House (formerly St Michael's House)	Fabric expenditure and emergency works	£257 was spent on repairs and utility bills whilst the house was unoccupied.
Curate's House purchase	For purchase of new property	£628,236 is being held from the sale of St Michael's House.
St Mary's commission for altar frontals and vestments	Commission using the John Sainsbury legacy	No income or expenditure.
Youth	Youth work	£468 was spent on the Urban Saints programme and St Mary's Summer club.
St Mary's Music	Music and choir expenses	£6,470 was received (£5,558 Saturday recitals and £912 choir donations); £2,305 was spent on new hymn books and choral scholars.
The remaining designated funds	To provide working capital for various church groups and activities	See 11c Funds balances and movements for the year. The Bookstall designated fund was closed at the end of the year following the closure of its Barclays bank account and the decision to reduce the bookstall activities.

11 FUND DETAILS (continued)

11c Funds balances and movements for the year

Fund Name	Opening Balance 1/1/24	Movements during the year				Closing balance 31/12/24
		In	Out	Transfers	Investment gains	
REVALUATION RESERVE						
St. Michael's House, Woolmer Green	625 000	3 236	0	(628 236)	0	(0)
ENDOWMENT FUND						
St Michaels Church Yard (Sales Grave Trust)	5 470	152	(152)	0	125	5 595
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
St. Mary's Memorial Garden	492	0	0			492
St. Mary's Organ	2 082	0	0			2 082
St Mary's Fabric	0	3 254	0	(3 254)		0
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	2 574	3 254	0	(3 254)	0	2 574
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
Designated:						
St. Mary's Reserve	18 350	628	(628)			18 350
Curate's House (formerly St. Michael's House)	9 018	0	(257)			8 761
Commission for altar frontals and vestments at St. Mary's	3 600	0	0			3 600
Youth	1 565	0	(386)			1 179
St Mary's Music (formerly Choir)	5 008	6 470	(2 305)			9 173
Curates's House Purchase	0			628 236		628 236
Designated for church groups and activities:						
Arpeggios Hand Bell Ringers	245	0	0	0		245
St. Mary's Bell Ringers	4 353	836	(576)	(50)		4 563
St. Mary's Bookstall	243	218	(376)	(85)		0
St. Mary's Flowers	269	4 115	(3 035)	(1 000)		349
Parish Magazine	3 353	13 913	(3 502)	(10 345)		3 419
Total designated	46 004	26 180	(11 065)	616 756	0	677 875
General unrestricted *	214 971	208 202	(234 538)	14 734	0	203 369
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	260 975	234 382	(245 603)	631 490	0	881 244
CHARITY'S TOTAL FUNDS	894 019	241 024	(245 755)	0	125	889 413

* General unrestricted fund breakdown

	Opening Balance 1/1/24	Closing Balance 31/12/24
Cash	120 686	119 249
Fixed assets (net book value)	92 713	84 646
Debtors	13 412	7 878
Liabilities	(11 840)	(8 404)
TOTAL	214 971	203 369