

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SS MARY AND THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, WYMONDHAM WITH SILFIELD AND SPOONER ROW

England & Wales · Charity number 1130495

Details

Other names WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-07-09

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

Contact

Address Wymondham Abbey
Church Street
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Activities

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

Activities: The promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£361,947	£304,501	-	-
2023-12-31	£376,323	£276,788	-	-
2022-12-31	£135,943	£168,799	-	-
2021-12-31	£102,524	£205,522	-	-
2020-12-31	£248,641	£318,270	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alex Perry		2022-05-29
Andrew Richard Naylor		2019-04-28
Catherine Sian Mack		2019-04-28
Christopher James Grant		2022-10-30
Diana Margaret Grant		2024-04-20
Dr David Valentine Hamilton		2023-03-04
Graham John Shelton		2025-05-10
Hilary Frances Hunter		2024-04-20
Iain Alfred Drayton		2024-04-20
Isabel Louise Davidson		2023-03-04
John Martyn Chamberlain		2024-04-20
Kathleen Melvill Dorling		2019-04-28
Philip Sydney Aldred		2020-03-01
Rev Andrew Charles Hammond		2024-09-12
William James Hartley		2022-07-17

Accounts



WYMONDHAM ABBAY

A place of Welcome Worship & Wonder

ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS for the year ending 31 December 2024



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

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THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 10 May 2025 at 10am

The Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens

AGENDA

1. Opening prayer
2. Statement by the Vicar, Reverend Andrew Hammond
3. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 20 April 2024
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. To elect and appoint two churchwardens.
6. Meeting closes

The meeting is followed directly by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which is intended only for those named on the Electoral Roll.

Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners for the

Election of Churchwardens

Saturday 20 April 2024 at 10:30am

Present: Father Christopher and 56 parishioners were present

Apologies: 17 apologies for absence were received and registered.

- 1 The meeting opened with a reading and prayer
- 2 Reverend Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest in Charge addressed the parishioners. He thanked the church wardens for all their hard work.
They were ably supported by assistants Chris Grant, Treasurer and Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer.
The team had met fortnightly together and were in almost daily contact by email. Father Christopher said it was a wonderful experience working with such a good team and he was sure they would give invaluable support to his successor.
- 3 **Minutes of the Vestry Meeting** held on 4 March 2023 were approved unanimously.
- 4 No matters were arising from the minutes
- 5 **Election and appointment two churchwardens**
William James Hartley (aka Jim) and Brian Peter Marcus Randall had been nominated. There were no further nominations and they were duly elected.
Fr Christopher thanked them and Brian Randall thanked the parishioners and volunteers for all their support.
- 6 The vestry meeting closed

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 10 May 2025

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To receive and confirm the minutes of the APCM held on 20 April 2024
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. To receive reports:
 - a. Electoral Roll
 - b. Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the activities of the parish during 2024
 - c. Financial statement for the year ending 31 Dec. 2024
 - d. Fabric report
 - e. Deanery Synod report
5. To re-elect four parochial representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod
6. To elect up to 12 members to the Parochial Church Council for a three-year term
RULE M15: if there are more than 50 but no more than 100, nine; if there are more than 100, a further three per hundred names and, where the number of names on the roll is not divisible by 100 without fraction or remainder, for the fraction or remainder, up to a maximum of 15.
7. To appoint a person to be the Independent Examiner of the PCC for 2024/2025
8. Any other business
9. Address by the Vicar: Reverend Andrew Hammond

The Blessing

Minutes of The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Parishioners

Saturday 20 April 2024

Present: Father Christopher and 56 parishioners were present

1 **Apologies:** 17 apologies for absence were received and registered.

2 **The minutes** of the APCM held on 4 March 2023 were approved unanimously.

3 **Matters arising:** there were no matters arising from the minutes

4 **The following verbal reports were given:**

Full details had been circulated in the Annual Report for year ending 31 December 2023.

a **Electoral Roll Report** was given by Barbara Randall, Electoral Roll Officer

A new Electoral Roll had been prepared for last year's APCM on 4 March 2023 when there were 158 on the roll. 57 of whom had not been listed on the previous roll.

Since the last APCM there had been six deaths and 16 new names had been added.

There are currently 168 names on the Roll. 26 live outside of the parish.

b **Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)** and the activities of the parish during 2023 were fully recorded in the Annual Report. Key points follow:

- there were seven PCC meetings during 2023, all well attended,
- appointments made: Rob Goodrich as Director of Music, Iain Drayton as Health & Safety Officer,
- the PCC were unable to appoint a Youth and Families worker,
- the PCC wishes to develop a Parish Nurse Scheme through Parish Nursing Ministries UK,
- following the sale of Herfast House by the Diocese, 9 Applegarth will be the new vicarage. The Diocesan property team have made improvements and renovated the building.
- the preparation of a Parish Profile was begun for the appointment of a new Vicar.

Father Christopher explained that he was encouraged by the growth in church attendance and the variety of activities taking place. The church has been open every day and over 33,000 visitors received a warm reception from our team of volunteer welcomers. Many more attended special services and concerts and community events throughout the year.

The 27 reports in the Annual Report on Parish Activities provide ample evidence of what a thriving and welcoming place Wymondham Abbey has become.

Abbey Services – 2023

Services:

Baptisms	19
Weddings	7
Funerals	14
Burials of ashes	2
Funerals in crematoria	7

Attendance figures:

Average Sunday	154
Easter communicants	194
The four Sundays of Advent plus Christingle	903
Three school carol services	717
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day total	984
Advent and Christmas total	2,604

Around 20 people received Communion at home each month during 2023.

The most notable increase in worshippers has been the number of families attending the 10.30am services. The Sunday evening service has a regular congregation of 12 or more.

The appointment of a Director of Music in September and subsequent development of both an enlarged senior choir and a junior choir plus a primary school choir visiting once a month further increased congregation numbers.

The meeting approved the report.

c Treasurer's report for the year ending 31 Dec. 2023

A detailed financial statement had been circulated and approved by the PCC on Sun. 7 April 2024. Chris Grant spoke to the Parishioners supported by an excellent Powerpoint presentation which highlighted key points from the full report.

Income was £376,323 which included reserved gifts of £92,421, grants of £115,370 and £168,532 from the Parish Giving Scheme, visitor donations, gift aid, events and the Abbey shop.

After two consecutive years of losses, we had a **surplus of about £3-4k.**

We need £170k each year to maintain our basic activities.

- The Parish Share of £65k was fully paid.
- Spooner Row church has a fund of £26,870 and is able to meet essential annual expenditure.
- The Parish Giving Scheme has 51 members approaching £3,400 per month including Gift Aid.
- Two contactless card donation points contributed over £5k.
- Total giving from all sources contributed £104,059.
- Events generated a profit of around £15k on an income of around £21k.
- The shop generated a profit of around £14k on an income of around £24k.

We are grateful for the generosity of Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust, Friends of Wymondham Abbey and William Papillon Trust without whose ongoing support the Abbey would not be financially viable. Between them they have funded heating, major repairs to the roof leadwork, overhaul of the website, completion of the sound system and have funds ready for education and outreach projects. The comfortable heating this winter has enabled us to welcome regular congregations, over 33,000 visitors, outreach activities such as the weekly Baby and Toddler group, the Friday Winter Warm Spaces and not least an environment for our dedicated volunteers to enjoy working in.

Questions were invited:

1. SB-W asked about the proposed Parish Nurse scheme which would utilise the outreach funding received from an anonymous donor. Fr C recommended the scheme which is run by Parish Nursing Ministries UK <https://www.parishnursing.org.uk/>
It would enable us to help support the community with mental and physical health needs and make good use of the Abbey Hall in an outward facing role.
2. VC-J commented that it was sad that we have to spend so much time talking about money. Fr C commented that 'money is a means to mission'.

There were no further questions and the Accounts were accepted.

d Fabric report was given by Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer

2023 was a year of consolidation and getting the Abbey back on track in many ways.

Fabric works during the year included:

- attention to high level stonework both inside and outside around the monastic ruins,
- a protective fence had been placed at the East tower to protect from falling masonry,
- a long-planned programme of roof repairs,
- the provision of warning signs of the steep drop at the ha-ha
- planting of fruit trees in the wildlife area,
- high level trunk wiring, loudspeakers and electronics for the new sound system,
- refinishing work on all the parquet flooring and the stone floor of the Lady Chapel,
- maintenance of all electrical appliances, servicing of boilers and installation of smart meters,
- an overhaul of the bells this spring,
- work on the Sedilia will be taking place in 2024,

The Quinquennial inspections of both the Abbey and Spooner Row are now done and we await the reports from the architect to plan the next five years' priorities.

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Registered charity number 1130495

Questions were invited:

1. DR asked about plans for the East tower. AN explained that a survey had taken place in 2021/2022 after reports of fallen masonry. Protective fencing was erected. A schedule of work and tenders are required before work can be started.
2. RB-W asked about the unsightly crack in the floor in St Benedicts. Filling in the crack had been done before and didn't work. A longer-term solution may be to lay a strip of infill paving as a feature instead. Care would be needed because of buried heating cables.

e Deanery Synod report

Humbleyard Deanery Synod did not meet in 2023 and has been dissolved. We are now in Thetford and Rockland Deanery.

5 Parochial representatives of the laity on the Deanery Synod

Barbara Randall and Morwenna Thomas will serve for another two years. Kay Dorling and Catherine Mack were elected for a three-year term. Deanery Synod representatives are all full voting members of the PCC. Fr Christopher had attended a Thetford and Rockland Chapter meeting recently.

6 Members of the Parochial Church Council

Rev. Canon Christopher John Davies, Interim Priest-in-Charge
Church wardens: Jim Hartley and Brian Randall,
PCC Treasurer Christopher James Grant, PCC Secretary Barbara Randall.
PCC members: Isabel Davidson, David Hamilton and Alex Perry serving three-year terms.

New members elected to the Parochial Church Council for a three-year term

There were four nominations:

Martyn Chamberlain, Iain Drayton, Diana Grant and Hilary Hunter and all were duly elected. Philip Aldred, Spooner Row representative and Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer would be formally co-opted onto the PCC as full voting members when the PCC meet on 21 May 2024.

7 Appointment of an Independent Examiner of the PCC for 2024/2025

Our treasurer, Chris Grant, proposed two alternatives as it would depend on our total annual income as to whether we were legally required to have a qualified accountant to examine the accounts. The cost of a professional accountant for examining the 2023 accounts was £2,200.

The meeting unanimously agreed that the two options would be:

1. Robert Ayers (who examined the 2022 accounts) if the income was less than £250k or
2. our 2023 accountant Peter Bussey of Abacus if, as last year, the income total (which includes grants from trusts) goes over £250k.

8 Any other business

The parishioners were invited to raise any matters they wished but there were no questions.

9 Address by Reverend Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest in Charge

It is very good to see so many people here this morning – a sure sign of a vibrant church community which is taking seriously the call to discipleship. I began my address last year by saying a great deal has been achieved – more than I thought possible, more than I dared hope. And I want to repeat that but in the context of thanking God – thanking God for all of you who have brought so much to the life of the Abbey and Spooner Row.

It is quite remarkable that we have been able to achieve so much in the last 12 months – we have grown both numerically and spiritually as a congregation. We have recruited yet more volunteers for the

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Welcome Desk and for the shop. We have paid off all the debts, restored in full the payment of the Parish Share and, as we have heard from our Treasurer, balanced the books for the year end. This is, indeed, a God given blessing. God working through all of you, and many others not here this morning, has brought about this transformation.

Bishop Graham, writing to me following the interviews for the new incumbent said the welcome on Thursday in the Abbey was outstanding. People could not have been kinder. What a wonderful team. His comments echo the many, many favourable remarks made in our visitors' book and are a tribute to all of you who give of your time on the PCC, at the Welcome Desk and in the shop, and in so many other ways.

Thank you to those who week by week enable our Ministry of Welcome and never underestimate the impression that a smiling face and cheery 'hello' will make on a visitor – quite simply – they will judge the church by the welcome they receive from you.

Once more we have been generously supported by The Preservation Trust, The Friends and The Papillon Trust as together they have funded works and projects initiated by the PCC.

You will have heard that a new vicar has been appointed.

In the months ahead we will be involving my successor in the plans to appoint a Parish Nurse, a Part-time Youth Worker and the re-development of the Hall – all of which will involve new opportunities for outreach and discipleship. Outreach and discipleship are our core activities. Of course, the Abbey hosts many community events and rightly so; we have fayres, exhibitions, guided tours, lectures and, together with Spooner Row, many recitals and concerts. But outreach and discipleship are our core activities.

It has been good to see the Abbey Choir back in the stalls and I am particularly grateful to Rob Goodrich who has sensitively combined the existing choir with the former choristers and to Lorna for recruiting and encouraging the Junior Choir and to Peter and Daniel for accompanying our worship so well. Music in its many forms plays a significant part in the life of both of our churches and it has been good to welcome back orchestras and recitalists. I am well aware of the extra work required in hosting many extra activities over and above our daily round of worship.

The Herculean effort in running the Toddler Group and offering them hospitality every Thursday is but one example, but one that speaks powerfully of welcome and service to the local community.

The great Benedictine tenet that all should be welcomed as Christ is being lived out among us in so many ways and we must thank God for that.

You will have heard me say more than once that a church community can never be static, a church is called to be a pilgrim people – moving and growing into the love of God. There are new faces in our congregation every Sunday – some are visitors, some are seekers and everyone of us has a responsibility to make them feel welcome and to encourage them to travel alongside us.

William Temple, one time Archbishop of Canterbury rightly said, The church is the only organisation that exists primarily for the sake of those who are still outside it.

As we travel on, and as you prepare for a new chapter under a new vicar, may God continue to bless and to guide. And may we all resolve afresh to build the kingdom.

Thank you all for who you are, for all you have done and for all I know you will continue to do.

The meeting ended with the Blessing.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 10 May 2025

STATUTORY REPORTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

This year all Church of England parishes are preparing a new Electoral Roll for the current round of Annual Meetings. This is done every six years. At the end of December 2024 there were 168 names on the roll, 17 lived outside the parish. Since the last APCM held on 20 April 2024, two people on the Roll have died. Over the previous six years others have moved away or for various reasons no longer attend services regularly. On the new roll prepared for this meeting there are 145 names, of which 27 are new. Notably 26 people live outside the parish and regularly attend services.

Barbara Randall, Electoral Roll Officer

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) REPORT

Bishop Ian had attended the PCC meeting in November 2023 to explain the appointment process for a new Vicar and so the preparation of a parish profile began in January. The churchwardens had several meetings with Archdeacon Steven Betts culminating in a Section 11 Meeting with the PCC in February, chaired by Acting Archdeacon and Bishop's Chaplain Rev'd Canon Sally Theakston.

During 2024 PCC business has included the appointment of Ramona Chenery as a Parish Nurse Scheme in Wymondham. Her report is in the Parish Activities section of this document.

The reputation of the church within the wider community has continued to improve during 2024. The church has been open every day and over 36,000 visitors received a warm reception from our team of volunteer welcomers. Many more attended special services and concerts throughout the year.

The reports on Parish Activities provide a record of what a thriving and welcoming place Wymondham Abbey has become as a result of the work of our many dedicated volunteers supported and guided by Fr Christopher who worked tirelessly in the last months before his 'second' retirement in September. The Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM) and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) were held on Saturday 20 April 2024 attended by Fr Christopher and 56 parishioners. The PCC has complied with the requirements imposed by the code under section 5A of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

The PCC is a Registered Charity and its Trustees are the people responsible for controlling the work, management and administration of the charity on behalf of its beneficiaries. There are currently 17 Trustees. Two churchwardens were appointed at the AVM: **William James Hartley** and **Brian Peter Marcus Randall**. Revd. Canon Christopher John Davies served as Interim Priest-in-Charge until Sunday 8 September 2024.

Rev'd Father Andrew Charles Hammond was appointed Vicar of Wymondham with Spooner Row in the Diocese of Norwich at his Collation by The Right Reverend Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich and Induction and Installation by The Venerable Steven Betts, Archdeacon of Norfolk on Thursday 12 September 2024. At the APCM on 20 April 2024 four people were appointed to serve as Deanery Synod representatives: **Barbara Joan Randall** and **Morwenna Corfield Thomas** (both appointed March 2023) would serve for another two years. **Kathleen Melvill Dorling** and **Catherine Sian Mack** were elected for a three-year term. **Isabel Louise Davidson**, **Dr David Valentine Hamilton** and **Alex Perry** (all elected in March 2023) would serve on the PCC for another two years. Newly elected for a three-year term were **John Martyn Chamberlain**, **Iain Alfred Drayton**, **Diana Margaret Grant** and **Hilary Frances Hunter**. The following would continue to serve by virtue of their role: **Christopher James Grant**, PCC Treasurer, **Philip Sydney Aldred**, Spooner Row representative and **Andrew Richard Naylor**, Fabric Officer. Diana Grant was appointed Safeguarding Officer, Iain Drayton was appointed Health and Safety Officer, Barbara Randall continued her roles as PCC Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer. Ruth Brett had stood down in March 2024 before the APCM.

In addition to the Section 11 meeting in February and an extraordinary meeting to approve the Annual Report and Accounts in April there were six ordinary PCC meetings during 2024, all well attended.

Barbara Randall, PCC Secretary

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Registered charity number 1130495

ABBEY SERVICES – 2024

Services:

Baptisms	20
Weddings	13
Funerals	22
Burials of ashes	2
Funerals in crematoria	6

Attendance figures:

Average Sunday in October	151
Easter communicants	314
The four Sundays of Advent plus Christingle	950
Three school carol services	400
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services total	734
Advent and Christmas total	2,084
Total members in our worshipping community	314

An average of 26 people received Communion at home or in residential homes each month during 2024.

The weekly pattern of services in 2024 was as follows:

Monday to Friday: Morning and Evening Prayer each day at 10am and 3pm or 4pm
Weekday morning Eucharist on Wednesdays at 10.30am
Centering Presence prayer group weekly on Tuesday at 10.30am
Sunday services: Sung Eucharist at 10.30am, Evening Prayer with hymns at 5pm
Special Eucharists on Feast Days

The most notable increase in worshippers has been the number of families attending the 10.30am services, particularly when children were singing. Easter communicants greatly increased in 2024.

In December 2024 Sunday Club activities in St Benedict's replaced the former Godly Play in the Eucharist. The weekly 5pm Sunday Evensong had a regular congregation of 15 or more. Choral Evensong took place monthly and on some Feast Days with a congregation of around 30 with similar numbers in the choir.

Barbara Randall, PCC Secretary

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Treasurer's Report for the Year ending 31 December 2024 is at the end of this document, following the reports on Parish Activities.

FABRIC REPORT

After a couple of years getting back on track with essential maintenance, we were able to move on last year with some long planned projects.

It was fortunate planning to get the conservation work on our Tudor Sedilia underway in a quiet January. It now looks much less fragile and the craftsmen were able to investigate its structure a little further.

Whatever the rumours there is no trace of a tomb inside, of Abbot Ferrers or anyone else. Since the wall it sits within has now become internal (after at least 400 years of exposure to the elements) the mortar has been drying out which can lead to salts coming to the surface and damaging terracotta. Luckily McNeillage Conservation have been able to stabilise this, though we will keep a close eye on it over the next few years. While the scaffolding may have gone, there was still some banging from above as the team from Norfolk Sheet Lead chased some leaks and splits in the lead on the aisle roofs. Again, this is a never-ending job and a building like this can never been completely watertight, so we are monitoring any further leaks that occur and planning to fix them every few years as time and money allow.

We had the reports from our Quinquennial inspections (done in 2023) and spent time with the architect understanding priorities. While the roof and gutters may be sorted for the moment, much of the exterior stonework around the ruined East tower is in poor condition with significant amounts of loose flintwork at high level. We are putting together a plan to deal with this, as well as issues in the tower itself highlighted by our rope access inspection 2 years ago. While scaffolding is in place it makes sense to tackle the stonework and windows in the North nave Clerestory which need conservation to prevent further deterioration.

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All of this forms a major project which will take several years to plan and complete, but the ball is now rolling. Every five years we also need to have an inspection of the electrical system in the Abbey, the Hall and Spooner Row. As expected, these all found a number of problems which have been dealt with. The electricians were also in residence for most of the autumn putting in new lighting and rewiring the stairs to the bell chamber and beyond in the west tower and north porch. This wiring was over 50 years old and had been prone to tripping out in the unheated stair. The new LEDs provide a much better light for those who climb up and down each week. We also added a few more much needed sockets around the building. The grade 1 listing means we have to use a very solid copper covered fireproof cable in many areas, which is both expensive to buy and very slow to work with. Many thanks to the Preservation trust for funding this work.

The interior of the building saw the stone floor cleaned near the welcome desk and some cracks repaired. The usual routine maintenance of boilers and alarm systems all takes time, and we have also been busy with plans for the Abbey Hall, more of which elsewhere. There was also some activity (paid for by the diocese) to get Applegarth ready for Father Andrew's occupation.

In the winter we had a NetZero audit instigated and paid for by the Church of England, which is expected to throw up a few suggestions for energy improvements – as always, switching to Net Zero largely means changing from Gas to Electricity as a heat source, which is a very difficult thing in a Grade 1 listed church without spending eye watering sums of money, and probably increasing the running cost. We shall have to wait and see.

As always we are indebted to the advice and great generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust in funding most of this work. We are in a very privileged and rare position to be able to look after this great building without having to continually fundraise and their continued support is always hugely appreciated.
Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

At the beginning of 2024 all the parishes and benefices in Humbleyard Deanery were placed in adjacent deaneries. This meant that our parish of Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row became part of Thetford and Rockland Deanery. Other Benefices that moved with us were High Oak/Hingham and Hethersett. The Thetford and Rockland Deanery is large and consists of 10 benefices, 34 parishes and 54 churches. Our Rural Dean is Matthew Jackson, rector of Attleborough and the Lay Chair is Peter Lotarius. We were given a warm welcome to the first new Deanery Synod meeting at East Harling Church, on 24 April. We heard a presentation about generous giving from Robert Culyer and Tim Sweeting, the Diocesan Secretary. Prayers were asked for the Shellrock benefice who were still without an incumbent. In the summer we met at St. Peter's church, Rockland St. Peter, on 23 July. The Guest Speaker was Frances Middleton speaking on Sanctuary Church in Norwich and helping refugees who have been virtually abandoned by officialdom. The autumn meeting was held at Cloverfield Community Church in Thetford on 15 October 15, with Sue Brice, the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, as the speaker.

Kay Dorling, Deanery Synod Representative

HOLY TRINITY SPOONER ROW

It has been another very positive year in the life of our community. Eucharist Services have been held regularly on every second Sunday in the month, plus Easter day and Christmas day. A lay Service of the Word has been held every fourth Sunday in the month. Every Service has been followed by fellowship of coffee, tea and biscuits and chat. Harvest, Act of Remembrance and Good Friday have also been celebrated accordingly. We have had Carols round the Organ - an event attended by over 60 people from the village and the Parish - comprising of Readings and Carols associated with Christmas. The Nativity Play, attended by around 70 youngsters, aged 4 months to adults up to aged 85! Again refreshments were served after and much appreciated by all. Numbers of attendees at Services has remained constant throughout the year but with an increase overall from last year, which has been very pleasing to see.

The PCC held a Vision Day at the Church shortly after the arrival of Father Andrew. Holy Communion was celebrated before the Day began.

The Church was used by the Norfolk West Gallery Quire until its cessation early in the year. Norwich Music Group continued to rehearse every Tuesday evening. Wymondham Youth Music Society have held a Concert, and their Committee hold their meetings at regular intervals too.

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The Dais has been removed and the Altar now stands on the tiles. Future considerations re a smaller platform and/ or a carpeted area for the Altar to be placed upon are on-going. Other works have also been successfully carried out including: painting and putting a dado rail to protect the wooden panels around the church and the painting of the front door. Other works to the electrics and guttering (included in the Fabric Officers Report) have also been successfully carried out.

Our thanks to Father Tony for his continued and tireless work for our Eucharist Services. Thanks, also, to all members of the Congregation who have provided flowers, refreshments, the cleaning of the brasses and the Church itself. Thanks to Father Christopher, and latterly, Father Andrew together with Andrew Naylor and the PCC for all their support.

Philip Aldred, Spooner Row Representative

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

The bulk of the significant activity in 2024 revolved around filling the post of Vicar. Fr Christopher, who had led us so admirably since the resignation of Revd Catherine Relf-Pennington in June 2022, decided in the summer of 2023 that his work as Interim Priest-in-Charge was nearing an end.

With input from many sources and considerable help from +Graham and +Ian we managed to put together a Parish Profile that we hoped would attract the right candidate. The profile was approved at the Section 11 meeting of the PCC, and the two Parish Representatives on the interview panel (Jim Hartley and Isabel Davidson) were appointed. The interview date was set for 11 April, and advertising was organised. The post was advertised on the Diocesan and CofE websites, as well as a paid advert in the Church Times.

Of the five applicants, three were selected for interview and Rev Andrew Hammond was chosen to be our next Vicar. He was formerly the Chaplain at St John's College, Cambridge before moving to Wymondham. He is now living in the Diocesan owned house in Applegarth, into which the Diocese put a lot of effort to make it presentable.

We said 'Farewell' to Fr Christopher on Sunday 8 September, and Fr Andrew was Collated, Inducted and Installed on Thursday 12 September. They were two moving but contrasting services.

We are profoundly grateful to everyone who helped with the important task of ensuring that we were able to appoint a new Vicar. We have found Fr Andrew to be a joy to work with, and we are confident that he will lead the Abbey safely on the next stage of our journey.

There was not much else of significant to report on; just the usual balancing act of keeping the diverse activities running smoothly and ensuring we continue to be a place of welcome, worship and wonder.

Brian Randall and Jim Hartley

REPORTS ON PARISH ACTIVITIES

ABBAY ARCHIVE – John Herne

The Abbey Archive has been made accessible to local, family and academic historians. Cataloguing is ongoing. During the year the archivist has answered enquiries, put on a display for Heritage Open Days and given an illustrated presentation to several village history groups.

More documents have been put into conservation-quality envelopes, the better to preserve them. The Friends of Wymondham Abbey sponsored a booklet guide to the archive, which is being distributed to other archivists etc. It is hoped it may be possible to have it included on the Abbey website.

The Friends also paid for the mounting, to the latest archival standard, of the 1445 grant of land by the Priory to the parishioners, enabling the present west tower to be constructed. A display of this deed, with other information about the tower, is

planned for early summer 2025 in the display case under the tower.

A few 'stray' documents from other parishes, with no Wymondham connection, have been found in the muniment room, and have been deposited, against receipt, in the Norfolk Records Office.

ABBAY CHOIR – Rob Goodrich, Director of Music

Music at the Abbey continues to develop at a healthy rate, with numbers in the choir steadily increasing. Their strength in depth and commitment has enabled the choir to tackle some of the fulfilling repertoire from years gone by, such as the morning and evening *Collegium Regale* services by Herbert Howells and *Greater love hath no man* by John Ireland.

The enthusiastic Junior Choir are bonding well and are enjoying some stimulating and catchy

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repertoire chosen and skilfully directed by Lorna Goodrich. They sang with the adults at their first Abbey Christmas Carol service, colourfully enhancing the joint items, most notably *Masters in this hall*.

We are blessed with having a number of deputy organists: Martin Adams, Daniel Ayers, Jo Richards, Ollie Scott-Lincoln and Dave Ballard who have covered many of the morning services as accompanist, allowing me to concentrate on directing the choir from the east end. Grateful thanks to our wonderful Assistant Organist, Peter O'Connor who continues support the choir for choral evensongs and other special services throughout the year.

I am also grateful for the financial support offered by The Friends of Wymondham Abbey and the Papillon Trust. This support has enabled me to purchase sets of two wonderful volumes of music, *Carols for Choirs 6* and *Epiphany to All Saints*, both of which have been put to good use over the festive season and Epiphanytide.

ABBAY JUNIOR CHOIR – Lorna Goodrich

The junior choir have worked hard this year and have made great progress since the group formed in September 2023. The music the children are singing is becoming more complex and they are gaining confidence in singing in more than one part. During choir practice, the children spend some of their time working through the Royal School of Church Music, Voice for Life training scheme. They ticked off all the requirements for the first award, the white award, and were presented with their medals on Easter Day. The children are now working towards their next awards which we hope to give out in 2025.

This year, the junior choristers sang at various Sunday morning services, but a particular highlight was the Christmas Carol Service where they joined the adult choir for the first time. They sang the carols beautifully and some with great gusto, especially *Masters in this hall* arranged by Jerrick Cavagnaro which is now fondly known by all the junior choristers as 'The Custard Carol'.

Thanks to Rob Goodrich for his support and guidance with the junior choristers this year. Also, a big thank you to Rose Naylor and Rebecca Ayers for being brilliant role models and helping the juniors in rehearsals.

ABBAY FLOWERS – Doris Waymark

Once again we are very grateful to Andy Free for sponsoring the flowers for 2024. Also for the generosity of the flower arrangers, waterers and individual members of the congregation. Our small team have been delighted to enhance our beautiful Abbey with flowers on a regular weekly basis and for special occasions. Starting the year over 100 posies were made and distributed on Mothering Sunday. For Easter as always the arrangements contained beautiful Easter Lilies, the real start of our flower arranging year! Special displays were created to say Farewell to Fr Christopher and to Welcome our new vicar Fr Andrew.

Flower decorations for Harvest Festival included 'a sheaf of bread' and fruit and vegetables which were afterwards distributed to less fortunate people. For the first time with great enthusiasm from Fr Andrew we commemorated All Saints and All Souls Day with designs incorporating Candles. The congregation were invited to submit the names of their departed loved ones that they wished to be remembered on this special day.

Christmas is always a happy time for the arrangers to decorate the Church to compliment the lovely Christmas trees. We are always very happy to do wedding flowers by arrangement and would also like to attract some younger arrangers, no experience necessary, just enthusiasm and a love of flowers, advice is always available. If you are interested please contact Ann Hammond or Anne Johnson.

ABBAY HALL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT – Martyn Chamberlain

During the report period, further progress has been made with the proposed Hall refurbishment project. The objective is to create a warm, welcoming and sustainable environment for a variety of groups and individuals who offer assistance and advice to the wider town community. It is hoped that this can be done on a zero-charge basis, assuming that energy costs can be reduced with improved insulation, heating and power-generation arrangements. This objective is fully consistent with the Parish's Outreach and Mission plans and reflects on our Benedictine heritage of offering hospitality to all. An architect was appointed in the summer of 2024 and has developed imaginative plans for the Hall. In view of the large costs (estimated at around £500,000), the proposed works have been divided into suitably phased parcels of work. As the bulk of the work must be funded externally, a strategic list of grant-giving Trusts has been carefully drawn up. We are

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currently awaiting the result of our Planning Permission application: as soon as this is granted, we shall submit applications to several Trusts for the first phase of the works. This involves: replacement of the WCs; formation of a new office for confidential meetings; installation of better storage in the Hall; and the replacement of the main door with a more secure and attractive entrance. To inform a wider audience of our plans, and to satisfy the requirements of several grant-giving trusts, a video has been produced which will be downloaded from the Abbey Website. With the agreement of the PCC, a small sub-committee has been formed to supervise progress of the project.

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP – *Lorna Goodrich*

It has been another busy year for the Baby and Toddler Group and sessions are proving to be as popular as ever. We run every Thursday morning during term time and are fully booked each week (often with several names on the waiting list). We have a different educational or religious theme each week and this year's highlights included Candlemas, Pancake Day, Easter, Noah's Ark, Science Week, Space and Christmas. There is always plenty for children to do at the sessions and a lot of time and effort is put into the craft activities, messy play and refreshments which are provided every week. We have had a few changes to our volunteer team this year and were sad to say goodbye to Sarah at the end of the summer term. Angela joined the team in May, and we are very grateful for all her help, especially for being a friendly face on the craft table!

Finally, a huge thank you to all the volunteers who help keep the sessions going. You do a fabulous job setting up, preparing refreshments, welcoming families, taking registers, tidying away and moving lots of chairs! We couldn't do it without you and really appreciate everything you do.

BELLS – *Hayden Charles*

We had a quiet start to the year. After welcoming 2025 in customary fashion at Midnight, the next job was to assist bellhanger Neil Thomas with removing the clappers from all ten bells. They were taken by to Matthew Higby and Co in Somerset where they received a comprehensive service and refurbishment. The bell bearings were cleaned and re-greased and some pulleys replaced.

It may have been quiet, but was very energetic, especially the reverse process at the end of February when everything had to be carried up 120 stairs. Like all mechanical equipment bells benefit

from maintenance and we are grateful to the Preservation Trust for meeting the bill. For the remainder of the year we rang for every Sunday morning service, and we also attempt quarter peals before evensong on the first Sunday of the month. In addition, we rang for nine weddings and a memorial service.

CAFÉ TEAM – *Diana Grant*

The success of our café continues and the fundraising is impressive.

Net income from donations	£6,147
Net income from Abbey Fairs	£2,725
Total	£8,872

This does not include income from other organised events such as concerts. Our small team provides simple refreshments on a routine basis after services. Extra volunteers join in at our big events. We use a WhatsApp group to organise our work. The café is open for help-yourself refreshments during the abbey opening hours for anyone including the public to enjoy our hospitality. Payment is by donation. This seems to work well without volunteer staffing at present except to provide support with cleaning and stocking up. Thanks to everyone who has worked hard through the year and in particular to Andrew and Sue Naylor who ensure we never run out of supplies.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION & CONTEMPLATION – *Gill Gray*

Over the last year approximately six of us have met for an hour at 10.30 every Tuesday and practiced Christian mindfulness, imaginative and breath prayer, *lectio divina* and silence. We welcome anyone who would like to join us in slowing down and finding God in this still place.

We create a place to explore the spiritual approach to the art of listening to God through silence, reflection and presence. We empty ourselves of all expectations, anticipations or demands – simply being open, watchful and awake to the still small voice within. The more we are quiet to all that is around us, the more we can receive what waits within.

CHURCH CLEANING – *Barbara Randall*

We currently only have a small budget for paid help cleaning the vestry, toilets and Abbey Hall on a weekly basis and I would like to thank all of you who support this by helping to keep the church 'spick and span' without further cost. We have had several 'Saturday cleaning days' which gives time

for a deeper clean, often in hard-to-reach areas, and a team coffee and cake break. Thank you too, for those who tidy and clean when volunteering in other roles, especially before and after events, such as the Toddler Group and fairs. Some of you have taken on a particular cleaning role which can be done at your own convenience. Please let me know if you would like to help in this way. In 2025 we plan to have some Thursday morning team cleaning sessions which might suit those who can't manage Saturdays.

CHURCHYARD and HERB GARDEN – Hilary Hunter

In January 2024 Ann Roberts (NWT) reported many new plants during a wildlife survey in 2023. A James Grieve apple tree was planted in memory of James from Wymondham. A signpost to the Herb Garden and Conservation Areas has now been erected. The Herb Garden has been well maintained with all plants growing well having been mulched with our own compost.

The north-east corner of the churchyard was cleared following work on the Schoolroom (including repairs to the tool shed). Shade-loving plants will be planted in Spring 2025. I'm grateful to Martyn for his help with maintenance of the churchyard and Terry who has repaired the bed surrounds and two picnic benches. A second compost bin has been built. The Abbey Roses in the churchyard have been pruned and mulched with our own compost.

In May, Helen Baczowska (NWT) gave a talk on Wildlife and Churchyards. In June the herb garden was part of the Wymondham Open Gardens event. Lucy Seeley (NWT) advised us on the best way to restore the Wildflower Conservation Area.

With the help of Scything United the area was scythed in August to help with its restoration and the Conservation area in October.

Our annual Green Halloween event, led by John Beckett and members of WyNG, was very successful with outdoor displays and talks.

Fr Andrew blessed the churchyard and Abbey volunteers led indoor craft activities and served pumpkin soup. The evening finished with bat-detecting.

The Abbey Churchyard Team includes members of Greening Wymondham and Wymondham Nature Group. We are grateful for the support of NWT, Norfolk Herbs and Peter Beales Roses.

Sales of herbs and roses fund all our churchyard expenses and booklets.

CONCERTS IN THE ABBEY – Barbara Randall

Over 2,500 people attended music events in the Abbey in 2024. They are an important source of revenue from: tickets sales and donations for events we organise ourselves as well as hire of the building to other groups. We also make good income on refreshments. Total income was around £5,000.

There were seven full evening concerts during 2024: three visits by Wymondham Symphony Orchestra, one by Wymondham Choral Society, a performance by Chaos Collective quartet put on by The Norwich Novi Sad organisation, Wymondham Academy Christmas concert, and we hosted a very popular Christmas concert with Cawston Band.

There were six Saturday morning organ recitals which featured three high-flying young organ soloists and three more experienced players. Other shorter daytime concerts included a Dutch choir and a beautiful Sunday afternoon concert from Norwich Camerata. One of the highlights of 2024 was the choral workshop day and performance of Matthew Coleridge's Requiem. Another was the outdoor theatre performance of The Secret Garden by The Plandits.

Our small team of concert volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of these events and offer a warm welcome to all our performers and audiences. An important aspect of this is serving refreshments. New volunteers are always welcome! We have 17 varied concerts already arranged for 2025.

CRAFT FAIRS AND DUCK RACE – Hayley Cornwall

In 2024, we held three Abbey Fairs in conjunction with Clear Company, Spring Fair – 6th April, Summer Fair – 3rd August and Christmas Fair – 23rd November. These events are now well established, with the community expecting these to take place each year, meaning each one seems to get bigger and better. With the help of Julie at Clear Company the fairs are much more than just another craft fair, they are attended as days out for visitors who can enjoy not only the local businesses stalls but also music, activities and local street food. The Abbey Fairs also help bring visitors into the town and has helped rebuild relationships.

The annual **Abbey Duck Race** was held next to the River Tiffey at Becketswell on the first May Bank Holiday. Thanks to the good weather, this was very well attended and raised lots of funds for the Abbey.

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ECO CHURCH AWARD SCHEME – Hilary Hunter

We are working towards a Gold Eco Church Award.

GUILD OF ST BENEDICTS – Jim Hartley

The Guild continues to grow as more volunteers come on board, now totalling around 150. The Team Leaders met 3 times in 2024 agreeing on a number of important management and social issues. There were three social events during the year, a Quiz evening based on the history of and the artefacts in the Abbey, a hot lunch for the Welcomers and an informal Carol Service. Thanks to all who have supported the activities of the Guild and to the regular volunteers who contribute so much to the warm welcome remarked on by many visitors. Thanks also to those who serve, sing and clean.

HEALTH AND SAFETY – Iain Drayton

It's Health and Safety time with me,
So please just wait before you flee.
I know it's something that is boring
Yet I want to stop you snoring.

Now accidents, we've had a few,
But you good folks knew what to do.
The first aid boxes they abound
Thus don't take long before they're found.

An accident book is there too
Then you can write down all you knew.
Which will at length be read by me
To see what linkage there may be.

So now let's talk regarding fire,
And the attempt to burn the choir
Paper lantern and its candle
Was much more than they could handle.

With fire doors and an alarm,
I'm sure that we will have no harm.
For our escape plan is prepared
You'll all get out and not be scared.

But safety is not just my task,
I need your help, so what I ask.
If a spillage is in your sight,
Don't walk away as others might.

Arrange to have it cleaned away
As that would really make my day.
For on that spill someone could slip.
Then falling down might hurt their hip.

Or toys could be left in the aisle
And while it might just raise a smile
You might go skating like a clown
Before you crash and hit the ground.

Lord Kitchener simply points out,
A comment that none should doubt.
So stealing his punch line, I too
say **Health and safety does need you.**

HOME COMMUNIONS AND VISITS to Care Homes, Assisted Living and Sheltered Living Complexes – Margaret Hartley

On average 14 house-bound people receive Home Communion monthly. These pastoral visits also help keep people in touch with activities at the Abbey. Fr Andrew re-commenced the monthly service at **Sutherland's Nursing Home** which was paused for a while. From December he also leads a monthly service at **Melton House**. The monthly service at **Robert Kett Court** led by Margaret Hartley, Neville (on the keyboard) and Tina Moon has continued all year with a small regular group attending each month with extra people, including staff, at Christmas and Easter.

Kay Dorling visits both **Ogden Court** and **Fairland Court** each month for a service with Holy Communion for those who request it. There is also an annual Carol Service at Ogden Court.

NEWBORN GROUP – Margaret Hartley

This group, which is organised by a local midwife, Andrea, meets once a month in St Benedict's. Andrea realised that parents of newborn babies needed somewhere they could go to receive advice, encouragement and contact with other parents in a similar situation. The group started about two years ago and there are a different group of parents each month as it is for babies under six weeks old. Andrea provides all the refreshments, advice and encouragement. Margaret Hartley is there to welcome parents, make drinks and to reassure other Abbey visitors that they are still welcome to the Refectory. Margaret also takes the opportunity to do a short 'commercial' reminding the parents that the Abbey is open daily and is always warm and welcoming. Several of the parents now come regularly to meet up with friends they made at the Newborn Group.

PARISH LUNCHES – Joyce Reynolds

Unfortunately several lunches had to be cancelled due to the shortage of volunteers but thanks to two team leaders and the Rotary club, several meals were served to an average of 40 people. An appeal was sent out for two team leaders plus six helpers. I was delighted that two helpers came forward but four more are required for the lunches

to continue.

The lunches are held on the first Sunday of the month and at present tickets at £10 are sold after the 10.30am Eucharist two weeks beforehand. Lunch is served at 12.30pm and provides a three-course meal to those who would enjoy the company. Please contact me on 01953 604904 if you feel this is something you would be happy to help with.

PARISH NURSE – Ramona Chenery

We are progressing well with Parish Nurse Ministry UK training and the Accreditation of the service here at Wymondham Abbey. This involves continued training and assessment and with great thanks to Fr Andrew, Sue Naylor, Jim Hartley and others who have supported us either through deed, funding or prayer we are on target to have completed this by May 2025. Over the last few months the Parish Nursing has provided support and guidance to many individuals for a variety of different issues, these include but are not limited to: physical health, bereavement, support for homeless individuals, carer support/ prevention of social isolation.

Age range varies considerably and I think it's fair to say that although there has been a need amongst the older members of our community the outreach has supported individuals from 26 years upwards. The need for such a service in the community has been clear and we are now getting referrals from NHS services, Voluntary organisations and individuals.

The last few weeks I have been supporting a Life and Death Course which has been delivered at Wymondham Baptist Church and continue to work alongside a local GP and Early Years coordinator at Hope Church to provide an event for families with children starting school in September. I have also started work on a walking group project which I will be taking forward shortly and have made good contacts with several local charities and not for profit organisations in order to establish the avenues of support in the local area.

I am pleased to have been invited to join the Abbey Pastoral Vision Steering group and am looking forward to working with them to see the community grow and thrive and be uplifted by the love of God.

My 16 hrs a week are made up with a variety of activities, Group work such as the Life and Death Course, one to one support -- including home visits, and training and administration activities.

A small example of the difference we are making in this service: a young man arrived at the Abbey in a very distressed state, he reported having slept rough following a disagreement with a friend and a recent discharge from a mental health facility. We were able to provide a warm environment and a hot drink, the opportunity to be listened to and really be heard. I took him to a local church-based coffee shop which has access to Food bank and CAB and was able to ensure he had a meal and was able to charge his phone. I also supported him whilst he arranged accommodation, benefits and transport with officials. This individual was very frustrated by his situation but was profoundly grateful for the support he was given by all who were involved in supporting him that day. His situation highlighted the importance of not trying to fix what we perceive the problem to be but to walk alongside someone whilst they figure it out. I had the privilege of being able to pray with him and have recently met with him again and although there is still a long way to go he has shared that he is now in a much stronger position, mentally and physically and is exploring his relationship with God. This intervention that was not just my input but very much a community input has made him feel a valued individual.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing love, support and prayers.

SACRISTAN AND SERVERS – Iain Drayton

2024 has seen a change in these roles as Pauline retired with the departure of Fr Christopher. Morwenna also took a step back from being lead server. Both these roles have been passed on to Iain and Glynis as they've become joint Sacristan.

SACRISTAN: There has been a steep learning curve in discovering both what needs to be done for each service and each season and adapting to the changes Fr Andrew has brought in. However, with give and take we have made breakthroughs in all areas. Glynis has turned our home into a Chinese laundry for a few months as we got on top of laundering the linen, while Iain has kept the weekly services equipped with the necessary silverware, bread and wine etc. We are especially grateful for Morwenna who has helped us on every step of our journey. Having completed a good six months, we are beginning to feel our feet and Iain has started to document our practices for future incumbents of this role. Iain would like to find a suitable apprentice during 2025 who could be trained in the basics to create a natural route of succession. Is this

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something you might consider? Come and see what it involves.

SERVERS: The serving team has remained largely static in the number of people during this year. There have been adjustments to the serving routines brought into being by Fr Andrew which have kept us on our toes. Iain has documented the duties of the various roles and Morwenna's experience is thus preserved for posterity. With a small and dedicated team we have been able to supply the number of people required for each service. However, in September some of our younger people will be off to University and some of our more mature people may require to take a bit of a backseat. So, if you think that this could be an area you would feel at home in, please come and speak to Iain or Morwenna or any team member. Despite how we look, we really are quite friendly.

SAFEGUARDING – *Diana Grant, Safeguarding Officer*

The main activity has been to promote the message of how the role of safeguarding is vital in keeping our church community as safe as possible for ourselves and those in the community who visit us. This ongoing work has continued by engaging with all church staff and volunteers to ensure their commitment to completing the necessary training. The Church of England safeguarding training rules have again changed to require every volunteer to complete at least the Basic online course. Also, each new volunteer must now complete their training before starting. Some others will now need to undertake additional training dependent on their role and the organisation of this training is being done one team at a time. We started with the PCC who have now completed all mandatory training by the year end.

Those working with children will follow as this is a priority. Future work is planned, a team at a time until everyone is up to date and new volunteers are enrolled in the new system on starting. Job descriptions are being generated which improve understanding of roles and training requirements while meeting the new rules.

The Church of England has introduced improved ways of recording training at a national level so that compliance can be checked by our Diocese and beyond. We may also be physically inspected to check compliance. Transferring our individual records onto this system has yet to be tackled once our team are all fully trained.

I would like to acknowledge the invaluable support of Fr Andrew and the assistance of Hayley Cornwell with the mountain of administrative work. The

Norwich Diocesan Safeguarding Team are supporting us with valuable advice on all matters of safeguarding whenever required.

I am pleased to report that there have been no safeguarding issues or concerns during the year.

SCHOOL LIAISON – *Fr Andrew Hammond, Vicar*

During the course of the Autumn Term I visited all the schools in the parish, as well as Wymondham College (which is just over the border), to make first contacts. None of the Wymondham schools are church schools, so we have to tread carefully. But all were interested in my coming to do the occasional assembly or other activity. Several came to do Christmas carol services or concerts, which were very happy events.

A particular ambition is to involve pupils at the primary schools in our Patronal Festival weekend, to create a carnival procession and service in early September 2025.

SHOP – *Chris Grant*

The shop ended the year with a profit of just over £9,000 on an income of around £17,600, a magnificent contribution to Abbey funds. This was down on 2023 but likely explained by the gap in shop management during much of the year when stock was not being replenished and some bestselling product suppliers ceased trading. However, we are very pleased to report that at the end of the year, Stef Adams offered to take on the task of managing day-to-day administration. Stef has an excellent command of stock control, the EPOS system, reporting and order processing and has already proven an enormous asset in bar-coding and restocking all the shop content.

Thank you to everyone in our loyal and hard-working team, especially Hilary Hunter who looks after second-hand books, Joe Harris who looked after food orders and Vivienne Clifford Jackson who managed the rota. We are confident that 2025 will return better results.

GODLY PLAY / SUNDAY CLUB – *Kay Dorling*

This report is in two sections: January to September and September to December. Between January and September we were continuing as we had been previously. The Godly Play scripts were adapted to fit the Gospel for the day and the circumstances – Godly Play was taking place in the midst of the whole congregation and we had to be very aware of the timing. This was quite difficult requiring intense preparation.

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In September we met Fr Andrew and started discussing a new format: the children would be sent out intentionally to St Benedict's after the first hymn and Godly Play and some relational craft work would take place there. The children would rejoin the congregation at the Peace or during the following hymn. We would still be basing the Godly Play on the liturgy of the day.

During these months we were becoming increasingly aware that we were moving away from the Godly Play material, and indeed the philosophy behind it, so much so that the title Godly Play was no longer suitable. Finally in December Godly Play became Sunday Club.

We have around ten children in total and this is augmented once a month when we are joined by the Junior Choir. The session starts with the story, the children then go on to craft work based on this or play with the toys provided. We end by joining in a circle to say the Peace followed by the Grace before rejoining the congregation. At the end of the service before the final hymn the children show the congregation what they have been doing. We are always glad to have more helpers – if you would like to become involved in any way please get in touch.

SUNDAYS AT THREE – *Brian Randall*

As in 2023, we arranged a series of talks during the spring/summer, all of them on Sundays at 3pm. The talks, all by unpaid speakers, were on topics ranging from Lent 500 years ago through church bells and bell ringing to wildlife in church yards and the history of toilets.

They proved popular, and were well attended, with an average audience of around 50. The talks were based on a free entry, retiring collection basis, and raised in the order of £400 for Abbey funds. Refreshments were served afterwards, which allowed informal chats with the speakers. Perhaps as important was that the talks are relatively easy to organise once suitable speakers have been identified. We hope to continue the talks, or other events, in 2025.

VISION DAY: 9 NOVEMBER 2024 – *Jim Hartley*

This was held in Spooner Row church and attended by the PCC. The session began with the Eucharist, followed by lunch. Under the heading of *Good Church - Good Pastoral* the PCC were asked to share their ideas and suggestions which would shape the future mission of the Abbey. Fr Andrew also shared aspects of his vision. These were arranged under the following headings: Resources and Finance,

Hospitality, Eco-church, Outreach and Mission, Communication and Publicity, Services, Theological Education and Enrichment. Some of these were already being addressed by existing groups so it was decided to focus on three broad areas:

1. Community, Pastoral and Outreach
 2. Finance and Communication
 3. Theological Education and Spiritual Enrichment.
- Task groups have been set up and asked to begin to develop these areas and identify two specific actions (for each area) to be implemented within the next year while working towards producing a Mission Action Plan for the next two, three and five years.

Mission is about giving more energy, thought and prayer to our outward facing relationships with the wider society while being watchful of the quality of our inner community life.

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA AND PUBLICITY – *Brian Randall*

Our new website is a big improvement over the old one and has received many favourable comments. However, it is not easy to edit, and some of the design features hamper the ease of use. We need to address these points next year.

We continue to post regularly on the Wymondham Abbey Facebook page, which has a good number of followers, and enables us to keep local people abreast of our activities and happenings. We also share posts to several Wymondham community sites. This increases our presence, but whether that translates into people's direct involvement with the church is hard to ascertain.

We used posters and flyers to promote events within the Abbey, as well as occasional mentions in local press.

However, we really need greater engagement with the Wymondham community at all levels; this is an important aspect of being the town's parish church. Our ambition for 2025 is to develop a proper publicity strategy, using a variety of means to underpin and enhance our community outreach.

WEDDINGS – *Fiona Prentice*

In 2024, we received 30 enquiries, conducted 13 weddings, had one wedding cancelled, one marriage blessing, one renewal of vows, and published four external banns. These figures are higher than in 2023 and lower than what we expect in 2025.

Nine weddings in 2024 included bellringing. Most of the weddings (10 out of 13) requested the organ

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(usually with the choir), while a few opted for pre-recorded music only. To accommodate this request to play pre-recorded music, the wardens purchased an independent music system. The couple organises someone to manage their music, and we charge a nominal fee of £25 towards the abbey costs, including the license fee. Apart from the statutory fees determined by the diocese, wedding fees have not changed.

From September, Fr Andrew implemented a new process where he not only provides pastoral ministry but also guides the couple in planning the service and ensures that the legal documents are correctly submitted to the register office in Norwich.

Fr Andrew, Fr Christopher, the wardens, Chris Grant, Hayley Cornwell, Rob Goodrich, Iain Drayton and Hayden Charles all demonstrated exceptional kindness in their service to the couples and their families. It has been a pleasure to be a part of this life events' ministry! Our Parish Administrator, Hayley, will now assume this role.

WELCOME DESK & TOURS – *Gill Curtis / Carol Bolderstone*

We are happy that the running of the Welcome Desk has been relatively smooth over the past year. We have a dedicated team of regular Welcomers

and a helpful bunch of irregulars who slot in where necessary. A glance at the Visitors' Book shows that the Welcomers are doing a very good job. We are particularly pleased that we have been able to open on winter Sunday afternoons. New volunteers are appearing in a regular trickle and we are assured that they enjoy doing the job. Our policy now is to get them interested in the shop as well as the desk so that is easier to fill in gaps where needed.

We ran a thank you lunch for front of house volunteers in October which was very well received. Despite the hard work, it was well worth doing.

According to our much-loved clicker our visitor numbers are up on last year to 36,208 – an increase of approximately 3,000.

We had eleven **Guided Tours** last year which included two for new volunteers. Bookings for 2025 already include 50 people from Mid Norfolk Railway, a collaboration we fostered pre Covid.

They organise an excursion which includes the tour fee and it is heartening that they have come back to us. We will go all out to give them an interesting and enjoyable time so that they will book more profitable tours!

One of our tour guides recently retired and we are on the lookout for somebody we can train up to be part of our team. Might that be you?

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 2024

Income in 2024 amounted to £362,722 which included generous reserved gifts of £55,480 (see details later). After grants from the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) and Wymondham Abbey Friends (WAF) of £136,291 (Building repairs, gas and electricity utilities support, Insurance, Friends), the 'Sustainable' balance of £170,951 was from Giving via the Parish Giving Scheme, visitor donations, gift aid, events and the Abbey shop.

For the second year running we can report a small surplus, almost £7,000 based on what we view as sustainable income after subtracting Reserved funds and expenditure. The Parish Share, our largest single expense of £72,000 suffered a regrettable 9% increase on 2023 but was again fully paid.

Our sister church of Spooner Row has a maintenance fund of £22,403 and sufficient regular income to meet essential annual expenditure such as utilities and insurance.

Significant activities:

- The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has remained static, with regular giving from 55 members (51 in 2023) giving £41,299 for the year (£3,442 per month) including Gift Aid.
- The Visitor donation point contributed £10,275 cash and £7,214 card while the Self-Service Cafe contributed £3,611 cash and £3,285 card.
- Total giving from all sources was down at £92,770 (£104,059 in 2023 which did include a backlog of Gift Aid tax reclaim) so we have much to do in maintaining, let alone increasing regular giving.
- Events generated a profit of around £18,271 (£15,000 in 2023) on an income of £26,113 (£21,000 in 2023), an important contribution and one we will work on to develop more.
- The shop generated a profit of around £9,248 (£14,000 in 2023) on an income of around £17,657 (£24,000 in 2023). An important source of income, the reduction is likely explained by the gap in shop management during much of the year when new stock was problematic. However, we are very pleased to report that Stef Adams has offered to take on the task of managing the shop day to day administration. Stef has an excellent command of stock control, the EPOS system, reporting and order processing and has already proven an enormous asset in bar coding and restocking all of the shop content. With the current excellent shop team, we are confident that 2025 will return better results.

Vision Finance and Communications team (FinCom)

Following the PCC Vision Day in November, a Finance and Communications team has been put together with thanks to volunteers John Durrant, Chris Jackson, Brian Randall, Barbara Randall, Andrew Naylor who have agreed to move this forward with the treasurer.

We discussed the purpose of the Vision project under one of the three broad areas Finance and Communication, the other two being Community/Pastoral/Outreach and Theological Education/Spiritual Enrichment.

We highlighted that without a secure financial footing, nothing we do in these essential Spiritual and Pastoral areas can be guaranteed or even planned. Often regarded as a back-room task, a secure financial footing really is the key to our future in more ways than one and we should not be shy to make it a high priority and send out the message.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

To do this, we require a strong level of communication to spread the word of our Mission and entice our congregation and the community into supporting us financially through giving, events, grants and other channels that we will seek to uncover in the coming months. Finance and Communication therefore forms a natural and powerful partner.

We examined the current, still very delicate financial position after two years under this PCC management and identified some of the key areas producing maximum returns.

Our Mission Action Plan for the next 5 years is:

- For the PCC to become financially stable beyond just an annual break-even point, allowing for reliable and identified revenue funding of additional paid assistance and mission growth where appropriate. *Currently we are fortunate to have reserved funds for certain paid roles, but these need securing for the future with revenue.*
- To identify waste and cost savings while maintaining essential Parish needs.
- To reduce dependency for energy subsidies from WA Preservation Trust.
- To seek higher income streams including extending the Parish Giving Scheme (larger electoral roll), high caliber ticketed events, promoting legacies, grants, higher return saving and reserved investment income,
- To examine how we communicate both internally and externally by improving the use of advertising, website, social media, WhatsApp groups.

Our targeted actions to implement in 2025 are:

- To set up paid ticketed events and promote using EventBrite, social media, local advertising and marketing, internal promotion.
- Identify regular expenditures suitable for funding by grants, Friends, specific sponsorship.
- Promote Parish Giving Scheme and Legacies.
- Research investment vehicles with safe but higher returns than the very poor interest on Barclays savings accounts. ☹

Conclusion

We continue to use every generously given pound wisely and carefully and emphasise that the expenditures necessary for maintaining the Abbey have been funded by the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) and Wymondham Abbey Friends (WAF) without whose ongoing support the Abbey would not be financially viable.

The reality is, that without their additional support of over £18,000 for heating and electricity, we would be unable to maintain anything like a comfortable environment and a warm welcome to our regular congregation, over 65,000 recorded visitors, outreach activities such as the weekly Baby and Toddler group, our community provision as a 'Winter Warm Space' and not least for our dedicated volunteers to enjoy working in.

Thanks go to so many who have supported us this year and particularly those who continue to give or have joined the Parish Giving Scheme with regular monthly donations. For their sound advice and support: Fr Christopher; Fr Andrew; church wardens Brian Randall and Jim Hartley; Fabric officer Andrew Naylor; Chris Jackson for her long-standing efficient management of gift-aid.

Chris Grant, *Treasurer*

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

Profit and Loss summary:

Summary 2024	Total	Reserved	Unreserved
Income	362,722	55,480	307,242
Expenditure	304,501	4,208	300,293
Surplus	58,221	51,272	6,949

Funds:

Reserved	Start 2024	Income	Expenditure	End 2024
ABBHEY CONCERT fund	1,310	0	0	1,310
OUTREACH Community projects	77,500	0	6,895	70,605
OUTREACH Community projects building fund	0	32,500	1,076	31,424
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC	6,958	0	3,100	3,858
CHOIR fund	0	2,000	1,672	328
FAMILIES SUPPORT	4,000	4,000	0	8,000
WARDEN'S FUND	0	1,089	0	1,089
DOOR FUND (Fr C leaving)	0	12,861	0	12,861
FLOWER FUND (Andy Free)	0	3,030	1,460	1,570
TOTAL	89,768	55,480	14,203	131,045

Bank and saver accounts	Start 2024	Change	End 2024
Abbey Current account	78,904	-1,553	77,350
Abbey Saver	80,017	51,085	131,102
Spooner Row Current account	1,464	700	2,164
Spooner Row Saver	26,871	-4,467	22,403
CCLA Ron Hyam	29,741	1,518	31,259
CCLA F Buttulp	549	22	571
CCLA CB3030537-001	2,613	37	2,650
CCLA Bailey	17,836	408	18,244
TOTAL	237,993		285,744

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Financial Activities

Registered charity number 1130495

January - December 2024

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)
INCOME		
Abbey tours	516.35	286.09
Activities and events	7,788.70	19,196.60
Bar Sales	870.35	
Cafe sales	1,806.40	
Hire - Abbey	4,212.00	855.00
Stall sales	9,719.00	
Ticket Sales	1,716.73	
Total Activities and events	26,113.18	20,051.60
Bank and building society interest	2,346.45	1,333.52
Bank Cash Deposit	0.00	
Donations and legacies		50.00
Abbey concerts - reserved		1,309.69
Abbey Hall fund - reserved	26,000.00	2,061.50
Childrens worker grant - reserved	4,000.00	4,000.00
Choir - reserved	2,000.00	
Director of Music - reserved		7,200.00
Flowers - reserved	3,030.00	
North Door fund - reserved	12,861.07	
Outreach Fund - reserved		62,000.00
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid - reserved	6,500.00	15,800.00
Wardens account - reserved	1,089.04	
Total Donations and legacies	55,480.11	92,421.19
Donations appeals etc	851.48	
Fees for weddings and funerals		4,262.00
Burial of Ashes	848.00	
Funeral fees	5,713.00	8,326.00
Wedding fees	15,154.00	1,635.00
Total Fees for weddings and funerals	21,715.00	14,223.00
Giving		
Baby and Toddler	1,043.68	1,603.60
Cafe Donations	6,896.16	4,623.61
Loose plate collections	1,245.20	2,011.68
One-off gift	4,969.35	3,500.00
Other planned giving	486.00	198.94
Service offertory	538.00	3,907.30
Small card donations	7,213.58	5,153.34
Tax efficient giving		1,140.00
Bankers order	3,830.00	5,160.00
One-off Gift Aid gifts		8,560.00

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)
Parish Giving Scheme	36,038.04	28,813.68
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	17,546.03	27,170.09
Total Tax efficient giving	57,414.07	70,843.77
Visitor cash donations	10,275.27	12,217.61
Votive stands	2,688.92	
Total Giving	92,770.23	104,059.85
Grants - funding support		
Winter warmer grant	2,000.00	5,000.00
Total Grants - funding support	2,000.00	5,000.00
Grants - non recurring	10,892.97	-10,892.97
VAT LPW grant	-468.04	10,892.97
WAF grant	24,619.67	8,155.61
WAPT grant	101,246.11	102,215.28
Total Grants - non recurring	136,290.71	110,370.89
Rent from lands or buildings		1,474.00
Hire - Abbey Hall	5,123.00	1,870.00
Hire - Spooner Row	1,075.00	
Total Rent from lands or buildings	6,198.00	3,344.00
Sales income		
Other Products		275.00
Shop sales	17,656.74	24,351.12
Total Sales income	17,656.74	24,626.12
Unapplied Cash Payment Income		107.24
Uncategorised Income	9.00	500.00
Total Income	361,947.25	376,323.50
TOTAL	361,947.25	376,323.50

EXPENDITURES

Abbey Hall		
Hall Refurbishment project	1,115.58	
Hall running maintenance	1,094.14	4,993.29
Insurance - Abbey Hall	739.58	904.33
Utilities - Abbey Hall		
Electricity - Abbey Hall	1,686.76	950.00
Gas - Abbey Hall	2,297.77	1,033.90
Water - Abbey Hall	428.14	
Total Utilities - Abbey Hall	4,412.67	1,983.90
Total Abbey Hall	7,361.97	7,881.52
Administration		512.90
Church office telephone	1,368.46	801.81
DBS costs	140.00	98.00
Guild expenses	445.83	143.75
IT Costs	510.89	3,304.94
Office Equipment	183.33	1,482.90

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)
Office Supplies, Postage and Stationery	1,393.67	1,441.31
Photocopier printer	98.80	
Total Office Supplies, Postage and Stationery	1,492.47	1,441.31
Recruitment	1,108.21	
Subscriptions	1,302.26	780.22
Working expenses of incumbent	420.98	394.61
Total Administration	6,972.43	8,960.44
Advertising/Promotional	717.50	659.10
Bank Charges & Fees	596.00	805.15
Bookstall costs		9.00
Cafe purchases	748.81	612.74
Church Cleaning & Maintenance	206.49	
Cleaning contractors	3,793.50	3,002.25
Cleaning materials	604.15	471.44
Cleaning waste collection	374.53	1,029.09
Repair and maintenance Abbey		517.98
Funded by Abbey	369.00	281.53
Funded by Friends	25,124.24	2,510.00
Funded by Trust	78,478.62	78,463.99
Total Repair and maintenance Abbey	103,971.86	81,773.50
Total Church Cleaning & Maintenance	108,950.53	86,276.28
Church running - utilities		752.56
Church running - electricity	6,560.31	11,706.51
Church running - gas	11,619.54	12,676.20
Church running - water	451.16	532.82
Water charges Abbey		-232.85
Total Church running - utilities	18,631.01	25,435.24
Costs of fetes & other events	5,112.65	5,706.86
Management fees	1,080.00	
Ticket Sales for event hirers	1,167.40	1,196.09
Total Costs of fetes & other events	7,360.05	6,902.95
Costs of services	774.37	680.29
Choir expenses	1,899.28	
Church flowers	1,459.82	962.16
Printing	532.86	2,065.00
Refreshments	452.67	
Service consumables	2,214.64	3,035.29
Service sheets and print	508.13	78.55
Total Costs of services	7,841.77	6,821.29
Costs of Weddings and Funerals	1,155.00	
Bell Ringing	1,680.00	1,125.00
Choir fees	880.00	
Deposit refund	400.00	
Diocese fees	6,803.00	4,465.00

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2023 (PY)
Organist	2,340.00	3,191.52
Verging	360.00	
Total Costs of Weddings and Funerals	13,618.00	8,781.52
Giving to missionary societies	1,359.43	
Guild		1,129.31
Home mission	150.00	
Insurance - Abbey	12,175.13	11,913.42
Interest Payable		5.67
Ministry parish share etc (Diocesan)	70,419.96	70,000.00
Organ / piano tuning	404.00	575.00
Other Professional Services		
Accountancy paid services	2,874.00	6,998.80
Total Other Professional Services	2,874.00	6,998.80
Shop Purchases	7,546.27	10,186.65
Spooner Row		
Insurance - Spooner Row	853.82	398.93
Repair and maintenance - Spooner Row	4,859.40	
Upkeep of churchyard - Spooner Row	720.00	1,102.00
Utilities - Spooner Row	1,558.48	1,038.77
Total Spooner Row	7,991.70	2,539.70
Telephone		38.75
Uncategorised Expense		201.90
Wages & Salaries		
Aviva Pension		867.45
Director of Music	6,678.88	2,916.65
HMRC	470.14	2,194.90
Salary of parish administrator	12,462.30	12,542.36
Salary of Verger	1,056.00	1,136.00
Salary Parish Nurse	6,635.00	
Wages & Salaries Aviva Life	1,480.59	396.00
Total Wages & Salaries	28,782.91	20,053.36
Total Expenditures	304,501.47	276,787.79
NET OPERATING INCOME	57,445.78	99,535.71
OTHER INCOME		
Z02 Other Gains/(Losses)	1,926.52	4,798.24
Total Other Income	1,926.52	4,798.24
OTHER EXPENDITURES		
Giving to other causes		146.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	1,151.19	
Total Other Expenditures	1,151.19	146.00
NET OTHER INCOME	775.33	4,652.24
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£58,221.11	£104,187.95

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Balance Sheet

Registered charity number 1130495

As of December 31, 2024

		Total
	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Dec 31, 2023 (PY)
FIXED ASSET		
Tangible assets		
Office Equipment Cost	56,482.44	56,482.44
Office Equipment Depreciation	-56,482.44	-56,482.44
Total Tangible assets	0.00	0.00
Total Fixed Asset	0.00	0.00
CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND		
Abbey Activities account	0.00	76.35
Cash in hand	210.60	165.00
CCLA (CBF) Account	0.00	0.00
CCLA Bailey	18,243.81	17,835.58
CCLA CBF	2,650.24	2,064.10
CCLA CBF Buttolph	570.88	548.76
CCLA Ron Hyam	31,259.35	29,741.06
PCC Main account	77,350.30	78,903.67
PCC Saver account	131,101.93	80,016.86
Shop account (Cash & Cheques)	0.00	75.00
Shop Saver account	0.00	0.10
Spooner Row Current account	2,164.17	3,851.67
Spooner Row Saver account	22,403.38	26,844.96
Vicar and Church Wardens account	0.00	961.84
Wedding fees account	0.00	-782.72
Total Cash at bank and in hand	285,954.66	240,302.23
DEBTORS		
Accounts Receivable	163.00	312.00
Total Debtors	163.00	312.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	0.00	2,149.00
Stocks	4,365.80	3,502.87
Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	4,365.80	5,651.87
NET CURRENT ASSETS	290,483.46	246,266.10
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade Creditors		
Accounts Payable	240.00	985.78
Total Trade Creditors	240.00	985.78
Current Liabilities		
(Deposits for weddings) Loans received	6,300.00	4,200.00
Accruals	0.00	15,357.97
Payroll Clearing	0.00	0.00
Pension Control	0.00	0.00
Tax and NI Control	0.00	0.00

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

	As of Dec 31, 2024	As of Dec 31, 2023 (PY)	Total
VAT Control	0.00		0.00
Total Current Liabilities	6,300.00	19,557.97	
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6,540.00	20,543.75	
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	283,943.46	225,722.35	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	283,943.46	225,722.35	
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£283,943.46	£225,722.35	
CHARITY FUNDS			
Retained Earnings	225,722.35	121,534.40	
Starting balance	0.00	0.00	
Surplus/(Deficit)	58,221.11	104,187.95	
Total Charity funds	£283,943.46	£225,722.35	

Statement of Cash Flows

January - December 2024

	Total
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	58,221
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	
Accounts Receivable	149
Prepayments	2,149
Stocks	-863
Accounts Payable	-746
(Deposits for weddings) Loans received	2,100
Accruals	-15,358
Total Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	-12,569
Net cash provided by operating activities	45,652
NET CASH INCREASE FOR PERIOD	45,652
Cash at beginning of period	240,302
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	£285,955

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

Governing Documents of Parochial Church Councils The Church of England have agreed with the Charity Commission that for the purposes of agreeing 'governing documents', Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) are governed by two pieces of legislation: the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. This defines the principal function, or purpose, of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church". You can find the full text of the PCC Powers Measure in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) You can find the full text of the Church Representation Rules in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/1969/2/schedule/3

The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 9 July 2009. The Church is classified as a charity under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855.

Charity number: 1130495

Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole message of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how its services can involve the many groups that live within the parish.

Public benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. It is also aware of the supplementary guidance relating to religious charities. The PCC promotes, where allowed, the whole mission of the church through the following activities - regular public worship open to all; pastoral work; provision for the poor, teaching of Christian worship through sermons, courses and small groups; promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature; encouragement for all in faith and wellbeing by developing provision in the churchyard, promotion of the whole mission of the Church through activities for all ages.

Principal address: Wymondham Abbey, Church Street, Wymondham, Norfolk, England, NR18 0PH.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

Detailed information:

Registered Charity Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row.

Working name: Wymondham Abbey PCC

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, 45 Market Street, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0AL

CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

Related parties

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896).

Independent examiner: Peter Bussey, Abacus Accountancy, The Willows, Ipswich Rd, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2TG

Trustees

The following Trustees (who were elected and/or re-elected commencing 20 April 2024) served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Rev'd. Canon Christopher John Davies, Priest-in-Charge (appointed 1 Sept. 2022, retired 8 Sept. 2024)

Rev'd. Andrew Charles Hammond, Vicar (appointed 12 September 2024)

Ruth Elizabeth Brett (appointed 4 March 2023, resigned 31 March 2024)

Brian Peter Marcus Randall (appointed 17 July 2022)

William James Hartley (appointed 17 July 2022)

Barbara Joan Randall (appointed 4 March 2023)

Morwenna Corfield Thomas (appointed 4 March 2023)

Catherine Sian Mack (appointed 28 April 2019)

Kathleen Melvill Dorling (appointed 28 April 2019)

Isabel Louise Davidson (appointed 4 March 2023)

David Valentine Hamilton (appointed 4 March 2023)

Alex Perry (appointed 29 May 2022)

Christopher James Grant (appointed 30 October 2022)

Philip Sydney Aldred (appointed 1 March 2020)

Andrew Richard Naylor (appointed 28 April 2019)

John Martyn Chamberlain (appointed 20 April 2024),

Iain Alfred Drayton (appointed 20 April 2024),

Diana Margaret Grant (appointed 20 April 2024),

Hilary Frances Hunter (appointed 20 April 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

Financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' (effective 1 January 2019).

Financial review

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial activities.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that material uncertainties have mostly been identified. The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.

Reserves policy

The PCC aims to cover normal expenditure by regular income. As the income and expenditure both vary from month to month, the PCC's policy is to maintain free reserves in the region of three months average expenditure. On occasions when income does not meet expenditure, the deficit will be drawn from free reserves.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on Sunday 27th April 2025.

Revd. Andrew Hammond, Vicar.....



Date:

27.4.25



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of "Wymondham Abbey PCC"

I report on the accounts of the above charity number 1130495 for the year ended 31 December 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act 1993 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Peter Bussey FFA FIPA

24th April 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL of WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

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Notes 

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Accounts



WYMONDHAM ABBAY

A place of Welcome Worship & Wonder

ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS for the year ending 31 December 2023



Registered charity number 1130495

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Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ending 31 December 2023

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THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 20 April 2024 at 10:30am

In Wymondham Abbey



The Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens

AGENDA

1. Opening prayer
2. Statement by the Reverend Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest-in-charge
3. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 4 March 2023
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. To elect and appoint two churchwardens.
6. Meeting closes

The meeting is followed directly by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which is intended only for those named on the Church Electoral Roll.

**The Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners for the
Election of Churchwardens
Saturday 4 March 2023 at 10:30am in Wymondham Abbey
MINUTES**

Present:

66 people were present

Apologies

20 apologies for absence had been received and registered.

- 1 The meeting opened with a reading and prayer
- 2 Reverend Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest-in-charge addressed the parishioners and reminded the meeting that Bishop Graham had used the powers of the CW measure 2021 (section 10(1)(c) and (d)) and appointed two Interim Churchwardens on 17 July 2022.
- 3 **Election and appointment two churchwardens**
Jim Hartley and Brian Randall had both been nominated.
There were no further nominations and they were duly elected
Fr Christopher thanked them and spoke about how hard they had worked together since their initial appointment in July.
- 4 The vestry meeting closed



THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 20 April 2024

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To receive and confirm the minutes of the APCM held on 4 March 2023
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. To receive reports:
 - a. Electoral Roll
 - b. Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the activities of the parish during 2023
 - c. Financial statement for the year ending 31 Dec. 2023
 - d. Fabric report
 - e. Deanery Synod report – Humbleyard Deanery Synod did not meet in 2023
5. To elect four parochial representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod for a three-year term
6. To elect up to 15 members to the Parochial Church Council for a three-year term
7. To appoint a person to be the Independent Examiner of the PCC for 2024/2025
8. Any other business
9. Address by Reverend Canon Christopher Davies

The Blessing

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Saturday 4 March 2023 in Wymondham Abbey

MINUTES

Present:

66 people were present.

1 Apologies

20 apologies for absence had been received and registered.

2 Reports:

a Electoral Roll

A completely new roll had been prepared for this year as previous records were incomplete and contained many errors. There were currently 158 names on the roll of whom 25 live outside the parish. 57 had not been listed on the previous roll.

b Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and activities of the parish in 2022

It was thought that two PCC meetings had taken place in January and March 2022 but records were incomplete. The 'APCM' held on Sunday 29 May 2022 was declared null and void by the Archdeacon, as was the APCM held in 2021.

On 12 July 2022 Bishop Graham Usher and Bishop Alan Winton met the six members of the PCC and Treasurer, Peter Bussey. Following this meeting the Living was suspended and Jim Hartley and Brian Randall were appointed interim churchwardens.

The PCC met five times during the remainder of the year. The PCC's main concern during this time was to: address the poor state of the finances, welcome back worshippers and the wider community and visitors into the life of the Abbey.

The report of the activities of the parish during 2022 provides ample evidence that thanks to our ever-growing team of volunteers our church community is thriving.

The following groups/activities have reports included in the Report of Parish Activities:

Holy Trinity Spooner Row

Abbey Fairs

Abbey Flowers

Abbey Garden Party

Abbey Hall

Baby and Toddler Group

Bell Ringers

Cafe

Centering Presence

Choir

Christmas Tree Festival

Churchyard and Herb Garden

Discussion Groups:

Ponderings in Lent and Preparing for Christmas

Fellowship Group

Pastoral Care Course

'Hugge' – Quiet Space Group

Food Parcels

Godly Play

Music in the Abbey

Parish Lunches

Publicity: Social Media and the Website

Safeguarding at Wymondham Abbey

Servers

Shop

Warming Wymondham Spaces

Welcome Desk, Visitors and Tours

- Q** **Sara Barton-Wood** asked whether there would be someone on the new PCC with a **green agenda**. Fr Christopher explained that the churchyard, which Hilary Hunter looked after, had previously received an Eco Church award. Barbara Randall commented that some members had been to an Eco Church meeting in Cringleford recently and hoped the PCC would pursue this matter further.

c Financial reports:

Fr Christopher introduced this item by explaining that the Bishop's letter of 7 October had allowed us to run two meetings together, for 2021 and 2022, as both the previous APCMs had been declared null and void.

There were no PCC records of this period. Computers had been wiped clean and papers shredded. Fr Christopher asked for the parishioners' forbearance with the delay in preparing the accounts and reports ready for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Fr Christopher assured everyone they would be able to ask questions later in the meeting.

1 A report on the examined accounts for the year ending 31 December 2021

This was given by Chris Grant who had been appointed Treasurer in October 2022.

Chris Grant explained that he had finally received the 2021 accounts following examination by Aston Shaw a few days ago. The statement showed that there had been a loss on the year of almost £100,000 from £267,117 in 2020 to £164,118 on 31 Dec 2021. The financial information would be entered on the Charity Commission website as soon as possible.

The beginning of the Treasurer's written report referred to 2021 as follows:

'I along with the current PCC am not able to comment on the 2021 accounts, except to say that the delay, figures, stress and cost in producing them 'long after the event' has been shocking but a salutary reminder to a PCC and the Diocese of what must never be allowed to happen again. I hope we can leave 2021 in the digital archive of the Charity Commission and now look forward to renewed transparency with simple, clear, regular and recorded financial reporting.'

The meeting accepted the accounts for the year-ending 31 December 2021

2 Financial report for the year ending 31 Dec. 2022

The Treasurer highlighted the following from his report for 2022

- 2022 was another year of financial uncertainty.
- there was unsustainable spending and little income in the first half of the year.
- a new PCC was in place from August
- there was a positive bank balance at the end of the year.

The key steps taken to achieve this recovery had been:

- reducing paid staff down to an organist and a Parish Manager.
- reducing reliance on external paid professional services.
- canceling subscriptions for telephones, card payment machines and rented storage space.
- paying off outstanding debts including a loan from Norwich Diocese.
- joining the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)
- building legacy protection to ensure that critical systems and data remains secure
- attempting to re-instate PCC control over the Spooner Row bank accounts

The generosity and support of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) have enabled the abbey to maintain heating to welcome: regular congregations, visitors, Baby and Toddler group, Winter Warm Spaces and an environment for our dedicated volunteers to work in. WAPT have also paid for restoring the floors, redecorating and completion of the sound system.

Thanks were also given to:

- Fr Christopher and the church wardens for advice and understanding of the past situation
- Chris Jackson for her long-standing and efficient management of gift-aid
- Susan Bunting at the Diocese of Norwich
- Robert Culyer and team for setting up the Parish Giving Scheme and to those who had joined
- Sarah Sayer and the team for restoring the now thriving shop

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- Robert Ayers for agreeing to be our independent examiner
- Peter Bussey from Abacus Accountants for his help in unraveling the 2022 accounts
- Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) for having faith in the new PCC

We look forward in 2023 to:

- the restoration of the Friends of Wymondham Abbey (FWA) at their March AGM
- regular donations from the Parish Giving Scheme
- increasing income from visitors, shop, three fairs and ticketed music events
- meeting the abbey's monthly running costs
- paying our full Parish Share.
- reviewing a clearer and simpler financial reporting system
- finding alternative bank services (Barclays Wymondham branch closes in April)
- continuing improvements to the website.
- developing the volunteer's portal to help plan rotas, life event bookings etc.

Q *Mike Halls asked about designated funds totalling £237,000 listed in the 2021 statement from **Fred Buttolph and Ron Hyam**. The answer given was that it was currently impossible to access these accounts because signatories had gone away and current trustees had no mandate. It was hoped that in due course funds would be found within CCLA and made accessible.*

Q *Chris Lawrence commended Chris Grant on his report. He asked about the **Going Concern basis** statement and the payment of our **Parish Share**:
'The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that material uncertainties have mostly been identified. The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure are sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.'*

Fr Christopher stated that the backlog of unpaid Parish Share of £250,000 had been written off by the Diocese. It was expected that the current year's share for one full-time priest would be around £65,000 and that we were planning to pay it in full.

Q *Mike Williams **commended the accounts** and the clear way they had been set out together with a very good report. He received assurance that we were only using income to pay costs and items such as insurance were funded by the Preservation Trust.*

The meeting approved the financial statement for 2022

d **The Fabric report was given by Fabric Officer, Andrew Naylor**

He highlighted the following activities:

- tweaks to the new lighting system
- plans to replace floodlighting and upgrade the lights in the churchyard paths
- the firm 'Wallwalkers' found loose masonry in the east tower which will need repairs
- roofs were inspected and repairs to fix the leaks planned for early summer
- emergency lighting repairs in the new extension
- upgrades to the lighting in the tower staircases.

Visits by the DAC assessed how much of the HLF interior layout was still in place. An Omnibus faculty would restore the interior layout back to the 2016 arrangement, including position of shop, chamber organ and other items, as well as giving permission for space behind the altars to allow celebrants to face the congregation.

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Fabric report continues

Looking into 2023, we hope to progress repairs on the roof and East tower. The sound system will be installed and move on with plans for lighting the outside.

As ever we are indebted to the advice and great generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust in funding most of this work.

There were no questions.

- e **Deanery Synod report** – none as the Deanery Synod had not met in 2022. It was hoped a Rural Dean would be appointed soon.
- 3 **Election of up to four parochial representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod**
There were no additional nominations. Barbara Randall and Morwenna Thomas were elected for a three-year term.
- 4 **Election of up to 15 members to the Parochial Church Council.**
The following had been nominated and were duly elected for a three-year term: Philip Aldred, Ruth Brett, Isabel Davidson, Kay Dorling, Christopher Grant, David Hamilton, Hilary Hunter, Catherine Mack, Andrew Naylor, Alex Perry and Sarah Sayer.
The next PCC meeting would be on Monday 13 March at 5.30pm.
- 5 **Appointment of an independent examiner of the PCC**
Robert Ayers had agreed to be our examiner for 2022/2023 and was duly appointed.
- 6 **To consider the option of other means of voting at future APCMs** to enable those who couldn't attend the meeting in person to vote. This matter had been discussed recently by the present PCC and agreed in principle. Barbara Randall explained that this required the agreement of 2/3rds of those present for this to come into force for next year's APCM. The great majority raised their hands in assent.
- 7 **Any other business – Questions from the parishioners**
- Q *Tony Vale, although not a parishioner himself, spoke on behalf of the residents of Wymondham. He wanted to express **appreciation from the townspeople** for the work of the Abbey and the restoration of its valued position in the community.*
- Q *Pat Newman asked about the **position of the nave chairs** and requested a restoration of the previous arrangement with all chairs facing forwards.*
- Jim Hartley, Church warden, responded that currently half the chairs faced forward and that the arrangement allowed space to welcome children into the centre of the main service for Godly Play. It was important that two previous congregations lived together in harmony.*
- Q *Catherine Norris commented that other ways should be used to attract children into church.*
- Q *Chris Jackson thought Godly Play could be moved forward to allow more chairs to be turned.*
- Fr Christopher said the matter would be addressed by the new PCC.*
- There were no other questions

8 Address by Reverend Canon Christopher Davies

It is a joy to see so many of you here this morning and sharing in the life of the Abbey and Spooner Row. A great deal has been achieved – more than I thought possible, more than I dared hope. But God has been good and faithful as He only can be and He has blest our endeavours.

After a protracted period when the Abbey was open only for a short time each week, on the 8th September, following the death of Queen Elizabeth, the Abbey was open every day and has remained so ever since.

Last Sunday 135 people came to worship at the two services and there is a real sense of fellowship – young and old together, God's people learning and living out the gospel and we must cherish this and build on it as we welcome others and invite them to share in this pearl of great price.

*To think that we now have almost 100 volunteers is nothing short of a miracle and I want to thank each and every one of them for giving that priceless gift of time enabling us to be open and to welcome visitors and pilgrims every day of the week. This is such an important ministry and if you are one of those who give of your time to staff the shop or the welcome desk, **Thank You.***

You have only to glance at the visitors' book to see how much the Abbey is appreciated and to see that people visit this place, literally, from all over the world.

The PCC has worked extraordinarily hard these last few months. Since my appointment in September they have met five times. The churchwardens have been particularly busy as we have grappled with the issues of a lack of governance and financial control. But as you will have seen from the financial report we are back on track and in this current year we will have restarted the payment of the Parish Share which, in turn, will ensure the appointment of a future Vicar.

Thank you to all who have joined the Parish Giving Scheme and to those who regularly make financial contributions by envelope or other means. Your generosity is, quite simply, the vital seed corn and the means by which God's love can be made known in our community. It is, of course, the community that we are here to serve and I am delighted to share with you that the Papillon Trust has agreed to part-fund an outreach worker to strengthen our links with the community and particularly the several thousand children in our town's schools. I see this as a vital part of our mission and one of building for the future. Alongside this appointment the PCC has charged a small group to set in place the appointment of a Director of Music and we hope to have someone in post by September. The Abbey's music, in all its forms, has in the past played a significant part in its ministry and witness and I look forward to this once more being the case. Music brings people together and can be a great evangelist.

I am conscious that a great many changes have taken place in the last five months – some people have left the worshipping community, others have joined. Change can be unsettling and cause tension but I want all of us to redouble our efforts in putting harmony and joy at the heart of all that we do and all that we are.

Harmony and joy, as you will be aware were not ever present in the life of the early church – the disciples sometimes argued as they jostled for position but, ultimately, they lay aside their personal preferences and came together for the greater good of the gospel and the emerging church. That is what we must do. So much has been achieved and there is here so much God-given potential. We are called, firmly called, in the gospel to look to the needs of others. It's by doing that that we shall continue to grow and truly be the people God calls us to be.

Thank you for all that you have done to get us where we are and thank you for all you will continue to do as we move forward together. May God Bless us all.

Fr Christopher, Interim Priest in Charge

The meeting ended with the Blessing.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 20 April 2024

STATUTORY REPORTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

A new Electoral Roll was prepared for the APCM held on 4 March 2023. At that time there were 158 on the roll. 57 of whom had not been listed on the previous roll.

Since the last APCM there have been six deaths and 16 new names have been added. There are currently 168 names on the Roll. 26 live outside of the parish.

Barbara Randall, Electoral Roll Officer

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC) REPORT

The Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM) and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) were held on Saturday 4 March 2023 attended by 66 people. Two churchwardens were appointed at the AVM.

At the APCM two people were appointed to serve as Deanery Synod representatives. An additional eleven people were appointed to serve as PCC members. There were seven PCC meetings during 2023, all well attended. One member resigned in December.

During 2023 PCC business has included the appointment of Rob Goodrich as Director of Music and Iain Drayton as Health and Safety Officer. The PCC was unable to appointment a Youth and Families worker but the PCC has agreed to pursue the role of developing a Parish Nurse Scheme in Wymondham.

The Abbey schoolroom is now leased on a long let of seven years to 'Clear Company', a Community Interest Company that organises our fund-raising 'Abbey Days' fairs.

The PCC approved 9 Applegarth as the new vicarage (following the sale of Herfast House by the Diocese).

The Churchwardens commenced the process of preparing for the appointment of a new Vicar in 2024.

The reputation of the church within the wider community greatly increased during 2023. The church has been open every day and over 33,000 visitors received a warm reception from our team of volunteer welcomers. Many more attended special services and concerts throughout the year.

The reports on Parish Activities will provide ample evidence of what a thriving and welcoming place Wymondham Abbey has become, only possible with the help of very many dedicated volunteers and the wonderful support and spiritual guidance of Fr Christopher.

Barbara Randall, PCC Secretary

ABBEY SERVICES – 2023

Services:

Baptisms	19	including three adults
Weddings	7	
Funerals	14	
Burials of ashes	2	
Funerals in crematoria	7	

Attendance figures:

Average Sunday	154
Easter communicants	194
The four Sundays of Advent plus Christingle	903
Three school carol services	717
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services total	984
Advent and Christmas total	2,604

Around 20 people received Communion at home each month during 2023.

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The weekly pattern of services was as follows:

Monday to Friday: Morning and Evening Prayer each day at 10am and 3pm or 4pm

Weekday morning Eucharist on Wednesdays at 10.30am

Centering Presence prayer group weekly on Tuesday at 10.30am

Sunday services: Sung Eucharist at 10.30am, Evening Prayer with hymns at 5pm

Special Eucharists on Feast Days

The most notable increase in worshippers has been the number of families attending the 10.30am services. The Sunday evening service has a regular congregation of 12 or more.

The appointment of a Director of Music in September and subsequent development of both an enlarged senior choir and a junior choir plus a primary school choir visiting once a month further increased congregation numbers.

Barbara Randall, PCC Secretary

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Treasurer's Report for the Year ending 31 December 2023 is at the end of this document, following the reports on Parish Activities.

FABRIC REPORT

As you are all aware, 2023 was a year of consolidation and getting the Abbey back on track in many ways, and the various Fabric works are no exception to this.

We began the year with a very detailed inspection by our architect from a cherry picker of the high level stonework both inside and especially outside around the monastic ruins, where a protective fence had been placed previously to protect from suspected falling masonry. Her report has highlighted a significant schedule of stabilisation works, alongside those already planned for the East Tower, which we hope to make a start on in 2024. When complete we hope to be able to remove the wire fence and "tunnel" and return the building to its 2015 appearance.

In mid-summer scaffolding arrived and our long planned programme of roof repairs began. The team from Norfolk Sheet Lead have done a very thorough job welding and patching every crack and pin-hole, and some more major repairs in the sumps and gutters where water ingress was rotting the wood below. They've also renewed some flashings and repointed masonry cracks. They returned in the autumn and again early in 2024 to fix some very well hidden defects which we suspect have been causing water penetration for many years. Only time and weather will tell but we have confidence that they roofs are in a good condition, although one cannot expect a building of this construction to be totally watertight in all stormy weathers.

Other external changes include the provision of signs at the ha-ha warning of the steep drop, which were organised and paid for by the Papillon Trust following a Health and Safety review, and the planting of some fruit trees in the wildlife area.

During the course of the year there were also scissor lift platforms in the building for access to put in high level trunk wiring for the new sound system, and the installers came back in November to mount the loudspeakers and electronics to drive it. The system has been a number of years in the planning and what we now have is far advanced technically from the original concept, but will hopefully provide a future-proof backbone for audio and video for many years to come. In the meantime, I'm sure we are all enjoying the clear sound even in the far corners of the building. Much thanks goes to the Friends for their patience, vision and generosity in funding this work.

The interior of the building was given a much-needed facelift by the completion of refinishing work on all of the parquet flooring and the stone floor of the Lady Chapel, again funded by the Friends of Wymondham Abbey.

There has been a lot of catching up with routine but important maintenance including safety checks on all electrical appliances, servicing of boilers and installation of smart meters which should enable us to manage our consumption more easily.

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The Quinquennial inspections of both the Abbey and Spooner Row are now done and we await the reports from the architect to plan the next five years' priorities.

Moving into 2024, work on the Sedilia will be taking place to conserve its remarkable and fragile terracotta mouldings, and the Bells will have been overhauled by the time of the APCM.

As always we are indebted to the advice and great generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust in funding most of this work. We are in a very privileged and rare position to be able to look after this great building without having to continually fundraise and their continued support is always hugely appreciated.

Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Humbleyard Deanery Synod has not met during 2023.

A planned reduction of the number of deaneries south of Norwich was finalised on 26 March 2024 with the result that Humbleyard Deanery will be dissolved and the benefices incorporated into other deaneries. Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row will join the Thetford and Rockland Deanery together with the Benefices of Hethersett and High Oak, Hingham and Scoulton and Woodrising.

Barbara Randall, Deanery Synod Representative

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SPOONER ROW

Two monthly services are maintained - Eucharist on the 2nd Sunday and a lay led Service, Ministry of the Word, on the fourth Sunday of each month. Average attendance for both Services is 12. Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after each Service. At Christmas, 2023, we had 36 Communicants on Christmas Day, over 40 congregation for Carols Round the Organ and a similar number for the Crib Service.

Our Community stays strong and very positive. During 2023 the Church is hired out each week by Norwich Music Group, and throughout the year by various other groups or people. For example, Art Exhibitions and Recording Sessions. A Wedding is already booked for July 2025.

Our thanks, as always, to Father Tony Snasdel for all his devotion to us.

Philip Aldred

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

Brian and Jim would like to thank everyone for the tremendous goodwill and support that we have received throughout the year. Without it our task would have been much more onerous.

After the very demanding initial six-month period following Catherine Relf-Pennington's resignation, 2023 has been a period of stability and growth. It has been a particular joy to be part of a growing and loyal congregation and gives us hope that the turbulent past is now well behind us.

The Wardens have been ably helped by the Assistant Wardens Chris Grant (also Treasurer) and Andrew Naylor (also Fabric Officer). We meet more or less fortnightly with Father Christopher to discuss a wide range of issues, spiritual, pastoral and practical.

Following Fr Christopher's decision to retire in 2024, we then set to write a Parish Profile, aiming to attract a new Vicar who will lead us on our journey in faith. This took a lot of time and thought and many rewritings. We are very grateful for the help we received from many sources in the production of this important document.

As well as dealing with practical matters we have tried to support Guild Team Leaders in a number of new initiatives. The expansion of the volunteer base has allowed us to manage many more activities and events and we feel very blessed with the number of people, church-goers or not, who devote their time and energy to the Abbey.

Brian Randall and Jim Hartley

REPORTS ON PARISH ACTIVITIES

ABBEY ARCHIVE

During 2023 several academics and historians researched in the Muniment Room. An early banns register has been transcribed prior to deposit in the Diocesan Archive. The 1440 Wymondham Market and Fairs Charter was remounted at the cost of the Town Council. A 1446 Grant of land on which the west tower was built, bearing the seals of the Prior and Monastery, will be re-mounted soon, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of Wymondham Abbey; who have also offered to print a booklet containing a summary of documents held in the Parish Archive. This is under preparation, and when complete its contents could also be added to the Abbey Website for the benefit of researchers. The conservation and listing of documents continues.

John Herne

ABBEY CHOIR

January – July 2023

I was asked to become the interim choir director in November 2022 until a permanent Musical Director could be appointed. The choir was a small group of singers of all ages. As a retired Lay Minister at the Abbey, I was very aware of the musical genre both traditional and modern that had been a part of its former styles of worship. I felt that it was extremely important to try to meet the spiritual (musically speaking) needs of both previous congregations who were now worshipping together.

Although the choir usually only sang in three parts we tackled a wide variety of music including a wonderful modern worship song “Touch me with ashes” (accompanied by violin) during Lent and a more traditional joyful Easter anthem on Easter Sunday. I would like to thank those who sang in the choir and cheerfully had a ‘go’ at whatever I suggested and also Peter O’Connor who was an amazing help with choice of more traditional music as well as accompanying us during rehearsals. We had a great deal of fun during those nine months and as a music teacher I am so proud of what the choir managed to achieve.

Ruth Brett

September – December 2023

I am so delighted to have returned to the Abbey after a three-year gap, as are the rest of my family and a good number of singers, who with me, formed the Wymondham Choristers back in 2019 at the outbreak of the pandemic. We were fortunate to have Daniel Ayers as our accompanist for the Eucharist at the beginning and end of his first term as organ scholar at Royal Holloway. Working together again with Peter O’Connor has been a real joy at the Choral Evensongs and the trilogy of carol services. Whilst inheriting some lovely singers on our return, we have welcomed a good number of new members to the choir of all ages, but most notably the youngsters launching the Abbey’s Junior Choir, skilfully led by my wife, Lorna. My music team and I are excited for the future of our role at the Abbey and how we can enrich the worship in the abbey community and

beyond through our ministry.

Rob Goodrich, Director of Music (appointed September 2023)

ABBEY JUNIOR CHOIR

The Junior Choir was launched in September by the end of the year we had 15 members. The children range in age from 6 to 11 years and are supported by Rebecca Ayers who helps lead the singing, assists with music theory activities, and has accompanied on keyboard.

The choristers have sung at four services, including Harvest and the Crib Service. They have learnt a range of repertoire, some of which they have sung on their own as a children’s choir. They are also enjoying singing in harmony with the adult choir and their confidence is growing. The children are working towards their first RSCM Voice for Life chorister medals.

We are very grateful to Rachael Murrell, who has sorted through our existing choir robes and altered many to ensure all the choristers look smart. The junior choristers were joined by the Robert Kett School Choir for two services in 2023. The choir, 30 strong, led by Julia Dove, filled the chancel on both occasions. It has been wonderful to welcome so many children and families to these services.

Lorna Goodrich

ABBEY COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIRS

In 2023 we had three extremely successful craft fairs, welcoming we believe over 8,000 people through the doors across the three events which is amazing. We have been working with Julie Briggs at Clear Company now for some years and have established a well-known presence and what people can expect from our ‘Abbey Days’ fairs. As a minimum the community can always enjoy lots of craft stalls, local street food, live music, our Abbey Café, Tombola, fun activities for all the family and always a children’s treasure hunt plus usually much more. All the fairs in 2023 were very well received and feedback from stall holders and visitors has always been positive and complimentary, most stall holders now book their place up to a year in advance so they don’t miss out. We always need volunteers to help on the day, either in the Café, on the Tombola Stand or marshal duty outside directing stall holders at set up – if you can spare a few hours and would like to help in 2024, I would love to hear from you.

Hayley Cornwall

ABBEY FLOWERS

Easter will be the start of a new year for flowers in The Abbey arranged by a small team of ladies. We are very grateful to Andy Free for his sponsorship over the past year. If anyone would like to sponsor an arrangement in memory of a loved one or for a special anniversary or event we would be delighted to accommodate them. As part of our remit, Mothering Sunday is a special occasion, this year we are producing 140 posies. By special arrangement we are also happy to arrange flowers for weddings. If anyone

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Registered charity number 1130495

would like to join our small team we would love to hear from them, help will be given if required and an allowance for flowers.

Doris Waymark

ABBEY HALL / WYMONDHAM COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT (WCOP)

The Abbey Hall has continued to host Parish lunches (limited numbers since September - see WCOP.) plus a number of regular outside groups which included: Tiny Talk (weekly - April - September), Greening Wymondham, Weight Management (weekly), Brownies (weekly), Council Polling station. (twice).

In September we welcomed the WCOP (foodbank) at relatively short notice. This arrangement has worked well. About ¼ of the floor space has been permanently used for storage of food (etc) The project hires the entire space on Monday and Friday afternoons for preparation and Tuesday and Saturday mornings for distribution. They also have access for deliveries at other times when the building is not being used. The WCOP are currently looking for a permanent building but have been assured that they will be able to remain in the Hall until they find suitable premises.

Jim Hartley

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Wymondham Abbey Baby and Toddler Group has had a busy year. The group has proved to be very popular with local families. At the start of the year, we found our numbers of attendees grew quickly and we would often have more than 60 families turning up on a Thursday morning. Unfortunately, this meant we sometimes had to turn people away for safety reasons. We introduced a booking system after Easter, to help control numbers. The numbers are now capped at 50 children per week and the spaces book out within minutes of being released on a Sunday evening. We currently have over 500 members on our Facebook group.

Our sessions always have a theme and some of the themes have included: Epiphany, World Book Day, Easter, Noah's Ark, The Creation, The Coronation, Science Week and many more. Each week we provide toys for the children to play with, refreshments for families, and plan a range of craft activities, messy play, songs, and stories to support the theme of the day.

We have a fantastic team of volunteers who help to set up, run and tidy away each week. I am hugely grateful for their efforts. We really couldn't run without them.

Lorna Goodrich

BELLS

Morning services have had bells every Sunday throughout the year. We also marked Coronation Day with additional ringing.

An inspection by the bell-hangers in January 2023 showed some minor issues requiring attention and this work will be done in 2024. Our thanks to the Abbey Preservation Trust who have offered to fund this.

Hayden Charles

CAFÉ TEAM

The café in St Benedicts has run successfully on a self-service and donation basis throughout the year allowing it to be available to the public and volunteers during Abbey opening hours without the need for a volunteer rota to operate. Tea, coffee and biscuits are always available with instructions on how to help yourself.

A simple to use card donation station with optional gift aid was installed in September and has proved a popular alternative to cash donations. Following two thefts of cash boxes, a permanent cash slot has been fashioned into the furniture of the kitchen counter with secure access.

Café donations were in the region of £4,279 with expenses of £618 resulting in a surplus of £3,661.

Coffee and tea are served every week by the team after the Sunday morning service. The team have operated a very successful paid service of refreshments and cakes for the three Abbey fairs and Winterfest, contributing over £1,800. They also serve hot drinks at Abbey concerts, Friday soup and cheese during the winter up to Easter and also contributed to the welcome and the income.

Thanks to all the café team for their hard work, a special thanks to Sue and Andrew Naylor for keeping supplies constantly stocked and to all who provided delicious homemade cakes and biscuits.

Diana Grant

CENTERING PRESENCE

Every Tuesday between 10.30 and 11.30am a small group meet at the Abbey to be still before God. This activity of paying attention and focusing on our internal world helps quieten the mind from the constant thoughts and impulses and frees our true self to experience more of God's love and peace.

Over the last year we have practiced a number of exercises to guide us in our prayer life including those in Anthony de Mello's book *A Way to God* such as body and breath awareness, imaginative prayer and *lectio divina*. Currently for lent both desert and wilderness meditations based on reflections by Annie Heppenstall in *The Healer's Tree* have played a central part of our time together. After Easter our focus will shift to sacred encounters found within nature.

Although all these can be practiced at home alone, it is easier to achieve concentration and practice these exercises profitably as a group of people who are also attempting to achieve the silence that these exercises bring.

Beginners as well as seasoned practitioners will gain inspiration, rich insight, and practical knowledge of a contemplative prayer practices that can open you up to deep experiences of inner healing and peace. We look forward to welcoming you to this sacred space.

Gill Grey

CHURCHYARD and HERB GARDEN

A Churchyard Management Plan was approved by the PCC in March. The Medieval Herb Garden was restored with replacement plants and brass nameplates. Re-instating of

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the Wildflower and Wildlife Conservation Areas included removing wire fencing and laurel plants. Compost bins, bird boxes and mini bug hotels were installed. The Abbey roses were pruned to flower in abundance later in the year. All works were funded from the sales of herbs and Wymondham Abbey roses.

The Abbey Churchyard Team (ACT) meet regularly to plan events. A very successful 'Love Your Churchyard' event in June was supported by 'Greening Wymondham', Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Wymondham Nature Group. We supported NWT's 'Big Green Event' in the Abbey Hall. In July six hazel and three crab apples trees were donated and planted in the conservation area. Grasses were left to grow and the hay harvested in August. Paths to the Garden of Remembrance were kept mown. In September the Wildlife Conservation Area was awarded Best Biodiversity and Conservation Project in the whole of East Anglia. Our 'Green Halloween' event was very successful with over 70 adults and children attending. Fr Christopher blessed the churchyard. The children searched for wildlife, enjoyed pumpkin soup, craft work and watching bats at dusk. Ann Roberts from Norfolk Wildlife Trust surveyed the churchyard throughout the year and identified 26 new species to add to our previous survey in 2017. The earliest survey listed 47 species – we now have 213 since creating the wildlife area.

Hilary Hunter

CONCERTS IN THE ABBEY

Concerts are an important aspect of our outreach, bringing over 2,500 people into the Abbey who might not otherwise visit. They are an important source of revenue from: hire of the building, tickets sales and donations for events we organise ourselves and interval refreshments. Profit on concerts in 2023 totalled £4,888.

There were nine full evening concerts during 2023, including three visits by Wymondham Symphony Orchestra, and one each by Wymondham Choral Society, Wymondham Youth Orchestra with Pulham Village Orchestra and Cawston Band who led a very popular 'Last Night of the Proms' event. Two Rotary clubs put on mixed concerts and Norwich soprano Hayley Moss held the audience's attention for a whole evening on her own. In addition, we held three Saturday morning organ recitals when our recitalists were encouraged to pull out all the stops. There was quiet reflective music too!

The young beneficiaries of the Buckton Rice Memorial Trust were delighted to be back in the Abbey once more for their annual Sunday afternoon concert.

Music is also very important in our worship. We were very pleased to welcome back the Cavick Quartet during Lent when they performed Haydn's *Seven Last Words* alongside meditations from Fr Christopher.

Our small team of concert volunteers have worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of these events and offer a warm welcome to all our performers and audiences. An important aspect of this is serving interval refreshments tea, coffee, fruit juice and wine. The team can refresh over 200 people in 20 minutes, but it does require careful organisation! If you like music, please join the stewarding

team. And don't forget to come and enjoy the music in our beautiful Abbey. Thirteen concerts are already in the diary for 2024.

Barbara Randall

DISCUSSION GROUPS

'We Believe'

A series of informal discussions held on alternative weeks from January to July. Based on the Creed and the Beatitudes these proved to be interesting and engaging. Eight people attended regularly.

'Who is Welcome'

A time of reflection and discussion based on the film 'The Green Book'. Held on five evenings during Lent the participants found the subjects very moving and challenging. The film raised issues around power, integrity, wealth, hypocrisy, prejudice, loyalty and family values. Six people attended.

Jim Hartley

ECO CHURCH AWARD SCHEME

Launched in 2016 by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Eco Church Award Scheme is for churches who want to show their care for God's earth by our care for it: in worship and teaching, buildings and land and engagement with the local community, in global campaigns and in the personal lifestyle of our congregation. We gained a Silver Award in November.

Hilary Hunter

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play continues to be an integral part of the Sunday Eucharist. Numbers coming to sit in the circle with the storyteller average five children plus their parents with larger numbers when Robert Kett school visit or the Junior Choir join us for worship. The story presented follows the themes of the service usually the Gospel reading. Each week the activity table in the Lady Chapel is well stocked with response materials and a lectionary-based worksheet. It is also used by visitors to the abbey during the week. There are six members of the Godly Play team. We attended a training workshop in September and have links with the diocesan children's work support and the Godly Play UK network.

The substantial stock of Godly Play equipment has been relocated from 'difficult-to-store' furniture in the Lady Chapel to a cupboard in St Benedict's.

Fiona Prentice

GUILD OF ST BENEDICTS

St Benedict insisted that hospitality be one of the highest values – "Let all guests who arrive be received as Christ." The "guest" may be a stranger, a friend in the making, those in our community who are marginalized, or our closest friends and family. The number of visitors to the Abbey and comments in the visitor book endorse what an amazing job our volunteers are doing.

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What a fabulous year it has been. The Guild has gone from strength to strength. By attending the social get-togethers, more and more Guild members have become aware of those who they would not normally see.

We are so lucky to have such an amazing group of volunteers who make up the members of the Guild. This year we have had a couple of social events. It was really lovely for us to join together in worship at one of the events. Those members who are not Christian said that they were more than happy to just sit during the prayers and be at peace with their own thoughts. The volunteers are an amazing group of people and the envy of the majority of churches across the Diocese of Norwich. Thank you for all that they have done and an added thank you to Jim Hartley who has been a tremendous support. Keep up the good work.

Robert Culyer

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Back in July 2023 Father Christopher asked me if I would consider the role of 'Health and Safety Officer'. A 'Fire Risk' document dated 11 Nov 2021 was available which I have analysed revealing 65 non-compliance's. These are mainly due to unavailable documentation at the time of the inspection. The over-all risk assessment for both the Abbey and the Abbey Hall were medium with no major / life threatening issues outstanding.

Working with both the Fabric Officer and the Church Wardens, we have identified the resolution of the non-compliance that relate to signage, fire alarm / emergency lighting testing and log-books and a two other issues. These are slowly being addressed. The remaining issues will be resolved in 2024. Should other issues be discovered or pointed out these will be assessed immediately so that they can be resolved in an appropriate time scale.

Iain Drayton

LIFE EVENTS – WEDDINGS

In 2023 there were 38 enquiries, six weddings, one blessing of a marriage and one external banns published. 2024 and 2025 look to be much busier!

Now we have a Director of Music in place, we can offer a choir for weddings and several couples have booked this for their services in 2024 along with organ and organist.

Four of the six weddings in 2023 had bellringing.

Father Christopher, the wardens, Chris Grant, Hayley Cornwell, Rob Goodrich, the vergers and Hayden Charles, the tower captain, are all so helpful and loving in how they serve the couples and their families. It is a joy to be part of this life events' ministry!

Fiona Prentice

NEWBORN GROUP

A monthly group for parents of babies under six weeks old was set up by a midwife in 2022. This was due to the lack of health visitors in the area. All parents of newborn babies are invited to meet in St Benedict's. This provides new parents with an opportunity to ask any questions, talk over any

problems and meet other parents. There are usually between 7 and 12 babies, all with at least one parent.

Margaret Hartley helps with teas and coffees and reassures any Abbey visitors that St Benedict's is still available for refreshments. She also has a chance to invite the parents to visit the Abbey again and some have done so. At least one baby and parent are regulars at the Parent and Toddler group.

Jim Hartley

PARISH LUNCHESES

After a very long break, Parish Lunches made a return to the Abbey Hall. With the support of several volunteers an average of fifty people enjoyed a three-course meal on the first Sunday of the month. Unfortunately, on one or two occasions the lunch had to be cancelled due to the lack of volunteers and team leaders.

The lunches were not intended to be a fundraiser merely a social occasion for those on their own. Each lunch made a profit enabling us to donate to Wymondham Rotary Club, the Children's Society and raising £2,061.50p for the PCC. An appeal for new team leaders sadly hasn't yet succeeded, so we still require help to continue.

Joyce Reynolds

PUBLICITY: SOCIAL MEDIA and the WEBSITE

We took over a website whose design did not really meet our requirements. Thanks to the generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust, we were able to commission a new one. We managed to find a local designer who has produced for us an attractive and easy-to-use website. We can edit it ourselves to keep it up to date. It has received many compliments.

We continue to post regularly on the Wymondham Abbey Facebook page, which has a good number of followers, and enables us to keep local people abreast of our activities and happenings. We have produced a succession of posters and flyers promoting events within the Abbey.

As a result of our activities we are finding ourselves with a greater engagement with the Wymondham community, which is an important aspect of being the town's parish church, and improved our desire for meaningful outreach.

Brian Randall

SAFEGUARDING AT WYMONDHAM ABBEY

The Abbey follows the most recent guidance on the Church of England website which is covered in an e-manual.

The three main modules of training are Basic Awareness, Foundation and Leadership and are completed online.

Most Abbey volunteers (*church officers is the term used by the diocese*) are not required to complete any training modules but are 'encouraged' to complete Basic Awareness. PCC Members are required to complete Basic Awareness. Other roles that require higher levels of training are Church Wardens, Director of Music, Choir Leaders, Godly Play Leaders.

Most volunteers have now successfully completed the courses required by their roles with the exception of a very

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small number who are being assisted with the process. Records of individual requirements and courses completed are kept on the Abbey secure database in line with GDPR privacy requirements.

Contact details for The Safeguarding Officer, psa@wymondhamabbey.org.uk are on display throughout the Abbey buildings and all are encouraged to make contact and discuss any issues as they arise. Reminder signs that young people must be supervised by an adult at all times have also been installed at the visitor entrance. We are fortunate to have had no safeguarding incidents during the year requiring referral or action by the Diocese.

Diana Grant, Safeguarding Officer

SERVERS

Altar Servers are there to assist the Priest and to encourage people to worship God and see His Glory. It is a ministry of prayer, reverence, rituals, a great privilege and responsibility, and not to be taken lightly! Very few people are allowed in the Sanctuary as it is a Holy Place. Sadly, the Team has totally changed during 2023 due to families moving away, illness, school pressures, university. September saw earnest training in all the tasks and reflecting on reasons for actions and the symbolism of such moves. This has developed a rewarding fellowship among us and deepened our faith and understanding. We are now a happy team of ten but do need more to join us. Age is no barrier! Could God be calling you? You are very welcome to come and have a quiet chat with me anytime to explore this special joyous ministry.

Morwenna Thomas

SHOP

The shop reopened in 2022 and thanks to Sarah Sayer, now retired, it became very successful and by the end of 2023 it had turned over £33,000. Sarah was dedicated to the shop and came in almost daily to check stock, train volunteers, and ensure everything ran in a professional manner, yet in keeping with the ethos of Wymondham Abbey. Not surprisingly after Sarah left it was very hard to find people able to follow in her footsteps.

We now have a shop management team using their individual interests and skills to address the many elements of a successful retail business: recruitment and training of volunteers, communications, stock purchasing, costings and profit margins, bar coding and ensuring the till tallies as well as oversight of the stock generally. We aim to make volunteering easy and enjoyable and ensure the Benedictine tradition of welcome is extended to the things we sell and how we engage with our visitors. My thanks to everyone, past, present and future who are involved with the Wymondham Abbey shop, as a comparative 'newbie' I really appreciate how helpful and supportive everyone is. Thank you so much.

Vivienne Clifford-Jackson

SUNDAYS AT THREE

We arranged a series of six talks between April and October. The illustrated talks, all given by unpaid speakers, were on topics ranging from medieval medicine, medieval music in churches, talks on travels in India and landscape architecture through to an informal concert of West Gallery music in Spooner Row Church.

All were well attended, with an average audience of 80. The talks were on a free entry, retiring collection basis, and raised around £600 for Abbey funds. Refreshments were provided afterwards, which allowed informal chats with the speakers. As well as raising much needed funds, the talks also ensured that a good number of people were welcomed into the Abbey who might not otherwise consider visiting. We are planning six more talks in 2024.

Brian Randall

WELCOME DESK, VISITORS AND TOURS

We are delighted to say that we now pretty much have a full complement of volunteers for the Welcome Desk Monday to Saturday. If we open the Abbey on Sunday afternoons during the summer (in the past that has proved very popular with the public) we will need to recruit some more.

Visitors:

Last year we had over 33,000 visitors – a record! They came from not just this country but all over the world and have many complimentary remarks in the Visitors' Book about the beauty and atmosphere of the Abbey as well as the warmth of welcome and helpfulness of the Welcomers.

Tours:

We conducted 20 tours last year including three for volunteers. The make-up of the tour parties varies a lot, ranging from the local Beavers pack and Ashleigh Primary School Reception class to U3A groups and, most heartening, two visits from Eckling Grange Care Home for retired clergy. They must like us as they have just booked another tour!

We hope to increase the number of tours as time goes on and look forward to when the Mid Norfolk Railway is once again coming into Wymondham. To this end we are happy that Julia Hanson and Peter Wadlow have joined our Guide Team.

Gill Curtis and Carol Bolderstone

A WARM WELCOME AT THE ABBEY

During the early part of 2023 we were offering soup lunches on Fridays as one of Wymondham's 'Warm Welcome Spaces'.

Other social groups met regularly in St Benedicts and continue to do so. The 'Crochet & Conversation' group meet weekly on Wednesdays and many other individuals and families enjoy the space to study after school or just to meet up with friends.

Barbara Randall

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the Year ending 31 December 2023

Income in 2023 amounted to £376,323 which included generous reserved gifts of £92,421 (Outreach / Organist and Choir leader fund with gift aid). After grants of £115,370 (Building repairs, gas and electric utilities support, Friends), the 'Sustainable' balance of £168,532 was from Giving via the Parish Giving Scheme, visitor donations, gift aid, events and the Abbey shop.

After inheriting two consecutive years of losses, we turned an important corner at the end of the 2023 financial year by enjoying a small surplus of about £3–4,000 based on what we view as sustainable income. This included, for the first time in several years, the Parish Share of £65,000 being fully paid. With an increase from £65,000 to £70,420 in 2024, although challenging, we forecast to again pay in full and return a modest surplus.

Our sister church of Spooner Row has a building fund of £26,870 and sufficient regular income to meet essential annual expenditure such as utilities and insurance.

Significant activities:

- The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) has seen a steady increase in support, with regular giving from 51 Members approaching £3,400 per month including Gift Aid.
- The two contactless card donation points contributed over £5,000 having been in place since June (Main door) and September (Cafe). Both stations accept Gift Aid which is collected by the card providers and deposited to our account daily.
- Total giving from all sources contributed £104,059.
- Events generated a profit of around £15,000 on an income of around £21,000.
- The shop generated a profit of around £14,000 on an income of around £24,000

We continue to use every generously given pound wisely and carefully, and it's again important to point out that certain large expenditures necessary for comfortable heating levels in the Abbey, major repairs to the roof leadwork, complete overhaul of the website, completion of the sound system have all been funded externally by the generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) and Friends of Wymondham Abbey (FWA) without whose ongoing support the Abbey would not be financially viable. The comfortable heating this winter has resulted in being able to welcome regular congregations, over 33,000 visitors, outreach activities such as the weekly Baby and Toddler group, the Friday Winter Warm Spaces and not least an environment for our dedicated volunteers to enjoy working in.

The planned change of bank from Barclays (Wymondham branch having closed) has been delayed due to the time taken to close obsolete accounts but we hope to find an alternative in 2024.

Thanks go to so many who have supported us this year and particularly to those that have joined the Parish Giving Scheme with regular monthly donations, Fr Christopher and the church wardens for regular advice and Chris Jackson for her long-standing efficient management of gift-aid.

Chris Grant, *Treasurer*

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

Governing Documents of Parochial Church Councils The Church of England have agreed with the Charity Commission that for the purposes of agreeing 'governing documents', Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) are governed by two pieces of legislation: the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended. This defines the principal function, or purpose, of the PCC as "promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church". You can find the full text of the PCC Powers Measure in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended). You can find the full text of the Church Representation Rules in its currently amended form on the legislation.gov.uk database at: www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/1969/2/schedule/3

The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 9 July 2009.

The Church is classified as a charity under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855.

Charity number: 1130495

Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole message of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how its services can involve the many groups that live within the parish.

Public benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. It is also aware of the supplementary guidance relating to religious charities. The PCC promotes, where allowed, the whole mission of the church through the following activities: regular public worship open to all, pastoral work, provision for the poor, teaching of Christian worship through sermons, courses and small groups; promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature; encouragement for all in faith and wellbeing by developing provision in the churchyard, promotion of the whole mission of the Church through activities for all ages.

Principal address: Wymondham Abbey, Church Street, Wymondham, Norfolk, England, NR18 0PH

Detailed information:

Registered Charity Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row.

Working name: Wymondham Abbey PCC

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, 45 Market Street, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0AL

CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

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Related parties

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896) and Reverend William Papillon's Charity (registered charity number 1016604)

Independent examiner:

Peter Bussey, Abacus Accountancy, The Willows, Ipswich Rd, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2TG

Trustees:

The following Trustees (who were elected and/or re-elected for three-year term commencing 4 March 2023) served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Revd. Canon Christopher John Davies, Interim Priest-in-Charge (appointed 1 September 2022)
Ruth Elizabeth Brett (appointed 4 March 2023, resigned 31 March 2024)
Barbara Joan Randall (appointed 4 March 2023)
Morwenna Corfield Thomas (appointed 4 March 2023)
Isabel Davidson (appointed 4 March 2023)
David Valentine Hamilton (appointed 4 March 2023)
Christopher James Grant (appointed 30 October 2022)
Brian Peter Marcus Randall (appointed 17 July 2022)
William James Hartley (appointed 17 July 2022)
Alex Perry (appointed 29 May 2022)
Philip Aldred (appointed 1 March 2020)
Andrew Naylor (appointed 28 April 2019)
Catherine Sian Mack (appointed 28 April 2019)
Kathleen Dorling (appointed 28 April 2019)
Sarah Sayer (resigned 14 December 2023)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Charity Commission listing of account for 2022

We would like to point out for the record that although the listing for 2022 states 'Charity reporting is up to date (29 days late)' the accounts were in fact on-time but impossible to upload due entirely to failure of the Charity Commission login system and website. The Charity Commission emailed a written apology and confirmed that they would remove the late message but have failed to do so or respond to emails reminding them since. We will continue attempts to contact them.

Financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and '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).

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Financial review

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities that follow.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that material uncertainties have mostly been identified. The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.

Reserves policy

The PCC aims to cover normal expenditure by regular income. As the income and expenditure both vary from month to month, the PCC's policy is to maintain free reserves in the region of three months average expenditure. On occasions when income does not meet expenditure, the deficit will be drawn from free reserves.

Restricted funds end of year

Outreach project £77,500 (spent £0)

Director of Music £6,458.33 (spent £1,292)

Concert fund £1,309.69 (spent £0)

Spooner Row repairs £26,870 (spent £0)

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on Sunday 7 April 2024

Revd. Canon C J Davies, Interim Priest-in-Charge

Date: 07/04/2024





Independent examiner's report to the trustees of "Wymondham Abbey PCC"

I report on the accounts of the above charity number 1130495 for the year ended 31 December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act 1993 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Peter Bussey FFA FIPA

5th April 2024

Profit and Loss

January - December 2023

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)
INCOME		
Abbey tours	286.09	220.00
Activities and events	19,196.60	6,605.22
Bank and building society interest	1,333.52	508.91
Donations and legacies	50.00	14,276.35
Abbey concerts reserved	1,309.69	
Abbey Hall fund	2,061.50	
Childrens worker grant - reserved	4,000.00	
Director of Music reserved	7,200.00	
Outreach Fund reserved	62,000.00	
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid Reserved	15,800.00	
Total Donations and legacies	92,421.19	14,276.35
Donations appeals etc		26,258.66
Fees for weddings and funerals	4,262.00	16,031.00
Funeral fees	8,326.00	
Wedding fees	1,635.00	
Total Fees for weddings and funerals	14,223.00	16,031.00
Giving		3,206.87
Baby and Toddler	1,603.60	
Cafe Donations	4,623.61	
Loose plate collections	2,011.68	1,846.47
One-off gift	3,500.00	
Other planned giving	198.94	1,075.00
Service offertory	3,907.30	3,771.24
Small card donations	5,153.34	253.11
Tax efficient giving	1,140.00	300.00
Bankers order	5,160.00	14,709.00
Gift Aid - Envelopes		610.00
One-off Gift Aid gifts	8,560.00	3,700.00
Parish Giving Scheme	31,211.04	2,662.00
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	24,772.73	2,175.50
Total Tax efficient giving	70,843.77	24,156.50
Visitor cash donations	12,217.61	147.28
Total Giving	104,059.85	34,456.47
Grants - non recurring	-10,892.97	15,946.20
VAT LPW grant	10,892.97	
WAF grant	8,155.61	
WAPT grant	102,215.28	
Winter warmer grant - reserved	5,000.00	
Total Grants - non recurring	115,370.89	15,946.20

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)
Grants - recurring		11,913.42
Other funds generated		253.04
Rent from lands or buildings	1,474.00	
Abbey hire	855.00	
Hire - Abbey Hall	1,870.00	
Total Rent from lands or buildings	4,199.00	
Sales income		
Cafe sales		1,837.66
Other Products	275.00	140.00
Shop sales	24,351.12	6,857.42
Total Sales income	24,626.12	8,835.08
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	107.24	
Uncategorised Income	500.00	38.57
Total Income	376,323.50	135,342.92
TOTAL	376,323.50	135,342.92
EXPENDITURES		
Abbey Hall		
Hall running maintenance	4,993.29	551.14
Insurance - Abbey Hall	904.33	
Utilities - Abbey Hall		130.60
Electricity - Abbey Hall	950.00	
Gas - Abbey Hall	1,033.90	
Total Utilities - Abbey Hall	1,983.90	130.60
Total Abbey Hall	7,881.52	681.74
Administration	512.90	9,786.02
Church office telephone	801.81	3,095.50
DBS costs	98.00	
Guild expenses	143.75	
IT Costs	3,304.94	443.50
Office Equipment	1,482.90	991.33
Office Supplies, Postage and Stationery	1,441.31	107.48
Subscriptions	780.22	
Working expenses of incumbent	394.61	340.66
Total Administration	8,960.44	14,764.49
Advertising/Promotional	659.10	572.00
Bank Charges & Fees	805.15	1,654.45
Bookstall costs	9.00	
Cafe purchases	612.74	1,439.61
Church Cleaning & Maintenance		31,635.00
Cleaning contractors	3,002.25	3,219.71
Cleaning materials	471.44	
Cleaning waste collection	1,029.09	

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)
Repair and maintenance Abbey	517.98	-342.00
Funded by Abbey	281.53	
Funded by Friends	2,510.00	
Funded by Trust	78,463.99	
Total Repair and maintenance Abbey	81,773.50	-342.00
Total Church Cleaning & Maintenance	86,276.28	34,512.71
Church running - utilities	752.56	291.25
Church running - electricity	11,706.51	4,520.71
Church running - gas	12,676.20	13,802.82
Church running - water	532.82	50.29
Water charges Abbey	-232.85	1,197.88
Total Church running - utilities	25,435.24	19,862.95
Costs of fetes & other events	5,706.86	2,838.85
Ticket Sales for event hirers	1,196.09	
Total Costs of fetes & other events	6,902.95	2,838.85
Costs of services	680.29	11,768.36
Bell Ringing	1,125.00	
Church flowers	962.16	215.88
Diocese fees	4,465.00	
Organist	3,191.52	2,410.00
Printing	2,065.00	1,213.61
Service consumables	3,035.29	
Service sheets and print	78.55	
Verging		4,822.61
Total Costs of services	15,602.81	20,430.46
Giving to missionary societies		12.25
Guild	1,129.31	
Home mission		1,395.00
Mission - Consumables		1,765.61
Web and social media content		1,197.25
Total Home mission		4,357.86
Insurance - Abbey	11,913.42	832.35
Interest Payable	5.67	5.79
Ministry parish share etc (Diocesan)	70,000.00	2,823.00
Organ / piano tuning	575.00	517.50
Other Professional Services		230.00
Accountancy paid services	6,998.80	
Legal Fees		8,883.80
Total Other Professional Services	6,998.80	9,113.80
Rent paid (storage)		1,250.72
Shop Purchases	10,186.65	3,236.33
Spooner Row		

		Total
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022 (PY)
Insurance - Spooner Row	398.93	
Repair and maintenance - Spooner Row		184.00
Upkeep of churchyard - Spooner Row	1,102.00	
Utilities - Spooner Row	1,038.77	102.09
Total Spooner Row	2,539.70	286.09
Telephone	38.75	10.00
Uncategorised Expense	201.90	762.69
Upkeep of churchyard		5,568.30
Wages & Salaries		42,472.36
Aviva Pension	762.87	524.45
Director of Music	2,916.65	
Employment administration		46.90
HMRC	2,194.90	-154.16
Salary of parish administrator	12,542.36	
Salary of Verger	1,136.00	
Travel and Accommodation		144.90
Wages & Salaries Aviva Life	500.58	231.00
Total Wages & Salaries	20,053.36	43,265.45
Total Expenditures	276,787.79	168,799.39
NET OPERATING INCOME	99,535.71	-33,456.47
OTHER INCOME		
Z02 Other Gains/(Losses)	4,798.24	-9,126.26
Total Other Income	4,798.24	-9,126.26
OTHER EXPENDITURES		
Giving to other causes	146.00	
Total Other Expenditures	146.00	0.00
NET OTHER INCOME	4,652.24	-9,126.26
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£104,187.95	£ -42,582.73

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2023

		Total
	As of Dec 31, 2023	As of Dec 31, 2022 (PY)
FIXED ASSET		
Tangible assets		
Office Equipment Cost	56,482.44	56,482.44
Office Equipment Depreciation	-56,482.44	-56,482.44
Total Tangible assets	0.00	0.00
Total Fixed Asset	0.00	0.00
CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND		
Abbey Activities account	76.35	73.07
Cash in hand	165.00	57.76
CCLA (CBF) Account	2,612.86	2,025.55
Investments	47,576.64	42,778.40
PCC Main account	78,903.67	40,489.75
PCC Saver account	80,016.86	6.02
Shop account (Cash & Cheques)	75.00	75.00
Shop Saver account	0.10	0.10
Spooner Row Current account	3,851.67	4,250.60
Spooner Row Saver account	26,844.96	26,591.57
Vicar and Church Wardens account	961.84	961.84
Wedding fees account	-782.72	5,718.07
Total Cash at bank and in hand	240,302.23	123,027.73
DEBTORS		
Accounts Receivable	312.00	189.00
Total Debtors	312.00	189.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	2,149.00	0.00
Stocks	3,502.87	636.52
Undeposited Funds	0.00	-442.87
Total Current Assets	5,651.87	193.65
NET CURRENT ASSETS	246,266.10	123,410.38
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade Creditors		
Accounts Payable	985.78	1,007.13
Total Trade Creditors	985.78	1,007.13
Current Liabilities		
(Deposits for weddings) Loans received	4,200.00	1,050.00
Accruals	15,357.97	-752.56
Tax and NI Control	0.00	571.41
Total Current Liabilities	19,557.97	868.85
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20,543.75	1,875.98
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	225,722.35	121,534.40
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	225,722.35	121,534.40

	Total	
	As of Dec 31, 2023	As of Dec 31, 2022 (PY)
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£225,722.35	£121,534.40
CHARITY FUNDS		
Retained Earnings	121,534.40	164,117.13
Surplus/(Deficit)	104,187.95	-42,582.73
Total Charity funds	£225,722.35	£121,534.40

Statement of Cash Flows

January - December 2023

	Total
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	104,187.95
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	
Accounts Receivable	-123.00
Prepayments	-2,149.00
Stocks	-2,866.35
Accounts Payable	-21.35
(Deposits for weddings) Loans received	3,150.00
Accruals	16,110.53
Tax and NI Control	-571.41
Total Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to Net Cash provided by operations:	13,529.42
Net cash provided by operating activities	117,717.37
NET CASH INCREASE FOR PERIOD	117,717.37
Cash at beginning of period	122,584.86
CASH AT END OF PERIOD	£240,302.23

Registered charity number 1130495

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Notes 

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Accounts

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2023

Saturday 4 March 2023 at 10:30am

In Wymondham Abbey



The Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners for the Election of Churchwardens

AGENDA

1. Opening prayer
2. Statement by the Reverend Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest-in-charge
3. To elect and appoint two churchwardens.
4. Meeting closes

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2023

Saturday 4 March 2023 at 10:30am



AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. To receive reports:
 - a. Electoral Roll
 - b. Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the activities of the parish during 2022
 - c. Financial reports:
 1. a comment on the examined accounts for year ending 31 Dec. 2021
 2. a statement for the year ending 31 Dec. 2022
 - d. Fabric report
 - e. Deanery Synod report – none (the Deanery Synod did not meet in 2022)
3. To elect four parochial representatives of the laity to the Deanery Synod for a three-year term
4. To elect up to 15 members to the Parochial Church Council for a three-year term
5. To appoint a person to be the independent examiner of the PCC for 2022/2023
6. To consider the option of other means of voting at future APCMs to enable those who couldn't attend the meeting to vote. This had been discussed recently by the present PCC and agreed in principle.
7. Any other business
8. Address by Reverend Canon Christopher Davies

The Blessing

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

STATUTORY REPORTS

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

A completely new roll has been prepared for this year as previous records were incomplete and contained many errors. There are 158 names on the roll of whom 25 live outside the parish. 57 had not been listed on the previous roll.

Barbara Randall, Acting Electoral Roll Officer

PCC REPORT

It is thought that two PCC meetings took place in January and March 2022 but records are incomplete. The 'APCM' held on Sunday 29 May 2022 was declared null and void by the Archdeacon, as was the APCM held in 2021.

On 12 July 2022 Bishop Graham Usher and Bishop Alan Winton met the six members of the PCC and Treasurer, Peter Bussey. Following this meeting the Living was suspended and Jim Hartley and Brian Randall were appointed interim churchwardens.

The PCC met five times during the remainder of the year. The PCC's main concern during this time was to: address the poor state of the finances, welcome back worshippers and the wider community and visitors into the life of the Abbey. The reports below will provide ample evidence that thanks to our ever-growing team of volunteers that our church community is thriving.

Barbara Randall, Acting PCC Secretary

ABBAY SERVICES

During 2022 there were:

- 4 baptisms
- 7 weddings, 2 marriage blessings / renewal of vows plus one wedding in Spooner Row
- 13 funerals plus 1 memorial service and 3 internments of ashes,
- 5 cremation services

Weekly attendance at the Sunday and Feast Day Eucharists:

from 1 January to 30 June an average of 47 and from 1 July to 31 December an average of 81

In September Morning and Evening Prayer were reinstated on weekdays (attendances averaged 5 for MP and 4 for EP. Evening Prayer with hymns on Sundays had an average attendance of 14, this figure excludes the services for All Souls (67) and Advent Carols (82). 320 people attended the Town Remembrance Service.

A weekly Wednesday morning Eucharist was recommenced on 30 November; average attendance was 8.

Christmas services had record attendances totalling over 1,400 at: two school carol services (a third had to be cancelled because of icy roads), Christingle Service, Carol Service, Crib Service, Midnight Mass and two Eucharist services on Christmas Day.

Barbara Randall, Acting PCC Secretary

PASTORAL VISITS

Following his return to the Abbey in September 2022 Fr Christopher began a programme of visiting people whom he knew had not attended public worship for some time, including the housebound.

From this has evolved a regular monthly programme of taking the Reserved Sacrament to any who are unable to get to the Abbey. Currently 16 people receive Holy Communion at home once a month. In addition to Fr Christopher, this ministry is now continued by Kay Dorling and Morwenna Thomas who have been licensed by the Bishop as lay Eucharistic Ministers. They will be joined by Paul and Sonia Wood in due course.

If you know anyone who would welcome a visit at home, please let Fr Christopher or one of the team know.

Fr Christopher

FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the Year ending 2022 is at the end of this document, following the reports on Parish activities.

FABRIC REPORT

Looking back, the past year has been surprisingly busy on the fabric side.

We had some tweaks made to our new lighting system after its first year to enhance a few areas of the building, and the Italian manufacturer sent a professional photographer to get a case study for their website. Moving outside, plans were begun to replace the now defunct floodlighting and upgrade the lights in the churchyard paths, and hopefully this will move forward in 2023.

As the weather improved in April we had a much anticipated visit from Wallwalkers, who specialise in rope climbing and abseiling surveys and repairs to historic buildings. Having recently been up to the top of Norwich Cathedral Spire to replace the weathervane, our ruined East tower didn't present much of a challenge to them. They found a number of areas of loose masonry which will need repairs and both the covered walkway under the tower and the protective fence will have to stay in place until this is completed.

The roofs were inspected in detail by our architect again and repairs are planned for early summer 2023 to fix the increasing number of leaks. Those volunteers at the welcome desk will have noticed a leak plan to fill in on rainy days.

We also had a survey on the roofs to implement safety harnesses for those contractors that have to climb up, but as yet have not found a system that is usable and suitable for a historic building.

Repairs were carried out to all the emergency lighting in the new extension which had stopped working, and also upgrades to the lighting in the tower staircases have been planned as it can be dark for bellringers and organists especially in the winter.

There were visits by the DAC in January and April to assess the state of the building and how much of the HLF interior layout was still in place. As a result the Abbey applied for an Omnibus confirmatory faculty which basically had the effect of restoring the interior layout back to the 2016 arrangement, including position of the shop, chamber organ and other items, as well as giving official permission for allowing space behind the altars for the celebrants to face the congregation.

In preparation for Father Christopher's licensing in September the Friends agreed to fund the refinishing of the parquet flooring in the Nave, and that in the Aisles has since been completed, resulting in a much cleaner and smoother surface. The contractors remarked how hard the oak was and how solid the floor had remained in the past 100 years.

There has been a lot of catching up with routine but important maintenance to lighting conductors, boilers and electrics as well as the alarm systems to ensure the building is safe and warm for its occupants.

It will be no surprise to learn that the Abbey's energy bills have been soaring despite best efforts with managing supplier contracts, and it now makes up our largest single expense, as it probably does for many of the congregation.

Looking into 2023, we hope to progress repairs on the roof and East tower, as well as finding a safer method of access there for our contractors. The sound system will be installed, and we will move on with plans for lighting the outside.

As ever we are indebted to the advice and great generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust in funding most of this work.

Andrew Naylor, Fabric Officer

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

REPORTS OF PARISH ACTIVITIES

HOLY TRINITY SPOONER ROW

Holy Trinity Spooner Row continues to thrive with a Eucharist every second Sunday and a Service of the Word every fourth Sunday. Both start at 11.00am.

We continued to have Coffee and Chat meetings every 4th Sunday post Covid until officially we were allowed to hold our regular services.

Through tremendous support from the Bishop of Norwich and the Archdeacon over the past few years it is so pleasing to report of the community out-reach of our little church to many people.

Two groups, Norwich Music Group (NMG) and The Norfolk West Gallery Quire rehearse regularly and bring further 'life' to the Church. Our grateful thanks to Fr Tony Snasdell for all his leadership in our Eucharist Services.

Our congregation come from Spooner Row, Wymondham and surrounding villages – all are welcome.

Philip Aldred

ABBEY FAIRS

During 2022 we held three fairs, Easter, Summer and Christmas. Since Covid we have used the services of Julie Briggs from a local business *Clear Company*. She organises and publicises our fairs bringing a wealth of experience. The fairs are well-attended community events, not just craft and food stalls. There is a large focus on families and well-being, live music, and also workshops for both adults and children. The feedback we have from the community and stallholders has been very positive and people book space for all three events.

The café run by Abbey volunteers and the Tombola have always made a very good profit. Both rely heavily on volunteers to run them, as well as a source for prizes for the tombola. Our main income from the fairs comes from the hiring of stall space (over £5,000 was raised from the stall-holders for the three fairs).

Hayley Cornwall

ABBEY FLOWERS

'Flower Power' – From the day we are born to the day we die flowers are part of our lives, we give and receive them as tokens of love and thanks. The name of each flower has a meaning. We display them to celebrate special occasions, they brighten our homes and give us pleasure in growing and nurturing them in our gardens so what better way to express our joy and love of flowers than to see them enhancing our beautiful Abbey.

It has been most rewarding to have so many people expressing their delight at having flowers again in the Abbey. We are grateful to Andy Free (Independent Funeral Director) for sponsoring the flowers which our small team arrange week by week. We would welcome more to join us.

You do not have to be an expert flower-arranger, guidance can be given.

We would also welcome anyone who would like to sponsor flowers in memory of a loved one, an anniversary or special occasion. We are happy to do wedding flowers by special arrangement.

If you are interested in joining the team or would like to help with watering, please contact Ann Hammond or Anne Johnson.

Doris Waymark

ABBEY GARDEN PARTY

This was held on Sunday 26 June at the home of Kay and Geoffrey Dorling. It had been planned simply as an opportunity for the adults and children of the congregation to enjoy tea, cakes and home-made ice cream in a lovely garden. However, that morning Mother Catherine made the surprise announcement that she was leaving the Abbey with immediate effect. The Garden Party, attended by about 50 people was therefore also a Farewell.

Margaret Hartley

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

ABBEY HALL

Plans are being put in place to reopen the Hall for letting to the public. Press articles promoting the Hall will appear in the next edition of Wymondham News and Village People.

However, after the eviction of all the previous organizations who were long term users, the rebuilding of income will take a considerable period of time.

Hilary Hunter

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

The Abbey Baby and Toddler group launched in December and aims to provide a space for babies, young children and their carers to meet and play in a warm, welcoming Christian environment. There has been a real need in the community for places where carers and children can meet, especially since the pandemic. We want the group to be open to all, so it is free to attend, but many choose to make a donation towards the running costs. Cash donations are around £1-2 per child. Some carers use the card machine to make donations.

We received a grant from the Papillon Trust which we used to buy larger items including colourful carpets, mats and a play kitchen. Many of our resources and toys were generously donated.

The group is proving very popular and the numbers of children attending have tripled since our first session. We now welcome between 50 and 60 children each week.

The session runs from 9.30-11.30 each Thursday morning during term time. We provide lots of toys for the children to play with, as well as craft activities, messy play, stories, singing, snacks for the children, and refreshments for their carers. It has been a privilege to work with a small group of dedicated volunteers who generously give up their time each week to make the group a success. Moving forward, we hope to increase our volunteer numbers to allow some rotation.

Lorna Goodrich

BELL RINGERS

Bells resumed regular ringing in February 2022 after the cessation for Covid. Since then, they have been rung regularly for Sunday morning services, weddings and some funerals. Bells also marked the Platinum Jubilee and the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, as part of the national commemoration.

Hayden Charles

CAFE

From January to June the Abbey and Cafe were open to visitors on Fridays and Saturdays. Hours were increased in the later part of the year but there were not always volunteers in the café.

Jim Hartley

CENTERING PRESENCE

Be still and know that I am God

This was held weekly in the Abbey, and on Zoom, until the end of June, led by Mother Catherine. From July Dr Gill Gray led the small group on Tuesday mornings at 10.30. Centering Presence is a form of meditation that relies on silence and stillness to bring us close to God and rest in His presence. It is an oasis of peace in the midst of life filled with 'to do' lists. Describing the spiritual renewal and energising of the soul that this engenders is very difficult to put down on paper. Come and join us and experience it yourself.

Kay Dorling

CHOIR

A choir was reconvened for the occasion of the Licensing of Fr Christopher as Interim Priest-in-charge in September. It was the first time a choir had sung from the choir stalls in the chancel for over three years and was a very moving occasion for all of us. Since then, we have formed a choir for special services: All Souls on 30 October, the Advent carol service on 27 November and the Christmas carol service on 18 December.

Our small group was initiated by Tony Bussell and ably supported on the organ by the splendid accompaniment of Peter O'Connor.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

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From November Ruth Brett took up the baton and her musicianship and teaching skills have guided us with great patience and sensitivity. We look forward to 2023 and being able to take a more regular role in weekly worship. We need to grow in strength and would welcome new members. If you love to sing then please consider joining us and share our experience of making music to the glory of God in Wymondham Abbey.

Barbara Randall

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This very popular event returned. 1,500 people attended on Wymondham's Wynterfest Sunday. The event helped put the Abbey back into the community. Various organisations took part and decorated a tree. Many said how pleased they were that the Abbey was open to all and actively welcoming visitors. The event was supported by Wymondham Garden Centre.

Rosemary Heylings

CHURCHYARD and HERB GARDEN

The medieval herb garden has been restored with replacement plants and brass nameplates using profits from herb sales. These have also paid for professional help when needed in the churchyard.

The Wildflower and Wildlife Conservation Areas have been re-instated. Pathways have been mown around the wildflower area, the labyrinth and the Garden of Remembrance, the area behind which will be allowed to grow wild again for the protection of wildlife. A woodpile has been started for hedgehogs and other creatures and the bug hotel re-stocked. A new compost bin has been built. Wymondham Abbey Roses along the boundary walls have been winter pruned with new growth tied onto retaining wires. Gulleys are kept clear and steps to the West Door clear of weeds.

Supported by Eco Church and Norfolk Wildlife Trust, a great team of volunteers – The Abbey Churchyard Team (ACT) – which includes

members of Greening Wymondham and Wymondham Nature Group. Ann Roberts from Wyng has kindly agreed to lead surveys throughout the year, beginning in March. A proposed Churchyard Management Plan, which includes events such as in Hedgehog Awareness and Cherishing Churchyards Weeks, will be presented to the new PCC for approval.

Hilary Hunter

DISCUSSION GROUPS 2022

There were two discussion/reflection series during 2022, one in Lent, the other in Advent. Both were facilitated by Jim Hartley.

Ponderings in Lent:

Six people attended three sessions based on extracts from the poem 'Leisure' by W H Davies, supported by extracts from Jesus' teaching in the Gospels. The themes were broadly around:

Dealing with worry and anxiety
Seeing beyond the 'mundane' in life
Appreciating God in nature

Preparing for Christmas

Ten people attended three sessions reflecting around our experiences of Christmas past and how we might best prepare for this momentous event. A fresh look at what God has given to us and what we in turn can give to Him – a time for giving, getting and forgetting.

FELLOWSHIP GROUP

A small group (around 6) met regularly on Monday afternoons for coffee and fellowship in the first half of the year.

PASTORAL CARE COURSE

January 2022 saw the last session of a six-month pastoral care course led by Mother Catherine. Six members attended.

'HYGGE' – QUIET SPACE GROUP

Designed for High School pupils who appreciated the opportunity for a quiet space to do homework, play board games, drink pop, and generally chill out. Numbers were small but the

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

space was appreciated by those who came. The group also met occasionally on Sundays for Alpaca walks, pizza lunches and games.

Jim Hartley

FOOD PARCELS

During 2022 we supported families that reached out to us for help during the school holidays when free school meals were not available. We helped eleven families with a total of 29 children. We had support from a Norwich organisation who help feed the homeless called Anon. They donated dry goods and cupboard staples. Usually in the parcels we would include a recipe with ingredients for the children to make or some craft from our stock.

During 2022, we sent parcels out in the Easter Holidays and May half-term. We had contacted families via Facebook but lost contact after the FB page was taken down. In October we gave out Morrisons food vouchers and set up a town foodbank collection point in the Abbey porch.

Hayley Cornwall

GODLY PLAY

Godly Play continued to be an integral part of the Sunday Eucharist. Numbers varied from five to ten children plus parents. Until July the activity table was situated near the High Altar where the children could closely observe the preparation for and distribution of the Eucharist. Since then the activity table has been in the Lady Chapel.

Jim Hartley

MUSIC IN THE ABBEY

There were no formal concerts in 2022 prior to the departure of Rev Catherine Relf-Pennington. Since July, the new leadership team has been keen to encourage music in the Abbey. Concerts are an important aspect of our outreach, helping to bring people into the Abbey who might not otherwise visit. They are also an important source of revenue from: hire of Abbey for external organisations, tickets sales for events we organise ourselves and Interval refreshments.

There were three public concerts in 2022:

The Cavick Quartet gave an afternoon recital on Sunday 20 November. We had an audience of 50 and raised a considerable sum from the retiring collection. We are grateful to the Cavick Quartet for giving their services free.

The local branch of **The Zipper Club** held a Christmas themed concert on 11 December. This was a charity fund-raising event involving two local choirs and New Buckenham Silver Band. The Abbey was full and the Zipper Club were very pleased with whole event. They are planning to return, possibly in 2023 or 2024. The Band would also like to hold another concert in 2023.

On 20 December the **Norwich Citadel Band** gave a Christmas carol concert to fund-raise for the Abbey. We were delighted with the size of the audience, who were very appreciative.

A private recording session also brought in revenue for use of the Abbey one evening.

In the run up to Christmas two local schools, Ashleigh and Wymondham High Academy, held Christmas services. The church was packed for both these joyful occasions. Robert Kett sadly had to cancel their event at short notice.

We have adopted the booking and invoicing systems (as approved by the PCC) and are now trying to expand our team of concert stewards who are so valuable in ensuring the Abbey is a welcoming and smooth-running venue. An important aspect of this is the provision of interval refreshments. We serve tea, coffee, fruit juice and wine (obtained sale or return from Reno's). The team is able to refresh 200 people in 20 minutes but it requires careful organisation!

Brian Randall

PARISH LUNCHES

We are pleased to say that the monthly parish lunches have started again. This is down to the hard work of a team of the most fantastic volunteers. They have given tirelessly of their time to create several superb lunches. Lunches such as the harvest lunch and Christmas lunch

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

Registered charity number 1130495

attracted just over 80 people who enjoyed a three-course meal. We have now established teams to run the lunches to ensure their longevity. Special thanks to Joyce who has done an excellent job overseeing ticket sales.

Robert Culyer

PUBLICITY: SOCIAL MEDIA and the WEBSITE

With limited resources, we have been slowly developing our publicity to widen the reach and appeal of our messages. Initially this has been concentrated on the website and Facebook pages but will be widened in the coming months to include other electronic media, as well as printed media and posters.

We had to start a **new Facebook page**, as the old one was linked to the personal FB page of the previous incumbent. With regular postings about topical subjects and activities the postings have attracted a wide following, with a total reach of over 4,000. We will be looking at other social media such as Instagram and Twitter during 2023.

The website we inherited was not really fit for purpose, being hard to use and containing only limited information. Rather than going for the expensive option of developing a new website, our treasurer (who has much experience in these matters) has been adapting and updating the existing site. We will continue this process in 2023.

We have a **weekly pewslip**, the back page of which is devoted to notices of activities, requests for help and other general information; the aim is to ensure that our regular (and occasional) worshippers know what's happening in and around the Abbey.

Publicising what we are and what we do is an important aspect of our outreach and mission. We need to reach members of the congregation, the local community and community groups, visitors and anyone else who does or may interact with us. There is much to do on this front, and we will be looking for additional help as our scope develops.

Brian Randall

SAFEGUARDING AT WYMONDHAM ABBEY

Since mid-September 2022 Hayley Cornwall, the Parish Manager, has been working to put a plan in place to get everyone who works and volunteers at the Abbey to have the relevant Safeguarding training and DBS checks if their position requires it.

The Abbey's PSO is Catherine Mack but as she is currently unable to fulfill this role, Paul Wood has been assigned the Abbey's temporary PSO.

All volunteers, and anyone that works/helps at the Abbey, are required to complete a volunteer information form. Depending on their role, Hayley will then send them a welcome message from Fr Christopher and personalised instructions by email of how to complete their required Safeguarding training. If needed they will also be asked to complete a DBS check. Everyone is expected to complete and return a CDF (Confidential Declaration Form).

As of 26 Jan 23 we have 57 people on our database. All 57 should have completed some sort of SG training / 35 still need to complete their full training. All 57 should have completed and returned their CDF / 37 still need to do this. All DBS checks are completed except one.

Hayley Cornwall

SERVERS

At the start of the year there was a resurgence of Covid and so masks had to be worn again and communion of one kind administered. Covid has taught us how we can maintain the elements of the Abbey Eucharist with a maximum of four servers per service. We welcomed Morwenna, and her experience, was an asset to the team. In spring the High Altar was reduced in size and moved forward so that for the first time in hundreds of years the Priest can face the congregation for all parts of the service. During the interregnum Pauline and I took on additional roles: opening and preparing the church, guiding visiting clergy through the service and closing up afterwards. After the appointment of Fr Christopher some changes have been made and we have been able

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to reintroduce the acolyte role. We are very pleased and grateful that volunteers have come forward to help us and welcome Paul and Sonia, Janie, Mimi and James, Isabel and Cordelia. We end the year with eleven in the team, but we need more, especially people who are able to fulfil the role of crucifer.

On a personal note, this will be my final report for the Abbey. My last service after 27 years is on 15 January. I am moving house to be closer to family. I will miss the process of preparing the church and assisting the clergy through the service. It has been an amazing honour and privilege to be able to serve in this beautiful Abbey.
Nigel Bartram

SHOP

We began reinstating the Abbey shop in early October by moving a few units into a temporary position in the South aisle of the church. There were only a few odds and ends from the 'old stock' remaining, and the electronic till and card reader were missing, but thanks to some very generous financial donations we were able to buy some new products and start filling the shelves again. A previous supporter started knitting and donated some hats, scarves and gloves, Father Christopher supplied some honey, and before too long we were up and running and open for business again.

The pre-Christmas period has always been the most profitable, and as all of our Christmas cards were donated by a local company this contributed considerably to us taking several thousand pounds by the end of the year, nearly all profit.

In mid-January all the shop units were moved back to their original position. At the time of writing new stock is being bought to fill up the shelves with a variety of gifts, jewelry, books and Abbey souvenirs. We hope to buy blinds for the shop units soon, quotes are being obtained. All this has been possible because of the help and support of our wonderful volunteers, old and new.

Sarah Sayer

WARMING WYMONDHAM SPACES

Since Friday 28 October 2022 we have been providing a soup and bread lunch every week whilst providing a warm space. Each week we average 20 people in for the lunch. I have a good team of volunteers who make the soup every week and I provide the homemade bread. It has gone down well with the people who attend regularly.

We were successful in gaining a grant from South Norfolk Council, which has gone towards the heating of the Abbey on a Friday. I also approached Jarrold of Wymondham who very kindly donated two large slow cookers which are used every week to heat the soup.

Rosemary Heylings

WELCOME DESK, VISITORS AND TOURS

I have been involved in recruitment of volunteers for the Abbey, since the beginning of October 2022. We have currently got twenty-four Welcomers for the desk, of which the majority are new faces. It has been most encouraging to meet so many interesting people keen to help get the Abbey up and running again.

We began taking tours around the Abbey in October last year. The first group were ten retired clergy from Eckling Grange. The largest group was a U3A group from Suffolk of 34 people. We have achieved six tours, including a dozen seven- to eight-year-old Beaver Scouts, who were delightful.

The number of visitors attending the Abbey is gradually increasing: approx 417 in October, 493 in November, 1,500 visited on Wynterfest Day in December. An additional 742 visited for the Carol Concerts, and Christmas Tree Festival.

Carol Bolderstone

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Introduction

I along with the current PCC am not able to comment on the 2021 accounts, except to say that the delay, figures, stress and cost in producing them 'long after the event' has been shocking but a salutary reminder to a PCC and the Diocese of what must never be allowed to happen again. I hope we can leave 2021 in the digital archive of the Charity Commission and now look forward to renewed transparency with simple, clear, regular and recorded financial reporting.

For the Year ending December 31st, 2022

It will come as no surprise that 2022 was another year of financial uncertainty. The first half followed the pattern of 2021 with extravagant unsustainable spending and with little chance of securing income to fund it, the Abbey being largely closed to visitors. The result was an effective loss of £42,582 but with a new PCC in place since August, we have managed to slowly recover the position to end the year with a positive bank balance and a promising vision for 2023.

The key steps taken to achieve this recovery have been:

- A serious reduction in paid staff down to an organist and a Parish Manager.
- Reducing to a bare minimum, reliance on external accounting, IT, website design and other paid professional services.
- Canceling uncompetitive and unnecessary monthly subscriptions for telephones, card payment machines and rented storage space.
- Paying off all outstanding debts including a much-appreciated loan from Norwich Diocese.
- Joining the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) enabling simpler administration of regular giving including automatic collection of gift aid and without any additional costs.
- Building of legacy protection to ensure that critical systems and data remains secure, and cloud based but easily accessible by those requiring it and not hidden in home computers with single individuals.

We are still in the process of re-instating PCC control over the Spooner Row bank accounts which were abandoned by the previous signatories resulting in extreme difficulty in restoring control. We are confident, however, that there are sufficient funds to pay Spooner Row essential services by existing direct debit until we are able to access them again.

During this financially recovery, we have and will continue to use every pound generously given, wisely and carefully, so it's important to point out that certain costly 'luxuries' such as comfortable heating levels in the Abbey, restoring and polishing of the floors, redecorating and completion of the sound system have all been funded externally by the generosity of the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) and Friends of Wymondham Abbey (FWA) without whose ongoing support, the Abbey would not be financially viable. The comfortable heating this winter has resulted in being able to welcome back regular congregations, visitors, Outreach activities such as the weekly Baby and Toddler group, the Friday Winter Warm Spaces and not least an environment for our dedicated volunteers to work in.

Thanks go to many for assisting in this turn-around and particularly to those that have joined the Parish Giving Scheme with regular monthly donations. We must continue to build on this to reach the level of regular giving that the Abbey enjoyed in the distant past. Thanks also to Fr Christopher and the church wardens for advice and understanding of the past situation, Chris Jackson for her long-standing and efficient management of gift-aid, Susan Bunting at the Diocese of Norwich for her immediate and abundant help in paying bills while Abbey accounts were inaccessible, Robert Culyer and his Diocesan team for setting up the Parish Giving Scheme, Sarah Sayer and the team for restoring the now thriving shop, Robert Ayers for agreeing to be our independent examiner, Peter Bussey from Abacus Accountants for his help in unraveling the 2022 accounts and the Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (WAPT) for having faith in the new PCC to restore their generous and now regular financial support. We look forward to the restoration of the Friends of Wymondham Abbey (FWA) as soon as they have had their March AGM and are able to consider a backlog of requests for 2022.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

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It is still early days to determine how 2023 will progress but with regular donations from the Parish Giving Scheme, ever-increasing and generous visitor donations, a thriving shop, three profitable annual fairs and ticketed music events planned we are now able to meet the monthly running costs and fully intend to pay our full Parish share. During the year, we will be reviewing a clearer and simpler financial reporting system, alternative bank services (Barclays Wymondham branch being closed from April) and improvements to the website. The ongoing success of Wymondham Abbey relies almost entirely on the extraordinary and dedicated contribution of what is now over eighty volunteers so we will continue to develop the volunteer's portal which allows us to communicate effectively with each other and simplify rotas, wedding, funeral and baptism bookings and share diaries.

With renewed trust in leadership comes generosity in giving and of people's time, and that comes from open minds, open doors and a warm welcome.

Chris Grant, *Treasurer*

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity. The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 9 July 2009 with registration number 1130495. The Church is classified as a charity under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855.

Charity number: 1130495

Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole message of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how its services can involve the many groups that live within the parish.

Public benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. It is also aware of the supplementary guidance relating to religious charities.

The PCC promotes, where allowed, the whole mission of the church through the following activities - regular public worship open to all; pastoral work; provision for the poor, teaching of Christian worship through sermons, courses and small groups; promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature; encouragement for all in faith and wellbeing by developing provision in the churchyard, promotion of the whole mission of the Church through activities for all ages.

Principal address: Wymondham Abbey, Church Street, Wymondham, Norfolk, England, NR18 0PH

Detailed information:

Registered Charity Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row.

Working name: Wymondham Abbey PCC

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, 45 Market Street, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 0AL

CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

Related parties

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896).

Independent examiner: Robert Ayers, 2 Clifton Road, Wymondham, NR18 0JB

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY with SPOONER ROW

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Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

S Martin (Resigned 30 June 2022)
CS Lowe (Resigned 1 August 2022)
S Ward (Resigned 30 June 2022)
Rev. C Relf-Pennington (Resigned 30 June 2022)
B Douglass (Resigned 30 June 2022)
C Mack
K Dorling
DS Lyall (Resigned 1 August 2022)
VA Coates (Resigned 30 June 2022)
R Jackson (Resigned 30 June 2022)
M Jordan (Resigned 30 June 2022)
T Kelly (Resigned 30 June 2022)
P Aldred
A Naylor
BPM Randall (Appointed 17 July 2022)
Rev. Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge (Appointed 1 September 2022)
C Grant (Appointed 30 October 2022)
W Hartley (Appointed 17 July 2022)
A Perry (Appointed 29 May 2022)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 11 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' (effective 1 January 2019).

Financial review

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities that follow. Net expenditure before investment gains amounted to £33,456 (2021: £120,628) and after gains on investments of £-9,126 (2021: £17,629), the net movement in funds for the year was net expenditure of £42,582 (2021: £102,999). The Charity's net assets at 31 December 2022 amounted to £121,534 (2021: £164,118).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that material uncertainties have mostly been identified. The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees on Wednesday 1st March 2023

Rev. Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge.....  Date: 01/03/2023.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Wymondham Abbey PCC		
On accounts for the year ended	2022	Charity no (if any)	1130495
Set out on pages	1/1 1/3 2/3 3/3		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Robert Ayers

Date:

22/09/2023

Name:

Robert Ayers

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

--

Address:

2 Clifton Road

Wymondham

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2022

	TOTAL		
	AS OF DEC 31, 2022	AS OF DEC 31, 2021 (PY)	CHANGE
Fixed Asset			
Tangible assets			
Office Equipment Cost	56,482.44	56,482.44	0.00
Office Equipment Depreciation	-56,482.44	-56,482.44	0.00
Total Tangible assets	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Fixed Asset	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Cash at bank and in hand			
Abbey Activities account	91.76	118.65	-26.89
Cash in hand	57.76	187.76	-130.00
CCLA (CBF) Account	2,025.55	1,516.64	508.91
Investments	42,778.40	111,904.66	-69,126.26
PCC Main account	40,489.75	13,259.82	27,229.93
PCC Saver account	6.02	10,005.92	-9,999.90
Shop account (Cash & Cheques)	75.00	75.00	0.00
Shop Saver account	0.10	0.10	0.00
Spooner Row Current account	4,250.60	4,250.60	0.00
Spooner Row Saver account	26,591.57	26,591.57	0.00
Vicar and Church Wardens account	961.84	961.84	0.00
Wedding fees account	5,718.07	3,676.03	2,042.04
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£123,046.42	£172,548.59	£ -49,502.17
Current Assets			
Stocks	636.52	0.00	636.52
Total Current Assets	£636.52	£0.00	£636.52
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£123,682.94	£172,548.59	£ -48,865.65
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Trade Creditors			
Accounts Payable	1,279.69	3,949.92	-2,670.23
Total Trade Creditors	£1,279.69	£3,949.92	£ -2,670.23
Current Liabilities			
(Deposits for weddings) Loans received	1,050.00	0.00	1,050.00
Accruals	-752.56	4,356.00	-5,108.56
Tax and NI Control	571.41	125.54	445.87
Total Current Liabilities	£868.85	£4,481.54	£ -3,612.69
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£2,148.54	£8,431.46	£ -6,282.92
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£121,534.40	£164,117.13	£ -42,582.73
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£121,534.40	£164,117.13	£ -42,582.73
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£121,534.40	£164,117.13	£ -42,582.73
Charity funds			
Retained Earnings	164,117.13	267,116.49	-102,999.36
Surplus/(Deficit)	-42,582.73	-102,999.36	60,416.63
Total Charity funds	£121,534.40	£164,117.13	£ -42,582.73

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Financial Activities January - December 2022

	TOTAL		
	JAN - DEC 2022	JAN - DEC 2021 (PY)	CHANGE
Income			
Abbey tours	220.00		220.00
Activities and events	6,605.22	1,669.19	4,936.03
Bank and building society interest	508.91	503.34	5.57
Donations and legacies	14,276.35	2,658.15	11,618.20
Donations appeals etc	26,258.66	13,504.00	12,754.66
Fees for weddings and funerals	16,031.00	8,970.65	7,060.35
Giving	3,206.87		3,206.87
Gift Aid - Envelopes	610.00		610.00
Loose plate collections	1,846.47		1,846.47
One-off Gift Aid gifts	3,700.00	700.00	3,000.00
Other cash collections	147.28	2,955.18	-2,807.90
Other planned giving	1,075.00	1,715.00	-640.00
Regular tax efficient giving	300.00	3,000.00	-2,700.00
Parish Giving Scheme	2,662.00		2,662.00
Regular Gift Aid - Bank	14,709.00	22,229.00	-7,520.00
Total Regular tax efficient giving	17,671.00	25,229.00	-7,558.00
Service offertory	3,771.24		3,771.24
Small card donations	253.11	119.70	133.41
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	2,175.50		2,175.50
Total Giving	34,456.47	30,718.88	3,737.59
Non recurring one off grants	15,946.20	21,701.19	-5,754.99
Other funds generated	253.04	1,014.00	-760.96
Parish magazine sales		24.00	-24.00
Recurring grants	11,913.42		11,913.42
Sales income		63.85	-63.85
Cafe sales	1,837.66		1,837.66
Other Products	140.00		140.00
Shop sales	6,857.42	4,067.71	2,789.71
Total Sales income	8,835.08	4,131.56	4,703.52
Uncategorised Income	38.57	0.00	38.57
Total Income	£135,342.92	£84,894.96	£50,447.96
TOTAL	£135,342.92	£84,894.96	£50,447.96
Expenditures			
Administration	9,786.02	2,821.25	6,964.77
Church office telephone	3,095.50	2,408.73	686.77
IT Costs	443.50	1,249.16	-805.66
Office Equipment	991.33	656.90	334.43
Office Supplies, Postage and Stationery	107.48	1,783.78	-1,676.30
Working expenses of incumbent	340.66	221.11	119.55
Total Administration	14,764.49	9,140.93	5,623.56
Advertising/Promotional	572.00		572.00

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Financial Activities

January - December 2022

	TOTAL		
	JAN - DEC 2022	JAN - DEC 2021 (PY)	CHANGE
Bank Charges & Fees	1,654.45	2,691.62	-1,037.17
Church maintenance & Cleaning	31,635.00	8,754.55	22,880.45
Cleaning	3,219.71	220.98	2,998.73
Repair and maintenance Abbey	-342.00		-342.00
Total Church maintenance & Cleaning	34,512.71	8,975.53	25,537.18
Church major repairs - installation		49,496.80	-49,496.80
Church major repairs - structure		4,638.84	-4,638.84
Church running - utilities	291.25		291.25
Church running - electricity	4,520.71	7,260.02	-2,739.31
Church running - gas	13,802.82	6,066.22	7,736.60
Church running - water	50.29	279.98	-229.69
Water charges Abbey	1,197.88		1,197.88
Total Church running - utilities	19,862.95	13,606.22	6,256.73
Church running insurance	832.35	9,937.79	-9,105.44
Insurance - Spooner Row		626.82	-626.82
Total Church running insurance	832.35	10,564.61	-9,732.26
Church running utilities - Spooner Row	102.09	132.95	-30.86
Costs of fetes & other events	2,838.85	1,920.36	918.49
Costs of services	14,178.36	5,832.76	8,345.60
Church flowers	215.88		215.88
Printing	1,213.61	5,315.40	-4,101.79
Verging	4,822.61	259.17	4,563.44
Total Costs of services	20,430.46	11,407.33	9,023.13
Education and Training		115.00	-115.00
Giving to missionary societies	12.25		12.25
Governance costs examination/audit fee		8,306.50	-8,306.50
Hall running - utilities	130.60	159.33	-28.73
Hall running maintenance	551.14	58.99	492.15
Home mission	1,395.00	4,155.08	-2,760.08
Mission - Consumables	1,765.61	2,040.41	-274.80
Mission - Equipment		309.90	-309.90
Web and social media content	1,197.25	5,072.52	-3,875.27
Total Home mission	4,357.86	11,577.91	-7,220.05
Interest Payable	5.79		5.79
Legal Fees	8,883.80	25,779.30	-16,895.50
Magazine print costs		192.00	-192.00
Ministry parish share etc (Diocesan)	2,823.00	2,162.00	661.00
Organ / piano tuning	517.50		517.50
Other P.C.C. property upkeep		912.00	-912.00
Other Professional Services	230.00	876.75	-646.75
Rent paid (storage)	1,250.72	1,876.08	-625.36
Repair and maintenance Spooner Row	184.00		184.00
Salary of parish administrator		180.55	-180.55

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Financial Activities

January - December 2022

	TOTAL		
	JAN - DEC 2022	JAN - DEC 2021 (PY)	CHANGE
Shop Purchases	3,236.33	6,148.50	-2,912.17
Cafe purchases	1,439.61	2,187.82	-748.21
Total Shop Purchases	4,675.94	8,336.32	-3,660.38
Telephone	10.00	1,068.96	-1,058.96
Uncategorised Expenditure		718.17	-718.17
Uncategorised Expense	762.69	113.04	649.65
Upkeep of churchyard	5,568.30	4,005.36	1,562.94
Upkeep of churchyard - Spooner Row		740.00	-740.00
Wages & Salaries	42,472.36	25,075.29	17,397.07
Aviva Pension	524.45	548.13	-23.68
Employment administration	46.90		46.90
HMRC	-154.16	0.00	-154.16
Travel and Accommodation	144.90	145.50	-0.60
Wages & Salaries Aviva Life	231.00		231.00
Total Wages & Salaries	43,265.45	25,768.92	17,496.53
Total Expenditures	£168,799.39	£205,522.37	£ -36,722.98
NET OPERATING INCOME	£ -33,456.47	£ -120,627.41	£87,170.94
Other Income			
Z02 Other Gains/(Losses)	-9,126.26	17,629.01	-26,755.27
Total Other Income	£ -9,126.26	£17,629.01	£ -26,755.27
Other Expenditures			
Reconciliation Discrepancies		0.96	-0.96
Total Other Expenditures	£0.00	£0.96	£ -0.96
NET OTHER INCOME	£ -9,126.26	£17,628.05	£ -26,754.31
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£ -42,582.73	£ -102,999.36	£60,416.63

Accounts

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	K Dorling	
	P Aldred	
	A Naylor	
	C Mack	
	B Randall	(Appointed 17 July 2022)
	Revd. Canon C J Davies, Interim Priest in Charge	(Appointed 1 September 2022)
	C Grant	(Appointed 30 October 2022)
	W Hartley	(Appointed 17 July 2022)
	A Perry	(Appointed 29 May 2022)
Charity number	1130495	
Principal address	Wymondham Abbey Church Street Wymondham Norfolk England NR18 0PH	
Independent examiner	Sotos Christophi FCCA Aston Shaw Limited Chartered Certified Accountants The Union Building, 51-59 Rose Lane Norwich Norfolk England NR1 1BY	

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

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Statement of financial activities	6 - 7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9 - 20

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1.1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole message of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how its services can involve the many groups that live within the parish.

Public benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. It is also aware of the supplementary guidance relating to religious charities.

The PCC promotes, where allowed, the whole mission of the church through the following activities - regular public worship open to all; pastoral work; provision for the poor, teaching of Christian worship through sermons, courses and small groups; promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature; encouragement for all in faith and wellbeing by developing provision in the churchyard, promotion of the whole mission of the Church through activities for all ages.

Achievements and performance

Church attendance

The average weekly attendance was:

Pre Covid (1 Jan - 23 March) 129

Post Lockdown (5 July - 31 Dec) 28.

Electoral Roll

There were 185 people on the Church Electoral roll as at May 2021 (April 2020: 194).

Fundraising activities

None, activities were curtailed by the Covid 19 restrictions. A Pop-up café ran when permitted.

Financial review

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 6.

Net expenditure before investment gains amounted to £120,628 (2020: £69,630) and after gains on investments of £17,629 (2020: £14,241), the net movement in funds for the year was net expenditure of £102,999 (2020: £55,389). The Charity's net assets at 31 December 2021 amounted to £164,118 (2020: £267,117).

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that no material uncertainties exist. The impact of COVID-19 on the church has been considered.

The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Reserves policy

The PCC aims to cover normal expenditure by regular income. As the income and expenditure both vary from month to month, the PCC's policy is to maintain free reserves in the region of three months average expenditure. On occasions when income does not meet expenditure, the deficit will be drawn from free reserves.

Free reserves being net current liabilities in the unrestricted general fund, totalled £121,541 (2020: £43,927) and unrestricted investments totalled £Nil (2020: £957) at 31 December 2021. There are also free designated reserves of £144,340 (2020: £94,341) which consist of monies set aside for specific purposes. Restricted reserves were £29,414 (2020: £71,417).

It is the policy of Wymondham Abbey to hold in reserves the minimum equivalent of two months' general running costs and an additional two months' salary costs. This policy will be reviewed in seven months' time in the light of the impact of Covid-19 on Abbey income. It is anticipated that a majority of PCCs across the Diocese and across the country will be unable to afford the full Parish Share in 2021.

Plans for future periods

The PCC is reviewing projects that will promote faith and wellbeing to the local community.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 9 July 2009 with registration number 1130495. The Church is classified as a charity under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

S Martin	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
CS Lowe	(Resigned 1 August 2022)
S Ward	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
RC Relf-Pennington	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
BJ Randall	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
B Douglass	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
C Mack	
DS Lyall	(Resigned 1 August 2022)
VA Coates	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
K Dorling	
R Jackson	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
M Jordan	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
T Kelly	(Resigned 30 June 2022)
P Aldred	
A Naylor	
BPM Randall	(Appointed 17 July 2022)
Revd. Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge	(Appointed 1 September 2022)
C Grant	(Appointed 30 October 2022)
W Hartley	(Appointed 17 July 2022)
A Perry	(Appointed 29 May 2022)

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Organisational structure

The PCC met five times during the year. During the previous year a new committee structure was agreed for the operation of the PCC. The committees met as required throughout the year.

Related parties

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington, Bernard Douglass, Dr Jan Hunt and Sybil Martin are all trustees of Friends of Wymondham Abbey.

The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896). Revd. Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest in Charge, and Brian Randall are trustees of Wymondham , Preservation Trust.

Detailed information

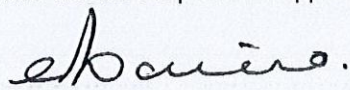
Registered Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row
Working name	Wymondham Abbey PCC
Ecclesiastical Parish (Benefice)	SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row
Incumbent	The Reverend Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge
Churchwardens	WJ Hartley BM Randall
Lay Chair	Dr Jan Hunt
Treasurer	Christopher Grant
PCC Secretary	BJ Randall
Representatives on the Humbleyard Deanery Synod	Leila Adams Vivien Coates Barbara Randall
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 45 Market Street Wymondham Norfolk NR18 0AL CCLA Investment Management Ltd The CBF Church of England Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Architects	Birdsall, Swash & Blackman Limited High House Farm The Street Beeston Kings Lynn Norfolk PE32 2NF

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Revd. Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge

Trustee

24/03/23
Date:

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Wymondham Abbey PCC (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 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.

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.



Sotos Christophi FCCA

Aston Shaw Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Union Building, 51-59 Rose Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 1BY
England

Dated: 13/04/2023

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds 2021 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Endowment funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:								
Donations and legacies	3	37,881	30,701	-	68,582	161,550	-	233,009
Charitable activities	4	1,669	-	-	1,669	-	-	615
Other trading activities	5	14,141	-	-	14,141	-	-	13,937
Investments	6	503	-	-	503	-	-	1,077
Total income		54,194	30,701	-	84,895	161,550	-	248,638
Expenditure on:								
Raising funds	7	1,920	-	-	1,920	-	-	20
Charitable activities	8	130,899	72,704	-	203,603	166,623	-	318,248
Total expenditure		132,819	72,704	-	205,523	166,623	-	318,268
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	15,309	-	2,320	17,629	-	1,042	14,241
Net movement in funds		(63,316)	(42,003)	2,320	(102,999)	(5,073)	1,042	(55,389)
Fund balances at 1 January 2021		179,568	71,417	16,132	267,117	76,490	15,090	322,506
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		116,252	29,414	18,452	164,118	71,417	16,132	267,117

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

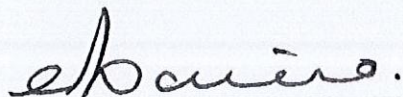
WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	14		111,905		145,286
Current assets					
Stocks	16	-		6,079	
Debtors	17	-		105,284	
Cash at bank and in hand		60,644		84,120	
		<u>60,644</u>		<u>195,483</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(8,431)</u>		<u>(73,652)</u>	
Net current assets			52,213		121,831
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>164,118</u>		<u>267,117</u>
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general	19		18,452		16,132
Income funds					
Restricted funds	20		29,414		71,417
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds	21	237,793		222,538	
General unrestricted funds		<u>(121,541)</u>		<u>(42,970)</u>	
			116,252		179,568
			<u>164,118</u>		<u>267,117</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24/03/23



Revd. Canon CJ Davies, Interim Priest in Charge
Trustee

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Wymondham Abbey PCC is a unincorporated charity controlled by a deed of trust.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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 Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements 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 affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the Charity.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the PCC is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income received by way of planned giving, collections, grants and donations is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income tax recovered on covenants and gift-aid donations is recognised as income and is dealt with on an accruals basis.

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the PCC becomes aware of its entitlement to the gift and the amount involved can be quantified.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Income from operating activities are accounted for when earned.

Income from endowment funds are accounted for as unrestricted.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

Grants and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities once authorised and there is a resulting obligation for payment.

The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when payable.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional requirements of the PCC and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the PCC.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Computers	20% on reducing balance
-----------	-------------------------

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.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Stocks and shares quoted on a recognised stock exchange are included in the balance sheet at their bid-market value at the year end. Changes in bid-market value are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank includes cash and short-term highly liquid deposit accounts.

1.10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Debtors receivable and creditors payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	37,881	30,701	68,582	71,459	161,550	233,009

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Donations and legacies

(Continued)

Donations and gifts

Planned giving

(stewardship) and CAF &
GAYE Giving

26,944	-	26,944	32,606	-	32,606
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Income tax recovered

-	-	-	5,589	-	5,589
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Donations - General

6,862	10,000	16,862	2,694	13,501	16,195
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Collections at services

3,075	-	3,075	2,498	-	2,498
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Grants

1,000	20,701	21,701	28,072	148,049	176,121
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<u>37,881</u>	<u>30,701</u>	<u>68,582</u>	<u>71,459</u>	<u>161,550</u>	<u>233,009</u>
---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------

4 Charitable activities

Charitable Income 2021 £	Charitable Income 2020 £
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Church activities

<u>1,669</u>	<u>615</u>
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5 Other trading activities

Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
------------------------------------	------------------------------------

Parish magazine and bookshop

24	29
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Abbey bookshop

4,132	2,771
-------	-------

Use of church building and Abbey Hall hire

-	4,611
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Weddings, funerals and cremations

8,971	6,343
-------	-------

Other

<u>1,014</u>	<u>183</u>
--------------	------------

Other trading activities

<u>14,141</u>	<u>13,937</u>
---------------	---------------

6 Investments

Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £
------------------------------------	------------------------------------

Interest receivable

<u>503</u>	<u>1,077</u>
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WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Trading costs		
Costs of fetes and other events	1,920	20
	<u>1,920</u>	<u>20</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure	Charitable Expenditure
	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	25,949	52,550
Depreciation and impairment	-	45,186
Insurance	10,564	10,533
Light, heat and water	13,899	13,811
Telephone	3,478	4,481
Upkeep of services	10,837	18,144
Clergy expenses	221	138
Shop	8,336	1,684
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	64,082	109,798
Professional fees	26,656	10,118
Church administration	12,851	12,928
Bank charges and fees	2,692	2,306
Rent	1,876	4,680
Parish share	2,162	6,209
Education and training	115	1,691
Home mission	7,423	14,639
	<u>191,141</u>	<u>308,896</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	4,155	1,324
Share of governance costs (see note 10)	8,307	8,028
	<u>203,603</u>	<u>318,248</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	130,899	151,625
Restricted funds	72,704	166,623
	<u>203,603</u>	<u>318,248</u>

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

9 Grants payable

	Charitable Expenditure 2021 £	Charitable Expenditure 2020 £
Grants to institutions:		
Church activities	4,155	1,324

10 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2021 £	2020 £
Audit fees	-	4,356	4,356	3,300
Treasurer	-	3,951	3,951	4,728
	-	8,307	8,307	8,028
Analysed between Charitable activities	-	8,307	8,307	8,028

11 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

12 Employees

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Staff	3	5
Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	25,949	52,550

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

13 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds general	Total	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds general	Total
	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gain/(loss) on sale of investments	15,309	2,320	17,629	13,199	1,042	14,241

14 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2021	145,286
Valuation changes	17,629
Disposals	(51,010)
At 31 December 2021	111,905
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	111,905
At 31 December 2020	145,286

15 Financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	111,905	145,286

16 Stocks

	2021 £	2020 £
Shop stock	-	6,079

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

17 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	95,296
Other debtors	-	50
Prepayments and accrued income	-	9,938
	<u>-</u>	<u>105,284</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>105,284</u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other taxation and social security	126	212
Trade creditors	3,950	64,160
Accruals and deferred income	4,355	9,280
	<u>8,431</u>	<u>73,652</u>
	<u>8,431</u>	<u>73,652</u>

19 Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent assets which must be held permanently by the Charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the Charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the assets form part of the fund.

	Balance at 1 January 2020 £	Revaluations gains and losses £	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Revaluations gains and losses £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Permanent endowments					
Bailey	15,090	1,042	16,132	2,320	18,452
	<u>15,090</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>2,320</u>	<u>18,452</u>
	<u>15,090</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>2,320</u>	<u>18,452</u>

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

20 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Spooner row fabric fund	10,246	-	-	10,246	-	-	10,246
Altar cloth	753	-	-	753	-	-	753
Spooner row churchyard	5,000	-	(660)	4,340	-	(85)	4,255
9.15am Eucharist service	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-	-	-
Creation of new website	2,482	-	(2,482)	-	-	-	-
Vicar and church wardens fund	-	-	(1,380)	(1,380)	-	-	(1,380)
New sound system	55,186	1	(47,376)	7,811	-	-	7,811
Admin assistant to vicar	823	10,000	(9,616)	1,207	-	-	1,207
Abbey churchyard	-	500	(500)	-	-	-	-
Altar frontal	-	7,370	(7,370)	-	(2,948)	-	(2,948)
External sockets	-	300	(300)	-	-	-	-
Floodlights	-	90	-	90	-	-	90
Foodboxes	-	80	-	80	-	(740)	(660)
Insurance	-	19,866	(9,928)	9,938	-	(9,938)	-
Lighting	-	118,348	(79,760)	38,588	3,513	(40,367)	1,734
Pres trust specified funds	-	2,466	(2,466)	-	-	-	-
TBC fund	-	30	(26)	4	-	-	4
Vicarage legal fees	-	2,500	(2,760)	(260)	-	-	(260)
Abbey staff costs	-	-	-	-	10,000	(21,574)	(11,574)
Roof works	-	-	-	-	20,136	-	20,136
	<u>76,490</u>	<u>161,551</u>	<u>(166,624)</u>	<u>71,417</u>	<u>30,701</u>	<u>(72,704)</u>	<u>29,414</u>

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

21 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2020	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 1 January 2021	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
R Hyams	138,274	12,177	150,451	15,255	165,706
F Buttolph	71,080	1,007	72,087	-	72,087
	<u>209,354</u>	<u>13,184</u>	<u>222,538</u>	<u>15,255</u>	<u>237,793</u>

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

22	Analysis of net assets between funds	Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Endowment funds		Total		Unrestricted funds		Designated funds		Restricted funds		Endowment funds		Total	
		2021	£	2021	£	2021	£	2021	£	2021	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£	2020	£
	Fund balances at 31 December 2021 are represented by:																				
	Investments	-		93,453		-		18,452		111,905		957		128,197		-		16,132		145,286	
	Current assets/(liabilities)	(121,541)		144,340		29,414		-		52,213		(43,927)		94,341		71,417		-		121,831	
		(121,541)		237,793		29,414		18,452		164,118		(42,970)		222,538		71,417		16,132		267,117	

WYMONDHAM ABBEY PCC

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

23 Related party transactions

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington, Bernard Douglass, Dr Jan Hunt and Sybil Martin are all trustees of Friends of Wymondham Abbey. During the year donations of £4,069 (2020: £125,718) was received from the Friends for the new lighting system and altar frontal.

The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896). Revd. Canon Christopher Davies, Interim Priest in Charge, and Brian Randall are trustees of Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust. During the year grant income of £Nil (2020: £22,331) was received from the Preservation Trust.

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31st December 2020
for
Wymondham Abbey PCC**

Aston Shaw Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Union Building
51-59 Rose Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 1BY

**Contents of the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

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Wymondham Abbey PCC

Report of the Trustees For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and 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 published in October 2019.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is required to co-operate with the Minister in promoting in the parish the whole message of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the church and to become part of the parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how its services can involve the many groups that live within the parish.

Public benefit

The PCC is aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. It is also aware of the supplementary guidance relating to religious charities.

The PCC promotes where allowed the whole mission of the church through the following activities - regular public worship open to all; pastoral work; provision for the poor, teaching of Christian worship through sermons, courses and small groups; promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature; encouragement for all in faith and wellbeing by developing provision in the churchyard, promotion of the whole mission of the Church through activities for all ages.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Electoral roll, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

It has not been possible to issue the usual invitation to check and update the electoral roll. As it stands, there are currently 194 on the Parish Electoral Roll, of whom 36 live outside the parish. There have been, 4 Marriages, 6 Funerals (5 services at the Abbey then cemetery,) 3 Interments of Ashes. There were no Graveside services.

Church Attendance

The average weekly attendance was:

Pre Covid (1 Jan - 23 March) 129

Post Lockdown (5 July - 31st Dec) 28.5

During the year there were 0 Baptisms, 4 Marriages and 5 Funerals.

Electoral Roll

There were 185 people on the Church Electoral roll as at May 2021 (April 2020: 194).

Fellowship group

The Fellowship Group met fortnightly in January and February 2020 but in March, with the first lockdown, we set up a WhatsApp Fellowship Group. This later was renamed "Reflections". Here, we post reflections, poems and passages for reflection and we can share our responses to them. It's not like meeting together of course but keeps us in touch and keeps us thinking and praying.

Prayer Hub

As prayer groups in person have not been possible, a small WhatsApp group called 'Prayer Hub' was set up. This group undertakes to pray for any who have requested prayer on their own or another's behalf and to respect total confidentiality.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Report of the Trustees For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Fundraising activities

It has not been possible to run events during 2020 - activities were curtailed by the Covid 19 restrictions.

A Pop-up café ran when permitted.

Groups & Projects

Lent Meetings

Two meetings were held by Zoom. On the 3rd March we discussed 'Jesus and the multitude', with reference to biblical stories and also to human behaviour in today's world.

On 10th March we discussed 'Being blessed in adversity'.

It was good to have that time 'together' and hear many different views and perspectives on both topics.

The Happiness Project

It was possible, in the summer of 2020 to gather the children and young people outdoors.

At other times of year they had regular meetings on zoom where they enjoyed seeing each other, playing games, "distanced baking" and similar activities.

When services have been possible, they have enjoyed attending.

Prayer

There continues to be a very good response to our many initiatives to encourage a greater interest in and understanding of prayer.

The centering prayer sessions are well attended. This contemplative prayer offers an opportunity to experience what is really meant by 'the peace that passes understanding'.

Many of the increasing number of people spending time in the churchyard participate in the opportunities for prayer and reflection which are offered.

The Abbey Website and Social Media

The website and social media are proving invaluable, especially during this period of enforced isolation and the closure of churches.

Several people, are managing the evolving design of the website and are reaching out to the community via social media, ie Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Many members of the congregation and other people too, have appreciated being able to watch and listen to Godly play sessions and the homily on Sundays, feeling as if they are actually there in person.

Those who have access to the internet are able to note forthcoming services and events, and enjoy other articles of interest, poems and reflections. The website is proving a particular boon while the church is closed, offering the opportunity to read the weekly newsletter, the Bible readings and the clergy's ponderings on them.

Deanery Synod

There were no meetings in 2020

Spooner Row

In 2020 Services in the usual pattern were held in Spooner Row until the lockdown of 23 03 2020. In July, one service was held without the knowledge of the Vicar or Churchwardens. As it proves impossible to ensure Covid safety for Sunday worship the church was then closed, but it was possible to hold a wedding in November and a service on Christmas Day morning.

2020 Singing and the playing of organs were forbidden on March 23 2020. The PCC have plans to use a variety of ensembles as soon as it is permitted and practical to do so. As well as the traditional robed choir, the PCC would like to include singers and musicians of many genres, as are appropriate in enhancement of the worship of God.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Report of the Trustees For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8.

Net expenditure before investment gains amounted to £69,629 (2019: £52,081) and after gains on investments of £14,240 (2019: £37,705), the net movement in funds for the year was net expenditure of £55,389 (2019: £14,376). The Charity's net assets at 31 December 2020 amounted to £267,117 (2019: £322,506).

Principal funding sources

The PCC's main sources of income are voluntary income in the form of planned giving (stewardship), collections, donations, investment income and fundraising activities, and the Vicar and Wardens' Discretionary Fund.

Investment policy and objectives

The PCC seeks to achieve a balanced return between capital growth and a reasonable return of income in excess of inflation. The Church of England's ethical policy on investments will be followed as far as possible.

Finance and Reserves Policy

The PCC aims to cover normal expenditure by regular income. As the income and expenditure both vary from month to month, the PCC's policy is to maintain free reserves in the region of three months average expenditure. On occasions when income does not meet expenditure, the deficit will be drawn from free reserves.

Free reserves being net current liabilities in the unrestricted general fund, totalled £43,926 (2019: net current assets £54,340) and unrestricted investments totalled £956 (2019: £1,006) at 31 December 2020. There are also free designated reserves of £94,341 (2019: £5,470) which consist of monies set aside for specific purposes. Restricted reserves were £71,417 (2019: £76,490).

The PCC refused to pay the Parish Share.

Proposal:

The PCC will not pay Parish Share for 2020.

Proposed Ms S Martin Seconded Ms V Coates carried with one against Mrs B Randall

It is the policy of Wymondham Abbey to hold in reserves the minimum equivalent of two months general running costs and an additional two month's salary costs. This policy will be reviewed in seven months' time in the light of the impact of Covid-19 on Abbey income. It is anticipated that a majority of PCCs across the Diocese and across the country will be unable to afford the full Parish Share in 2020.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the PCC believes that no material uncertainties exist. The impact of COVID-19 on the church has been considered.

The PCC has considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the PCC to be able to continue as a going concern.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Report of the Trustees For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

FINANCIAL REVIEW Fabric Report 2020

Wymondham Abbey Annual Fabric Report For 2020 Andrew Naylor - Fabric Officer March 2021

Despite the lockdowns we managed to make good progress in 2020 in several areas with much more in the pipeline for 2021. Prior to commencing the work on the Chancel roof we were obliged to call in an ecologist to carry out extensive surveys of the Abbey's bat population. He placed detectors inside the building for a few weeks and spent at least one long evening listening and watching. Apparently our bat population is minimal (low single figures) and they now also have a choice of six oak bat boxes in the trees of the Churchyard. We are grateful to the Preservation Trust for funding this conservation work.

Work on repairing the defects found in the 2018 QI was scheduled to begin after Easter, with the Church Commissioners funding re-leading the North side of the Chancel roof and repairs to the South side, as well as significant conservation work to the North Chancel Clerestory windows and surrounding stonework. This was delayed until July due to lockdown, and the work was completed in October. We took advantage of the internal scaffolding to clean the inside of the windows, the stonework inside the Clerestory, and the tops of the Reredos, all of which were filthy. We also persuaded the Church Commissioners to repair the loose plaster over the South Choir stalls, which is now safe. While the roofers were on site they re-applied Smartwater deterrent to all the lead roofs and downpipes. Again, we are grateful to the Preservation Trust for funding all the items out of the Church Commissioner's remit.

Planning for our lighting system was completed, with an exciting design from Norwich Architectural Lighting being approved by the DAC, and full Faculty granted in July, after scrutiny by Historic England and other bodies. The system is of a very high quality and substantially enhances the appearance and usability of the entire building, especially on dark winter evenings. The Friends have generously agreed to fund this project and at the time of writing (March 2021) the installation and much of the setup has been finished.

The new sound system is still in its "temporary" phase, but we have been working with stone conservators to find a solution to mounting and cabling that pleases the statutory bodies we have been asked to consult. Full faculty approval has now been granted and we plan to do this work after Easter. Meanwhile, the technical aspects of the system have been well proven, and the enhanced sound quality has been much appreciated.

We have been focussing on proactively managing our various electricity and gas accounts and making sure monthly readings are supplied and that we are only billed for power actually used, rather than estimated amounts. We are also constantly reviewing our contracts and usage to make sure costs are well controlled. We were granted a third Faculty to put outside sockets on St Margaret's and St Benedict's and upgrade the emergency light outside the South Doors. This has now been completed, largely funded by a private donation, and all the town has enjoyed the improved lighting in the churchyard this winter.

Lots of minor activity has also been across the Fabric Officer's desk this year dealing with various upgrades and issues to the alarm systems (funded by the Preservation Trust again), as well as plumbers, electricians and blacksmiths. Looking into 2021, we hope to complete repairs to all the various roof leaks, and make a high level internal inspection of the Clerestory from a Cherry picker. We have quotations in for rope access surveys on the ruined East tower and conservation surveys on the "Sedilia", as well as other works on the roofs that will make access safer for contractors and maintenance staff.

FUTURE PLANS

The PCC continues to develop projects which will promote faith and wellbeing to the local community.

Plans are in hand for at least two craft fairs during 2021.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Legal Status

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England and operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 9 July 2009 with registration number 1130495. The Church is classified as a charity under the Places of Worship Registration Act 1855.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Report of the Trustees For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Induction and training of members of the PCC

New members receive no specific training but are elected or co-opted on account of their knowledge of and contribution to the work of the Church.

Organisational structure

The PCC met on three occasions in 2020 - The PCC wholeheartedly supported the VCW in responding to the challenge of meeting the needs of the whole parish of Wymondham during the continuing Covid pandemic. The PCC also remained resolute in wanting the Vicarage to be returned to the parish, and in refusing to pay the Parish Share for 2020.

Related parties

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington, Bernard Douglass, Dr Jan Hunt and Sybil Martin are all trustees of Friends of Wymondham Abbey.

The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington is a trustee of Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust.

Risk management

The PCC acknowledges that it is responsible for risk management. The PCC has identified possible operational, financial, strategic and external risks which are assessed and reviewed periodically to enable the appropriate action to be taken to deal with them.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1130495

Principal address

Wymondham Abbey
Church Street
Wymondham
NR18 0PH

Trustees

C S Lowe
Dr S Lyall
V A Coates
K Dorling
R Jackson
M Jordan
T Kelly
A Naylor
S Ward
S Waterson (resigned 1/2/20)
S Barton-Wood (resigned 1/6/20)
Revd. C Relf-Pennington
Dr R Maguire (resigned 1/4/20)
B J Randall
Rev S Sealy (resigned 1/5/20)
B Douglass
Dr J Hunt (resigned 1/5/20)
S Martin
L Adams (resigned 1/12/20)
C Mack (appointed 1/3/20)
S Sayer (resigned 1/8/20)

Wymondham Abbey PCC

**Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Aston Shaw Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Union Building
51-59 Rose Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 1BY

DETAILED INFORMATION

Registered Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row
Working name	Wymondham Abbey PCC
Ecclesiastical Parish (Benefice)	SS Mary and Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham with Silfield and Spooner Row.
Incumbent	The Reverend. Catherine Relf-Pennington 43, Back Lane Wymondham NR18 0LB
Churchwardens	Bernard Stanley Douglass Dr Jan Hunt Dr Richard Maguire Sybil Louise Martin
Lay Chair	Dr Jan Hunt
Treasurer	Craig Davies
PCC Secretary	Bernard Douglass
Representatives on the Humbleyard Deanery Synod:	Leila Adams Vivien Coates Barbara Randall
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 45 Market Street Wymondham Norfolk NR18 0AL CCLA Investment Management Ltd The CBF Church of England Funds 80 Cheapside London EC2V 6DZ
Architects	Birdsall, Swash & Blackman Limited High House Farm The Street Beeston Kings Lynn Norfolk PE32 2NF

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29/01/2022 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Revd. C Relf-Pennington - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Wymondham Abbey PCC**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wymondham Abbey PCC

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Wymondham Abbey PCC (the Trust) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

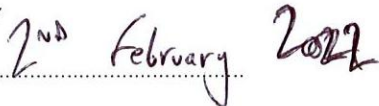
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and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

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



Dominic Shaw
FCCA
Aston Shaw Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
The Union Building
51-59 Rose Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 1BY

Date:



Wymondham Abbey PCC

Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	31/12/20 Total funds £	31/12/19 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Voluntary income	2	71,461	161,551	-	233,012	164,217
Activities for generating funds	3	13,937	-	-	13,937	49,508
Investment income	4	1,077	-	-	1,077	59
Church activities		615	-	-	615	19,709
Total		<u>87,090</u>	<u>161,551</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248,641</u>	<u>233,493</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Raising funds	5	20	-	-	20	12,046
Charitable activities	6					
Church activities		151,626	166,624	-	318,250	273,528
Total		<u>151,646</u>	<u>166,624</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,270</u>	<u>285,574</u>
Net gains on investments		13,198	-	1,042	14,240	37,705
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(51,358)</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>(55,389)</u>	<u>(14,376)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		230,926	76,490	15,090	322,506	336,882
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>179,568</u>	<u>71,417</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>267,117</u>	<u>322,506</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Balance Sheet
31st December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	31/12/20 Total funds £	31/12/19 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	11	-	-	-	-	45,186
Investments	12	129,153	-	16,132	145,285	219,980
		<u>129,153</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>145,285</u>	<u>265,166</u>
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stocks	13	6,079	-	-	6,079	6,079
Debtors	14	50	105,234	-	105,284	23,836
Cash at bank		94,341	35,096	-	129,437	131,658
		<u>100,470</u>	<u>140,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>240,800</u>	<u>161,573</u>
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(50,055)	(68,913)	-	(118,968)	(104,233)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>50,415</u>	<u>71,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>121,832</u>	<u>57,340</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>179,568</u>	<u>71,417</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>267,117</u>	<u>322,506</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>179,568</u>	<u>71,417</u>	<u>16,132</u>	<u>267,117</u>	<u>322,506</u>
FUNDS	17					
Unrestricted funds					179,568	230,926
Restricted funds					71,417	76,490
Endowment funds					16,132	15,090
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>267,117</u>	<u>322,506</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 24/01/2022 and were signed on its behalf by:


Revd. C Relf-Pennington - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements 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 affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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 issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound sterling.

The PCC constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the PCC is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income received by way of planned giving, collections, grants and donations is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Income tax recovered on covenants and gift-aid donations is recognised as income and is dealt with on an accruals basis.

Legacies are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the PCC becomes aware of its entitlement to the gift and the amount involved can be quantified.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Income from operating activities are accounted for when earned.

Income from endowment funds are accounted for as unrestricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

Grants and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities once authorised and there is a resulting obligation for payment.

The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when payable.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional requirements of the PCC and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the PCC.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - 20% on reducing balance

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

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

Designated funds are general funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future.

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained permanently or at the PCC's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Cash at bank

Cash at bank includes cash and short-term highly liquid deposit accounts.

Debtors receivable and creditors payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist.

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total2020 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total2019 £
Planned giving (stewardship) and CAF & GAYE Giving)	32,606	-	32,606	53,631	-	53,631
Income tax recovered	5,589	-	5,589	16,341	-	16,341
Donations - General	2,694	13,501	16,195	6,383	66,665	73,048
Collections at services	2,498	-	2,498	14,120	-	14,120
Grants	28,074	148,050	176,124	6,077	-	6,077
Legacies	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
	<u>71,461</u>	<u>161,551</u>	<u>233,012</u>	<u>96,552</u>	<u>67,665</u>	<u>164,217</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
Parish magazine and bookshop	29	29	685	685
Abbey bookshop	2,771	2,771	24,357	24,357
Use of church building and Abbey Hall hire	4,611	4,611	11,053	11,053
Weddings, funerals and cremations	6,343	6,343	13,413	13,413
Other	183	183	-	-
	<u>13,937</u>	<u>13,937</u>	<u>49,508</u>	<u>49,508</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Deposit account interest	<u>1,077</u>	<u>59</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Costs of fetes and other events	<u>20</u>	<u>12,046</u>

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
Parish Share	6,209	-	6,209	108,007	-	108,007
Grants (Note 7)						
- Overseas Missions	-	-	-	80	-	80
- Home Missions	-	1,324	1,324	-	1,261	1,261
Abbey book shop	1,684	-	1,684	8,038	-	8,038
Abbey Hall						
- Heat, light and water	-	-	-	230	-	230
- Insurances	1,596	-	1,596	-	-	-
- Repairs and Maintenance	1,755	-	1,755	892	-	892
- Utilities	1,538	-	1,538	-	-	-
Home mission	12,427	2,212	14,639	-	-	-
Clergy expenses	138	-	138	1,724	-	1,724
Church running expenses						
- Depreciation on computer equipment		45,187	45,187	-	11,296	11,296
- Heating, light and water	10,677	-	10,677	10,901	-	10,901
- Insurances	607	9,928	10,535	7,316	-	7,316
- Maintenance and cleaning	7,777	2,873	10,650	14,965	4,556	19,521
- Major repairs (structure)	367	2,082	2,449	-	-	-
- Major repairs (installation)	15,184	79,760	94,944	-	-	-
Upkeep of services	7,614	10,530	18,144	16,883	248	17,131
Salaries and support costs						
- Salaries/honoraria/staff	42,934	9,616	52,550	45,320	2,842	48,162
- Education and training	1,691	-	1,691	3,818	-	3,818
- Professional fees	7,358	2,760	10,118	7,456	-	7,456
Church administration	17,057	352	17,409	12,096	75	12,171
Rent	4,680	-	4,680	2,400	-	2,400
Bank charges and fees	2,305	-	2,305	1,761	-	1,761
Governance costs						
- Treasurer	4,728	-	4,728	8,063	-	8,063
- Independent examiner's remuneration	3,300	-	3,300	3,300	-	3,300
	<u>151,626</u>	<u>166,624</u>	<u>318,250</u>	<u>253,250</u>	<u>20,278</u>	<u>273,528</u>

7. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Church activities	<u>1,324</u>	<u>1,341</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2020 nor for the year ended 31st December 2019.

9. STAFF COSTS

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Wages and salaries	52,550	48,162
	<u>52,550</u>	<u>48,162</u>

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

	31/12/20 5	31/12/19 7
Staff	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>

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

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Voluntary income	96,552	67,665	-	164,217
Activities for generating funds	49,508	-	-	49,508
Investment income	59	-	-	59
Church activities	19,709	-	-	19,709
Total	<u>165,828</u>	<u>67,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>233,493</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	11,436	610	-	12,046
Charitable activities				
Church activities	253,250	20,278	-	273,528
Total	<u>264,686</u>	<u>20,888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>285,574</u>
Net gains on investments	35,325	-	2,380	37,705
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>(63,533)</u>	<u>46,777</u>	<u>2,380</u>	<u>(14,376)</u>
Transfers between funds	<u>(3,911)</u>	<u>3,911</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>(67,444)</u>	<u>50,688</u>	<u>2,380</u>	<u>(14,376)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	298,370	25,802	12,710	336,882
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>230,926</u>	<u>76,490</u>	<u>15,090</u>	<u>322,506</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer equipment £
COST	
At 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2020	56,482
DEPRECIATION	
At 1st January 2020	11,296
Charge for year	45,186
At 31st December 2020	56,482
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2020	-
At 31st December 2019	45,186

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed investments £
MARKET VALUE	
At 1st January 2020	219,980
Disposals	(88,871)
Revaluations	14,176
At 31st December 2020	145,285
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2020	145,285
At 31st December 2019	219,980

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

Stocks and shares quoted on a recognised stock exchange are included in the balance sheet at their bid-market value at the year end. The differences between market value and the original cost of the investments are shown as unrealised investment gains or losses and transferred to the Statement of Financial Activities.

13. STOCKS

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Shop stock	6,079	6,079

14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Trade debtors	95,296	19,000
Other debtors	50	4,836
Prepayments and accrued income	9,938	-
	105,284	23,836

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 16)	45,316	-
Trade creditors	64,160	17,300
Taxation and social security	212	-
Other creditors	9,280	86,933
	<u>118,968</u>	<u>104,233</u>

16. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31/12/20 £	31/12/19 £
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank overdrafts	<u>45,316</u>	<u>-</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	21,572	(64,542)	(42,970)
R Hyams	138,274	12,177	150,451
F/ Buttolph	71,080	1,007	72,087
	<u>230,926</u>	<u>(51,358)</u>	<u>179,568</u>
Restricted funds			
Spooner row fabric fund	10,246	-	10,246
Alter cloth	753	-	753
Spooner row churchyard	5,000	(660)	4,340
9.15am Eucharist service	2,000	(2,000)	-
Creation of a new website	2,482	(2,482)	-
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	-	(1,380)	(1,380)
New sound system	55,186	(47,375)	7,811
Admin assistant to Vicar	823	384	1,207
Floodlights	-	90	90
Foodboxes	-	80	80
Insurance	-	9,938	9,938
Lighting	-	38,588	38,588
TBC fund	-	4	4
Vicarage legal fees	-	(260)	(260)
	<u>76,490</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>	<u>71,417</u>
Endowment funds			
Bailey	15,090	1,042	16,132
	<u>322,506</u>	<u>(55,389)</u>	<u>267,117</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	87,090	(151,646)	14	(64,542)
R Hyams	-	-	12,177	12,177
F/ Buttolph	-	-	1,007	1,007
	<u>87,090</u>	<u>(151,646)</u>	<u>13,198</u>	<u>(51,358)</u>
Restricted funds				
Spooner row churchyard	-	(660)	-	(660)
9.15am Eucharist service	-	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
Creation of a new website	-	(2,482)	-	(2,482)
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	-	(1,380)	-	(1,380)
New sound system	1	(47,376)	-	(47,375)
Admin assistant to Vicar	10,000	(9,616)	-	384
Abbey Churchyard	500	(500)	-	-
Altar Frontal	7,370	(7,370)	-	-
External sockets	300	(300)	-	-
Floodlights	90	-	-	90
Foodboxes	80	-	-	80
Insurance	19,866	(9,928)	-	9,938
Lighting	118,348	(79,760)	-	38,588
Pres trust specified funds	2,466	(2,466)	-	-
TBC fund	30	(26)	-	4
Vicarage legal fees	2,500	(2,760)	-	(260)
	<u>161,551</u>	<u>(166,624)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>
Endowment funds				
Bailey	-	-	1,042	1,042
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>1,042</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>248,641</u>	<u>(318,270)</u>	<u>14,240</u>	<u>(55,389)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	124,617	(99,134)	(3,911)	21,572
R Hyams	113,534	24,740	-	138,274
F/ Buttolph	60,219	10,861	-	71,080
	<u>298,370</u>	<u>(63,533)</u>	<u>(3,911)</u>	<u>230,926</u>
Restricted funds				
Spooner row fabric fund	14,802	(4,556)	-	10,246
Alter cloth	1,000	(247)	-	753
Spooner row churchyard	5,000	-	-	5,000
9.15am Eucharist service	2,000	-	-	2,000
Creation of a new website	3,000	(518)	-	2,482
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	-	(261)	261	-
New sound system	-	51,536	3,650	55,186
Admin assistant to Vicar	-	823	-	823
	<u>25,802</u>	<u>46,777</u>	<u>3,911</u>	<u>76,490</u>
Endowment funds				
Bailey	12,710	2,380	-	15,090
	<u>12,710</u>	<u>2,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,090</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>336,882</u>	<u>(14,376)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>322,506</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	165,828	(264,686)	(276)	(99,134)
R Hyams	-	-	24,740	24,740
F/ Buttolph	-	-	10,861	10,861
	<u>165,828</u>	<u>(264,686)</u>	<u>35,325</u>	<u>(63,533)</u>
Restricted funds				
Spooner row fabric fund	-	(4,556)	-	(4,556)
Alter cloth	-	(247)	-	(247)
Creation of a new website	-	(518)	-	(518)
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	1,000	(1,261)	-	(261)
New sound system	63,000	(11,464)	-	51,536
Admin assistant to Vicar	3,665	(2,842)	-	823
	<u>67,665</u>	<u>(20,888)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,777</u>
Endowment funds				
Bailey	-	-	2,380	2,380
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,380</u>	<u>2,380</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>233,493</u>	<u>(285,574)</u>	<u>37,705</u>	<u>(14,376)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	124,617	(163,676)	(3,911)	(42,970)
R Hyams	113,534	36,917	-	150,451
F/ Buttolph	60,219	11,868	-	72,087
	<u>298,370</u>	<u>(114,891)</u>	<u>(3,911)</u>	<u>179,568</u>
Restricted funds				
Spooner row fabric fund	14,802	(4,556)	-	10,246
Alter cloth	1,000	(247)	-	753
Spooner row churchyard	5,000	(660)	-	4,340
9.15am Eucharist service	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Creation of a new website	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	-	(1,641)	261	(1,380)
New sound system	-	4,161	3,650	7,811
Admin assistant to Vicar	-	1,207	-	1,207
Floodlights	-	90	-	90
Foodboxes	-	80	-	80
Insurance	-	9,938	-	9,938
Lighting	-	38,588	-	38,588
TBC fund	-	4	-	4
Vicarage legal fees	-	(260)	-	(260)
	<u>25,802</u>	<u>41,704</u>	<u>3,911</u>	<u>71,417</u>
Endowment funds				
Bailey	12,710	3,422	-	16,132
	<u>336,882</u>	<u>(69,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>267,117</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>336,882</u>	<u>(69,765)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>267,117</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	252,918	(416,332)	(262)	(163,676)
R Hyams	-	-	36,917	36,917
F/ Buttolph	-	-	11,868	11,868
	<u>252,918</u>	<u>(416,332)</u>	<u>48,523</u>	<u>(114,891)</u>
Restricted funds				
Spooner row fabric fund	-	(4,556)	-	(4,556)
Alter cloth	-	(247)	-	(247)
Spooner row churchyard	-	(660)	-	(660)
9.15am Eucharist service	-	(2,000)	-	(2,000)
Creation of a new website	-	(3,000)	-	(3,000)
Vicar & Church Wardens Fund	1,000	(2,641)	-	(1,641)
New sound system	63,001	(58,840)	-	4,161
Admin assistant to Vicar	13,665	(12,458)	-	1,207
Abbey Churchyard	500	(500)	-	-
Altar Frontal	7,370	(7,370)	-	-
External sockets	300	(300)	-	-
Floodlights	90	-	-	90
Foodboxes	80	-	-	80
Insurance	19,866	(9,928)	-	9,938
Lighting	118,348	(79,760)	-	38,588
Pres trust specified funds	2,466	(2,466)	-	-
TBC fund	30	(26)	-	4
Vicarage legal fees	2,500	(2,760)	-	(260)
	<u>229,216</u>	<u>(187,512)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,704</u>
Endowment funds				
Bailey	-	-	3,422	3,422
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,422</u>	<u>3,422</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>482,134</u>	<u>(603,844)</u>	<u>51,945</u>	<u>(69,765)</u>

Restricted funds

Donations were received in respect of the bell ringers and the organ.

Development funds are for development at Wymondham Abbey. The transfer between funds relates to expenditure charged in error to the general fund in previous years.

A restricted legacy was made in the year ended 31 December 2017 towards the Fabric Fund at Spooner Row, this has been brought in to the 2018 accounts by way of a transfer from the unrestricted funds.

The Abbey Experience fund relates to the development project to enhance Wymondham Abbey and increase its versatility. The building project was substantially completed in 2017 and the funding for activities ran until May 2018. The transfer between funds relates to expenditure charged in error to the general fund during the project.

A donation was received during the year for the churchyard at Spooner Row.

A donation was received during the year for the 9.15am Eucharist Service, Godly Play and the Toddler Service.

A donation was received during the year for the support of professional expenses of Wymondham Abbey.

A donation was received during the year for the installation of a new sound system.

Funds have been provided towards the new lighting.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Money was received for the altar frontal.

The external sockets on St Margaret's and St Benedicts were paid for by a one-off gift.

Funding was received for a bat survey.

A one-off gift was used to make the churchyard more welcoming.

Donation appeals contributed to the floodlights.

Donations were received towards food boxes.

Grants were received towards church insurance.

Donations were received for projects to be confirmed.

A donation was received for the vicarage legal fees.

Designated funds

New development fund relates to funds allocated by the PCC to fund development at Wymondham Abbey.

R Hyams funds have been designated from legacies from R Hyams and Diana Reid bequest to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Wymondham Abbey, and represent the amount held in the bank and in CCLA holdings.

Choir funds are funds designated for the purpose of the choir.

F Buttolph funds were bequested for the use of the Vicar and Churchwardens of Wymondham Abbey, and represent the amount held in the bank and CCLA holdings.

Papillon funds are funds which have been designated towards the costs of youth work.

'The WAY' – Wymondham Abbey Youth fund consists of funds used by the Youth Group.

Wymondham PCC Fees Account fund consists of fees received and paid in relation to services at the Abbey. The Abbey Book Shop fund is used to run the Abbey Book Shop and produce literature when required. The Abbey Hall fund is used to run and maintain the hall. The Magazine fund is used to fund the parish magazine. These funds were transferred to the general fund during the year.

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The PCC is supported by Friends of Wymondham Abbey (registered charity number 1064418). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington, Bernard Douglass, Dr Jan Hunt and Sybil Martin are all trustees of Friends of Wymondham Abbey. During the year donations of £125,718 (2019: £53,000) was received from the Friends for the new lighting system and altar frontal.

The PCC is also supported by Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust (registered charity number 1054896). Revd. Catherine Relf-Pennington and Brian Randall are trustees of Wymondham Abbey Preservation Trust. During the year grant income of £22,331 (2019: £nil) was received from the Preservation Trust.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

19. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The PCC only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

20. BANK ACCOUNT

At the end of the year, the charity held £31,466 (2019: £32,052) in a separate bank account for Spooner row.

Wymondham Abbey PCC

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	31/12/20 Total funds £	31/12/19 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Voluntary income					
Donations and legacies	71,461	161,551	-	233,012	164,217
Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising events	13,937	-	-	13,937	49,508
Investment income					
Deposit account interest	1,077	-	-	1,077	59
Church activities					
Church activities and social events	615	-	-	615	19,709
Total incoming resources	87,090	161,551	-	248,641	233,493
EXPENDITURE					
Other trading activities					
Costs of fetes and other events	20	-	-	20	12,046
Charitable activities					
Salaries/honoraria/staff	42,934	9,616	-	52,550	48,162
Upkeep of services	7,614	10,530	-	18,144	17,131
Clergy expenses	138	-	-	138	1,724
Insurance	607	9,928	-	10,535	7,316
Light, heat and water	13,811	-	-	13,811	11,131
Shop	1,684	-	-	1,684	8,038
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	25,083	84,715	-	109,798	20,413
Church administration	12,576	352	-	12,928	8,835
Telephone	4,481	-	-	4,481	3,336
Bank charges and fees	2,305	-	-	2,305	1,761
Rent	4,680	-	-	4,680	2,400
Parish share	6,209	-	-	6,209	108,007
Education and training	1,691	-	-	1,691	3,818
Professional fees	7,358	2,760	-	10,118	7,456
Home mission	12,427	2,212	-	14,639	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	45,187	-	45,187	11,296
Independent examiner's remuneration	3,300	-	-	3,300	3,300
Treasurer	4,728	-	-	4,728	8,063
Grants - Overseas & home missions	-	1,324	-	1,324	1,341
	151,626	166,624	-	318,250	273,528
Total resources expended	151,646	166,624	-	318,270	285,574
Net expenditure before gains and losses	(64,556)	(5,073)	-	(69,629)	(52,081)
Realised recognised gains and losses					
Carried forward	(64,556)	(5,073)	-	(69,629)	(52,081)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Wymondham Abbey PCC

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	31/12/20 Total funds £	31/12/19 Total funds £
Realised recognised gains and losses					
Brought forward	(64,556)	(5,073)	-	(69,629)	(52,081)
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	13,198	-	1,042	14,240	825
Net expenditure	<u>(51,358)</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>	<u>1,042</u>	<u>(55,389)</u>	<u>(51,256)</u>