

Annual Report and Accounts 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF BUSHEY
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 2023

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Chairman's Report for 2023

I am delighted to present the annual report for the Parish of Bushey, covering the period of my tenure over the past seven months. It has been a time of immense joy and fulfilment as both Robin, and I have been warmly embraced by the parish community. Transitioning from central Watford to Bushey has offered us an opportunity to immerse ourselves in parish life here.

One of the most striking observations during this period has been the integral role played by St James and St Paul's in both the spiritual and everyday lives of the community. The deep connections fostered in these churches have highlighted the significance of our mission to nurture a vibrant and inclusive community rooted in the principles of love, forgiveness, and tolerance as taught by Jesus in the Gospels.

The established pattern of Divine Worship is our 10am Parish Mass on Sundays at St James and the 11:15am Sung Mass at St Paul's. Both have average to below average number attending, I have yet to establish why the significant decrease in attendance has occurred. Additionally, our midweek services, including the Wednesday 12:30pm Said Mass at St Paul's and the Thursday 11am Said Mass at St James, provide regular opportunities for spiritual engagement. The monthly Messy Church sessions at St Paul's have proven particularly popular, offering families a dynamic and creative encounter with God.

The occasional offices of baptisms, weddings, and funerals have begun to increase in frequency with the appointment of a Rector. We anticipate further growth in these sacred rites throughout 2024. A significant aspect of our ministry has been the pastoral care extended to families during times of loss, with the burial of ashes becoming a more frequent occurrence.

Despite a recent break in at St James just before Christmas (nothing stolen) our commitment to keep our churches open for private prayers remains an important part of our ministry. I'm pleased to report that St James continues to welcome visitors daily, being open weekdays 8 am to 6 pm.

As we reflect on our parish's strengths, four key areas of significant missional engagement have emerged:

1. **Open Buildings - Engagement with the Community:** Our churches serve as open and inviting spaces for both churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike. The sense of community and belonging is palpable, fostering deep connections and mutual support. They are sacred places of meeting, prayer, and silence.
2. **Bells are the Voice of the Church:** The resonant peal of bells at St James and the single chiming bell at St Paul's serve as audible reminders of our presence and invitation to worship. These ancient bells resonate through the community, drawing people to the sacred space and reminding them that God dwells with them.

3. **Music is Praying Twice:** The musical offerings at both churches have the potential to reach hearts and minds, enriching our collective worship experience. Whether through traditional hymns or contemporary melodies, music plays a vital role in elevating our worship and fostering spiritual connection. Our parish has a proud musical heritage which is ripe for revival.
4. **St James Grave and Churchyard – God’s Garden:** The peace and beauty of St James’s churchyard provides a tranquil retreat and is a buzzing home to a wide variety of biodiversity. Amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life, the churchyard offers a sacred space for reflection, prayer, and communion with nature. We have a responsibility to care for the mortal remains of those buried here, provide a home for God’s creatures and creation and a place where our community can come and enjoy this place. This includes the Pond and Lych Gate areas.

Looking ahead, I am optimistic that these strengths, coupled with the insights gleaned from our upcoming Mission Action Plan (MAP), will fuel further growth and vitality in our parish community.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Salome, our church warden whose support has been invaluable to me throughout my settling in period. Again, thanks to her for the leadership she has given with the PCC and Committees during the vacancy.

To each member of the parish, I extend my sincere gratitude for all your ongoing commitment and contributions to the work of God in Bushey. Together, let us continue to shine as a beacon of hope and love in our community to the glory of God the eternal Holy Trinity.

Fr. David Stevenson

Rector of the Parish of Bushey and PCC Chairman

Administrative Information

The Parish of Bushey is a Registered Charity number 1130540 and has two churches.

St James's (the Parish Church) is situated in Bushey High Street, and St Paul's is situated in Bushey Hall Road (WD23 2EQ), Holy Trinity in Bushey Mill Lane (WD23 2AS) was closed in 2021.

The parish is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD.

Our website is www.busheyparish.org

Rector: Fr. David Stevenson (since July 2023)

Lay Leader of Worship: Christine Cocks

Parish Office Manager: Jacqueline Birch

Honorary Parish Treasurer: Taiye Sanwo

Honorary PCC Secretary: Martyn Lambert (until April 2023) Felicity Cox (from July 2023)

Churchwarden: Salome Jayaratnam, Roy Golding (until November 2023)

Deanery Synod Representative: May Teague (one vacancy),

Elected PCC members: Gill Onslow, Stella Nichols (Vice Chair and Chair of the Standing Committee until November 2023), Peter Humphreys, Clare Humphreys, Ann White, Russ Teague, Marion Golding, Gay Butler, Ingrid Harris, Peter Clark, Felicity Cox, Greg Batts.

Co-opted member: Hon Treasurer

Deanery Synod Rep: May Teague

Ex-officio members of PCC: Clergy, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod reps. The posts of Hon PCC secretary and Hon Treasurer, and those of pro-wardens, do not lead to an automatic place on PCC. Those wishing to be PCC members as well as PCC secretary, Treasurer or pro-wardens must stand for election in their own right. After serving on the PCC for three years, the previous parish policy for people to take a year off before standing again was repealed at the 2021 APCM, reverting to the default position specified in the Church Representation Rules 2020 which permits immediate re-election. The Hon Treasurer is co-opted onto the PCC.

Elected PCC Members during 2023 - full membership 11.

Elected at 2021 APCM: to retire at 2024 APCM: Gay Butler.

Elected at 2022 APCM: to retire at 2024 APCM: Gill Onslow¹

¹ Where more than 1/3 of members are elected at one meeting, the previous years' quotas are filled.

Elected at 2022 APCM: to retire at 2025 APCM: Ingrid Harris, Peter Clark, Felicity Cox, Greg Batts, Ann White, Peter Humphries, Clare Humphries, Russ Teague, Marion Golding.

Chair of Parish Buildings Committee: Roy Golding (To July) Greg Batts (from July)

Churchyard Manager: Greg Batts (from July)

Health and Safety Officer: Roy Golding

Safeguarding Officer: Gay Butler

Parish Bankers; Santander, 52 High Street, Watford, Herts, WD 17 2AL

Independent Examiner: Janice Matthews, Menzies LLP

Architect: Mr James Ford (Clague LLP)

Day to day management control of the churches is exercised by the Incumbent and the Churchwarden(s), contactable through the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD, Telephone 020 8421 8192. During a vacancy, the Rural Dean has oversight of the Parish.

Structure, Management and Governance

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956.

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1130540.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules, 2020. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. All members of the congregations can attend PCC meetings, but do not vote. PCC members receive information on trustee responsibilities, basic health and safety, risk management and safeguarding procedures.

The PCC held seven regular meetings with a number of decisions made under the "Business by Correspondence" provision of the Church Representation Rules 2020 and ratified at the next meeting.

Issues raised for discussion at PCC meetings included:

- Discernment process for the new Rector
- Safeguarding - ensuring training and Dashboard up to date
- Long term repair of Church Tower.
- Managing Finances. Paying the Parish Share. Use of reserves.
- Future use of Holy Trinity building. Terms of Lease, funding of necessary works.

The PCC operates the following sub committees that report back to it as necessary, and their deliberations are discussed.

PCC SUB-COMMITTEES

Standing Committee: Fr David Stevenson. Roy Golding (to November), Salome Jayaratnam, PCC Vice Chair Stella Nichols, Gill Onslow, Marion Golding, PCC Secretary Felicity Cox.

Parish Buildings Committee: Chairs: Roy Golding (to Jul) and Greg Batts (from Jul), Gill Onslow, Len Richards (until July), Baz Butcher, Keith Durant, Martyn Lambert, Fr David Stevenson (from July).

Parish Finance and Stewardship Group: Chair: Taiye Sanwo, Greg Batts, Russ Teague, Salome Jayaratnam, Roy Golding (until November) Fr. David Stevenson (from July).

CHURCH COMMITTEES

St James's Committee: Chair: Fr. David Stevenson, Ann White (Pro-warden), Salome Jayaratnam, Greg Batts, Kristian Schuhmacher, Bazyle Butcher.

St Paul's Committee: Chair: Fr. David Stevenson, Marion Golding (Pro-warden), Clare Humphreys, Brian Walters, Jill Walters (until July), May Teague (Deanery), Frances Turner, Maureen Jones, Jill Macey, Roy Golding, Martyn Lambert.

Parish Social Committee: Felicity Cox, Ann White, Kristian Schumacher, Salome Jayaratnam (chair)

Comms Group: Fr. David Stevenson, Sue Baxter (Parish Magazine), Jacqueline Birch (Parish Administrator), Martyn Lambert, Lay Leader of Worship, Sue Baxter, Jane Batts, Russ Teague, Ronke Adejolu.

ELECTORAL ROLL

A complete revision of the Parish Electoral Roll was last carried out in March 2019.

After the update before the 2023 APCM there were 109 people on the Electoral Roll (2022 = 115) the change being the result of 7 deaths and 1 addition.

Martyn Lambert - Electoral Roll Officer

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

The average attendances at normal **Sunday** services were as follows:

St. James:	28 adults, 2 under 16
St. Paul:	21 adults, 3 under 16

The average **weekday** service attendances were as follows:

St. Paul:	8 adults (Weekly)
	18 adults + 16 children (Messy Church, monthly)

OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Funerals:	10
Baptisms:	3
Weddings:	3
Burial of Ashes:	12

Statement of Public Benefit

The Members of the PCC have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity and in planning future activities. In particular the PCC considers how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives set.

The Parish of Bushey demonstrates public benefit with the following activities:

- Regular public worship open to all
- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick, frail, and bereaved.
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses, and small groups.
- Promotion of the whole mission of the church through provision of activities for senior citizens, parents, toddlers, young people, and other special needs groups.
- Teaching and discussion of Christian Ethics.
- Environmental/Ethical issues (unsold items recycled), supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.
- Community involvement, including the support of local cultural events (music, artistic, etc.) and social action - Coffee & Chat, and providing space for the Red Trust Bushey foodbank.

Objectives and Activities

The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC: is to co-operate with the Minister in providing in the ecclesiastical parish the whole Mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

In the Parish of Bushey, we continue to develop within the Diocesan Living God's Love programme which includes deepening spirituality, outreach to the local community, and a Mission Action Plan.

1. Achievements and Performance

Baptism and Marriage preparation provide opportunities for teaching, support and welcome to the church. Special Christmas services in each church welcome many families and schools to joyful celebration. A weekly "coffee, cake and chat" operates at St. Paul's which has been very well supported and some stay to share in the Eucharist afterwards.

Saturday lunchtime recitals and lunches at St James's. 'Messy Church', monthly at St. Paul's for everyone, but mostly young children, continues to thrive.

2. Planning and development of fundraising activities

Well proven fundraising events-quiz nights, raffles, lunches, suppers, concerts and Christmas sales; all provide opportunities to assist with financial support for the parish, and assistance

to charities. They also have a social function and draw in members of the local community. A programme of lunchtime recitals were good occasions and successful 'fund-raisers' as well as drawing together the wider community.

3. Exploration of Eucharistic and Social Life in ways that lead to growth opportunities.

Special welcome services and Patronal Festivals and social events are joyful occasions and give opportunities to welcome members of other churches, and our local community.

4. Ecumenical links

The World Day of Prayer (originally Women's Day of Prayer) is supported within the Parish.

5. Links with other Faiths

Informal links are maintained with the Hertsmere Forum of Faith and Bushey Interfaith Forum.

Approved by the PCC on 21st February and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Stevenson', written in a cursive style.

Fr David Stevenson

PCC Chair and Rector

St. James's Church

We started the year with one final service from Rev Thomas Singh who had been helping us during the initial stages of our interregnum. For several months we were served by Rev Stephen Mepham on a regular basis with occasional visits from Fr Tayo Falope, until the appointment of our new Rector, Fr. David Stevenson. His induction at the beginning of July with a joyful and thankful congregation from across the parish saw the end of a disruptive period and the start of a new phase of our worship. We are still able to see Fr Tayo on occasions when Fr David celebrates at St Paul's.

During the year we celebrated three weddings and welcomed a new member to the church in a baptism. Sadly, there were three funerals, two of whom were much loved members of our regular congregation and another from a neighbouring parish with long term connections to our church. Three families buried ashes of loved ones in the Memorial Garden during the year.

Special occasions this year included being the primary location for the joint Churches World Day of Prayer and we were able to join in the celebrations of the coronation of the new King, Charles III, with a service and parish lunch. The Christmas events were well attended, especially the Carol service, two parish Christingle services in addition to two special school ones, and a final crib service on Christmas Eve.

We still do not have a regular choir or Director of Music but have welcomed a small selection of visiting organists to our services with the occasional said mass when no musician was available. On a number of occasions however a choir has been assembled to add to the service including a sung evensong and sometimes a Cantor visiting from Germany joins us.

Musical life is still a focus, and we had an extensive Recital programme during the year with piano, organ, violin and singing represented which helps bring the local community to the church.

Thanks to everyone who has helped us during the year both at worship and in the general preparation and maintenance of the church.

Bazyle Butcher and Ann White

St. Paul's Church

2023 started as 2022 had ended with a variety of priests officiating at our services. In January, we welcomed Fr. Tayo who became a more regular fixture during the year and later, in July, we were pleased to welcome Fr. David Stevenson as Rector of the Parish and look forward to a period of stability having been without a Rector for some time. Fr. Tayo ran a very interesting Parish Lent Course at St. Paul's, which was well-attended and in March tested a

Songs of Praise café-style Sunday service (certainly very different) where we were encouraged to talk about, and sing, our favourite hymns together.

Early in January St. Paul's hosted a quiz/curry evening in aid of the St. James's Bell Tower Fund, raising almost £1,000. It was Fr. Tayo's first experience of a British quiz! The annual Macmillan Coffee Morning in September was very well-attended and raised over £800 for Macmillan.

In November we were delighted to welcome Bishop Alan at St. Paul's to celebrate a Parish Eucharist with Fr. David who ensured the church looked splendid for the occasion.

Once again, we're grateful to friends and family who helped make the Christmas Fair such a success and it was a joy to have our Rector pray with us before the doors were opened. Around £3,200 was raised for Parish funds.

St. Paul's Wednesday morning Coffee & Chat, in its ninth year, continues to be a blessing for the whole community. We would love more people to stay for the short service which follows but, regardless, we feel that the Holy Spirit is at work during those few hours. The service regularly attracts around 8/9 worshippers although Ash Wednesday saw 24 packed into the small chancel area.

We also saw a packed church on Christmas Eve for the traditional Crib Service, led by Fr. Tayo.

We have much to be thankful for. We feel blessed to worship in a place that can easily be converted into a space for other activities whilst retaining the spiritual glow that the church provides.

We were rocked during the year to lose four loyal members of our congregation. However, as always, trusting firmly in God's plan for us and under our new Rector, we're confident that St. Paul's will flourish.

Marion Golding – St. Paul's Representative

MESSY CHURCH AT ST. PAULS

Messy Church continued to take place on the third Wednesday of each month, followed by a planning meeting to decide on the next theme. Crafts are then available, the children have Celebration Time, led by our priest and the afternoon culminates in a shared meal. Both Fr. David and Fr. Tayo proved to be big hits with the children. Ten sessions were held during the year and attendance averaged 16 children/18 adults.

Messy Church struggled during the year, having lost the input of its leader due to health issues and then, in the Autumn, the sad and sudden loss of its very efficient administrator. They cannot be replaced. However, we feel blessed to have the invaluable help of volunteers, not only from our 2 churches, but from outside the Parish who freely give their time and considerable expertise to this most rewarding outreach into the community. We are always looking for volunteers.

Buildings Committee

During 2023 we spent the first 6 months in a Vacancy when there was a freeze on spending, although Roy Golding managed to work on securing the future use of Holy Trinity. This involved a significant amount of time and costs dealing with professionals and the Diocese sorting out the lease. There were also a lot of items that needed new homes or selling if no longer required. We sold several social items, e.g. football table, table tennis table, bouncy castle and chairs to local community groups at a reasonable price and the proceeds went into Parish Funds. All religious artefacts were treated carefully and taken to St James for use or storage. Finally, a painting was boarded up with a protective wooden frame.

In September, the Margaret Howard Dance Studio opened, providing opportunities for the local community which is part of our Mission in Bushey. They signed a 10-year lease which will also bring in much needed funds for the Parish.

During the vacancy we could only undertake urgent repairs and the restoration of the Reredos at St James using part of Miss Fairfield's Legacy in Parish Reserves. However, once Fr David arrived in July and joined the Committee, we were able to focus on short term and longer-term work to maintain, repair and improve our buildings. We also learned that the PCC is now responsible for the Rectory adding further costs to our Buildings' Projects.

In addition to regular maintenance and volunteer repairs, some of the significant work carried out during 2023 totalled ~£19,000 and included:

- New wiring and asbestos survey at Holy Trinity to meet tenancy requirements.
- Architect's Report on St James Tower/Church roof repairs preparing for significant work in 2024.
- Electrical improvements in Church House with extra sockets and new Hall lighting.
- Church House Flat improvements/redecorating to prepare for new tenants at a higher rental.
- St James Tower Parapet Wall repair.
- Repainting of North Porch and Lychgate at St James.
- New lighting under the Lychgate and above the West Door at St James.

As Chairs, we are grateful for the Committee Members, Baz Butcher, Keith Durant, Martyn Lambert, Gill Onslow and not forgetting Fr David who joined us in July. We also wish to thank Len Richards who was part of our committee until the summer.

Roy Golding (Jan-Jul) & Greg Batts (Jul-Dec) Building Committee Chairs

Watford Deanery Synod

The Deanery meetings are an opportunity for representatives of all the Watford & Bushey Churches to get together and discuss common problems. After a prayer and reflection session the gathering is usually addressed by the Rural Dean, the Rev. Peter Waddell and other local Clergy, with questions and suggestions from the floor.

The first meeting in February was hosted by All Saints, Leavesden. Our speaker from Watford Food Bank was, unfortunately, unable to join us but we had a very interesting discussion among the churches present about how we can help support Food Banks and provide Outreach to the local Community in a time of rising food prices and big heating bills.

The June meeting was cancelled but we met again in October at St Peter's Church, Bushey Mill Lane.

Rev. Canon Tim Bull and Mrs Hilary Knight from the Abbey reported on St Alban's Cathedral Revisioning - a conversation in the Cathedral community and across the whole Diocese on Mission priorities for the next five years. They sought our ideas and comments in discussion groups around questions such as:

- What is the purpose of the Cathedral and how much do we value it?
- What can the Cathedral do to support the Diocese and our shared commitment to Living God's Love?

I am still the sole representative of Bushey Parish on the Deanery Synod and would welcome anyone else who would be interested in joining me.

May Teague - Deanery Representative

Safeguarding Report

During the year we have had only two potential issues concerning people who were not members of St James Church but approached us for help. Both were referred to the Safeguarding team, The first; we were referred to a local member of the clergy who was experienced in dealing with such issues and following meetings it was hopefully resolved. The second was referred to the Safeguarding team and they dealt with it.

Our focus now must be to get our Dashboard up to date, which following Covid and the period without a Rector has been sadly neglected. This is now underway and will hopefully be addressed in the near future with the support of the PCC.

Gay Butler Safeguarding Officer

Church Membership Fund

2023 was another difficult year for the CMF, with falling membership across the three historical communities. Obviously, this makes it even more difficult to meet our Parish Share – and even to pay a significant proportion of it out of regular giving, as is the recommendation. Unfortunately, excluding our clergy, there was no increase in the numbers in the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) in 2022. At the close of the year there were 34 active members, compared with 51 during 2022. There were 17 (2022: 16) in the PGS and 17 (2022: 35) in our traditional CMF standing orders and envelopes spread across our 2 churches, embracing the three former communities.

Active CMF Members during 2023 are compared with previous years in the Table below. (Note these figures would not include clergy who have joined the PGS.) It is worth noting that one member could represent a partner or a whole family. It seems no longer appropriate to identify the contributions separately, by congregation. The continuing drop in active membership makes it increasingly difficult to sustain our ministry in the Parish and the vacancy – which we are glad is now over – is not something that usually attracts additional support. We also realise that everyone is facing huge increases in the cost of living; in that respect, the church is no different.

2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Parish of Bushey 74 72 52 51 34

At the last APCM, there were 109 people on the electoral register (ER), and it would be wonderful to have support from those not currently in our CMF. It would be great to have more people on the ER join the CMF and pledge and donate a regular amount to the Parish, even in the current economic situation, such that we can at least maintain what we have left.

If you are a member of one of our churches and are not already in the CMF, please consider joining. You may contact either of the CMF Representatives below, or one of the clergy; we really need you. Any amount you can afford will be received gratefully and you can change the arrangement at any time, because you control your giving. The PGS arrangement means that the administration is removed as a burden to the parish: all the gift aid is dealt with and reclaimed promptly. Finally, if you are a taxpayer, if you pay tax above the basic rate, you can claim the difference between the rate you pay and basic rate on your donation* and so reduce your personal tax bill – we claim the basic rate tax back at no cost to you! If you like to keep to the envelope system but don't want to pay weekly, we have a way of creating properly anonymous (numbered) labels with the frequency of dates that suits the giver (monthly, 4 weekly): just contact the CMF rep to get the information to me.

St James Greg Batt

St Pauls Marion Golding

In addition, you can find everything about the CMF on the Parish Website. Other ways to contribute at: <https://www.busheyparish.org/giving>.

I acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Greg Batts, who continues to support me in this task and particularly during a time when I had personal challenges to deal with

Christine Cocks (with assistance from Greg Batts) – Parish CMF Officer (2023)

* <https://www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid>

St James's Bellringers

The Bushey ringers are delighted to welcome Fr. David Stevenson as Rector of the parish. Ringing has continued at St James' Bushey on Sundays, when enough of the band are available and on Thursday evenings throughout the year. Attendance at practices is variable but we do receive support from ringers of other towers.

2023 will be remembered as the year that we lost our dear friend and superb ringer Kath Baldwin. Kath was a faithful member of the Bushey band for over sixty years. It was pleasing that so many ringers attended her funeral.

In April 2023 Stuart Brant began his year of office as the president of the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers.

A lot of effort was put in to train 9 new ringers as part of the 'Ring for the King' campaign. Five rang on the day of the Coronation but only one of the nine continues to support ringing in the area.

The bells have been rung to mark important events throughout the year including:-

- Friday 7th July 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major. Rung for Kath Baldwin's 91st birthday
- Wednesday 12th July 1260 Grandsire Triples rung for the collation and induction of Fr. David Stevenson as Rector of Bushey.
- Sunday 23rd July 1280 Rutland Surprise Major rung for the Feast of St James.
- Sunday 20th August 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major rung in Thanksgiving for the life of Kath Baldwin.
- Wednesday 12th September 1344 Yorkshire Surprise Major rung before the funeral of Kath Baldwin.
- Tuesday 31st October 5088 London Surprise Major rung by the St James' Guild in thanksgiving for the life of Kath Baldwin.

- Wednesday 1st November 1280 Cambridge Surprise Major rung for All Saints' Day by the current President and seven former presidents of the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers.
- Friday 17th November 5088 Yorkshire Surprise Major rung by a Hertford County Association band in thanksgiving for the life of Kath Baldwin.

We are short of ringers, especially on Sunday mornings. We are planning a recruitment drive in the spring.

As I come to the end of my year of office as President of the Hertford County Association of Change Ringers, I would like to thank all ringers for their support.

Stuart Brant - Tower Captain and Ringing Master

Communications

Awaited from Russ Teague/Fr. David

PARISH WEBSITE; WWW.BUSHEYPARISH.ORG

The Parish Website is managed with “squarespace” and we pay about £200 annually for this important part of our communications within the Parish and out to the wider community.

During 2023 there were 12,589 visits to the website with noticeable peaks in July and December. The total is slightly less than 14,142 in 2022.

Analysis of the sections accessed (>1,000) for 2023 in descending order are:-

- Landing page 4,996
- St James 4,139
- Pewsheets 1,421
- Venue Hire 1,387
- Parish Magazine 1,286
- Parish Recitals 1,218

Note that the above total is >12,589 since people can go to more than 1 section on each visit.

Jane Batts - Webmaster

St James's Churchyard

For the first 6 months Jayaratnam managed churchyard issues in her role as Parish Warden, due to the Vacancy, supported by Jacq Birch. I am grateful for the continued support of Jacq fielding enquiries about new burials. This allows me to focus on dealing with the enquiries and requests from families about their relatives' grave across the various

sections. Peter Manhire has done a great job throughout 2023 keeping all the areas tidy; for most of the year on his own.

Since taking over in July quite a few enquiries have been handled for people trying to locate the graves of their relatives. Occasionally this is quite straightforward, although sometimes it can be time-consuming, but very rewarding when we get a positive result. In addition, I have been working with Hertsmere Borough Council (HBC) to understand who has responsibility for maintaining the different parts of the Churchyard which has been “Closed” since the 1960s. Two face-to-face meetings took place in the Churchyard with HBC’s Cemeteries Manager who agreed that they would look after all the hedges, trees, paths and the grassed non-grave areas. It remains unclear who is responsible for the retaining walls. HBC promised to tackle the hedge by the Pond and lower it to improve visibility of the Church as part of 2023/24 Winter Maintenance.

During the year the Lychgate and North Porch were painted by volunteers and some new lights and signage erected.

Finally, we have tackled the requirements of the Bushey Churchyard and Trust Fund that has been in operation since 1997 when many small trust funds were consolidated along with the Ellis Grave Trust. There are 15 graves that the PCC are obligated to maintain by the terms of the Trusts. Beginning in the Autumn, a team of volunteers started cleaning and tidying these and by the year-end, 9 had been undertaken.

Greg Batts (Jul-Dec) Churchyard Manager

Christian Aid

Our major fundraising effort for Christian Aid each year takes place during Christian Aid Week in May. We held our usual Parish Lunch, a few street collections and set up an e-envelope online donation route. Altogether we collected £520 + £50 gift aid.

However, this year we have had several requests for crisis funding and were able to respond positively to two of these appeals.

In March we held a special collection in both Churches for the Disasters Emergency Committee and Christian Aid Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal and collected over £200 at the morning services.

More recently, at the Christmas Eve Crib services in St James’s and St Paul’s we collected for the Middle East Crisis Appeal and were able to send almost £700 from Bushey Parish to this very troubled region.

Christian Aid is reliant on our generosity to help fund it’s long term projects and crisis appeals and I thank you for your generous responses.

May Teague Christian Aid Representative

100 Club

The 100 club is fund raising activity, where any member of the parish plus any friends and family members can join in. Everyone pays £60 a year for each number, the payments are paid by a variety of methods to suit everyone's finances, standing order of £5 a month, £30 for 6 months or £60 for a year. We still accept payments by cheque and cash too.

The funds raised are divided between the prizes and the parish coffers. All who join can pick a number and on the last Friday of every month three numbers are drawn. - Luckily the number of participants has remained fairly consistent throughout the past year meaning the prize monies has remained the same. There are roughly 50 members. - Sadly a few members are no longer with us, but recently we have managed to recruit some new members too. The advert in the parish magazine is now nearer the front, and a full page, which I hope will attract more interest next year.

Clare Humphreys - 100 Club

Honorary Treasurer's Report 2023 and Accounts

The PCC's aim is to operate on a balanced budget basis; however, this is yet to be achieved as the Parish expenditure is still higher than Income. The Parish is still reliant on the use of reserves for major items of expenditure and payment of Parish Share

Overall, in 2023, total unrestricted expenses exceeded total unrestricted income by £43,056 an increased shortfall of £1,873 when compared to 2022 where the shortfall was £41,184.

Income

In 2023 the total receipts of unrestricted funds were £192,595 which was £3,911 higher than 2022 (£188,684).

Planned giving income was £45,301 which was £1,608 less than the £46,909 in 2022.

Income from Collections at services was £6,997 which was £1,861 more than £5,136 in 2022. It appears that the use of the digital sum up devices attributed to the increase.

Total Income from Sundry donations and appeals received - £5,063 (2022 -£6,469). This includes donations of £2,352 from coffee and chat mornings in St Paul's and £2,712 other donations.

Income received from Charitable activities was £28,053 which was £5,341 higher than 2022 (£22,712). The increase was mainly due to the additional income of £6,210 received for church lettings.

Income from Other trading activities was £85,391, which was £2,242 higher than the prior year (£83,149).

The income from hall lettings was £5,119 more compared to 2022, however the income for the Church house flat was £3,625 less as the flat was vacant for about two and half months. A new tenant has now moved in.

Buzykidz nursery ended the rental agreement for use of the hall gallery in October 2023, therefore regular rental income has reduced by £1,378 per month. There are proposals to find alternative hirers for the gallery.

Total income from fundraising events - £10,059 (£2022 - £9,311). Generated from Fairs & events - £4,585, Recitals - £2,344, 100 Club - £3,130. This includes income raised for Charities as follows :-

Macmillan coffee morning at St Paul's - £814, Ukraine Appeal -£ 292, Bishops Harvest £35. Children's Society -£ 100, Christian Aid £679, Military wives' choirs for Cross Stitch Challenge £158.

Dividends and interest from unrestricted funds received was £12,754, an increase of £6,526 compared to £6,228.

Legacy Income

A balance of £68,271 is held for St James legacy funds, this includes JF Legacy funds.

Grant Income

A total grant income of £2,600 was received. £2,000 was received from St Albans Diocese for Warm space, £500 from Hertsmere council towards the Coronation celebrations (Tower bell event) and £100 for Messy church.

Expenditure

The total unrestricted expenditure in 2023 was £235,651 an increase of £5,783 on the prior year (£229,868). The total expenditure, including restricted expenditure in the year was £248,493 this was a decrease of £3,212 on £251,705 spent in 2022.

The following are attributable for the change in overall expenditure when compared to 2022:

- Parish Share - £81,606 was £1,049 less than £82,655 in 2022.
 - Church running expenses- utilities and waste collection - £41,010.
This represents an increase of £9,193 on prior year (£31,817)
 - Maintenance & repairs – Unrestricted expenditure was £12,108 a decrease of £22,575 compared to £34,683 expenditure in 2022. Maintenance and repairs expenditure are for electrical maintenance, boiler checks, organ tuning, alarm maintenance, building inspection fees, locks, and keys etc.
 - Property Improvements - £7,160 an increase of £5,621 on 2022.
 - Upkeep of services - £7,501 for wedding, funeral fees, and disbursements and other, consumables
 - Administration & Parish Office salaries - £18,926, £1,593 more than 2022.
 - Church running costs of £13,331 within other costs is made up of Insurance costs - £5,893, cleaning expenses £7,438. There is a cleaning contract for Church House.
 - Music - £8,348 was £2,658 less than 2022. The payments are for the Director of music and visiting organists. The contract with the Director of music ended in September.
 - Independent examiner & accountancy fees - £4,716
- This left us with a shortfall of income to expenditure for unrestricted activities of £43,056 compared to £41,184 in 2022.

It is hoped that the shortfall here will continue to improve as more Income is received.

Holy Trinity Lease Rental

Holy Trinity Church is now leased to Margaret Howard Theatre. The lease commenced on the 4th of August 2023 for a period of 10 years. The Professional costs incurred with the lease agreement was £13,445 and £4,295 for repairs and maintenance.

Please see the tables below which summarise the Parish income and expenditure for 2023.

Parish Share

The Parish share for 2023 of £81,606 was fully paid. £49,596 was paid from draw down from Reserves to pay the Parish share.

In 2023 planned-giving including tax recovered of £56,838 represented 70% of the Parish Share. The PCC will need to consider a refresh of the stewardship campaign to increase planned giving donations to a level where they meet the parish share.

Reserves

The PCC applied for a total of £54,826 from Trinity House reserves in 2023. £49,596 was used towards the payment of Parish Share. The balance of £5,230 will be used for maintenance and repairs in 2024. The Trinity House reserves has been fully drawn down and the CBF account closed as the balance is nil.

The PCC continues to endeavor to control expenditure tightly and increase income and cease utilizing reserves for running costs, to remain a going concern.

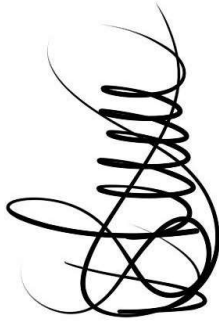
The PCC is grateful for the incredible generosity of many of all our congregations who, through their giving and donations, have met the cost of ministry and enabled the Parish to serve the community.

We pray that we continue to develop a financially sustainable parish which can go forward in strength to meet the future needs of the Parish.



Taiye Sanwo - Honorary Treasurer

Approved by the PCC on 3rd April 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Fr David Stevenson - Rector of the Parish of Bushey and PCC Chairman

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st December 2023

		2023				2022			
		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	2a	66,340	6,600	-	72,940	74,964	3,059	-	78,023
Charitable activities	2b	28,053	-	-	28,053	22,712	-	-	22,712
Other trading activities	2c	85,391	320	-	85,711	83,149	-	-	83,149
Investments	2d	12,754	2,625	-	15,379	6,228	5,765	-	11,993
Other	2e	377	-	-	377	1,632	-	-	1,632
Bell Tower Fund Raising	2f	-	11,448	-	11,448	-	-	-	-
Total Income		192,595	20,993	-	213,588	188,684	8,824	-	197,508
EXPENDITURE ON									
Raising funds: other costs	3b	16,066	2,903	-	18,969	15,021	500	-	15,521
Ministry expenses	3a	219,586	9,939	-	229,524	214,847	21,337	-	236,184
Total Expenditure		235,651	12,842	-	248,493	229,868	21,837	-	251,705
Net (Expenditure)/Income before Transfers		(43,056)	8,151	-	(34,905)	(41,184)	(13,013)	-	(54,197)
Transfers between funds		0	(0)	-	-	-	-	-	-

Net (Expenditure)/Income after Transfers	(43,056)	8,151	-	(27,776)	(41,184)	(13,013)	-	(54,197)
Unrealised gains on investments	1,032	3,091	3,007	7,130	(1,464)	(5,124)	(4,264)	(10,852)
Net Movement in Funds	(42,025)	11,242	3,007	(29,712)	(42,648)	(18,136)	(4,264)	(65,048)
Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2022	493,880	123,984	31,957	649,821	536,528	142,120	36,221	714,869
Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2023	451,855	135,226	34,964	622,045	493,880	123,984	31,957	649,821

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets			
Buildings & land	5a	56,410	57,205
Fixtures & Fittings & Equipment	5a	77,719	88,678
Investment funds	6a	82,909	75,780
		217,037	221,663
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors & prepayments			
- Gift Aid recoverable		2,216	2,052
- Other prepayments and accrued income		4,818	3,185
Deposit funds	6b	393,551	359,350
Cash & bank balances		19,590	82,258
		420,176	446,845
LIABILITIES			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Trade creditors		(2,557)	(9,505)
Taxation and social security		-	-
Other creditors		(7,000)	
Accruals and deferred grants received		(5,611)	(9,182)
		(15,168)	(18,687)
Total current liabilities			
		405,008	428,158
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		622,045	649,821
Net Assets			
FUNDS			
Endowment Funds	7	34,964	31,957
Restricted Funds	7	135,226	123,984
Unrestricted Funds	7	451,855	493,880
Total Funds		622,045	649,820

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 3rd April 2024 and signed on its behalf by



Fr. David Stevenson
Rector of the Parish of Bushey and
PCC Chairman



Taiye Sanwo
Hon. Parish Treasurer

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

2 INCOME

	2023			2022		
	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2a Donations and legacies						
Planned Giving						
CMF (planned giving)	40,801	4,500	45,301	46,909	-	46,909
Gift Aid donations	1,942	-	1,942	2,566	-	2,566
Income Tax Recovered	11,538	-	11,538	12,648	-	12,648
Collections (open plate) at all services	6,997	-	6,997	5,136	-	5,136
Grants	-	2,100	2,100	(0)	3,059	3,059
Sundry Donations/Appeals	5,063	-	5,063	6,469	-	6,469
VAT recovered	-	-	-	1,236	-	1,236
TOTAL	66,340	6,600	72,940	74,964	3,059	78,023
2b Charitable activities						
Church lettings	12,410	-	12,410	6,200	-	6,200
Parish Breakfast	443	-	443	557	-	557
Parish Magazine	132	-	132	741	-	741
Wedding income	4,325	-	4,325	4,432	-	4,432
Statutory & other fees	10,742	-	10,742	10,781	-	10,781
TOTAL	28,053	-	28,053	22,712	-	22,712
2c Other trading activities						
Hall & Gallery Lettings	61,237	320	61,557	56,438	-	56,438
Parish Rentals (Church House Flat)	13,775	-	13,775	17,400	-	17,400
Fund-raising events	10,059	-	10,059	9,311	-	9,311
TOTAL	85,071	320	85,391	83,149	-	83,149
2d Investments						
Dividends & interest including reclaimed tax	12,754	2,625	15,379	6,228	5,765	11,993
TOTAL	12,754	2,625	15,379	6,228	5,765	11,993
2e Other						
Miscellaneous	377	-	377	1,632	-	1,632
Tower Bell Appeal Funds raised	-	11,448	11,448	-	-	-
Income against restricted fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	377	11,448	11,825	1,632	-	1,632
TOTAL INCOME	192,595	20,993	213,588	188,684	8,824	197,508

Parochial Church Council of Bushey
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

3 EXPENDITURE ON

2023

2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3a Charitable activities						
<u>Missionary and charitable giving:</u>						
Secular charities	2,067	-	2,067	1,725	-	1,725
<u>Ministry:</u>						
Diocesan Parish Share	81,606	-	81,606	82,655	-	82,655
Clergy expenses	1,088	-	1,088	1,692	-	1,692
Clergy Accommodation	-	-	-	2,358	-	2,358
Clergy education & training	-	-	-	-	-	-
Work with Families & children of Parish	676	-	676	758	-	758
Other outreach	1,428	-	1,428	390	-	390
<u>Churches:</u>						
running expenses	41,010	2,100	43,110	31,817	2,559	34,376
maintenance & repairs	12,108	7,739	19,846	34,683	17,445	52,128
improvements	7,060	100	7,160	1,439	-	1,439
music	8,348	-	8,348	11,006	-	11,006
upkeep of services	7,501	-	7,501	6,475	1,333	7,808
depreciation	11,754	-	11,754	11,754	-	11,754
Parish magazine & other publicity	50	-	50	48	-	48
Churchyard upkeep	1,919	-	1,919	2,544	-	2,544
printing & stationery	2,910	-	2,910	2,676	-	2,676
administration & Parish Office	18,926	-	18,926	17,333	-	17,333
bank charges	41	-	41	57	-	57
Professional Fees - Holy Trinity						
Rental Lease	13,665	-	13,665	-	-	-
Professional Fees - Clague Architects						
fees	2,714	-	2,714	-	-	-
Independent examiner & accountancy	4,716	-	4,716	5,438	-	5,438
TOTAL	219,586	9,939	229,524	214,847	21,337	236,184

3b Raising Funds: other costs

Church halls/flat:						
running costs	13,331	-	13,331	11,414	-	11,414
improvements (CH Flat agents fees)	1,092	-	1,092	1,688	-	1,688
costs of fetes, bazaars, other events	1,643	2,903	4,546	1,919	500	2,418
TOTAL	16,066	2,903	18,969	15,021	500	15,521
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	235,651	12,842	248,493	229,868	21,837	251,705

2023

Charitable donations (net of any designated donations received):

Raised and sent directly to Charity

	2023	2022
Macmillan coffee morning	664	791
Ukraine Appeal	292	449
Bishops Harvest	35	125
Children's Society	100	45
Electric Umbrella	-	316
Christian Aid	679	-
Cross Stitch Challenge	158	-
Total	<u>2,077</u>	<u>1,725</u>

Related Party Transactions

- 1 No member of the PCC received payment in respect of their service as PCC members.
- 2 No related persons to a member of the PCC received payment.
- 3 £280 of Verger fees were paid to 3 members of the PCC.
- 4 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small, immaterial proportion which relates to their functions as PCC members.
- 5 Aggregate donations to the parish from PCC of which we have records (CMF members) were £360
- 6 These payments were made under the PCC Powers Measure as amended by The Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure 2014.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)

for the year ended 31st December 2023

		2023			2022		
		<u>Unrestrict</u> <u>d Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestrict</u> <u>d Funds</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
		£	£	£	£	£	£
4	STAFF COSTS (Director of Music, and Parish Administration)*	<i>Included in relevant headings, above</i>					
	Wages & salaries	16,169	-	16,169	16,883	-	16,883
	Social security costs	9	-	9	35	-	35
	Pension costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Staff training costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Staff travel & subsistence costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	16,178	-	16,178	16,919	-	16,919

**During 2022 the PCC employed Parish Administration staff, none of whom earned more than £60,000.*

The PCC regard the key management of the parish as being the incumbent, who is paid directly by the diocese, together with the two Churchwardens, both of whom are unpaid.

The average number of employees during the year was 2023:2, 2022:2.25

5 **FIXED ASSETS FOR
USE BY THE PCC**

5a

<i>Cost/Valuation</i>	<u>Land and Buildings</u>	<u>Fixtures and Fittings and Equipment</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	79,515	109,590	189,105
Disposal during the year (at 1970 valuation)	-	-	-
Additions during the year	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	79,515	109,590	189,105

Depreciation

At 1 January 2023	22,310	20,912	43,222
Disposal depreciation written back	-	-	-
Charge for Year	795	10,959	11,754
At 31 December 2023	23,105	31,871	54,976

Net Book Value

At 31 December 2023	56,410	77,719	134,129
At 31 December 2022	57,205	88,678	145,883

Land and Buildings

Land and Buildings
comprise the following:-

	<u>At Cost</u>	<u>Additions / (Disposals)</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£
Church House & extension	31,003	-	31,003	31,003
Stockwell Hall	24,512	-	24,512	24,512
John Stobbart Hall	24,000	-	24,000	24,000
	79,515	-	79,515	79,515

5b

Land and buildings shown at valuation are based on 1970 figures. Church House Flat is held for future use for Church work and is not treated as a long-term investment

Depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land, it is

assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

6a	FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS	2023				2022	
		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Endowment Funds</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	<u>TOTAL FUNDS</u>	
		£	£		£	£	
	Market Value at 1 January 2023	10,966	32,856	31,957	75,779	104,076	
	Disposal in the year	-	-	-	0	(17,445)	
	Net gains/(losses) on revaluations in the year ended						
	31 December 2023	1,032	3,091	3,007	7,130	(10,851)	
	Market Value at 31 December 2023	11,998	35,947	34,964	82,909	75,780	

The principal funds of the parish are invested with the CBF (Central Board of Finance) or the SADB (St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance) in the form of deposit funds from which interest accrues. These are included within the cash funds of the PCC (see above).

Investments constitute shares held with the CBF Investment Fund and for which dividends are received. As with such investments, the value of these shares fluctuates up and down, as do the dividends received. They are valued at the bid (sale) price on 31st December 2023.

6b	Deposit Funds	2023	2022
		£	£
	Church Fabric Fund	426	426
	Farm Way	323	323
	Churchyard	7,932	6,971
	Ellis	2,956	2,642
	Church Fabric-Trinity House Proceeds	-	53,135
	Falconer Hall Proceeds	305,027	295,555
	SJ Deposit Account	68,271	226
	Parish deposit	71	71
	Parish deposit-Tower bell appeal		
		8,545	-
	TOTAL	393,551	359,350

7 FUNDS

	2023					2022						
	<u>Balance Brought Forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers between Funds</u>	<u>Gains and Losses on Investments</u>	<u>Balance carried Forward</u>	<u>Balance Brought Forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers between Funds</u>	<u>Gains and Losses on Investments</u>	<u>Balance carried Forward</u>
<u>Endowment Funds</u>												
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	24,395	-	-	-	2,295	26,690	27,650	-	-	-	(3,255)	24,395
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	7,562	-	-	-	711	8,274	8,571	-	-	-	(1,009)	7,562
	31,957	-	-	-	3,007	34,964	36,221	-	-	-	(4,264)	31,957
<u>Restricted Funds</u>												
Miss F M Mitchell Bequest	32,856	983	(983)	-	3,091	35,947	55,424	1,333	(18,778)	-	(5,124)	32,856
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	6,971	961	-	-	-	7,932	6,158	813	-	-	-	6,971
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	2,642	313	-	-	-	2,956	2,384	258	-	-	-	2,642
Holy Trinity-Legacy Funds	11,576	-	-	-	-	11,576	11,576	-	-	-	-	11,576
St Pauls - Legacy Funds	100	-	(100)	-	-	(0)	100	-	-	-	-	100
St James - Legacy Funds	69,840	5,187	(6,756)	-	-	68,271	66,479	3,361	-	-	-	69,840
Tower bell appeal Funds	-	11,448	(2,903)	-	-	8,545	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Income	-	2,100	(2,100)	-	-	-	-	3,059	(3,059)	-	-	-
	123,984	20,993	(12,842)	-	3,091	135,226	142,120	8,824	(21,837)	-	(5,124)	123,984
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>												
Capital Reserve	57,205	-	(795)	-	-	56,410	58,000	-	(795)	-	-	57,205
Church Fabric Fund	64,102	2,018	(55,154)	0	1,032	11,998	113,032	326	(47,792)	-	(1,464)	64,102
Falconer Hall Sale Proceeds	282,849	9,472	-	12,706	-	305,027	291,718	3,836	-	(12,706)	-	282,849
SJ Deposit	226	-	-	(226)	-	(0)	4,548	-	(4,322)	-	-	226
General Fund (inc parish deposit and Farm Way)	89,498	181,104	(179,703)	(12,480)	-	78,421	69,229	184,522	(176,959)	12,706	-	89,498
	493,880	192,596	(235,651)	0	1,032	451,855	536,528	188,684	(229,868)	-	(1,464)	493,880
Total Funds	649,820	213,588	(248,493)	0	7,130	622,045	714,869	197,508	(251,705)	-	(10,852)	649,820

Funds

Endowment funds comprise monies to be retained as permanent capital and invested to generate income.

Restricted funds are those where a specific limitation has been placed on the use of the capital or income by the terms of the bequest or donation.

Unrestricted funds represent monies to be used at the discretion of the PCC Designated funds represent unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes by the PCC.

Details of Parish Funds are as follows:-

Endowment Funds

The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund

Monies held for the upkeep of the Churchyard. The capital is invested in CBF Investment Funds. Income is restricted to upkeep of the Churchyard.

Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)

Monies held for the upkeep of the Ellis Grave. The capital is invested in CBF Investment Funds. Income is restricted to upkeep of the Ellis Grave.

Restricted Funds

Miss F M Mitchell Bequest

Monies given for the general purposes of St Paul's and invested in CBF Deposit Funds. Income generated is used to cover the running costs of St Paul's.

The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund

Investment income generated by the Endowment Fund above. Accumulated income is invested in CBF Deposit Funds.

Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)

Investment income generated by the Endowment Fund above. Accumulated income is invested in CBF Deposit Funds.

Legacy

Monies given for the general purposes of Holy Trinity and invested in CBF Deposit Funds. Income generated is used to cover the running costs of Holy Trinity

Joan Fairfield Legacy funds (included in St James Legacy funds)

Monies given for the general purposes of St James - (£68,271)

Unrestricted Funds

Designated Funds

Capital Reserve

Capital reserves were created to recognise the properties under the control of the Parochial Church Council. The original reserves represent either the net cost or the valuations of the properties. Each year the reserves have been reduced by depreciation.

Church Fabric Fund	<p>Monies set aside to provide for the maintenance of the church fabrics. Monies at the year-end are invested in CBF Investment Funds and Deposit Funds.</p> <p>PCC approved for Trinity House proceeds balance to be transferred to the Church Fabric Fund.</p> <p>The Trinity house reserves have been fully withdrawn and the CBF account will be closed.</p>
Falconer Hall Proceeds	<p>In line with the 2015 results of the Sustainability Review, carried out at the request in March 2015 of the PCC, Falconer Hall was sold early in 2017, because the costs of repair were prohibitive. The sale of Falconer Hall would help us to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · enhance existing youth work at St. James's · enable greater income generation possibilities through the provision of enhanced facilities at St. James's in due course, thus enabling us to develop St. James's more as a community focus for arts and crafts
General Fund	<p>These represent unrestricted monies at the disposal of the PCC.</p>
SJ Deposit	<p>The SJ Deposit account was recognised in account balances last year but is a reserve deposit for use at St James only.</p>
Parish Deposit	<p>These represent unrestricted monies at the disposal of the PCC and reserves drawn down prior to use, the remainder is general income earning interest. The funds for the tower bell appeal are held in this account.</p>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)

for the year ended 31st December 2023

8 ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS

	<u>2023</u>					<u>2022</u>				
	<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>	<u>CBF Investment Funds</u>	<u>Deposit Funds</u>	<u>Net Current Assets</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>	<u>CBF Investment Funds</u>	<u>Deposit Funds</u>	<u>Net Current Assets</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>Endowment Funds</u>										
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	26,690	-	-	26,690	-	24,395	-	-	24,395
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	8,274	-	-	8,274	-	7,562	-	-	7,562
	-	34,964	-	-	34,964	-	31,957	-	-	31,957
<u>Restricted Funds</u>										
Mitchell Bequest	-	35,947	-	-	35,947	-	32,856	-	-	32,856
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	-	7,932	-	7,932	-	-	6,971	-	6,971
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	-	2,956	-	2,956	-	-	2,642	-	2,642
Holy Trinity-Legacy Funds	-	-	-	11,576	11,576	-	-	-	11,576	11,576
St Pauls - Legacy Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100
St James - Legacy Funds	-	-	68,271	-	68,271	-	-	-	69,840	69,840
Tower Bell Appeal funds	-	-	8,545	-	8,545	-	-	-	-	-
	-	35,947	87,704	11,576	135,226	-	32,856	9,613	81,515	123,984
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>										
Capital Reserve	56,410	-	-	-	56,410	57,205	-	-	-	57,205
Church Fabric Fund	-	11,998	-	-	11,998	-	10,966	53,135	-	64,102
Falconer Hall proceeds	-	-	305,027	-	305,027	-	-	295,555	(12,706)	282,849
SJ Deposit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	226	-	226
Parish Deposit/general fund	77,719	-	820	(118)	78,421	72,193	-	820	16,485	89,498
	134,129	11,998	305,847	(118)	451,856	129,398	10,966	349,737	3,779	493,880
<u>Total</u>	134,129	82,909	393,551	1,456	622,045	129,398	75,779	359,350	85,294	649,821

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of Bushey ("the PCC") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the PCC (and trustees for the purposes of charity law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed 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 PCC has prepared the accounts 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) 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 been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

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

- * accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- * the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- * the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements regarding 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.

Use of my Report

This report is made solely to the PCC, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the PCC those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the PCC as a body for my work or this report.

Janice Matthews

Janice Matthews FCA
Menzies LLP Chartered Accountants
Magna House
18-32 London Road
Staines-Upon-Thames TW18 4BP
Date:- 9th April 2024