

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING

England & Wales · Charity number 1130763

## Details

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**Other names** ST ANDREW'S SONNING WITH ST PATRICK'S CHARVIL

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Previously excepted

**Registered** 2009-07-27

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

## Contact

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**Address** St Andrew's Office  
Thames Street  
Sonning  
Reading  
RG4 6UR

**Phone** 01189693298

**Email** [office@sonningparish.org.uk](mailto:office@sonningparish.org.uk)

**Website** [www.sonningparish.org.uk](http://www.sonningparish.org.uk)

## Activities

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

**Activities:** Regular public worship for all. Provide sacred space for personal prayer & contemplation. Pastoral work, visiting the sick & bereaved. Teach Christianity through sermons, courses, small groups. Religious assemblies in schools. Promote Christianity through events, meetings, & distributing literature. Promote the mission of the Church through parents & toddler activities. Support other charities.

## Classification

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

## Geography

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

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£343,301	£467,152	-	-
2023-12-31	£314,242	£392,336	-	-
2022-12-31	£327,029	£322,758	-	-
2021-12-31	£280,579	£298,426	-	-
2020-12-31	£324,512	£288,109	-	-

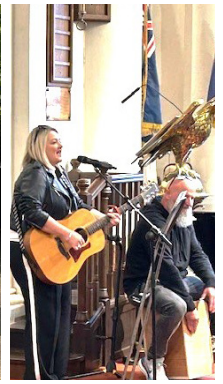
## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Rev JAMIE ALEXANDER FRANKLYN TAYLOR</b>	Chair	
ALISON SMYLY		2017-04-27
Christopher Bailey		2026-05-17
Christopher Timothy West		2018-09-11
Corinne Marie Robertson		2024-05-19
Dr Thandazani Mhlanga		2025-05-25
Eleanor Catherine Astrup		2026-05-17
Elizabeth Jane Nelson		2018-05-22
Helen Rosemary Craig		2020-10-11
Hilary Jane Rennie		2021-07-11
James Gustav John Ashton		2026-05-17
Jeremy Charles Wood		2022-12-05
Kevin Michael Wilson		2023-05-28
ROBERT CHARLES HINE		2026-05-17
ROBERT JAMES PETERS		
Richard Anthony Hogg		2025-05-25
Ruth Deborah Jeffery		2022-05-29
SUSAN JANET PETERS		2016-04-27
Susan Frances Bailey		2026-05-17
Thomas James Dowdeswell Jeffery		2026-05-17

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# Accounts

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## ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,  
SERVING CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

SUNDAY 25 MAY 2025

Written Reports for the year ended 31 December 2024



# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

## St. Andrews Church, Sonning

25th May 2025 at 11.30am

### A G E N D A

1. Opening prayers
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Election of Churchwardens and Deputy Church Wardens
4. Apologies
5. Minutes of 2024 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
6. Matters arising from Minutes
7. Vicar's Report
8. Treasurer's Report and PCC Financial Statements
9. Churchwardens' Report and presentation of Terrier
10. Safeguarding Report
11. Election of members to the PCC
12. Electoral Roll
13. PCC Committee Reports
  - a) Buildings and Maintenance Committee
  - b) Social Committee
14. Other Reports
  - a) Messy Church
  - b) Sunday Club
  - c) Alpha Course
  - d) Sunday at Six
  - e) STAY on Sunday
  - f) STAY on Monday
  - g) Wednesday at 8
  - h) Thursday at 8
  - i) STAY on Friday
  - j) Music at St. Andrew's
  - k) Rendezvous Lunch Club
  - l) Bell ringers
  - m) Friends of St. Andrew's Church
  - n) Stewardship
  - o) Giving outside the Parish
15. Appointment of independent examiner
16. Any other business
17. Closing prayers

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING  
For the year ended 31st December 2024  
Incumbent: The Revd. Jamie Taylor,  
The Vicarage, Thames Street, Sonning, RG4 6UR  
Independent Examiner: Banks & Co, Newbury, Berkshire**

## Aim and Purpose

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance - To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

### **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames Valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire

RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Registered Charity Number: 1130763)

During the year to 31 December 2024, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chair)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Youth and Children's Minister	Corinne Robertson (appointed to PCC 19th May 2024)

Churchwardens	Liz Nelson
	Stuart Bowman (resigned 19th May 2024)
	Ruth Jeffery (appointed 19th May 2024)

Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters
	Kevin Wilson (appointed 19th May 2024)

Treasurer	Jerry Wood
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Secretary	Hilary Rennie (re-appointed 19th May 2024)
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Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Indra Biddulph (resigned 19th May 2024)
	Helen Craig
	Heather Hexter
	Terry Hunt (resigned 19th May 2024)
	Katherine Karalus (appointed 19th May 2024)
	Nicola Riley
	Jenny Sawyer
	Alison Smyly

The PCC met on 6 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 84%.

## COMMITTEES

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chair: Mrs Liz Nelson.

### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chair: Revd Jamie Taylor.

### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chair: Mrs Sue Peters.

### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Harriet Nelson (*until 31 December 2024*)

### Electoral Roll

At the APCM on 28th May 2024 there were 241 people on the Electoral Roll. The total number on the 2025 Electoral Roll is 226. Despite an increase in new individuals and families joining St. Andrew's, there has been a net decrease of the 15 in the 2025 Electoral Roll caused by deaths, members moving away from the area and regular worshippers who haven't completed their Electoral Roll forms.

## THE VICAR'S REPORT

I look back on 2024 as a season of consolidation. We have seen steady growth, across all age groups, and the latest national church statistics place us in the 95th percentile of all churches for weekly attendance. This is encouraging but there is no room for complacency. The "Why I am a Christian" sermon series during Lent was much appreciated and I am grateful to those who were willing to stand up and be counted! It was uplifting and inspiring to hear about their various faith journeys, all culminating in Lord Carey's Easter Day conclusion to the series.

Our home groups go from strength to strength and adult and youth Alpha courses continue to contribute so much to our common life. It was good to see 8 Confirmed in November and to baptise young candidates in the Thames earlier in the year.

In my early years in the parish I set myself a goal, after a discussion with the bishop, to bring about new developments in the ministry of music and to work towards becoming a beacon for what can be achieved in a parish church. I especially wanted to involve young people, on the organ and in the choir. I pay tribute to the last two Directors of Music who have done so much to get us to where we are today. The appointment of Richard Meehan has been the culmination of all their efforts, and it is a joy for me to witness what is now being achieved in this important ministry.

Although an aspiration for some years, the four Choral scholarships only came into existence under his leadership, and this is proving to be a mutually beneficial arrangement. Interestingly a parishioner has funded these scholarships and part of the organ scholarship in the last twelve months but wishes to remain anonymous. We now have three former choristers serving as choral scholars in Cathedral choirs, with Noah Toogood at Portsmouth and Joseph May and Celeste Hexter at Llandaff Cathedral. Thanks be to God!

The Parish Office, with Hilary at the helm, is a literal God send to me personally, and to the whole parish. I look back with some amazement at how we managed before having the office, and then I am reminded of the stress of the vicarage phone going at all hours of the day, and of my less than efficient paperwork. Sonia Boyles did her best to keep things on track from her house in Woodley, but this is a much more efficient way of running a busy church.

The Ark continues to facilitate excellent outreach and hospitality. The Rendezvous lunches are flourishing and growing in the numbers attending, and our partnership with Kathy Wright at the Village Hamper is proving to be a very beneficial arrangement.

Our two excellent youth ministers continue to make a significant difference in the lives of so many young people and children, and much of their work is behind the scenes, mentoring pupils in local schools. The front of house work in the Ark on Sundays and Fridays is a wonderful testimony to what God is doing in the lives of young people. Indeed, STAY on Friday recently welcomed 86 of them!

There was an encouraging response to my letter about financial giving to God's work in the parish, but we still have some way to go to encourage more committed and realistic giving to fund all that we are now committed to. However, under God, I feel we shall achieve this as we move forward as a church.

**Jamie**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **Financial Review**

The PCC ended the year with a total net expenditure (deficit) of £117,595, compared to a total net expenditure (deficit) of £54,668 for the previous year. This deficit included an element of catch up in expenditure and was met from cash funds accumulated during the pandemic and shortly thereafter when maintenance was delayed.

Total income for the year was £343,301. There were grants received of £140,025, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned donations to the PCC increased over the prior year and the number of planned givers rose slightly. One-off giving in 2024 was £15,287 including specific gifts for Youth work. Investment income of £12,499 was received, mostly from endowments and interest on deposits which declined slightly with less cash on deposit. During the year, the Youth Minister moved and his former house is now let commercially, increasing lettings income.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased to £467,152 including £61,465 on repairs to the church building and the churchyard wall, although these repairs were offset by some specific grants.

The Parish Share contribution to the Oxford Diocese was £93,972.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine was not fully covered by the revenue from advertising. Efforts are in train to increase advertising revenue. The cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds.

£4,862 was spent on noise reduction panels for the Ark.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £32,750.

### **Reserves policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a Reserves balance, which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments (if possible) to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. Approximately £60,000 has been held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2023 to £61,869, mainly due to an increase in the value of underlying investments. With the increase in expenditure in 2023, albeit including exceptional items for repairs, the Reserves figure is under review.

### **Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer**

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**

Once again, the process of writing the annual report gives us the opportunity to reflect on the previous year, realising what has been achieved, and to look to the future.

Our Music Director Richard has continued to develop both junior and senior choirs, despite saying farewell to our two senior choristers Noah and Amelia. Our Christmas and Easter services were outstanding, and a real testimony to the hard work of the choral team.

Corinne Robertson has taken the families ministry to new heights with record numbers of families coming to Messy Church, the Crib service and to the Easter fun day. Westy and Corinne introduced "give back" days into the school holiday activities and it is great to see the young people litter picking in the village or serving at a charity.

STAY, Sunday Club, Sunday at Six, Messy Church, Rendezvous, Wednesday at Eight, Thursday at Eight and Alpha all continue to be reasons for celebration, with them serving both congregation and the wider community.

We want to thank Jamie, Bob, Westy, Corinne and Hilary our amazing staff team, but also the many other people who volunteer at St Andrews: the Welcome Team, Deputy Wardens, Servers, Bell Ringers, Coffee Makers, PCC and Youth Club Volunteers, making St Andrew's the very special place it is.

**Ruth Jeffery and Liz Nelson – Churchwardens**

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

As I am sure many of you are aware the last year has been a particularly challenging time for the wider Church of England, as it acknowledges real failures in safeguarding practice in the past. The last year has been a time when the Church and particularly those in the most senior roles of safeguarding seek to listen openly and carefully to the experiences of victims and survivors and commit to learning the lessons that have arisen. I know that press reports surrounding these failures have been painful to follow, and that many of us working so hard in safeguarding have felt dispirited and let down as I am sure many of you also do.

The Wider Church of England is currently setting up a programme of work, to work on the future of Church Safeguarding. This work will include putting in place a single complaints policy which will be used by all dioceses and a shared independent end-stage complaints capacity. There are also plans to develop as soon as possible detailed proposals for an independent scrutiny body, and ensure these are tested robustly with the Church, with victims and survivors and with professionals.

In the Oxford diocesan an independent audit has been completed which considered safeguarding in the diocese to be robust. The audit recognised the significant work that has gone into improving our safeguarding provision over the last few years and was clear that the diocese is taking safeguarding seriously, not simply around compliance but also in relation to prevention and culture change. Across the diocese we aim for a culture that understands safeguarding to be our Christian imperative where we are called to take care of the young, the vulnerable, and most in need.

We will continue to listen to and learn from those who have experienced abuse, ensuring that their voices shape our practices and continue to share the message that this is a shared mission, and we will strive to do all we can to bring about positive safeguarding cultures across the diocese.

Here at St Andrews, we continue to take the safeguarding of children, vulnerable adults and all those who visit and worship at St. Andrew's extremely seriously.

Safeguarding is an essential part of our core faith and an integral feature of Christian life in our parish. It remains a standing discussion item at all PCC meetings.

At St Andrews we follow safer recruitment practices for employing staff, and all helpers with our children's and youth activities need to submit to a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and undertake safeguarding training (appropriate to the position) before they can join our teams.

As a church St Andrews works within Oxford Diocesan Safeguarding practice and policy guidelines. Regular training is attended by all key staff as well as volunteers.

The PCC remains committed to enabling all staff, visitors and congregation to feel safe with safeguarding being everyone's responsibility. Everyone is encouraged to contribute to prompting a safer culture and building good safeguarding practices in St Andrews.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer and the PCC continues to look at and work on developing areas in St Andrews and the local context and parish for improving safeguarding.

There have been no safeguarding allegations or concerns reported since the last AGM.

**Nicola Riley**

**St Andrew's Safeguarding Officer, Senior Social Worker & Childrens Court Guardian.**

## **BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

A great deal has been achieved during the last year to keep our beautiful church and other buildings well maintained and fit for purpose. The 2024 Quinquennial Report on the condition of the church ran to 150 pages of detailed review and was positive overall. However, there is some essential and very costly work that needs to be undertaken during the next few years.

Over the past year new lighting has been installed in the bell tower, including much needed improvements to the spiral staircase lights. The ancient wall leading down from Sonning Lane has been repaired and repointed. The roof gully on the north side of the church and the wall at the east end of the church have both been repaired and we hope that this will sort out the damp issues in the vicar's vestry. In addition, the east side of the north porch wall was also repointed and made secure. Our wonderful brasses in the floor between the choir stalls have been restored and work to repair the ceramic floor tiles in the church aisles has been completed.

We are very grateful as always for the financial help provided by FoStAC in funding projects such as sorting out the damp issues in the vestry. I would like to thank both Terry Hunt and Keith Nichols for their hard work and great patience in helping with these projects. Without their experience, help and advice our buildings maintenance programme would be far less effective.

The house in Park View Drive, Charvil was refurbished, bringing it up to standard to enable Westy and his family to move in last spring. The West's old home in Elm Drive, Woodley, also required some redecoration and maintenance before it could be tenanted. I would like to thank Charles Hubbard and Mike Judd, whose work on these properties helped me immensely.

**Liz Nelson**

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

We are proud of the hospitable welcome we offer as a church, this is made possible by many volunteers from the congregation. Thank you to all who help to serve refreshments every Sunday after the 10.30 services, and the monthly Choral Evensong service. A special thank you also goes to the bakers of the delicious home-made cakes served after Choral Evensong. During the year we catered for several events including the Easter Fun Day BBQ, which was a great success, and we are extremely grateful to all those who shopped, cooked, served, set up and helped to clear away. Wine was served after both the All Souls Service and Nine Lessons and Carols, the latter being served with traditional mince pies.

**Sue Peters**

### **MESSY CHURCH**

On the third Sunday of each month, we welcome families to join us for fun activities and learning, including craft making, teaching and songs, followed by a meal for the children and sometimes for the adults too! We have been blessed by our helpers at Messy Church this year, including young people and adults, alike. Each one of them helps to create the welcoming, creative, and energised space for children and their families to learn about Jesus.

With this gentle welcoming and fun, we are seeing a huge influx in numbers, some months we had upwards of 40 children attending, with very similar numbers of adults. We have joked a few times that we may need to build a bigger Ark!

The community overall has been engaging, lively, and caring, which is a wonderful reason for continued prayer and thanksgiving.

**Corinne Robertson**

## SUNDAY CLUB

During Sunday Club, we have been following the church lectionary; hearing and responding to the same readings that those sat in the church hear on any given 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sunday. Numbers have been steadily increasing, and we have had, on average, about 8-10 children at each session and 2-4 parents and caregivers, in addition to our Sunday Club leaders.

We have been using an online resource called "Lesson Plans that Work," created from the Episcopal Church, to help root and guide our lessons. Christmas and Easter are special points in the year, marked by the Crib Service and making the Easter Garden.

We had a record attendance at the Crib Service, with 96 children and 265 adults, making this service the most well-attended of our Christmas services. This year, we had readers (and audience members!) read passages from Bob Hartman's rhyming bible, and watched the "no rehearsal" style Christmas story unfold with the children dressed up in fancy dress.

All of the gifts and time that is put into and received from Sunday Club could not be done without the volunteers who so willingly give their attention and care to this ministry. I am continually grateful to them and to God for their helping hands, generous hearts, and willingness to be vulnerable in their Faith. They set a beautiful example for the children and to me, and without them, Sunday Club could not function.

**Corinne Robertson**

## ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Team ran the fourth successful Alpha course in 2024. We met every Tuesday on zoom for 12 weeks to watch the insightful and interesting alpha videos together. We then discussed some questions afterwards. It is the perfect combination of comfort, ease and a relaxed environment for people to be in their own homes, ask any questions and not feel judged.

We saw several people come to faith or renew their faith in Jesus and we baptised new Christians in the Thames. It has also meant people have made new friends and felt more at home in St Andrews church.

**Chris West**

## **SUNDAY AT SIX**

Sunday at Six meets in the Ark on the last Sunday of each month and in December of 2024 we continued the new tradition of 'Beers & Carols' at the Bull Pub. (Also we don't meet in August as so many people are away).

We've worshipped with Gem and the band, we've had guest worship leader Pete Wilmot. We've seen new leaders grow in hosting and preaching skills. We've had guest preachers including Lindz West of the band LZ7, Debbie Bruwer who is a former Olympic rower and Louise Sheedy share her powerful testimony of loss, heartache and the goodness of God.

The Sunday at Six service is a relaxed environment with modern worship songs, biblical teaching and space for prayer. All ages are welcome.

**Chris West**

## **STAY ON SUNDAY**

Our weekly Sunday Youth Group meets every Sunday (apart from the 1st Sunday of each month) at 10.30am. It is a highlight for many young people where we meet in the upper room of the Ark twice a month, we play big games in the Ark hall once a month and we meet in the bull for small games and hot chocolate once a month. Each time we have fun, share stories and spend time focussing on our Christian faith. We also watch videos, play games, read scripture, eat snacks and pray.

**Chris West**

## **STAY ON MONDAY**

Our fortnightly small group on Monday nights meets in the young peoples homes. We get to hang out, play games, watch videos and read stories of how people connect with God across the world. We have continued to use the STIR cards in 2024/25 and these have been so useful in creating a safe space for the young people to explore the Christian faith.

**Chris West**

## **WEDNESDAY AT EIGHT**

Following on from our second Alpha course, Wednesday at 8 is a fortnightly bible study type group. It meets every other Wednesday on zoom from 8-9pm. Previously we have watched the Bible Project videos on 'Books of the Bible,' we've completed the 'prayer course' by Pete Grieg and we've had socials in each others homes. These sessions have been really enjoyable, packed with fantastic insight, discussion points and angles on things that offer helpful guidance for discussion. We then discuss what's come up then pray to finish. It is another great way to deepen friendships and feel part of the St Andrews church family.

**Chris West**

## THURSDAY AT EIGHT

Thursday @ 8 is open to anyone who is a part of St Andrews Church. We meet weekly in members homes (currently Charvil, Woodley and Sonning) depending on who is available to host. We regularly have between 8 and 12 people.

You don't need to know lots about the Bible to come along - the purpose is to explore God's word and think about how it applies to our daily lives. Over the last year we have studied The Lord's Prayer and are working our way through Paul's letters. We have great discussions, learning from one other and really encouraging each other in our Faith.

We continue to share prayer requests and pray together (silently or out loud), and we have seen many answered prayers over the last 12 months. Our WhatsApp group is a way to be there for each other practically and emotionally when needed during the week.

We have seen a few members move away to pastures new, Cornwall, Didcot and Chippenham over the last year. We miss them, but feel privileged to have been able to support them through the moving process.

If you would like more information please speak to either Ruth Jeffery or Helen Craig or you can email Helen on [helen.craig50@gmail.com](mailto:helen.craig50@gmail.com)

**Helen Craig and Ruth Jeffery**

## STAY ON FRIDAY

Our weekly youth club in the Ark grew in popularity in 2024/25 with a record number of 86 young people one week. Each week we spend time playing a mixture of basketball, football, kubb, skipping, volleyball, wide games, frisbee, cricket, indoor games, pool table, foosball, consoles, baking and more. STAY on Friday also feeds into our STAY Holiday Activities, where we take groups of young people out on trips to trampoline parks, paintballing, theme parks, cinemas, ice skating rinks, rock climbing walls, paddleboarding lakes and pottery painting workshops...to name just a few.

**Chris West**

## MUSIC AT ST. ANDREW'S

This year has been a time of flourishing for the choir as we support the various types of worship in the church. We continue to sing five regular services a month, supporting and enhancing worship of the church,

as well as adding festive flair to the special services, such as the Carol Service and Remembrance.

We have also been able to continue to make links with young instrumentalists, and developing the organ playing and experience our organ scholar, achieved a merit in his Grade VIII organ, in spite of sustaining a broken leg. He has also been regularly supporting our service music from this time last year. The brass groups, established to lend a festive air in our Carol Service and Easter Day service continue to provide a suitably festive lift.

**Richard Meehan - Director of Music**

### **RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB**

We have had a wonderful year of fabulous lunches provided by Kathy and her team from The Village Hamper. There has been so much conversation, laughter and fun had by everyone who attends the twice monthly lunches on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. Our numbers for each lunch are now averaging at about 38 people which makes for lively sessions and ensures the lunches remain economic to run. I would particularly like to thank Ian and Thelma Hutton-Penman for their tireless help in setting up the tables and generally helping out with the running of the lunches over the past few years; they will be greatly missed by us all, when they move away to be nearer their family in Somerset this summer.

**Liz Nelson**

### **BELL RINGERS**

We now have 11 members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. We ring regularly for the 10.30am Sunday morning service and try to ring a quarter peal after the monthly choral evensong. Some of us continue to support Wargrave who are short of ringers and Shiplake who ring for their monthly Sunday afternoon service.

On Easter Saturday afternoon we again opened the tower for tours to see the ringing room and view from the roof.

We rang rounds and call changes on 6th June to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. We had redesigned our ringing banner to remember D-Day and hung it from the top of the tower during Scarecrow weekend at the end of May.

Some of our ringers helped with the mobile belfry at the Hurst show at the end of June.

In December we hosted the Sonning Deanery Branch of Ringers. We provided welcome hot drinks and mince pies after the practice. We are grateful to ringers from other towers who support our weekly ringing practice and Sunday morning ringing.

**Pam Elliston - Tower Captain**

## **THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC)**

THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC) exists as a separate Registered Charity (Number 1101944) to support the fabric of our beautiful St. Andrew's Church building by making grants to St. Andrew's Church PCC for specific projects. Since our founding in 2003, we have raised over £536k.

In 2024 we granted nearly £9k to fund the continued work on the vestry wall repairs, including re-leading the gully on the roof above – as covered in the March 2024 edition of The Parish Magazine. Our total income for 2024 was nearly £22k and after event expenses, grants to the PCC and administration costs, we made a surplus of over £8k, helping to restore our depleted reserves.

FoStAC raises these funds primarily through a combination of (1) regular donations – a big thank you to all those who donated during 2024, and (2) fundraising community events, often working in partnership with local organisations. Additionally, we (3) receive legacies and gifts in memory and in some years although not in 2024, we (4) receive grants from other local charities for specific fabric projects.

FoStAC events in 2024 kept its Trustees (Keith Nichols, Sally Wilson, Bob Hine, Keith Hawkins, Rosemarie Rixon, Ian McCann and myself) very busy – I continue to be very grateful on our collective behalf for all their hard work throughout the year in bringing together and delivering such a successful programme of enjoyable events.

In 2024 these included a successful Race Night in Pearson Hall using Sonning Club's bar, an AGM and accompanying Quiz Night in The Ark, a Grand Musical Evening involving Ascot Brass Band, the Choir of Sonning CoE Primary School and former Head Chorister Celeste Hexter in St. Andrew's Church, Sonning Scarecrow Trail refreshments in The Ark, a Garden Tea Party in the Parish kindly hosted by Jill & Richard Brighton, a stall at the 2024 Sonning Show held at Sonning CoE Primary School and our second annual Curry Night at The Village Hamper. We also sold Christmas Cards and Trustee Ian and his son took on the challenge of cycling from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise funds for FoStAC (nearly £1.5k) alongside other deserving charities – thank you Ian.

We continue to offer a varied programme of events year to year working with our partnering organisations in the community, with details on our FoStAC website – [www.fostac.org](http://www.fostac.org) – allied ‘QR Code’ on the right.



If you would like a copy of 2024 Annual Report providing more detail and pictures of our events, please do contact us via the website or speak with one of the Trustees.

Thank you to all those who supported FoStAC in any way during 2024 and I conclude with the words of Phil Sherwood, Head of Sonning CoE Primary School following our Musical Evening, which sums up the wider spirit of what we try and achieve alongside raising money with our events – “For many of the pupils, they had never heard classical music performed by a live brass band, so the experience was a special one for them.”

**Magnus Smyly - Chairman**

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Planned giving increased over the prior year.

Cash giving at services has declined as givers switch to standing orders or use the contactless terminal, which, despite some issues from time to time, has proved a worthwhile addition to our ways of giving. We continue to encourage people to use standing order as the preferred method of giving as this provides the treasurer with a better level of certainty when forecasting our income and involves less work for those doing the weekly bankings.

Also if you are able to give under Gift Aid as a UK tax payer this increases the value of your gift by 25% as we are able to claim the relevant tax from HMRC.

If anyone would like a standing order form or a gift aid form to complete please e-mail me at [treasurer@sonningparish.org](mailto:treasurer@sonningparish.org).

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

**Jerry Wood - Treasurer and Stewardship Co-ordinator**

## THE PARISH OF SONNING - Giving outside the Parish 2024

It was agreed at the PCC on 18 March 2024 that the list of recipients presented to that meeting would be supported for up to five years.

A range of areas are covered, including Christian outreach, children and families and homelessness. The PCC is also committed to supporting the worldwide church and in view of the continuing situation in the Middle East we are supporting Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), a UK based Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East. We are also supporting for the first time a charity in Sierra Leone which helps street children in Free Town and provides medical facilities in this politically unstable country.

At the same time, it was agreed to maintain a small reserve, from which specific requests might be met during the year.

Donations made during 2024 were as follows:

<b>Parish and local</b>	<b>£</b>
Woodley Food bank	1,000
Yeldall Christian Centre	1,000
Sonning School and School House Trust	1,500
<b>Wider/local</b>	
Berkshire Clergy Charity	1,000
Salvation Army	750
Faith Christian Group	750
Parents & Children Together (PACT)	750
Christian Community Action (CCA)	750
<b>International</b>	
Karun Orphanage	2,000
St George's Foundation, Sierra Leone	1,500
Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME)	1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,500</b>



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING  
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** of the **Parochial Church Council** for the year ended **31 December 2024**

### **INCUMBENT**

The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year to 31 December 2024, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chair)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Youth and Children's Minister	Corinne Robertson (appointed to PCC 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024)
Churchwardens	Liz Nelson Stuart Bowman (resigned 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024) Ruth Jeffery (appointed 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024)
Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Kevin Wilson (appointed 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024)
Treasurer	Jerry Wood
Secretary	Hilary Rennie (re-appointed 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024)
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Indra Biddulph (resigned 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024) Heien Craig Heather Hexter Terry Hunt (resigned 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024) Katherine Karalus (appointed 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2024) Nicola Riley Jenny Sawyer Allison Smyly

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met on 6 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 84%.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (as individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

When planning our activities for the year, the Incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chair: Mrs Liz Nelson.

### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chair: Revd Jamie Taylor.

### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chair: Mrs Sue Peters.

### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.  
Editor: Bob Peters  
Advertising and Distribution: Harriet Nelson

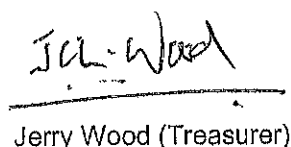
## Electoral Roll

At the APCM on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 there were 241 people on the Electoral Roll.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chair)



Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net expenditure (deficit) of £117,595, compared to a total net expenditure (deficit) of £54,668 for the previous year. This deficit included an element of catch up in expenditure and was met from cash funds accumulated during the pandemic and shortly thereafter when maintenance was delayed.

Total income for the year was £343,301. There were grants received of £140,025, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned donations to the PCC increased over the prior year and the number of planned givers rose slightly. One-off giving in 2024 was £15,287 including specific gifts for Youth work. Investment income of £12,499 was received, mostly from endowments and interest on deposits which declined slightly with less cash on deposit. During the year, the Youth Minister moved and his former house is now let commercially, increasing lettings income.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased to £467,152 including £61,465 on repairs to the church building and the churchyard wall, although these repairs were offset by some specific grants.

The Parish Share contribution to the Oxford Diocese was £93,972.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine was not fully covered by the revenue from advertising. Efforts are in train to increase advertising revenue. The cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's (former) House and Equipment was £31,926.

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a Reserves balance, which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments (if possible) to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. Approximately £60,000 has been held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. In March 2024, the PCC agreed to increase reserves towards a figure of £85,000. The Reserve fund stood at £61,018 at the end of 2024 and will be increased as and when funds are available to the target level.

**Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer**

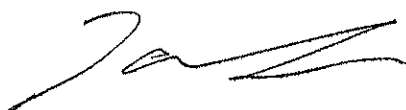
**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
For the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b><i>Income and endowments from:</i></b>	2					
Voluntary Income		278,216	4,681	--	282,897	261,651
Activities for Generating Funds		14,567	--	--	14,567	24,764
Income from Investments		6,203	274	6,022	12,499	12,613
Church activities		22,588	10,750	--	33,338	15,214
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>321,574</b>	<b>15,705</b>	<b>6,022</b>	<b>343,301</b>	<b>314,242</b>
<b><i>Expenditure on:</i></b>	3					
Church activities		364,819	95,681	6,022	466,522	392,192
Raising Funds		582	48	--	630	144
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>365,401</b>	<b>95,729</b>	<b>6,022</b>	<b>467,152</b>	<b>392,336</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>(43,827)</b>	<b>(80,024)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(123,851)</b>	<b>(78,094)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on Investments		356	226	5,674	6,256	23,426
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>(43,471)</b>	<b>(79,798)</b>	<b>5,674</b>	<b>(117,595)</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>
Transfers between Funds		(27,455)	27,455	-	0	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(70,926)</b>	<b>(52,343)</b>	<b>5,674</b>	<b>(117,595)</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>
<b><i>Reconciliation of Funds</i></b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>200,588</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>129,662</b>	<b>1,135,036</b>	<b>253,653</b>	<b>1,518,351</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>

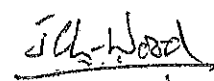
Parish of Sonning  
Balance sheet  
As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
	6					
Tangible assets		65,661	1,061,224	-	1,126,885	1,156,574
Investments		26,105	10,101	253,654	289,860	283,604
		<b>91,766</b>	<b>1,071,325</b>	<b>253,654</b>	<b>1,416,745</b>	<b>1,440,178</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	7	137	1,673	-	1,810	8,543
Cash at bank and In hand	8	52,912	64,787	-	117,699	220,380
		<b>53,049</b>	<b>66,460</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>119,509</b>	<b>228,923</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
	9					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		15,154	2,749	-	17,903	33,155
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>37,895</b>	<b>63,711</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>101,606</b>	<b>195,768</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>129,661</b>	<b>1,135,036</b>	<b>253,654</b>	<b>1,518,351</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>129,661</b>	<b>1,135,036</b>	<b>253,654</b>	<b>1,518,351</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
	11					
General fund		9,477	-	-	9,477	27,612
Organ		57,361	-	-	57,361	61,036
Choral Foundation		368	-	-	368	25,700
Mission & Development		(1,324)	-	-	(1,324)	4,012
Parish Magazine		2,762	-	-	2,762	15,934
General Reserve		61,018	-	-	61,018	61,869
External Giving		-	-	-	-	4,425
New Hall		-	621,020	-	621,020	636,317
Youth		-	534	-	534	2,500
Frances Cooper		-	3,258	-	3,258	3,185
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,843	-	6,843	6,689
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	503,381	-	503,381	538,688
Price Davies		-	-	925	925	904
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,671	4,671	4,566
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	118,250	118,250	115,604
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,624	4,624	4,521
Palmer Charity		-	-	123,799	123,799	121,029
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,223	1,223	1,198
William Payne		-	-	161	161	157
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>129,662</b>	<b>1,135,036</b>	<b>253,653</b>	<b>1,518,351</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chair)



Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Cash Flow Statement**  
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		(112,943)		(61,178)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from Investments	12,499		12,613	
Equipment Costs	(2,237)		--	
Buildings Cost	--		(4,862)	
Net Cash provided by / (used in) Investing activities		10,262		7,751
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		(102,681)		(53,427)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		220,380		273,807
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>117,699</b>		<b>220,380</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		(123,851)		(78,094)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		31,926		32,750
Dividends, Interest and Rent from Investments		(12,499)		(12,613)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors		6,733		(3,176)
(Decrease) / Increase in creditors		(15,252)		(45)
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>(112,943)</b>		<b>(61,178)</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		113,449		216,344
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		4,250		4,036
		<b>117,699</b>		<b>220,380</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2024

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over an appropriate number of years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2	INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Income</b>						
	Planned Giving	96,345	485	--	96,830	85,659
	Tax Recoverable	22,428	1,496	--	23,924	14,406
	Collections (Open Plate)	6,831	--	--	6,831	5,828
	Other Donations	12,587	2,700	--	15,287	22,739
	Grants	140,025	--	--	140,025	133,019
		<u>278,216</u>	<u>4,681</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>282,897</u>	<u>281,651</u>
<b>2(b) Activities for Generating Funds</b>						
	Magazine Advertising	14,567	--	--	14,567	24,764
	Sundry Activities	--	--	--	--	--
		<u>14,567</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>14,567</u>	<u>24,764</u>
<b>2(c) Income from Investments</b>						
	Dividends and Interest	6,203	274	6,022	12,499	12,613
		<u>6,203</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>6,022</u>	<u>12,499</u>	<u>12,613</u>
<b>2(d) Income from Church Activities</b>						
	Lettings	1,900	10,750	--	12,650	1,443
	Fees	12,201	--	--	12,201	7,789
	Sundry Income	8,487	--	--	8,487	5,982
		<u>22,588</u>	<u>10,750</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>33,338</u>	<u>15,214</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>321,574</u>	<u>15,705</u>	<u>6,022</u>	<u>343,301</u>	<u>314,242</u>
3	RESOURCES EXPENDED					
<b>3(a) Charitable Activities</b>						
	Missionary & Charitable Giving					
	Church Overseas: Missionary Societies	2,000	--	--	2,000	7,250
	Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies	3,000	--	--	3,000	--
	Home Mission and Other Church Societies	3,750	--	--	3,750	750
	Secular Charities	1,750	--	--	1,750	7,250
	Diocesan Parish Share	93,972	--	--	93,972	96,795
	Ministry Team Costs	48,207	76,436	--	124,643	76,982
	Upkeep of Services	6,464	--	--	6,464	5,052
	Parish Training and Mission Costs	17,783	3,673	--	21,456	18,432
	St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance	55,846	88	3,364	59,298	64,460
	Organ, Organist, Choir, Music	23,372	--	--	23,372	19,922
	Upkeep of Churchyard	43,301	186	2,658	46,145	11,939
	St Sark Room Running Costs and Maintenance	312	--	--	312	563
	The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance	7,866	14,726	--	22,612	21,211
	Administration	28,341	572	--	28,913	36,899
	Magazine Printing and Other Costs	27,752	--	--	27,752	26,074
	Miscellaneous	1,083	--	--	1,083	2,613
	New Buildings/Churchyard	--	--	--	--	--
		<u>364,819</u>	<u>95,681</u>	<u>6,022</u>	<u>466,522</u>	<u>392,192</u>
<b>3(b) Cost of Generating Funds</b>						
	Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	--	--	--	--	--
	Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs	582	48	--	630	144
		<u>582</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>630</u>	<u>144</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u>365,401</u>	<u>95,729</u>	<u>6,022</u>	<u>467,152</u>	<u>392,336</u>

#### 4 STAFF COSTS

The PCC had four employees at the end of the year. Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	85,523
Social Security Costs (National Insurance)	2,896
Pension Contribution	4,293
	<u>92,512</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.

Chris West, a trustee, was employed as Youth Minister and his remuneration is included in the above amounts.

Hilary Rennie, a trustee, was employed as Office Administrator and her remuneration is included in the above amounts.

Corinne Robertson was employed as a Youth and Childrens Minister and her remuneration is included in the above amounts

#### 5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister, the Youth and Childrens Minister and the Lay Minister may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except directly to reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

#### 6 FIXED ASSETS

(a) Tangible

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2024	1,236,567	145,882	1,382,439
	Disposals	--	--	--
	Additions at Cost	--	2,237	2,237
	As at 31st December 2024	<u>1,236,567</u>	<u>148,119</u>	<u>1,384,676</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2024	151,532	74,333	225,865
	Withdrawn on Disposal	--	--	--
	Charge for the Year	24,731	7,195	31,926
	As at 31st December 2024	<u>176,263</u>	<u>81,528</u>	<u>257,791</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2024	1,085,025	71,549	1,156,574
	Additions at Cost	--	2,237	2,237
	Depreciation for Year	(24,731)	(7,195)	(31,926)
	As at 31st December 2024	<u>1,060,294</u>	<u>66,591</u>	<u>1,126,885</u>

(b) Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Market Value at 1st January	283,604	260,178
Purchases	--	--
Revaluation Gain	6,256	23,428
Market Value at 31st December	<u>289,860</u>	<u>283,604</u>

The Market Value represents investments for

Unrestricted Funds	26,105	25,750
Restricted Funds	10,101	9,875
Endowment Funds	253,654	247,979
	<u>289,860</u>	<u>283,604</u>

#### 7 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

Tax Recoverable	1,810	8,543
Prepayments	--	--
	<u>1,810</u>	<u>8,543</u>

#### 8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

CAF Bank Acc Balance	108,993	102,046
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	4,183	21,220
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	4,250	4,036
Cash In Hand	273	3,078
	<u>117,699</u>	<u>220,360</u>

#### 9 LIABILITIES

Magazine Adverts Next Year	910	5,286
Other	18,993	27,869
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>17,903</u>	<u>33,155</u>

10 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2023 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		248,936	12,713	--	261,651
Activities for Generating Funds		24,764	--	--	24,764
Income from Investments		5,596	270	6,747	12,613
Church activities		15,214	--	--	15,214
Other Income		--	--	--	--
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>294,512</b>	<b>12,983</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>314,242</b>
<i>Expenditure on:</i>					
	3				
Church activities		348,546	36,899	6,747	392,192
Raising Funds		144	--	--	144
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>348,690</b>	<b>36,899</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>392,336</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>(54,178)</b>	<b>(23,916)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(78,094)</b>
<b>Net Gains/(Losses) on</b>		<b>1,075</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>23,426</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>(53,103)</b>	<b>(23,060)</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>(4,882)</b>	<b>4,862</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(57,965)</b>	<b>(18,198)</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>

11 FUNDS	Fund	2024	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>									
	General Fund			27,612	287,299	247,048	(58,386)	--	9,477
	Organ			61,036	--	3,675	--	--	57,361
	Choral Foundation			25,700	--	25,332	--	--	368
	Mission & Development			4,012	14,228	48,760	29,196	--	(1,324)
	Parish Magazine			15,934	14,595	28,086	319	--	2,762
	General Reserve		10(a)	61,869	5,452	--	(6,659)	356	61,018
	External Giving			4,425	--	12,500	8,075	--	--
				<b>200,588</b>	<b>321,674</b>	<b>365,401</b>	<b>(27,455)</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>129,662</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>									
	New Hall			636,317	--	15,345	48	--	621,020
	Youth		10(b)	2,600	4,681	34,054	27,407	--	634
	Frances Cooper		10(d)	3,185	88	88	--	73	3,258
	Helen Belson								
	Jacqueline Hadida		10(c)	6,690	186	186	--	153	6,843
	Ecclesiastical Fund			538,687	10,750	46,056	--	--	503,381
				<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>15,705</b>	<b>96,729</b>	<b>27,455</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>1,135,036</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>									
	Price Davies		10(c)	904	25	25	--	21	925
	Churchyard Trust		10(e)	4,566	95	95	--	105	4,671
	Dickson Memorial Trust		10(c)	115,604	2,410	2,410	--	2,648	118,250
	Mitchell Trust		10(c)	4,521	94	94	--	103	4,824
	Palmer Charily		10(d)	121,029	3,360	3,360	--	2,770	123,799
	Witherington Trust		10(c)	1,198	34	34	--	25	1,223
	Charibond								
	Charifund Young/Welsh								
	Rushby Family								
	William Payne			157	4	4	--	4	161
	Phyllis Palmer			--	--	--	--	--	--
				<b>247,979</b>	<b>6,022</b>	<b>6,022</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>6,874</b>	<b>253,653</b>
<b>Sundry Funds</b>									
				--	--	--	--	--	--
				<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>343,301</b>	<b>467,162</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,256</b>	<b>1,518,351</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure  
10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves  
10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

11 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2023 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		82,223	253,650	277,769	(30,492)	--	27,612
Organ		64,711	--	3,675	--	--	61,036
Choral Foundation		26,000	--	300	--	--	25,700
Mission & Development		4,272	15,036	40,920	25,624	--	4,012
Parish Magazine		16,224	24,819	25,115	6	--	15,934
General Reserve	10(a)	59,948	1,007	161	--	1,075	61,869
External Giving		5,175	--	750	--	--	4,425
		<b>258,553</b>	<b>294,512</b>	<b>348,690</b>	<b>(4,862)</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>200,588</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		646,334	--	14,879	4,862	--	636,317
Youth	10(b)	124	12,713	10,337	--	--	2,500
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,909	87	87	--	276	3,185
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	6,110	183	183	--	580	6,690
Ecclesiastical Fund		550,100	--	11,413	--	--	538,687
		<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>12,983</b>	<b>36,899</b>	<b>4,862</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	826	25	25	--	78	904
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	4,169	94	94	--	397	4,566
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	105,584	3,160	3,160	--	10,020	115,604
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	4,129	124	124	--	392	4,521
Palmer Charly	10(d)	110,538	3,307	3,307	--	10,491	121,029
Witherington Trust	10(c)	1,094	33	33	--	104	1,198
William Payne		144	4	4	--	13	157
		<b>226,484</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>247,979</b>
		<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>314,242</b>	<b>392,336</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>23,426</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>
10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure		10(c)	Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves				
10(b) Funds for Youth Work		10(d)	Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's				

12 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £113,000 during the year (2023 - £113,000) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £19,800 during the year (2023 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Youth Minister. The PCC also settled certain invoices on behalf of The Ranmore Trust which were directly reimbursed by the Trust during the year.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2023 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

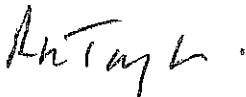
## Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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.



RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 11. APRIL 2025 .....

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

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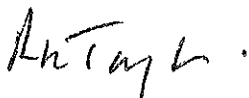
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RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 11. APRIL 2025

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,**  
**SERVING CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE**  
**SUNDAY 19 MAY 2024**

**Written Reports for the year ended 31 December 2023**



# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

## St. Andrews Church, Sonning

19th May 2024 at 11.30am

### A G E N D A

1. Opening prayers
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Election of Churchwardens and Deputy Church Wardens
4. Apologies
5. Minutes of 2023 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
6. Matters arising from Minutes
7. Vicar's Report
8. Treasurer's Report and PCC Financial Statements
9. Churchwardens' Report and presentation of Terrier
10. Safeguarding Report
11. Election of members to the PCC
12. Electoral Roll
13. PCC Committee Reports
  - a) Buildings and Maintenance Committee
  - b) Social Committee
  - c) The Parish Magazine
14. Other Reports
  - a) Messy Church
  - b) Sunday Club
  - c) Alpha Course
  - d) Sunday at Six
  - e) STAY on Sunday
  - f) STAY on Monday
  - g) Wednesday at 8
  - h) Thursday at 8
  - i) STAY on Friday
  - j) Music at St. Andrew's
  - k) Rendezvous Lunch Club
  - l) Bell ringers
  - m) Friends of St. Andrew's Church
  - n) Stewardship
  - o) Giving outside the Parish
15. Appointment of independent examiner
16. Any other business
17. Closing prayers

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING  
For the year ended 31st December 2023  
Incumbent: The Revd. Jamie Taylor,  
The Vicarage, Thames Street, Sonning, RG4 6UR  
Independent Examiner: Banks & Co, Newbury, Berkshire**

## Aim and Purpose

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance - To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

### **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames Valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire

RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Registered Charity Number: 1130763)

During the year to 31 December 2023, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd. Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd. Kate Toogood (resigned 29 October 2023)
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West

Churchwardens	Liz Nelson Stuart Bowman
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Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
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Treasurer	Jerry Wood
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Secretary	Hilary Rennie
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Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent (resigned 28 May 2023) Indra Biddulph Helen Craig Heather Hexter Terence Hunt Ruth Jeffery Nicola Riley (appointed 28 May 2023) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly (re-appointed 28 May 2023) Kevin Wilson (appointed 28 May 2023)
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The PCC met on 4 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 82%

## COMMITTEES

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### **Standing and Finance**

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### **Buildings and Maintenance**

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Terry Hunt

### **Mission and Pastoral**

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor

### **Social**

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Sue Peters

### **The Parish Magazine**

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising: Harriet Nelson

Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

## ELECTORAL ROLL

At the APCM on 28th May 2023 there were 240 people on the Electoral Roll. The total number on the 2024 Electoral Roll is 241.

## THE VICAR'S REPORT

I can't make comment on the first 4 months of 2023 as I was on compassionate leave. I well remember my return to duties, sitting in the congregation during Holy Week and then taking the service on Easter Day, which was an emotional and uplifting experience after a very bleak period. I reflected at the time how fortunate we all were that we had able wardens and deputies, a committed ministry team and, last but certainly not least, Hilary in the office. They all worked together to keep the 'show on the road', and I am immeasurably grateful.

It was wonderful to welcome Lord and Lady Carey once again for our special Coronation service in May. The music, under Hannah Towndrow, was a dream come true for me, with Zadok the Priest a particular highlight. We really are so blessed with the standard of music that is now being achieved. A new post was created at Hertford College, Oxford, especially for Hannah as Director of Music, and so she very understandably accepted it. I am very grateful to all she accomplished with us. The fact that Richard Meehan was free to takeover the week after she left was tremendous and I have been heartened with all he has so far brought to the role, not least the launch of our choral scholarships and the appointment of a junior organ scholar, in addition to Noah Toogood as the senior scholar.

The Revd Kate Toogood was appointed as Vicar of Earley St Peter's towards the end of the year, and we rightly gave her a fond farewell in October. Kate had been with us for 6 years and I valued her support and pastoral ministry. She touched many lives, from within the congregation, schools and wider community, and we look back with gratitude on her ministry among us. Another significant change was the appointment of Corinne Robertson as our children and family minister, and we welcomed her and Matt in December and it has been a delight to see her new ministry established. Alison Smyly has ably led our Sunday Club for some years, and I am so grateful to her for all she contributed. Corinne has now taken on this work and Messy Church as well. Much of her work, as with Westy's, is done behind the scenes, one to one in school mentoring, and I know how much this is appreciated by local headteachers, especially considering the mental health epidemic being suffered by teenagers.

When we were planning the building of the Ark in 2013, discussing its possible uses, one aspiration I voiced was for it to host some form of contemporary, informal worship service, reaching out to those not necessarily attracted to our more formal worship in church. I must confess to feeling a little foolish as I had absolutely no idea how any such service could ever be established here, and I knew I was not the person to

lead it. Well, thanks be to God, we now have Sunday at 6, and I am always encouraged to see a full Ark, to hear excellent music for worship and to hear relevant and thought-provoking talks. I counted 55 adults and 20 teenagers at the last one and most of the adults I don't yet know! I want to pay tribute to the team who have founded this work and who plan each session. Indeed, I am heartened that we have recovered so strongly from the Covid hiatus, and the recently published 2022 national church attendance statistics show that we are in the 95th percentile in 10 of the 11 categories. However, we take nothing for granted and will always prioritise projects such as Alpha which are successfully bringing people to Christ. I must say what a wonderful evening we had in October 2023 when the Revd Nicky Gumbel and his wife joined us to meet over 50 of our recent Alpha attendees and they then participated in a special Sunday at 6 in church with over 200 present. For this and so much besides, I express my gratitude to all those who serve God, in voluntary and paid capacities in our parish. May the Lord continue to bless all our work done in His name.

**Jamie**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

### **Financial Review**

The PCC ended the year with a total net expenditure (deficit) in funds of £54,668, compared to a total net deficit of £29,586 for the previous year. This was mainly due to a decrease in the value of our investments, which in keeping in with many other organisations, was caused by the current worldwide uncertainties.

Total income for the year was £314,242. There were grants received of £133,019, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, although the net number of planned givers declined slightly over the year. One-off giving in 2023 was £22,739 much of which was directed to supporting youth work. Income from collections and fees was up due to the full return of services in place during the year. Investment Income of £12,613 was received, mostly from endowments for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance and interest deposits which increased with higher interest rates.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased to £392,336 including £31,248 on repairs to the church building.

The Parish Share contribution increased to £95,795.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds.

£4,862 was spent on noise reduction panels for the Ark.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £32,750.

### **Reserves policy**

It is PCC policy to maintain a Reserves balance, which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments (if possible) to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. Approximately £60,000 has been held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2023 to £61,869, mainly due to an increase in the value of underlying investments. With the increase in expenditure in 2023, albeit including exceptional items for repairs, the Reserves figure is under review.

### **Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer**

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**

When compiling the annual report it is always surprising to realise what has been achieved over the previous twelve months; it also presents the opportunity not just to reflect on the previous year, but also an opportunity to look to the future.

So firstly, looking back, this year we have said goodbye to an amazing Head of Music and we thank Hannah for all she did for the development of musical praise at St Andrews. I, like many I am sure, thought she would be a hard act to follow, but Richard has taken up the mantle in true Sonning fashion and we are extremely grateful for how the choir – both junior and senior - continue to flourish. The services at both Christmas and Easter were outstanding, and a real testimony to the hard work of the choral team.

STAY, Sunday Club, Sunday at Six, Messy Sunday, Luncheon Club and the weekly Prayer Groups all continue to be reasons for celebration, with them serving both congregation and the wider community. The Alpha course is now an integral part of the year at St Andrews, and it was so pleasing to hear the wonderful feedback from Nicky Gumble following his visit in the autumn.

Nicky's key observation was how blessed we are at St Andrews to have such an amazing team – Jamie, Westy, Kate and Bob all supported by Hilary. I couldn't echo that better – an amazing team indeed.

Of course that team has evolved and we have seen our Associate Vicar, Kate Toogood, leave the parish after 6 years. She will be remembered for her great kindness, wonderful sermons (often with a bit of maths thrown

in too), the setting up of Messy Church and the regular Tuesday Morning Prayer.

We are all processing and feeling the loss of our Emeritus Warden Molly, she touched so many and will be greatly missed, thank you dear Molly for all you gave to St Andrew's.

As we look to the future, we were blessed when Corinne Robertson joined the parish team in December as Female Youth Worker; she hit the ground running and brings such a valuable new dimension to our youth work. It is truly uplifting to see so many teenagers from STAY and children from Sunday Club come in and join us for Communion at the end of the 10.30 Sunday service.

It is said in every report, but there are so many other people to thank who give service to St Andrews: the Welcome Team, Deputy Wardens, Pro Wardens, the Servers, Bell Ringers, Coffee Makers and those involved in the 'tidy up' days, again thank you all for helping make St Andrews the truly special place it is for us all to worship and contemplate.

**Stuart Bowman and Liz Nelson - Churchwardens**

## **SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

St Andrews remains committed to Safeguarding Children, young people and vulnerable adults within its care and encourages a positive safeguarding environment. Safeguarding is an essential part of our core faith and an integral feature of Christian life in our parish. It remains a standing discussion item at all PCC meetings. The PCC takes seriously their duty of care to enable the protection of the vulnerable in the church community. As a church St Andrews works within Oxford Diocesan Safeguarding practice and policy guidelines.

We follow the safer recruitment guidelines, DBS guidance and safeguarding training. As a church we also sign up to the safeguarding Hub and Dashboard in order to review and keep updated on all of our practices. A safeguarding development plan has been reviewed and submitted to the diocese. The revised House of Bishop guidance is implemented in this plan. The PCC remains committed to enabling all staff visitors and congregation to feel safe with safeguarding being everyone's responsibility. Everyone is encouraged to contribute to prompting a safer culture and building good safeguarding practices in St Andrews.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer is Mrs. Nicola Riley who alongside the PCC continues to look at and work on developing areas in St Andrews local context and parish for improving safeguarding in the action plan.

There have been no safeguarding allegations or concerns reported since the last AGM.

**Nicola Riley - Safeguarding Officer**

## **BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

There were no major infestations of birds, bats, worms, beetles or insects. Careful inspection of worm activity has been maintained. No major outbreak has been found.

A number of minor electrical and plumbing issues have been rectified.

Tree work has been undertaken where necessary. The Deputy Warden was admonished for failure to comply with the Diocese's full paperwork in one case!

The flintwork of part of the Vicar's Vestry wall has been rebuilt. The lead roof valley above is to be replaced shortly. The associated rainwater services have been improved. The internal dampness has been and is being carefully monitored. The interior restoration will await a satisfactory moisture level. The Friends of St Andrew's has funded this significant project.

The internal lighting in the Tower has been brought up to current standards. It now has emergency standby and a very good level of illumination particularly on the spiral staircase.

The Bell ringers met the cost of the work in the Belfry and Ringing Room.

Work will start in May on the wall between the Lych Gate and the Church. The flintwork and some of the brickwork is in a parlous state. The Fire Station Trust has made a generous contribution towards the cost.

Future work is being planned on the Ground Water and Rainwater systems around the Church and on the electrical switch gear and protection circuits.

Our thanks are due to the Friends of St Andrew's, the Fire Station Trust and the Bellringers for their huge help in undertaking works.

**Terry Hunt Deputy Warden**

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

We have enjoyed providing homemade cakes for the afternoon tea after Choral Evensong, as always, we cater for special dietary needs – gluten free, dairy free and vegan. The Easter BBQ was a great success. Wine was served after the All Souls Service and Nine Lessons and Carols along with

the traditional mince pies. Sincere thanks to all who volunteer for the Coffee Rota, those who shop, help set up, serve and clear away for events – we couldn't do it without you!

**Sue Peters**

## **THE PARISH MAGAZINE**

Hopefully for the readers of The Parish Magazine, it has continued to provide an entertaining, interesting, and useful read for all the Church members, visitors, and for the residents of Charvil, Sonning and Sonning Eye.

Behind the scenes there has been one major staff change following the gradual handing over of the management of the advertising from Gordon Nutbrown to Harriet Nelson at the end of 2023. Gordon is still playing an important part behind the scenes by managing the printing and distribution of the magazine and offering us the benefit of his extensive publishing business knowledge, therefore he remains an essential part of our team.

For the record, in 2023, the magazine retained the National Parish Magazine Awards title for being the overall best magazine of its kind in the country. It was our ninth national award since 2018 when we first entered the competition. While there are two independent award schemes for church magazines in the UK, we are not allowed to enter the other one because I am one of the judges!

**Bob Peters**

## **MESSY CHURCH**

On the third Sunday of each month, we welcome families to join us for fun activities and learning, including craft making, teaching and songs, followed by a meal for the children and sometimes for the adults too! Our helpers at Messy Church this year have ranged from 14-year-olds to 90+ and each one of them helps to create the happy vibrant space for young children and their families to learn about Jesus. With this gentle welcoming introduction to St Andrew's, we are seeing families grow in confidence with their faith and joining with us as regular attendees at the 10.30am Sunday service and Sunday at Six.

**Liz Nelson**

## **SUNDAY CLUB**

As I come to the end of my time leading Sunday Club it has been a real privilege to have this time on a Sunday morning to learn about and respond to God with the children, and often their parents too. While numbers have been small a committed number of children attend each session.

We have been using an online resource from Urban Saints, Energize, as a basis for our sessions. Over the year we have looked at the Psalms, Influences on our lives and how we respond to these, and the life of Jesus. Christmas and Easter are special points in the year marked by the Crib Service and making the Easter Garden, which went ahead as usual. A huge thank you to everyone involved in Sunday Club who so willingly give of their time and who have faithfully supported and encouraged me and this ministry; I am extremely grateful to them and without whom Sunday Club would not be possible.

**Alison Smyly & The Sunday Club Team**

## **ALPHA COURSE**

The Alpha Team ran the third successful Alpha course in 2023. We met every Tuesday on zoom for 12 weeks, we watched the insightful and interesting alpha videos together, then discussed some questions afterwards. It is the perfect combination of comfort, ease and a relaxed environment for people to be in their own homes, ask any questions and not feel judged. We saw several people come to faith or renew their faith in Jesus. It has also meant people have made new friends and felt more at home in St Andrews church.

**Chris West**

## **SUNDAY AT SIX**

Sunday at Six met, in the Ark, 11 times on the last Sunday of each month and in December we started the brand new 'Beers & Carols' at the Bull Pub. (We don't meet in August as so many people are away). We also had the privilege of hosting the founder of the Alpha Course, Nicky Gumbel and his wife Pippa at the October Sunday at Six service. The Sunday at Six service is a relaxed environment with modern worship songs, biblical teaching and space for prayer. All ages are welcome.

**Chris West**

## **STAY ON SUNDAY**

Our bi-weekly Sunday group is always a highlight for many young people. We meet in the upper room of the Ark where we focus on our Christian faith. We watch videos, play games, read scripture, eat donuts and pray. We also welcome in guest speakers some weeks and we had Naomi from Open Doors come and speak to us about the secret church. In parts of the world it is completely illegal to be a Christian and if caught worshipping, you can be beaten up, thrown in jail or sometimes worse.

**Chris West**

## **STAY ON MONDAY**

Our bi-weekly small group on Monday nights still meets in the young peoples homes. We get to hang out, play games, watch videos and read stories of how people connect with God across the world. We have used the STIR cards in 2023 and these have been so useful in creating a safe space for the young people to explore the Christian faith.

**Chris West**

## **WEDNESDAY AT EIGHT**

Following on and being created from our second Alpha course, Wednesday at 8 continues every other Wednesday on zoom from 8-9pm. We have been watching the Bible Project videos on 'Books of the Bible Overviews'. These have been packed with fantastic insight, discussion points and angles on things that offer helpful guidance for discussion. We then discuss the videos afterwards and pray to finish. It is another great way to deepen friendships and feel part of the St Andrews church family.

**Chris West**

## **THURSDAY AT EIGHT**

We follow a course to help steer our discussion (we have done The Creed and are just finishing off The Beatitudes). You don't need to know lots about the Bible to come along - the purpose is to explore God's word and think about how it applies to our daily lives. We ask questions and seek to know God's word better, learning from one another. There is an opportunity to share pray requests and pray together if you would like to (not mandatory).

The group is a wonderful support for its members and we have a group WhatsApp so that we can be there for each other practically and emotionally when needed during the week.

We meet in members homes currently Charvil, Woodley and Sonning depending on who is available to host. We regularly have between 8 and 12 people.

Thursday @ 8 is open to anyone from St Andrews, and if you would like more information please speak to either Ruth Jeffery or Helen Craig or you can email Helen on helen.craig50@gmail.com.

**Helen Craig and Ruth Jeffery**

### **STAY ON FRIDAY**

Our weekly youth club in the Ark was very popular in 2023. Half way through the year we gave the young people a suggestion box, which they filled with some wonderful ideas. Go kart track, flood lights and boxing ring were amongst the more extravagant ones. Besides the impossible ideas we did have some great suggestions of new games, new board games, wide games, new tuck shop ideas and a basketball hoop. Lots of these we implemented and number went up as a result. STAY on Friday also feeds into our STAY for Holiday Activities, where we take groups of young people out on trips to trampoline parks, theme parks, cinemas, ice skating rinks, rock climbing walls, paddleboarding lakes and pottery painting workshops...to name just a few.

**Chris West**

### **MUSIC AT ST. ANDREW'S**

The choir saw a change in leadership in October 2023, as I took over from Hannah Towndrow, who took a post at Oxford University. I have been very grateful for the support and goodwill I have encountered since taking over.

The two choirs continue to sing five regular services a month, supporting and enhancing worship of the church, as well as adding festive flair to the special services, such as the Carol Service and Remembrance.

Since taking over, I am pleased to have recruited more than 10 new full-time members, and several additional occasional singers. This, together with the Choral Scholarship programme has allowed us access to standard 4-voice and 5-voice music, thus greatly expanding the choir's repertoire.

The expanded repertoire has started the long-term project of replacing the sizeable portion of existing photocopied repertoire with official copies

of music, a plan which will take around 5 years to complete based on the existing library.

We have also been able to make links with young instrumentalists, developing working relationships with two university-age organists and developing the organ playing and experience our two organ scholars, both of whom achieved merits in their Grade VI, with the intention to now move them on to service music as soon as possible. We have also invited brass into our Carol Service and Easter Day service to give a suitably festive lift.

Our principal focus will now need to be to recruit and develop the singing of new children into the choir, as the current generation age out. To do this we have started a new scheme, "Intrepid Voices" which we hope will provide an excellent introduction to choral singing.

**Richard Meehan - Director of Music**

### **RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB**

Our twice monthly lunch club provides not only an enjoyable meal cooked by the fabulous Emma Saville and Serena Goodwin, but also a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new people. It always amazes me how often people attend the lunch club for the first time and are a little nervous about arriving on their own, who immediately spot someone they haven't seen for 30 years or more! It's a delight to see old school friends reunited and immediately pick up a friendship that started in the playground more than 60 years ago. I would like to thank everyone who helps out to make these lunches run so smoothly, particularly Thelma and Ian Hutton-Penman who diligently lay up the tables before each lunch. We have been particularly conscious of the cost of living crisis this year and have made the decision to keep the cost at £10 per person and thankfully Emma has been able to continue with great skill and inventive cooking to provide interesting and nutritious menu for us all to enjoy.

**Liz Nelson**

### **BELL RINGERS**

We now have 13 members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The youngest is only 12 years old and learning very quickly. We ring regularly for the 10.30am Sunday morning service and some of us continue to support Wargrave who are short of ringers.

We follow a ringing progress scheme called 'Learning the Ropes' and one of our young ringers worked hard and passed levels 3, 4 and 5 during the year.

On Easter Saturday afternoon we again opened the tower for tours to see the ringing room and view from the roof.

On the 6th May we rang before and after the coronation of King Charles III. One of our ringers, Geoff Harvey also rang for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

The Tower inspection pointed out that we needed emergency lighting in the belfry, the ringing room and on the stairs. We are very pleased that Terry Hunt arranged for this to be installed.

**Pam Elliston - Tower Captain**

## **THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC)**

THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC) FoStAC exists as a separate registered charity (number 1101944) to support the fabric of our beautiful St. Andrew's Church building by making grants to St. Andrew's Church PCC for specific projects.

In 2023 we granted over £13,300 to fund the works to the vestry wall repairs (see March 2024 edition of The Parish Magazine for a full explanation and picture). Our income for 2023 was under £12,000, so after administrative expenses, we made a loss for the year and had to draw upon our limited reserves. Since FoStAC started in 2003, we have in total made grants of well over £400k, and including our current cash assets, have raised over half a million pounds for the benefit of St. Andrew's Church.

FoStAC raises these funds primarily via a combination of (1) regular donors – a big thank you to all those who donated during 2023, and (2) fundraising community events. Additionally, in some years although not in 2023 we (3) receive grants from other local charities for specific projects, which in recent years have included our funding of replacement heating and lighting systems in St. Andrew's Church. These were well timed given energy price increases since 2022. Lastly, we (4) receive legacies from time to time, including one in 2023.

For FoStAC events in 2023, March saw our AGM and accompanying Quiz Night hosted by our ongoing Honorary Secretary Sally Wilson – a very entertaining evening for all. In July we held a very successful Garden Tea Party by our kind hosts Jill & Richard Brighton. In September we held a stall at the 2023 Sonning Show and then Trustee Bob Hine arranged our very enjoyable first curry night in The Village Hamper on the High Street in Sonning in December. Trustee Keith Hawkins' production of our Christmas Card design was widely acclaimed and led to a sell-out. Beyond fundraising, we also coordinated the Annual Church Clean in October before the seasons of Remembrance and Advent.

I am very grateful to Trustees Ian McCann and Rosemarie Rixon for their work on our new FoStAC website – [www.fostac.org](http://www.fostac.org) – with allied ‘QR Code’



being used to now help market our events. In parallel, our ongoing Honorary Treasurer Keith Nichols has done sterling work in supporting FoStAC’s embracing of SumUp card payment technology and actively managed us to having online charity current account access.

Beyond my thankfulness for such a dedicated and talented team of Trustees, I am also very grateful to all those of you who support us through regularly donating or supporting our events (or both). I warmly encourage you to participate in our future events or support us financially (even £10 a month adds up very welcomingly for FoStAC across its membership base with Gift Aid) – details on our website. Further detail on FoStAC’s activities in 2023 are in our Annual Report. If you would like a copy, please contact a Trustee or FoStAC via our website. I conclude with the words of a visitor from Western Australia on 29 December 2023 in the comments book for St. Andrew’s Church, which neatly sums up the purpose of FoStAC: “This is a beautiful church, and you can really feel God’s presence here. Thank you for taking such good care of it here!”

**Magnus Smyly - Chairman**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Planned giving increased over the prior year, although the net number of planned givers declined slightly over the year.

Cash giving at services has declined as givers switch to standing orders or use the contactless terminal, which, despite some issues from time to time, has proved a worthwhile addition to our ways of giving. We continue to encourage people to use standing order as the preferred method of giving as this provides the treasurer with a better level of certainty when forecasting our income and involves less work for those doing the weekly bankings.

Also if you are able to give under Gift Aid as a UK tax payer this increases the value of your gift by 25% as we are able to claim the relevant tax from HMRC.

If anyone would like a standing order form or a gift aid form to complete please e-mail me at [treasurer@sonningparish.org](mailto:treasurer@sonningparish.org).

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

**Jerry Wood - Treasurer and Stewardship Co-ordinator**

## THE PARISH OF SONNING - Giving outside the Parish 2024

It was agreed at the PCC on 18 March 2024 that the list of recipients presented to that meeting would be supported for up to five years. A range of areas are covered, including Christian outreach, children and families and homelessness. The PCC is also committed to supporting the worldwide church and in view of the continuing situation in the Middle East we are supporting Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), a UK based Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East. We are also supporting for the first time a charity in Sierra Leone which helps street children in Free Town and provides medical facilities in this politically unstable country.

At the same time, it was agreed to maintain a small reserve, from which specific requests might be met during the year.

Donations made during 2023 were as follows:

<b>Parish and local</b>	<b>£</b>
Woodley Food bank	1,000
Yeldall Christian Centre	1,000
Sonning School and School House Trust	1,500
Sub total	3,500
<b>Wider/local</b>	
Berkshire Clergy Charity	1,000
Salvation Army	750
Faith Christian Group	750
Parents & Children Together (PACT)	750
Christian Community Action (CCA)	750
Sub total	4,000
<b>International</b>	
Karun Orphanage	2,000
St George's Foundation , Sierra Leone	1,500
Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME)	1,500
Sub total	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,500</b>



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING  
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** of the **Parochial Church Council** for the year ended **31 December 2023**

### **INCUMBENT**

The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year to 31 December 2023, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood (resigned 29 October 2023)
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Liz Nelson Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Jerry Wood
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent (resigned 28 May 2023) Indra Biddulph Helen Craig (re-appointed 28 May 2023) Heather Hexter Terry Hunt Ruth Jeffery Nicola Riley (appointed 28 May 2023) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly (re-appointed 28 May 2023) Kevin Wilson (appointed 28 May 2023)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the associate vicar, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met on 4 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 82%.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office  
Thames Street  
Sonning  
READING  
Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (as individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chair: Mrs Liz Nelson.

### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor.

### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chair: Mrs Sue Peters.

### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising: Harriet Nelson

Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

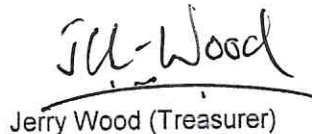
## Electoral Roll

At the APCM on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 there were 240 people on the Electoral Roll.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net expenditure (deficit) of £54,668, compared to a total net expenditure of £29,586 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £314,242. There were grants received of £133,019, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned giving increased over the prior year, although the net number of planned givers declined slightly over the year. One-off giving in 2023 was £22,739 much of which was directed to supporting youth work. Investment income of £12,613 was received, mostly from endowments for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance and interest on deposits which increased with higher interest rates.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased to £392,336 including £31,248 on repairs to the church building.

The Parish Share contribution increased to £95,795.

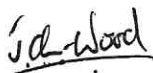
The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds.

£4,862 was spent on noise reduction panels for the Ark.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £32,750

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a Reserves balance, which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments (if possible) to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. Approximately £60,000 has been held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2023 to £61,869, mainly due to an increase in the value of underlying investments. With the increase in expenditure in 2023, albeit including exceptional items for repairs, the Reserves figure is under review.



Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer


**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
For the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

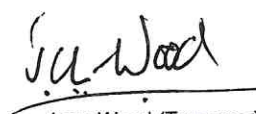
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b><i>Income and endowments from:</i></b>						
	2					
Voluntary Income		248,938	12,713	--	261,651	276,825
Activities for Generating Funds		24,764	--	--	24,764	23,003
Income from Investments		5,596	270	6,747	12,613	8,938
Church activities		15,214	--	--	15,214	18,263
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>294,512</b>	<b>12,983</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>314,242</b>	<b>327,029</b>
<b><i>Expenditure on:</i></b>						
	3					
Church activities		348,546	36,899	6,747	392,192	322,597
Raising Funds		144	--	--	144	161
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>348,690</b>	<b>36,899</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>392,336</b>	<b>322,758</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>(54,178)</b>	<b>(23,916)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(78,094)</b>	<b>4,271</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments		1,075	856	21,495	23,426	(33,857)
<b>Net income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>(53,103)</b>	<b>(23,060)</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>
Transfers between Funds		(4,862)	4,862	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(57,965)</b>	<b>(18,198)</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>(54,668)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>
<b><i>Reconciliation of Funds</i></b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>258,553</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>200,588</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>	6					
Tangible assets		70,047	1,086,527	-	1,156,574	1,184,462
Investments		25,750	9,875	247,979	283,604	260,178
		<b>95,797</b>	<b>1,096,402</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,440,178</b>	<b>1,444,640</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	7	8,293	250	-	8,543	5,367
Cash at bank and in hand	8	126,665	93,715	-	220,380	273,807
		<b>134,958</b>	<b>93,965</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>228,923</b>	<b>279,174</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	9					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		30,167	2,988	-	33,155	33,200
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>104,791</b>	<b>90,977</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195,768</b>	<b>245,974</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>200,588</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>200,588</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>
<b>Represented by</b>	10					
General fund		27,612	-	-	27,612	82,223
Organ		61,036	-	-	61,036	64,711
Choral Foundation		25,700	-	-	25,700	26,000
Mission & Development		4,012	-	-	4,012	4,272
Parish Magazine		15,934	-	-	15,934	16,224
General Reserve		61,869	-	-	61,869	59,948
External Giving		4,425	-	-	4,425	5,175
New Hall		-	636,317	-	636,317	646,334
Youth		-	2,500	-	2,500	124
Frances Cooper		-	3,185	-	3,185	2,909
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,689	-	6,689	6,110
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	538,688	-	538,688	550,100
Price Davies		-	-	904	904	826
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,566	4,566	4,171
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	115,604	115,604	105,583
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,521	4,521	4,129
Palmer Charity		-	-	121,029	121,029	110,538
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,198	1,198	1,094
William Payne		-	-	157	157	143
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>200,588</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>	<b>247,979</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on *18<sup>th</sup> March* 2024 and signed on its behalf by

  
 Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)

  
 Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Cash Flow Statement**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		(61,178)		30,664
<b>Cash Flows from investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from investments	12,613		8,938	
Equipment Costs	--		(6,652)	
Buildings Cost	(4,862)		(1,920)	
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		7,751		366
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		(53,427)		31,030
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		273,807		242,777
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>220,380</b>		<b>273,807</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		(78,094)		4,271
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		32,750		33,184
Dividends, Interest and Rent from investments		(12,613)		(8,938)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		(3,176)		(1,362)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		(45)		3,509
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>(61,178)</b>		<b>30,664</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		216,344		269,896
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		4,036		3,911
		<b>220,380</b>		<b>273,807</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over an appropriate number of years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2	INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
2(a)	<b>Voluntary Income</b>					
	Planned Giving	85,310	349	--	85,659	82,717
	Tax Recoverable	12,831	1,575	--	14,406	18,717
	Collections (Open Plate)	5,828	--	--	5,828	6,224
	Other Donations	11,950	10,789	--	22,739	45,750
	Grants	133,019	--	--	133,019	123,417
		<u>248,938</u>	<u>12,713</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>261,651</u>	<u>276,825</u>
2(b)	<b>Activities for Generating Funds</b>					
	Magazine Advertising	24,764	--	--	24,764	22,993
	Sundry Activities	--	--	--	--	10
		<u>24,764</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>24,764</u>	<u>23,003</u>
2(c)	<b>Income from Investments</b>					
	Dividends and Interest	5,596	270	6,747	12,613	8,938
		<u>5,596</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>6,747</u>	<u>12,613</u>	<u>8,938</u>
2(d)	<b>Income from Church Activities</b>					
	Lettings	1,443	--	--	1,443	1,226
	Fees	7,789	--	--	7,789	10,874
	Sundry Income	5,982	--	--	5,982	6,163
		<u>15,214</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>15,214</u>	<u>18,263</u>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<u>294,512</u>	<u>12,983</u>	<u>6,747</u>	<u>314,242</u>	<u>327,029</u>

3	RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
3(a)	<b>Charitable Activities</b>					
	Missionary & Charitable Giving					
	Church Overseas: Missionary Societies	7,250	--	--	7,250	3,000
	Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies	--	--	--	--	1,750
	Home Mission and Other Church Societies	750	--	--	750	4,682
	Secular Charities	7,250	--	--	7,250	4,000
	Diocesan Parish Share	95,795	--	--	95,795	80,000
	Ministry Team Costs	59,259	17,723	--	76,982	70,696
	Upkeep of Services	5,052	--	--	5,052	5,710
	Parish Training and Mission Costs	12,405	4,027	--	16,432	21,786
	St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance	61,061	87	3,312	64,460	27,185
	Organ, Organist, Choir, Music	19,922	--	--	19,922	18,174
	Upkeep of Churchyard	8,321	183	3,435	11,939	13,971
	St Sarik Room Running Costs and Maintenance	941	--	--	941	258
	The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance	6,107	14,726	--	20,833	20,407
	Administration	36,746	153	--	36,899	29,281
	Magazine Printing and Other Costs	25,074	--	--	25,074	19,033
	Miscellaneous	2,613	--	--	2,613	2,664
	New Buildings/Churchyard	--	--	--	--	--
		<u>348,546</u>	<u>36,899</u>	<u>6,747</u>	<u>392,192</u>	<u>322,597</u>
3(b)	<b>Cost of Generating Funds</b>					
	Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	--	--	--	--	--
	Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs	144	--	--	144	161
		<u>144</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>144</u>	<u>161</u>
	<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<u>348,690</u>	<u>36,899</u>	<u>6,747</u>	<u>392,336</u>	<u>322,758</u>

**4 STAFF COSTS**

The PCC had six employees at the end of the year. Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	71,829
Pension Contribution	3,166
	<u>74,995</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.

Chris West, a trustee, was employed as Youth Minister and his remuneration is included in the above amounts.

Hilary Rennie, a trustee, was employed as Office Administrator and her remuneration is included in the above amounts.

**5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS**

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister and the Lay Minister may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except to directly reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

**6 FIXED ASSETS**

(a) Tangible

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2023	1,231,695	145,882	1,377,577
	Disposals	--	--	--
	Additions at Cost	4,862	--	4,862
	As At 31 December 2023	<u>1,236,557</u>	<u>145,882</u>	<u>1,382,439</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2023	126,801	66,314	193,115
	Withdrawn on Disposal	--	--	--
	Charge for the Year	24,731	8,019	32,750
	As At 31 December 2023	<u>151,532</u>	<u>74,333</u>	<u>225,865</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2023	1,104,894	79,568	1,184,462
	Additions at Cost	4,862	--	4,862
	Depreciation for Year	(24,731)	(8,019)	(32,750)
	As At 31 December 2023	<u>1,085,025</u>	<u>71,549</u>	<u>1,156,574</u>

(b) Investments

		2023 £	2022 £
	Market Value at 1 January	260,178	294,035
	Purchases	--	--
	Revaluation Gain	23,426	(33,857)
	As At 31 December 2023	<u>283,604</u>	<u>260,178</u>
The Market Value represents investments for	Unrestricted Funds	25,750	24,675
	Restricted Funds	9,875	9,019
	Endowment Funds	247,979	226,484
		<u>283,604</u>	<u>260,178</u>

**7 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

Tax Recoverable	8,543	5,367
Prepayments	--	--
	<u>8,543</u>	<u>5,367</u>

**8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

CAF Bank Acc Balance	192,046	230,214
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	21,220	37,275
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	4,036	3,911
Cash in Hand	3,079	2,407
	<u>220,381</u>	<u>273,807</u>

**9 LIABILITIES**

Magazine Adverts Next Year	5,256	21,051
Other	27,869	12,149
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>33,155</u>	<u>33,200</u>

10 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2022 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<i>Income and endowments from:</i>	2				
Voluntary Income		273,300	3,525		276,825
Activities for Generating Funds		23,003			23,003
Income from Investments		1,928	269	6,741	8,938
Church activities		18,263			18,263
Other Income					—
<b>Total income</b>		<b>316,494</b>	<b>3,794</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>327,029</b>
<i>Expenditure on:</i>	3				
Church activities		278,320	37,536	6,741	322,597
Raising Funds		161			161
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>278,481</b>	<b>37,536</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>322,758</b>
<b>Net income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>38,013</b>	<b>(33,742)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>4,271</b>
<b>Net Gains/(Losses) on</b>		<b>(2,593)</b>	<b>(1,197)</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>(33,857)</b>
<b>Net income</b>		<b>35,420</b>	<b>(34,939)</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>(6,893)</b>	<b>6,893</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>28,527</b>	<b>(28,046)</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>

11 FUNDS	2023	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>								
General Fund			82,223	253,650	277,769	(30,492)	--	27,612
Organ			64,711	--	3,675	--	--	61,036
Choral Foundation			26,000	--	300	--	--	25,700
Mission & Development			4,272	15,036	40,920	25,624	--	4,012
Parish Magazine			16,224	24,819	25,115	6	--	15,934
General Reserve		10(a)	59,948	1,007	161	--	1,075	61,889
External Giving			5,175	--	750	--	--	4,425
			<b>258,553</b>	<b>294,512</b>	<b>348,690</b>	<b>(4,862)</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>200,588</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>								
New Hall			646,334	--	14,879	4,862	--	636,317
Youth		10(b)	124	12,713	10,337	--	--	2,500
Frances Cooper		10(d)	2,909	87	87	--	276	3,185
Helen Beison								
Jacqueline Hadida		10(c)	6,110	183	183	--	580	6,590
Ecclesiastical Fund			550,100	--	11,413	--	--	538,687
			<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>12,983</b>	<b>36,899</b>	<b>4,862</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>1,187,379</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>								
Price Davies		10(c)	626	25	25	--	78	904
Churchyard Trust		10(c)	4,169	94	94	--	397	4,566
Dickson Memorial Trust		10(c)	105,584	3,160	3,160	--	10,020	115,604
Mitchell Trust		10(c)	4,129	124	124	--	392	4,521
Palmer Charity		10(d)	110,538	3,307	3,307	--	10,491	121,029
Witherington Trust		10(c)	1,094	33	33	--	104	1,198
Charibond								
Charifund Young/Welsh								
Rushby Family								
William Payne			144	4	4	--	13	157
Phyllis Palmer			--	--	--	--	--	--
			<b>226,484</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>6,747</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>21,495</b>	<b>247,979</b>
<b>Sundry Funds</b>								
			--	--	--	--	--	--
			<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>314,242</b>	<b>392,336</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>23,426</b>	<b>1,635,946</b>
10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure		10(c)						
10(b) Funds for Youth Work		10(d)						

11 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2022 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		77,083	253,342	196,246	(51,956)	--	82,223
Organ		73,500	--	8,789	--	--	64,711
Choral Foundation		500	25,500	--	--	--	26,000
Mission & Development		2,386	13,441	42,082	30,527	--	4,272
Parish Magazine		12,009	23,293	19,114	36	--	16,224
General Reserve	10(a)	61,623	918	--	--	(2,593)	59,948
External Giving		2,925	--	12,250	14,500	--	5,175
		<b>230,026</b>	<b>316,494</b>	<b>278,481</b>	<b>(6,893)</b>	<b>(2,593)</b>	<b>258,553</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		659,471	--	15,057	1,920	--	646,334
Youth	10(b)	2,697	3,525	11,071	4,973	--	124
Frances Cooper	10(d)	3,295	87	87	--	(385)	2,909
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	6,921	182	182	--	(811)	6,110
Ecclesiastical Fund		561,239	--	11,139	--	--	550,100
		<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>3,794</b>	<b>37,536</b>	<b>6,893</b>	<b>(1,197)</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	936	25	25	--	(110)	826
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	4,724	124	124	--	(553)	4,171
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	119,600	3,143	3,143	--	(14,017)	105,583
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	4,677	123	123	--	(548)	4,129
Palmer Charity	10(d)	125,212	3,290	3,290	--	(14,674)	110,538
Witherington Trust	10(c)	1,240	33	33	--	(146)	1,094
William Payne		162	4	4	--	(19)	143
		<b>256,551</b>	<b>6,742</b>	<b>6,742</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>226,484</b>
		<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>327,030</b>	<b>322,759</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(33,857)</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure  
 10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves  
 10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

12 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £113,000 during the year (2022 - £113,000) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £12,000 during the year (2022 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Associate Vicar. The PCC also settled certain invoices on behalf of The Ranmore Trust which were directly reimbursed by the Trust during the year.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2022 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

## Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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.



RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 10 May 2024

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

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RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 10 May 2024

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# Accounts

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**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,**  
**SERVING CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE**  
**SUNDAY 28 MAY 2023**



# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

## St. Andrews Church, Sonning

28th May 2023 at 11.30am

### A G E N D A

1. Opening prayers
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Election of Churchwardens and Deputy Church Wardens
4. Apologies
5. Minutes of 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
6. Matters arising from Minutes
7. Vicar's Report
8. Treasurer's Report and PCC Financial Statements
9. Churchwardens' Report and presentation of Terrier
10. Safeguarding Report
11. Election of members to the PCC
12. Electoral Roll
13. PCC Committee Reports
  - a) Buildings and Maintenance Committee
  - b) Social Committee
  - c) The Parish Magazine
14. Other Reports
  - a) Messy Church
  - b) Sunday Club
  - c) Alpha Course
  - d) Sunday at Six
  - e) STAY on Sunday
  - f) STAY on Monday
  - g) Wednesday at 8
  - h) Thursday at 8
  - i) STAY on Friday
  - j) Music at St. Andrew's
  - k) Rendezvous Lunch Club
  - l) Bell ringers
  - m) Friends of St. Andrew's Church
  - n) Stewardship
  - o) Giving outside the Parish
15. Appointment of independent examiner
16. Any other business
17. Closing prayers

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING  
For the year ended 31st December 2022  
Incumbent: The Revd. Jamie Taylor,  
The Vicarage, Thames Street, Sonning, RG4 6UR  
Independent Examiner: Banks & Co, Newbury, Berkshire**

## Aim and Purpose

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance - To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

### **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames Valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire

RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Registered Charity Number: 1130763)

During the year to 31 December 2022, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd. Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd. Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Liz Nelson Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Richard Moore (resigned 5 December 2022) Jerry Wood (appointed 5 December 2022)
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Rory Symes (resigned 5 December 2022) Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent Helen Craig Sandra Grist (resigned 29 May 2022) Tom Jeffery (resigned 29 May 2022) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly Indra Biddulph Ruth Jeffery (appointed 29 May 2022) Heather Hexter (appointed 29 May 2022) Terence Hunt (appointed 3 October 2022)

The PCC met on 4 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 74%

## COMMITTEES

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### **Standing and Finance**

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### **Buildings and Maintenance**

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Liz Nelson

### **Mission and Pastoral**

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor

### **Social**

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Sue Peters

### **The Parish Magazine**

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

## ELECTORAL ROLL

At the APCM on 29th May 2022 there were 238 people on the Electoral Roll. The total number on the 2023 Electoral Roll is 240.

## THE VICAR'S REPORT

There are number of positive developments as I reflect on 2022. I feel we have finally put Covid behind us and, with the exception of not sharing the common cup at Communion, everything is as it was in those pre pandemic days.

I have been heartened to see growth across our various services and outreach work such as Rendezvous and STAY on Friday and Sunday. We were delighted that we had 27 candidates for Confirmation, the largest number in 40 years, and I shall always remember wading into the Thames on a cold November day to baptise five young people! That was a first for me and perhaps for this parish.

The late Queen's 70th Jubilee was very well celebrated, both by our church and wider community. I was delighted that our Director of Music enabled Zadok the Priest to be sung at our special Choral Matins service and it was lovely to welcome Lord Carey, the late Queen's fifth Archbishop of Canterbury, to preach. He and the late Queen's 13th Prime Minister then unveiled 'Bertie' the buggy, which had been generously gifted by Christina Goodacre and Janet Robson, and what a difference that has made to the elderly and frail among us. I especially enjoy taking it for a spin on Rendezvous lunch club days.

I am extremely grateful to my colleagues on the Ministry Team for their support and hard work, especially in recent months when I have had to be absent. Special thanks go to our Parish Administrator, Hilary, for her tireless work and cheerful demeanour as she tries to keep me on track! There have been certain developments in the National Church around the issue of same sex partnerships and I am following these closely. I feel it necessary to put on the record that I have signed the Church of England's Evangelical Council's petition in opposition to the proposals brought at Synod and should General Synod at some stage decide to introduce blessings in church for same sex couples, I will not in good conscience be able to allow this to happen at St. Andrew's. This will be a comfort to some of you and perhaps a source of regret to others. It is unfortunate that individual Incumbents will be put in the position of having to make this decision and I am afraid that those of us who cannot accept this innovation will be targeted, but such is the Christian life. If these services are formalised, I will of course explain in detail why I think and feel as I do on the issue. It is not a matter of judging lifestyles and choices, rather it boils down to a matter of Scripture and Christian tradition, as inherited from the Apostles, and I believe we undermine these key foundations at our peril.

**Jamie**

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net decrease in funds of £29,586, compared to a total net increase of £18,266 for the previous year. This was mainly due to a decrease in the value of our investments, which in keeping in with many other organisations, was caused by the current worldwide uncertainties.

Total income for the year was £327,029. There were grants received of £123,417, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, as the number of planned givers increased. Income from collections and fees was up due to the full return of services in place during the year. Investment Income of £8,938 was received, mostly from endowments for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased as full activities were resumed after Covid restrictions.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to the move to digital printing.

£6,652 was spent on a mobility buggy for the church and £1,920 on fitted cupboards for the Ark.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £33,184.

## Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £60,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve decreased in 2022 to £59,948, mainly due to a decrease in the value of underlying investments.

**Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer**

## CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

It is always difficult looking back and reflecting over the previous year for fear of missing something or someone, given how vibrant, dynamic and busy a church St Andrews actually is. As cases in point STAY, Sunday Club, Messy Church, Sunday at Six and the Lunch Club have all continued to grow, offering amazing service to the congregation and community; thank you to all involved in these activities for your time and dedication.

We have enjoyed some really special services during this period – the jubilee celebration last summer and of course the recent Coronation service - which again highlighted the talent of our Director of Music Hannah and choir. In addition -as ever- there are so many others to thank who give service to St Andrews: the Welcome Team, Deputy Wardens, Pro Wardens, the Servers, Bell Ringers, Coffee Makers and those involved in the 'tidy up' days, again thank you all for helping make St Andrews the special place it is.

Two occasions stick out this year, firstly the confirmation service, the number and the age range of candidates was fantastic and shows the health of the church. The second occasion was Jamie returning at Easter; I know I speak for all when I say it was wonderful to see. Jamie's absence did highlight how blessed we truly are with the St Andrews team, Hilary as the parish administrator and the clerical team of Kate, Bob and Westy all stepped up to the plate seamlessly. The additional pressure and work did not phase, and the church operated without hiccup through those challenging times – thank you all for your remarkable resilience and commitment.

**Stuart Bowman and Liz Nelson - Churchwardens**

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at the PCC meetings and the PCC is working in line with Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and clergy discipline measure 2016 to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Rachel Argent is the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Hilary Rennie is the DBS Recruiter and Verifier, Alison Smyly is the Children's Officer for Choir, Caroline Taylor and Miranda Wilson are the Junior Choir Chaperones and Sue Portsmouth is the Children's Officer for Bellringers.

The PCC has adopted the model Parish Safeguarding Policy from the Diocese of Oxford. Completion of the Church of England online safeguarding learning pathways and DBS checks are mandatory for all staff and volunteers, dependant on their role. There were no safeguarding allegations or concerns reported in 2022.

**Rachel Argent - Safeguarding Officer**

### **BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

There has been the usual range of plumbing, electrical and general maintenance work undertaken. There have been no infestations of bats, birds, beetles, worms or rodents.

Significant work has been:

- A few dead or dying trees have been removed from the Churchyard. These will be replaced with similar trees in due course.
- The alarms and cctv have been maintained under contract, but a few problems remain due to non availability of components. Security is being maintained pending these parts being fitted.
- A major scheme is underway to make good the ingress of damp to the Vicar's Vestry. This entails upgrading rainwater disposal and removing and rebuilding the outer flint face. Plaster had to be removed inside to enable the wall to dry out. This revealed some wall paintings. Plaster removal has stopped until a further survey is undertaken of the paintings and a decision taken to leave them as they are or to reveal the whole work.

A number of other schemes will follow to bring the most important parts of the estate up to standard.

**Liz Nelson Church Warden & Terry Hunt Deputy Warden**

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

In 2022 we got back to more normal hospitality. With the reintroduction of Choral Evensong we have enjoyed providing homemade cakes for the afternoon tea, as always, we cater for special dietary needs – gluten free, dairy free and vegan. The Easter BBQ was a great success, as was the Platinum Jubilee where we served Prosecco, coffee and tea and an abundance of homemade cakes. Wine was served after the All Souls Service and Nine Lessons and Carols along with the traditional mince pies. Sincere thanks to all who volunteer for the Coffee Rota, those who shop, help set up, serve and clear away for events – we couldn't do it without you!

**Sue Peters**

## THE PARISH MAGAZINE

During 2022 The Parish Magazine gradually recovered from the effects of Covid and the steady increase in the number of advertisers meant we finished the year back to 'normal' with 44 pages and a monthly print run of 2,300 copies. The number of editorial pages in each issue is a direct consequence of the number of pages of advertising and is calculated on the publishing standard of 60:40 – 60 editorial and 40 advertising. Perhaps, more importantly we still made a small surplus in income which is always welcome because paper and energy costs continue to rise and our printer, who has served us well during the crisis, has warned of further increases in the coming year – most of the paper used for magazine printing in the UK is imported from Spain or France so the price is subject to the state of the world markets.

For our stability in the face of the continuing world's economic problems we thank Gordon Nutbrown - supported by his wife, Rosemary - whose publishing and business experience and careful management of the magazine's finances has steered us through a very difficult time for all church and parish magazines in this country. Many of the magazines remain closed or they have been moved to online publication only.

Gordon's contribution to the success of our magazine has been hugely significant since we changed to our current format at the end of 2012. This success was underlined in 2022 by being awarded our third overall best award in the National Parish Magazines award scheme. This brought our number of awards since 2016 to eight.

We are, as always, very grateful to Pat Livesey who does an excellent job invoicing and collecting payments from our advertisers.

Gordon has decided that it is time to pass on his magazine role to someone a little younger and fitter and so I would welcome contact from anyone who feels that he or she could take over from him. If you would like to know more about what's involved please speak to either of us.

**Bob Peters**

### MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church resumed in December 2021 after stopping for nearly two years due to the pandemic. Some of the volunteer team decided not to return for various reasons, but we still had a core team and a good number of Young Leaders, many of whom attended Messy Church before covid when they were younger. We readvertised in schools ready for the relaunch, and slowly and steadily numbers grew each month. It is very good to be back together and one way we have celebrated this is by creating a frame full of wooden hearts, each with the name of a child or young leader that has attended since we restarted.

**Kate**

## **SUNDAY CLUB**

It has been a joy to provide a space for children to learn about and respond to God and, while numbers are small, we have had a committed number of children attend each session. We continue to use an online resource from Urban Saints, Energize, as a basis for our sessions. Over the year we have looked at Jesus' parables, the life of Joseph, the Christian lifestyle and encounters with Jesus: finding out what happens when people in the Bible meet Jesus. Christmas and Easter are special points in the year marked by the Crib Service and making the Easter Garden, which went ahead as usual. Other notable events were making cakes for the Red Cross Ukraine refugees appeal, raising over £200 in March, and then in June creating a scarecrow of Joseph for the Sonning Scarecrow Trail. A huge thank you to the leaders and helpers of Sunday Club who so willingly give of their time.

**The Sunday Club Team**

## **ALPHA COURSE**

We ran the Alpha course again in 2022 for the second time and again we saw people either come to faith for the first time or renew their faith. It is an amazing and relaxed way to get to know people and deepen our faith in God. We ran the Alpha course on zoom and watched the videos together through sharing our screen. We then gave space for discussion at the end. We had 11 people along to the second Alpha course and it then formed the group now known as Wednesday at 8.

**Chris West**

## **SUNDAY AT SIX**

Our monthly Sunday at Six service takes place on the last Sunday of each month. It aims to be a service where we sing modern worship songs, hear a biblical talk and have space for prayer. We usually see around 50 people gather each month and the feedback has been positive. People really seem to appreciate a space to just be with God in worship, teaching and ministry.

**Chris West**

## **STAY ON SUNDAY**

Looking back over 2022, our fortnightly STAY on Sunday group has grown both in number and in depth. We have each grown in faith, friendship and purpose. The young people are imaginative, creative and often very

insightful. Over the year we looked at the themes of: relationships & parables. My favourite one being when we thought about 'the parable of the lost sheep'. I've never heard the young people be so honest about where in their lives they feel lost and need God. We gave them time to chat and space for prayer at the end too. It's been lovely cementing the parables into our everyday lives and circumstances.

**Chris West**

### **STAY ON MONDAY**

Off the back of the River Baptisms and confirmation classes in 2022 we wanted to keep meeting on a Monday night, the weeks we didn't meet on the Sundays. So STAY on Monday was born. It is a fortnightly group where the young people meet in each others homes for food, fun and faith. We play games, ask questions and follow a theme of content that helps them explore who they are, who God is and all that he wants for their lives.

**Chris West**

### **WEDNESDAY AT EIGHT**

As mentioned above, this fortnightly small group came out of the Alpha course where people wanted to continue meeting and growing in faith. The group meets every other Wednesday at 8pm on zoom. We gather to chat, watch a short video, discuss the video and give space for prayer at the end. There's currently 10 of us meeting on Wednesdays and we love just spending time getting to know each other better and having space each week to ask questions around faith and God.

**Chris West**

### **THURSDAY AT EIGHT**

Thursday @ 8 is now a well established homegroup who meet in person. We meet each week to chat, study God's word and pray. We have studied different stories including The Prodigal God and books of the Bible including James. We have watched videos and also used study guides. During Lent we followed Dust & Glory the Church of England study and are currently looking at The Creeds. We meet in Sonning and regularly have between 6 and 12 people. Thursday @ 8 is open to anyone from St Andrews, and if you would like more information please speak to either Ruth Jeffery or Helen Craig or you can email Helen on [helen.craig50@gmail.com](mailto:helen.craig50@gmail.com).

**Ruth Jeffery**

## STAY ON FRIDAY

The weekly Friday night youth club at the Ark was a total blast in 2022. We hit a high of 75 young people one week when we welcomed the year 6's along to help with their transition to year 7. We also had all the usual big games, such as football, volleyball, pool, table tennis, foosball, air hockey, kubb and skipping. Plus some of the more quieter games, like chess, connect 4, kerplunk, uno, operation, jenga, Xbox & PlayStation. We also had the weekly yummy treats with Liz in the kitchen, including rice krispy cakes, biscuits, cookies, brownies and cupcakes! The young people keep inviting friends and younger siblings can't wait to join as they hit the right age. The team of volunteers are legends and give up their Friday nights each week! All thanks must go to them!

**Chris West**

## MUSIC AT ST. ANDREW'S

Music has continued to thrive at St Andrew's over the last year. We welcomed a number of new members into the Junior Choir, including Martha and Joshua Wilson and Elspeth Young and it has been a privilege to see their musicality strengthen over time. We also welcomed Miranda Wilson and Martina Leoncini into the Senior Choir and sadly said goodbye to Trevor Watson and Kenneth Craig.

A highlight of the choir's year was the Jubilee Celebration service held in June. The choir pulled off an astonishing performance of Handel's Zadok the Priest, among other items, and we were delighted to be joined by Peter Wright (organist), Mark Dallas (trumpet), Nathan May (timpani) and eight professional guest singers. It was an occasion thoroughly enjoyed by all those involved.

At the end of the summer we were very sorry to say goodbye to Head Chorister, Celeste Hexter, who devoted so many years of musical service to St Andrew's. Her significant contribution was appreciated by members across the community and it was nice to give her a proper send-off in the Ark following her final service with us. We continue to wish her all the best with her studies in Cardiff and with her Choral Scholarship at Llandaff Cathedral.

Amelia Smyly and Noah Toogood were appointed Joint-Head Choristers in the autumn term. They have each contributed a great deal to the Junior Choir, both musically and as positive role models for the younger members. Their dedication to church music is clearly evident: Noah took up the St Andrew's Organ Scholarship in the autumn and has made great progress already. Amelia has begun work on her RSCM Gold Award and her singing has come on a great deal in this short period of time.

Following an 'Open Rehearsal', where we invited new members to come and try the choir out, we ended the year with another fantastic Nine Lessons & Carols Service and offered a variety of music throughout the festive period.

**Hannah Towndrow - Director of Music**

### **RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB**

We continue to work hard to create a twice monthly lunch club which is a welcoming place to meet and enjoy an excellent meal together, in a convivial atmosphere, in The Ark. I would like to thank all the volunteers who help with the front of house roles, particularly Thelma and Ian Hutton-Penman, Molly Woodley, all the Bertie the Buggy drivers, and of course Hilary Rennie for taking the bookings and doing all the associated administration. Special thanks to Emma Saville and Serena Goodwin who produce fabulous food and take such special care to provide meals for everyone to enjoy, including those with allergies and special dietary requirements.

**Liz Nelson**

### **BELL RINGERS**

We now have 15 members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. We also have one adult learner and one young ringer who are learning bell handling. We ring regularly for the 10.30am Sunday morning service and now have so many ringers that some of us can support Wargrave who are short of ringers. At the moment Evensong at Sonning is only on the first Sunday and we have not rung regularly for it. We rang for ten weddings during the year. Our learners are making gradual progress and the rest of us are attempting Stedman and Grandsire.

In April 2022 Peter Kemm and his family moved to Dorset. Peter had rung with us for 20 years and his daughter is also a ringer. We had a meal at The Bull to say goodbye to them.

On Easter Saturday afternoon we opened the tower for tours to see the ringing room and view from the roof.

In June, to mark the Platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, the Cumberland Youths rang a peal of Spliced Surprise Major and Sonning Ringers rang call changes. This was at the same time as the Scarecrow trail so the ringing was heard by many people.

After the announcement of the death of Queen Elizabeth II we tolled the tenor and rang fully muffled on several occasions including on the day of her funeral on 19th September.

On a happier note in November 2022 we rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Geoff Harvey's first peal. During February and March 2022 most of us completed the Church of England's on line Basic Awareness Safeguarding Course. This is a requirement for all ringers. The Deputy Tower Captain and Children's Officer and I also completed the Foundations Course.

The tower clock had not been working for some time and the clock repairer gave a very large quote to look at it. Geoff Harvey and Bob Hine identified that the rewind trip switch wasn't being activated so the clock wasn't being rewound. They adjusted this and the clock is now working again although we have not been able to get the hour bell to chime. We had arranged for an inspection of the bells by two members of the Oxford Guild's Towers and Belfries Committee to take place in December. This was postponed until January 2023. They highlighted several minor problems with the stays on the bells. We were able to fix these ourselves. However they did point out that we needed emergency lighting on the tower stairs and in the belfry. The lighting in the ringing room also needs attention. Terry Hunt is investigating the best solution to this. He also looked at the wood debris on the window sill in the ringing room. This seems to have stopped at the moment but we will keep an eye on it in case more appears when the weather gets warmer.

The handbell group is not been active at the moment.

**Pam Elliston - Tower Captain**

### **THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC)**

FoStAC exists as a registered charity in its own right to support the fabric of our beautiful St. Andrew's Church building via grants made to St. Andrew's Church PCC for specific projects. FoStAC raises money via a combination of (1) regular donors – thank you to all those who donated during 2022 – and (2) fundraising community events, which came back to life during 2022 after limited activity in 2021. We also in some years – not 2022 – receive grants made by other local charities for specific projects, which in recent years have touched our senses whilst reducing the running costs for the PCC. This includes for the main church building replacement heating and energy efficient lighting. These were well timed given energy price increases begin in 2022.

For FoStAC events in 2022, March saw our successful AGM and Quiz Night evening hosted by Trustee Sally Wilson, with more enjoyment possible than at most AGM events! April saw a return of Ascot Brass Band to St. Andrew's Church, along with two Bulmershe School Choirs and our Head Chorister Celeste Hexter soloing again. This event left a

legacy of over a £1k raised for FoStAC and very positive coverage in the Henley Evening Standard. We are all indebted to Trustee Keith Nichols for coordinating this biannual Musical Evening.

May 2022 saw the scarecrows raised up across Sonning and Sonning Eye and Trustee Liz Nelson and her family led on the mammoth catering efforts in The Ark over the two days. Combined with generous donations of cakes from many FoStAC supporters and volunteers helpers on both days ( thank you all ), another £1.5k+ was raised for FoStAC. Our surplus supplies were donated to the Salvation Army in Reading, who were pleased to receive them.

We had a break from our annual Garden Tea Party in 2022 before its return in 2023 and decided not to present at the Sonning Village Show given its proximity to Her Late Majesty's passing. We successfully ran our first social meal in The Village Hamper in the Autumn and look to repeat and refine this event in 2023. In the run up to last Christmas we took the opportunity to sell through all remaining stocks of our recent FoStAC Christmas Cards. Beyond fundraising, we also coordinated the Annual Church Clean in October before the seasons of Remembrance and Advent. Ian McCann joined FoStAC as a Trustee in early 2022, serving alongside Bob Hine and Keith Hawkins and the other Trustees named above and below during 2022. Rosemarie Rixon replaced Liz Nelson as FoStAC Trustee in March 2023. Any of us would be delighted to share more about FoStAC.

Lastly but importantly, we appreciate all those who regularly donate £5 or £10 per month ( or more ) by standing order, under Gift Aid where available. As we work on quantifying the scale of the works needed on the vestry wall – northeast corner of the church building – this regular giving to FoStAC is ever more important. Our total net income of just under £11k for 2022 has already been allocated towards the known initial costs of these vestry wall works.

**Magnus Smyly - Chairman**

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

I am pleased to report that the level of planned giving continued to grow during the year, with more donors, old and new, committing to regular standing orders, as well as increasing amounts given.

Cash giving at services has declined as givers switch to standing orders or use the contactless terminal, which, despite some issues from time to time, has proved a worthwhile addition to our ways of giving.

We continue to encourage people to use standing order as the preferred method of giving as this provides the treasurer with a better level of certainty when forecasting our income and involves less work for those doing the weekly bankings.

Also if you are able to give under Gift Aid as a UK tax payer this increases the value of your gift by 25% as we are able to claim the relevant tax from HMRC.

If anyone would like a standing order form or a gift aid form to complete please e-mail me at [treasurer@sonningparish.org](mailto:treasurer@sonningparish.org).

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

**Jerry Wood - Treasurer and Stewardship Co-ordinator**

## THE PARISH OF SONNING - Giving outside the Parish 2022

It was agreed at the PCC on 27 January 2016 that the list of recipients presented to that meeting would remain largely the same, unless there were significant reasons for any variation, with a view to supporting smaller, largely local, organisations and giving amounts that would be more significant to them. Outside Giving in 2022 continued to be based on this list.

A range of areas are covered, including Christian outreach, older people, children and families, health and homelessness. The PCC is also committed to supporting the worldwide church and in view of the continuing situation in the Middle East we are supporting Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), a UK based Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East.

At the same time, it was agreed to maintain a small reserve, from which specific requests might be met during the year.

Donations made during 2022 were as follows:

### **Charities in the parish and local area:**

Age Concern Twyford & District	£ 750
Sonning School and School House Trust	£ 1,500
Woodley Foodbank	£ 750
Yeldall Christian Centre	<u>£ 750</u>
Total of charities serving the parish and local area	£ 3,750

### **Charities serving the wider local area:**

Berkshire Clergy Charity	£ 750
Christian Community Action (CCA)	£ 750
Parents and Children Together (PACT)	£ 750
Salvation Army, Reading	£ 750
Faith Christian Group	£ 750
Thames Valley Air Ambulance	<u>£ 750</u>
Total of charities serving the wider local area	£ 4,500

### **Charities serving internationally:**

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (Ukraine)	£ 750
Foundation for relief & reconciliation - Middle East	£ 2,000
Karun Orphanage and School (India)	<u>£ 1,000</u>
Total of charities serving internationally	£ 3,750

**TOTAL GIVING OUTSIDE THE PARISH 2022** **£12,000**



# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
of the  
**Parochial Church Council**  
for the year ended  
**31 December 2022**

**INCUMBENT**  
The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**  
Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year to 31 December 2022, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Liz Nelson Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Richard Moore (resigned 5 December 2022) Jerry Wood (appointed 5 December 2022)
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Rory Symes (resigned 5 December 2022) Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent Helen Craig Sandra Grist (resigned 29 May 2022) Tom Jeffery (resigned 29 May 2022) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly Indra Biddulph Ruth Jeffery (appointed 29 May 2022) Heather Hexter (appointed 29 May 2022) Terence Hunt (appointed 3 October 2022)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the associate vicar, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met on 4 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 74 %.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:  
St Andrew's Church Office  
Thames Street  
Sonning  
READING  
Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chair: Mrs Liz Nelson.

### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor.

### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chair: Mrs Sue Peters.

### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.  
Editor: Bob Peters  
Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

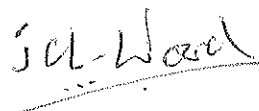
## Electoral Roll

At the APCM on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 there were 238 people on the Electoral Roll.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net expenditure of £29,586, compared to a total net income of £18,266 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £327,029. There were grants received of £123,417, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, as the number of planned givers increased. Income from collections and fees was up due to the full return of services in place during the year. Investment Income of £8,938 was received, mostly from endowments for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Expenditure relating to services, mission and running costs increased as full activities were resumed after COVID restrictions.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to the move to digital printing.

£6,652 was spent on a mobility buggy for the church and £1,920 on fitted cupboards for the Ark.

Depreciation for the Ark, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £33,184.

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £60,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve decreased in 2022 to £59,948, mainly due to a decrease in the value of underlying investments.

**Jerry Wood - Honorary Treasurer**

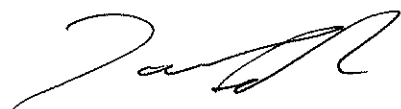
**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
For the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b><i>Income and endowments from:</i></b>						
	2					
Voluntary Income		273,300	3,525	--	276,825	237,770
Activities for Generating Funds		23,003	--	--	23,003	22,710
Income from Investments		1,928	269	6,741	8,938	7,670
Church activities		18,263	--	--	18,263	12,429
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>316,494</b>	<b>3,794</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>327,029</b>	<b>280,579</b>
<b><i>Expenditure on:</i></b>						
	3					
Church activities		278,320	37,536	6,741	322,597	298,031
Raising Funds		161	--	--	161	395
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>278,481</b>	<b>37,536</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>322,758</b>	<b>298,426</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>38,013</b>	<b>(33,742)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>4,271</b>	<b>(17,847)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on Investments		(2,593)	(1,197)	(30,067)	(33,857)	36,113
<b>Net income/(Expenditure)</b>		<b>35,420</b>	<b>(34,939)</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>	<b>18,266</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>(6,893)</b>	<b>6,893</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>28,527</b>	<b>(28,046)</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>(29,586)</b>	<b>18,266</b>
<b><i>Reconciliation of Funds</i></b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>230,026</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>256,551</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>258,553</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>

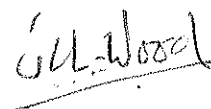
**Parish of Sonning**  
**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
	7					
Tangible assets		77,913	1,106,549	-	1,184,462	1,209,074
Investments		24,675	9,019	226,484	260,178	294,035
		<b>102,588</b>	<b>1,115,568</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,444,640</b>	<b>1,503,109</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	8	5,187	180	-	5,367	4,005
Cash at bank and in hand	9	180,303	93,504	-	273,807	242,777
		<b>185,490</b>	<b>93,684</b>		<b>279,174</b>	<b>246,782</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
	10					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		29,525	3,675	-	33,200	29,691
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>155,965</b>	<b>90,009</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>245,974</b>	<b>217,091</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>258,553</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>258,553</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
	12					
General fund		82,223	-	-	82,223	77,083
Organ		64,711	-	-	64,711	73,500
Choral Foundation		26,000	-	-	26,000	500
Mission & Development		4,272	-	-	4,272	2,386
Parish Magazine		16,224	-	-	16,224	12,009
General Reserve		59,948	-	-	59,948	61,623
External Giving		5,175	-	-	5,175	2,925
New Hall		-	646,334	-	646,334	659,471
Youth		-	124	-	124	2,697
Frances Cooper		-	2,909	-	2,909	3,295
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,110	-	6,110	6,921
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	550,100	-	550,100	561,239
Price Davies		-	-	826	826	936
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,171	4,171	4,724
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	105,583	105,583	119,600
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,129	4,129	4,677
Palmer Charity		-	-	110,538	110,538	125,212
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,094	1,094	1,240
William Payne		-	-	143	143	162
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>258,553</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>	<b>226,484</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 20 February 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Jerry Wood (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Cash Flow Statement**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		30,664		13,745
<b>Cash Flows from investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from investments	8,938		7,670	
Equipment Costs	(6,652)		(10,277)	
Buildings Cost	(1,920)		--	
Net Cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		366		(2,607)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		31,030		11,138
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		242,777		231,639
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>273,807</b>		<b>242,777</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		4,271		(17,847)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		33,184		39,768
Dividends, Interest and Rent from investments		(8,938)		(7,670)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		(1,362)		958
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		3,509		(1,464)
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>30,664</b>		<b>13,745</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		269,896		238,917
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		3,911		3,860
		<b>273,807</b>		<b>242,777</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Buildings are depreciated over 50 years. Church Equipment items above £1000 value are depreciated over 5 years with the exception of the new digital church organ which is being depreciated over 20 years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2	INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Income</b>						
	Planned Giving	82,067	650	--	82,717	80,330
	Tax Recoverable	18,642	75	--	18,717	17,903
	Collections (Open Plate)	6,224	--	--	6,224	3,049
	Other Donations	45,450	300	--	45,750	18,988
	Grants	120,917	2,500	--	123,417	117,500
		<u>273,300</u>	<u>3,525</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>276,825</u>	<u>237,770</u>
<b>2(b) Activities for Generating Funds</b>						
	Magazine Advertising	22,993	--	--	22,993	22,710
	Sundry Activities	10	--	--	10	--
		<u>23,003</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>23,003</u>	<u>22,710</u>
<b>2(c) Income from investments</b>						
	Dividends and Interest	1,928	269	6,741	8,938	7,670
		<u>1,928</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>6,741</u>	<u>8,938</u>	<u>7,670</u>
<b>2(d) Income from Church Activities</b>						
	Lettings	1,226	--	--	1,226	1,758
	Fees	10,874	--	--	10,874	8,429
	Sundry Income	6,163	--	--	6,163	2,242
		<u>18,263</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>18,263</u>	<u>12,429</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u><b>316,494</b></u>	<u><b>3,794</b></u>	<u><b>6,741</b></u>	<u><b>327,029</b></u>	<u><b>280,579</b></u>
<b>3 RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<b>3(a) Charitable Activities</b>						
Missionary & Charitable Giving						
	Church Overseas: Missionary Societies	3,000	--	--	3,000	3,000
	Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies	1,750	--	--	1,750	750
	Home Mission and Other Church Societies	4,682	--	--	4,682	5,250
	Secular Charities	4,000	--	--	4,000	3,091
	Diocesan Parish Share	80,000	--	--	80,000	80,000
	Ministry Team Costs	55,783	14,913	--	70,696	70,506
	Upkeep of Services	5,710	--	--	5,710	3,942
	Parish Training and Mission Costs	14,490	7,296	--	21,786	10,354
	St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance	23,804	87	3,294	27,185	22,892
	Organ, Organist, Choir, Music	18,174	--	--	18,174	13,773
	Upkeep of Churchyard	10,342	182	3,447	13,971	12,089
	St Sarik Room Running Costs and Maintenance	258	--	--	258	175
	The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance	5,787	14,620	--	20,407	19,620
	Administration	28,843	438	--	29,281	34,708
	Magazine Printing and Other Costs	19,033	--	--	19,033	17,503
	Miscellaneous	2,664	--	--	2,664	378
	New Buildings/Churchyard	--	--	--	--	--
		<u>278,320</u>	<u>37,536</u>	<u>6,741</u>	<u>322,597</u>	<u>298,031</u>
<b>3(b) Cost of Generating Funds</b>						
	Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	--	--	--	--	320
	Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs	161	--	--	161	75
		<u>161</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>395</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u><b>278,481</b></u>	<u><b>37,536</b></u>	<u><b>6,741</b></u>	<u><b>322,758</b></u>	<u><b>298,426</b></u>

**4 STAFF COSTS**

The PCC had three employees at the end of the year.  
Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	53,032
Pension Contribution	2,843
	<u>55,875</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.  
No employees receive benefits in excess of £60,000

Chris West and Hilary Rennie, who are both trustees, were employed as Youth Minister and as Office Administrator respectively and their remuneration is included within the disclosed amounts above. The remuneration paid to the aforementioned trustees is considered to have been paid in respect of their responsibilities as employees and is not related to their trusteeships.

The Charity's legal authority to remunerate its Trustees for providing goods or services to the Charity is given in "Section 7A of the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956", the Charity's governing document.

**5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS**

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister and the Lay Minister do not include any which relate to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except to directly reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

**6 PAYMENTS TO INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS**

Professional fees for the independent examination of the accounts paid to Banks & Co, Chartered Certified Accountants of 1 Carnegie Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5DJ were £1500 including VAT. The equivalent fees in 2021 were also £1500 including VAT.

**7 FIXED ASSETS****(a) Tangible**

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2021	1,229,775	139,230	1,369,005
	Disposals	--	--	--
	Additions at Cost	1,920	6,652	8,572
	As At 31 December 2022	<u>1,231,695</u>	<u>145,882</u>	<u>1,377,577</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2021	102,177	57,754	159,931
	Withdrawn on Disposal	--	--	--
	Charge for the Year	24,624	8,560	33,184
	As At 31 December 2022	<u>126,801</u>	<u>66,314</u>	<u>193,115</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2021	1,127,598	81,476	1,209,074
	Additions at Cost	1,920	6,652	8,572
	Depreciation for Year	<u>(24,624)</u>	<u>(8,560)</u>	<u>(33,184)</u>
	As At 31 December 2022	<u>1,104,894</u>	<u>79,568</u>	<u>1,184,462</u>

**(b) Investments**

	2022 £	2021 £
Market Value at 1 January	294,035	257,922
Revaluation Loss	<u>(33,857)</u>	<u>36,113</u>
As At 31 December 2022	<u>260,178</u>	<u>294,035</u>

The Market Value represents investments for

Unrestricted Funds	24,675	27,268
Restricted Funds	9,019	10,216
Endowment Funds	<u>226,484</u>	<u>256,551</u>
	<u>260,178</u>	<u>294,035</u>

**8 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

Tax Recoverable	5,367	4,005
Prepayments	--	--
	<u>5,367</u>	<u>4,005</u>

**9 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

CAF Bank Acc Balance	230,214	203,084
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	37,275	33,408
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	3,911	3,860
Cash in Hand	2,407	2,425
	<u>273,807</u>	<u>242,777</u>

**10 LIABILITIES**

Magazine Adverts Next Year	21,051	20,852
Other	12,149	8,839
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>33,200</u>	<u>29,691</u>

11 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2021 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		232,076	5,694	--	237,770
Activities for Generating Funds		22,710	--	--	22,710
Income from Investments		891	260	6,519	7,670
Church activities		12,429	--	--	12,429
Other Income		--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>268,106</b>	<b>5,954</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>280,579</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	3				
Church activities		251,892	39,620	6,519	298,031
Raising Funds		395	--	--	395
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>252,287</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>298,426</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>15,819</b>	<b>(33,666)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(17,847)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on		2,577	1,284	32,252	36,113
<b>Net income</b>		<b>18,396</b>	<b>(32,382)</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>18,266</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>18,396</b>	<b>(32,382)</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>18,266</b>

12 FUNDS

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		77,083	253,342	196,246	(51,956)	--	82,223
Organ		73,500	--	8,789	--	--	64,711
Choral Foundation		500	25,500	--	--	--	26,000
Mission & Development		2,386	13,441	42,082	30,527	--	4,272
Parish Magazine		12,009	23,293	19,114	36	--	16,224
General Reserve	12(a)	61,623	918	--	--	(2,593)	59,948
External Giving		2,925	--	12,250	14,500	--	5,175
		<b>230,026</b>	<b>316,494</b>	<b>278,481</b>	<b>(6,893)</b>	<b>(2,593)</b>	<b>258,553</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		659,471	--	15,057	1,920	--	646,334
Youth	12(b)	2,697	3,525	11,071	4,973	--	124
Frances Cooper	12(d)	3,295	87	87	--	(386)	2,909
Jacqueline Hadida	12(c)	6,921	182	182	--	(811)	6,110
Ecclesiastical Fund		561,239	--	11,139	--	--	550,100
		<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>3,794</b>	<b>37,536</b>	<b>6,893</b>	<b>(1,197)</b>	<b>1,205,577</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	12(c)	936	25	25	--	(110)	826
Churchyard Trust	12(c)	4,724	124	124	--	(553)	4,171
Dickson Memorial Trust	12(c)	119,600	3,143	3,143	--	(14,017)	105,583
Mitchell Trust	12(c)	4,677	123	123	--	(548)	4,129
Palmer Charity	12(d)	125,212	3,290	3,290	--	(14,674)	110,538
Witherington Trust	12(c)	1,240	33	33	--	(146)	1,094
William Payne		162	4	4	--	(19)	143
		<b>256,551</b>	<b>6,742</b>	<b>6,742</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(30,067)</b>	<b>226,484</b>
		<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>327,030</b>	<b>322,759</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(33,857)</b>	<b>1,690,614</b>

12(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

12(c)

Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves

12(b) Funds for Youth Work

12(d)

Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

12 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2021 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		67,168	237,263	187,323	(40,025)	--	77,083
Organ		73,500	4,625	--	(4,625)	--	73,500
Choral Foundation		--	500	--	--	--	500
Mission & Development		3,461	2,141	35,366	32,150	--	2,386
Parish Magazine		6,898	22,709	17,598	--	--	12,009
General Reserve	12(a)	58,178	868	--	--	2,577	61,623
External Giving		2,425	--	12,000	12,500	--	2,925
		<b>211,630</b>	<b>268,106</b>	<b>252,287</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>230,026</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		680,759	--	21,288	--	--	659,471
Youth	12(b)	3,544	5,694	6,541	--	--	2,697
Frances Cooper	12(d)	2,881	84	84	--	414	3,295
Jacqueline Hadida	12(c)	6,051	176	176	--	870	6,921
Ecclesiastical Fund		572,770	--	11,531	--	--	561,239
		<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>5,954</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	12(c)	818	24	24	--	118	936
Churchyard Trust	12(c)	4,130	120	120	--	594	4,724
Dickson Memorial Trust	12(c)	104,564	3,039	3,039	--	15,036	119,600
Mitchell Trust	12(c)	4,089	119	119	--	588	4,677
Palmer Charity	12(d)	109,472	3,182	3,182	--	15,740	125,212
Witherington Trust	12(c)	1,084	31	31	--	156	1,240
William Payne		142	4	4	--	20	162
		<b>224,299</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>256,551</b>
		<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>280,579</b>	<b>298,426</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>36,113</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>
12(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure		12(c)	Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves				
12(b) Funds for Youth Work		12(d)	Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's				

13 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £113,000 during the year (2021 - £113,000) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £12,000 during the year (2021 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Associate Vicar.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2021 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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.



RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 .....

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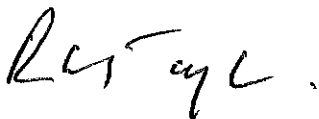
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RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

Date: 19 May 2023

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# Accounts

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# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
of the  
**Parochial Church Council**  
for the year ended  
**31 December 2021**

**INCUMBENT**

The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year to 31 December 2021, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Perry Mills (retired 11 July 2021) Liz Nelson (appointed 11 July 2021) Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Liz Nelson (to 11 July 2021) Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Richard Moore
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Bob Hine (retired 11 July 2021) Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent Helen Craig Sandra Grist Tom Jeffery Emma Leggett (retired 12 October 2021) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly Indra Bliddulph (appointed 11 July 2021) Hilary Rennie (appointed 11 July 2021)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the associate vicar, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC met on 5 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 86%.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

#### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

#### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Mrs Liz Nelson.

#### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor.

#### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Mrs Sue Peters.

#### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.  
Editor: Bob Peters  
Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

#### **Electoral Roll**

At the APCM on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021 there were 231 people on the Electoral Roll.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Richard Moore (Treasurer)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net income of £18,266 compared to £50,636 for the previous year.

Total Income for the year was £280,579. There were grants received of £117,500, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned Giving decreased over the prior year, as the number of givers dropped. Income from collections and fees was up due to the further loosening of restrictions on services in place during the year. Investment Income of £7,670 was received, mostly from endowments for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Expenditure relating to services, ministry, mission and administration increased as lockdown restrictions were eased.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to the move to digital printing.

£10,277 was spent on a new fire Alarm system for the church.

Depreciation for the New Hall Building, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £39,768.

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £60,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2021 to £61,623, mainly due to an increase in the value of underlying investments.

**Richard Moore - Honorary Treasurer**

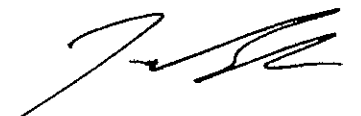
**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
For the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b><i>Income and endowments from:</i></b>						
	2					
Voluntary Income		232,076	5,694	--	237,770	282,760
Activities for Generating Funds		22,710	--	--	22,710	27,189
Income from Investments		891	260	6,519	7,670	7,554
Church activities		12,429	--	--	12,429	7,009
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>268,106</b>	<b>5,954</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>280,579</b>	<b>324,512</b>
<b><i>Expenditure on:</i></b>						
	3					
Church activities		251,892	39,620	6,519	298,031	288,047
Raising Funds		395	--	--	395	62
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>252,287</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>298,426</b>	<b>288,109</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>15,819</b>	<b>(33,666)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(17,847)</b>	<b>36,403</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments		2,577	1,284	32,252	36,113	14,233
<b>Net income</b>		<b>18,396</b>	<b>(32,382)</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>18,266</b>	<b>50,636</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>18,396</b>	<b>(32,382)</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>18,266</b>	<b>50,636</b>
<b><i>Reconciliation of Funds</i></b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>230,026</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>256,651</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
	6					
Tangible assets		79,384	1,129,690	-	1,209,074	1,238,565
Investments		27,268	10,216	256,551	294,035	257,922
		<b>106,652</b>	<b>1,139,906</b>	<b>256,551</b>	<b>1,503,109</b>	<b>1,496,487</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,005	-	-	4,005	4,963
Cash at bank and in hand	8	147,705	95,072	-	242,777	231,639
		<b>151,710</b>	<b>95,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,782</b>	<b>236,602</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
	9					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		28,336	1,355	-	29,691	31,155
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>123,374</b>	<b>93,717</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>217,091</b>	<b>205,447</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>230,026</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>256,551</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>230,026</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>256,551</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
	10					
General fund		77,083	-	-	77,083	67,168
Organ		73,500	-	-	73,500	73,500
Choral Foundation		500	-	-	500	-
Mission & Development		2,386	-	-	2,386	3,461
Parish Magazine		12,009	-	-	12,009	6,898
General Reserve		61,623	-	-	61,623	58,178
External Giving		2,925	-	-	2,925	2,425
New Hall		-	659,471	-	659,471	680,759
Youth		-	2,697	-	2,697	3,544
Frances Cooper		-	3,295	-	3,295	2,881
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,921	-	6,921	6,051
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	561,239	-	561,239	572,770
Price Davies		-	-	936	936	818
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,724	4,724	4,130
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	119,600	119,600	104,564
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,677	4,677	4,089
Palmer Charity		-	-	125,212	125,212	109,472
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,240	1,240	1,084
William Payne		-	-	162	162	142
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>230,026</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>	<b>256,551</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28th March 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chalman)



Richard Moore (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Cash Flow Statement**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		13,745		84,850
<b>Cash Flows from Investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from Investments	7,670		7,554	
Equipment Costs	(10,277)		(73,500)	
Buildings Cost	—		(10,506)	
Net Cash provided by / (used In) Investing activities		(2,607)		(76,452)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		11,138		8,398
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		231,639		223,241
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>242,777</b>		<b>231,639</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net Income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before Investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		(17,847)		36,403
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		39,768		37,033
Dividends, Interest and Rent from Investments		(7,670)		(7,554)
Decrease / (Increase) In debtors		958		25,665
(Decrease) / increase In creditors		(1,464)		(6,697)
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used In) operating activities</b>		<b>13,745</b>		<b>84,850</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		238,917		227,781
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		3,860		3,858
		<b>242,777</b>		<b>231,639</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2021

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over an appropriate number of years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

**2 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Income</b>					
Planned Giving	80,030	300	--	80,330	85,188
Tax Recoverable	17,734	169	--	17,903	21,837
Collections (Open Plate)	3,049	--	--	3,049	877
Other Donations	13,763	5,225	--	18,988	46,970
Grants	117,500	--	--	117,500	127,688
	<u>232,076</u>	<u>5,694</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>237,770</u>	<u>282,760</u>
<b>2(b) Activities for Generating Funds</b>					
Magazine Advertising	22,710	--	--	22,710	27,159
Sundry Activities	--	--	--	--	30
	<u>22,710</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>22,710</u>	<u>27,189</u>
<b>2(c) Income from Investments</b>					
Dividends and Interest	891	260	6,519	7,670	7,554
	<u>891</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>6,519</u>	<u>7,670</u>	<u>7,554</u>
<b>2(d) Income from Church Activities</b>					
Lettings	1,758	--	--	1,758	180
Fees	8,429	--	--	8,429	4,964
Sundry Income	2,242	--	--	2,242	1,865
	<u>12,429</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>12,429</u>	<u>7,009</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>268,106</b></u>	<u><b>5,954</b></u>	<u><b>6,519</b></u>	<u><b>280,579</b></u>	<u><b>324,512</b></u>

**3 RESOURCES EXPENDED**

<b>3(a) Charitable Activities</b>					
Missionary & Charitable Giving					
Church Overseas: Missionary Societies	3,000	--	--	3,000	4,000
Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies	750	--	--	750	750
Home Mission and Other Church Societies	5,250	--	--	5,250	5,750
Secular Charities	3,091	--	--	3,091	4,000
Diocesan Parish Share	80,000	--	--	80,000	80,000
Ministry Team Costs	56,577	13,929	--	70,506	68,705
Upkeep of Services	3,942	--	--	3,942	2,263
Parish Training and Mission Costs	6,211	4,143	--	10,354	7,867
St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance	19,622	84	3,186	22,892	19,120
Organ, Organist, Choir, Music	13,773	--	--	13,773	11,875
Upkeep of Churchyard	8,680	176	3,333	12,089	7,414
St Sank Room Running Costs and Maintenance	175	--	--	175	325
The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance	5,029	14,591	--	19,620	17,800
Administration	28,011	6,697	--	34,708	31,475
Magazine Printing and Other Costs	17,503	--	--	17,503	21,935
Miscellaneous	378	--	--	378	1,298
New Buildings/Churchyard	--	--	--	--	3,450
	<u>251,892</u>	<u>39,620</u>	<u>6,519</u>	<u>298,031</u>	<u>288,047</u>
<b>3(b) Cost of Generating Funds</b>					
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	320	--	--	320	62
Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs	75	--	--	75	--
	<u>395</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>62</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<u><b>252,287</b></u>	<u><b>39,620</b></u>	<u><b>6,519</b></u>	<u><b>298,426</b></u>	<u><b>288,109</b></u>

**4 STAFF COSTS**

The PCC had three employees at the end of the year. Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	45,424
Pension Contribution	2,308
	<u>47,732</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.

Chris West, a trustee, was employed as Youth Minister and his remuneration is included in the above amounts.

Hilary Rennie, a trustee, was employed as Office Administrator and her remuneration is included in the above amounts.

**5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS**

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister and the Lay Minister may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except to directly reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

**6 FIXED ASSETS**

(a) Tangible

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2020	1,229,775	128,963	1,358,728
	Disposals	-	-	-
	Additions at Cost	-	10,277	10,277
	As At 31 December 2021	<u>1,229,775</u>	<u>139,230</u>	<u>1,369,005</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2020	77,582	42,581	120,163
	Withdrawn on Disposal	-	-	-
	Charge for the Year	24,595	15,173	39,768
	As At 31 December 2021	<u>102,177</u>	<u>57,754</u>	<u>159,931</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2020	1,152,193	86,372	1,238,565
	Additions at Cost	-	10,277	10,277
	Depreciation for Year	(24,595)	(15,173)	(39,768)
	As At 31 December 2021	<u>1,127,598</u>	<u>81,476</u>	<u>1,209,074</u>

(b) Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Market Value at 1 January	257,922	243,689
Revaluation Gain	36,113	14,233
As At 31 December 2021	<u>294,035</u>	<u>257,922</u>

The Market Value represents Investments for

Unrestricted Funds	27,268	24,691
Restricted Funds	10,216	8,932
Endowment Funds	256,551	224,299
	<u>294,035</u>	<u>257,922</u>

**7 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

Tax Recoverable	4,005	4,679
Prepayments	-	284
	<u>4,005</u>	<u>4,963</u>

**8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

CAF Bank Acc Balance	203,084	198,557
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	33,408	28,045
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	3,860	3,858
Cash In Hand	2,425	1,179
	<u>242,777</u>	<u>231,639</u>

**9 LIABILITIES**

Magazine Adverts Next Year	20,852	21,147
Other	8,839	10,008
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>29,691</u>	<u>31,155</u>

10 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2020 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
	2				
Voluntary Income		282,075	685	--	282,760
Activities for Generating Funds		27,189	--	--	27,189
Income from Investments		1,012	251	6,291	7,554
Church activities		7,009	--	--	7,009
Other Income		--	--	--	--
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>317,285</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>324,512</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
	3				
Church activities		247,941	33,815	6,291	288,047
Raising Funds		62	--	--	62
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>248,003</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>288,109</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>69,282</b>	<b>(32,879)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>36,403</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on		(832)	578	14,487	14,233
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>68,450</b>	<b>(32,301)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>(11,423)</b>	<b>11,423</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>57,027</b>	<b>(20,878)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>

11 FUNDS

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		67,168	237,263	187,323	(40,025)	--	77,083
Organ		73,500	4,625	--	(4,625)	--	73,500
Choral Foundation		--	500	--	--	--	500
Mission & Development		3,461	2,141	35,366	32,150	--	2,386
Parish Magazine		6,898	22,709	17,598	--	--	12,009
General Reserve	10(a)	58,178	868	--	--	2,577	61,623
External Giving		2,425	--	12,000	12,500	--	2,925
		<b>211,630</b>	<b>268,106</b>	<b>252,287</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>2,577</b>	<b>230,026</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		680,759	--	21,288	--	--	659,471
Youth	10(b)	3,544	5,694	6,541	--	--	2,697
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,881	84	84	--	414	3,295
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	6,051	176	176	--	870	6,921
Ecclesiastical Fund		572,770	--	11,531	--	--	561,239
		<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>5,954</b>	<b>39,620</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>1,233,623</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	818	24	24	--	118	936
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	4,130	120	120	--	594	4,724
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	104,564	3,039	3,039	--	15,036	119,600
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	4,089	119	119	--	588	4,677
Palmer Charity	10(d)	109,472	3,182	3,182	--	15,740	125,212
Wetherington Trust	10(c)	1,084	31	31	--	156	1,240
William Payne		142	4	4	--	20	162
		<b>224,299</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>6,519</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>32,252</b>	<b>256,551</b>
		<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>280,579</b>	<b>298,426</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>36,113</b>	<b>1,720,200</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure  
10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves  
10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

11 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2020 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		61,052	228,585	173,083	(49,386)	–	67,168
Organ		–	59,187	–	14,313	–	73,500
Mission & Development		28,572	1,488	38,424	11,825	–	3,461
Parish Magazine		1,704	27,190	21,996	–	–	6,898
General Reserve	10(a)	58,175	835	–	–	(832)	58,178
External Giving		5,100	–	14,500	11,825	–	2,425
		<b>154,603</b>	<b>317,285</b>	<b>248,003</b>	<b>(11,423)</b>	<b>(832)</b>	<b>211,830</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		691,324	–	22,488	11,923	–	680,759
Youth	10(b)	2,860	684	–	–	–	3,544
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,695	82	82	–	186	2,881
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	5,659	170	170	–	392	6,051
Ecclesiastical Fund		584,345	–	11,075	(500)	–	572,770
		<b>1,286,883</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>11,423</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	765	18	18	–	53	818
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	3,864	116	116	–	266	4,130
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	97,811	2,935	2,935	–	6,753	104,564
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	3,825	115	115	–	264	4,089
Palmer Charity	10(d)	102,399	3,073	3,073	–	7,073	109,472
Witherington Trust	10(c)	1,014	30	30	–	70	1,084
William Payne		134	4	4	–	8	142
		<b>209,812</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>224,299</b>
		<b>1,651,298</b>	<b>324,512</b>	<b>288,109</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>14,233</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves

10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

12 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £113,000 during the year (2020 - £84,750) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £12,000 during the year (2020 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Associate Vicar. The PCC also settled certain invoices on behalf of The Ranmore Trust which were directly reimbursed by the Trust during the year.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2020 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

Mr R Hine, who was a trustee of the PCC and Mrs E Nelson, who is a trustee of the PCC, are also trustees of The Friends of St Andrew's Church, Sonning, from which the PCC received a grant of £111 during the year (2020 - £720) to fund certain repair and maintenance work for the church.

Mr R Hine, who was a trustee of the PCC, is also a trustee of The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust Fund, from which the PCC received a grant of £111 during the year (2020 - £30,168) towards the Organ Fund.

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

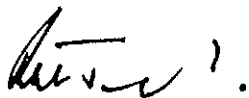
### Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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.



RML Taylor FCCA  
Banks & Co Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5DJ

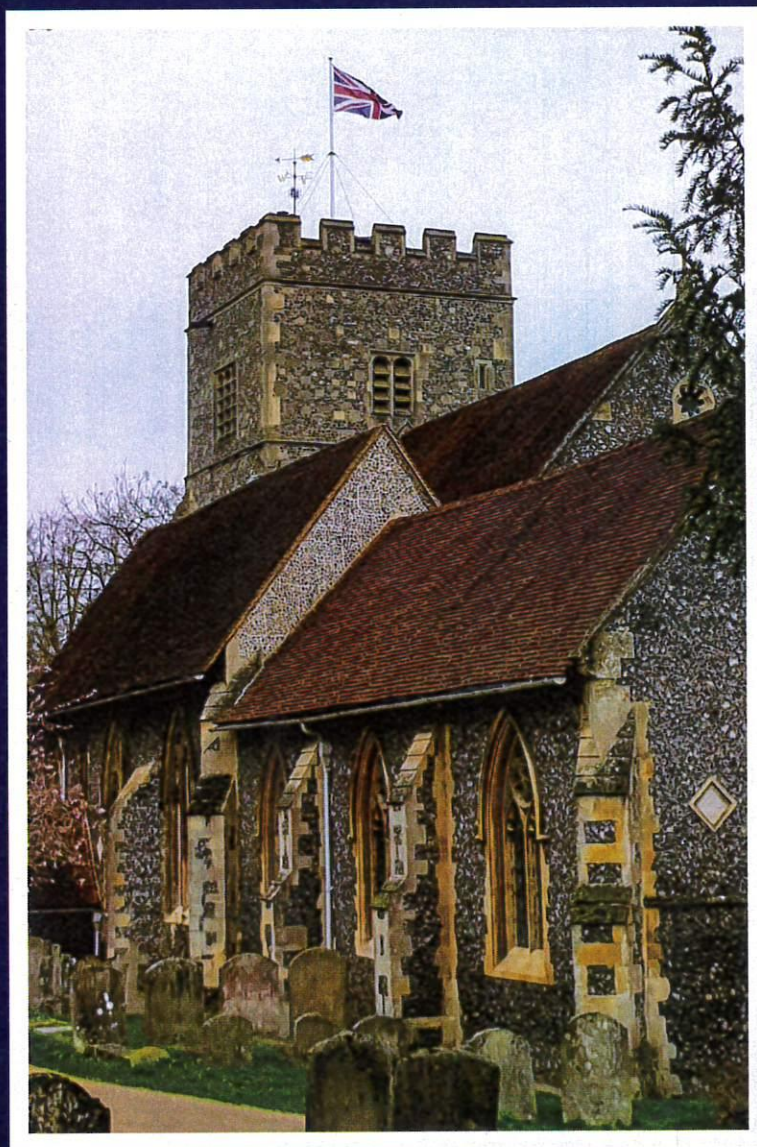
Date: 13 May 2022

# ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

## The Parish Church of St Andrew

Sunday 29 May 2022

Written Reports for 2021



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING  
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

St. Andrews Church, Sonning

29th May 2022 at 11.45am

## A G E N D A

1. Opening prayers
2. Appointment of Secretary
3. Election of Churchwardens and Deputy Church Wardens
4. Apologies
5. Minutes of 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meeting
6. Matters arising from Minutes
7. Vicar's Report
8. Treasurer's Report and PCC Financial Statements
9. Churchwardens' Report and presentation of Terrier
10. Safeguarding Report
11. Election of members to the PCC
12. Electoral Roll
13. PCC Committee Reports
  - a) Buildings and Maintenance Committee
  - b) Social Committee
  - c) The Parish Magazine
14. Other Reports
  - a) Sunday Club
  - b) STAY on Sunday
  - c) Sunday at Six
  - d) Thursday at 8
  - e) Alpha Course
  - f) Music at St. Andrew's
  - g) STAY on Friday
  - h) Rendezvous Lunch Club
  - i) Bell ringers
  - j) Friends of St. Andrew's Church
  - k) Stewardship
  - l) Giving outside the Parish
15. Appointment of independent examiner
16. Any other business
17. Closing prayers

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING**

**For the year ended 31st December 2021**

**Incumbent: The Revd. Jamie Taylor,  
The Vicarage, Thames Street, Sonning, RG4 6UR**

**Independent Examiner: Banks & Co, Newbury, Berkshire**

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance - To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames Valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire

RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Registered Charity Number: 1130763)

During the year, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens (normally 5 year term)	Stuart Bowman Liz Nelson ( <i>appointed 11 July 2021</i> )
Deputy Churchwardens	Sue Peters Simon Darvall Molly Woodley ( <i>Emeritus Deputy Warden</i> )
Treasurer	Richard Moore
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent Helen Craig Sandra Grist Tom Jeffery Emma Leggett ( <i>retired 12 October 2021</i> ) Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly Indra Biddulph ( <i>appointed 11 July 2021</i> ) Hilary Rennie ( <i>appointed 11 July 2021</i> )

The PCC met on 5 occasions during the year and the average attendance at these meetings was 86%

## **COMMITTEES**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### **Standing and Finance**

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### **Buildings and Maintenance**

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Liz Nelson

### **Mission and Pastoral**

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor

### **Social**

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Sue Peters

### **The Parish Magazine**

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

At the APCM on 11th July 2021 there were 231 people on the Electoral Roll. The total number on the 2022 Electoral Roll is 238.

## THE VICAR'S REPORT

In all honesty, I am not sure what to write in this report as it is so hard to recall what we have done and when because of the disruptions of covid. I shall therefore be brief.

It is my view that we as a church have weathered the pandemic storm reasonably well, keeping things going as best we can and returning to once banned activities such as gathering for worship and singing as soon as has been allowed. Some churches went to sleep in March 2020 and it seems to me are now having rather a hard time coming back to life. I take absolutely no pleasure in that and only mention it as a means of encouragement and appreciation for how we have all bounced back, even growing as a congregation and initiating a new Sunday at 6 service as well. Having encouraged most of you to give your offering via standing order has helped enormously during the periods where we could have no services, enabling stability and continuity and also meaning that we have not been on the back foot financially as we've come back to life.

I am, as always, very grateful for those I work closely with. We work well together, and I value their support and individual gifts. I believe we as a parish are blessed indeed by the contributions of these colleagues, in the Ministry Team, Hilary in the parish office, Hannah looking after our musical life and our wardens, deputies and PCC members. Finally, five years after it was opened, I am pleased to report that the Ark is once again a vital hub of our collective life together and it is a personal joy to me to see it being used by all ages through the week. We have much to give thanks for.

**Jamie**

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net income of £18,266 compared to £50,636 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £280,579. There were grants received of £117,500, which included £113,000 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust. Planned Giving decreased over the prior year, as the number of givers dropped. Income from collections and weddings was up due to the further loosening of restrictions on services in place during the year. Investment Income of £7,670 was received, mostly for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Expenditure relating to services, ministry, mission and administration increased as lockdown restrictions were eased.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to the move to digital printing.

£10,277 was spent on a new fire alarm system for the church.

Depreciation for the New Hall Building, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £39,768.

## Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £60,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2021 to £61,623, mainly due to an increase in the value of underlying investments.

**Richard Moore - Honorary Treasurer**

## CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

The last twelve months have seen a slow return to normality to the life of St Andrews, and thankfully for most of those who worship there too, as we have moved out of the Covid restrictions. Looking back over the year, it was wonderful to be able to celebrate again as a congregation both Easter and Christmas; perhaps the only positive from the pandemic has been to make us all realise how special and enriched our lives are by the simple things we take for granted, including being able to worship at St Andrews.

The last twelve months has seen the installation of our new organ which is a wonderful asset to the church and enhances our worship; coupled with this, following the appointment in the summer of Hannah Towndrow as Director of Music, we have seen our choir has gone from strength to strength – thank you all.

We have seen STAY, Sunday Club, Messy Church and Sunday at Six all return; with all being as vibrant as ever. Thank you to all who give up your time to make these so successful and enjoyable.

We would also like to convey our thanks and gratitude to the Welcome Team, Deputy Wardens, Pro Wardens, the Servers, Bell Ringers, Coffee Makers and countless others who contribute to the running of our church. We would like to also thank Hilary for her quiet efficiency and dedication in the office, who enables so much for St Andrew's.

Finally, our thanks go to our wonderful ministry team – Jamie, Kate, Bob and Westy - we are genuinely blessed to have such a hardworking, dynamic and dedicated team.

**Stu Bowman and Liz Nelson - Churchwardens**

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at the PCC meetings and the PCC is working in line with Church of England Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and clergy discipline measure 2016 to have due regard to House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Rachel Argent is the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Hilary Rennie is the DBS Recruiter and Verifier, Alison Smyly is the Children's Officer for Choir, Caroline Taylor is the Junior Choir Chaperone and Sue Portsmouth is the Children's Officer for Bellringers.

The PCC has adopted the model Parish Safeguarding Policy from the Diocese of Oxford. Completion of the Church of England online

safeguarding learning pathways and DBS checks are mandatory for all staff and volunteers, dependant on their role. There were no safeguarding allegations or concerns reported in 2021.

**Rachel Argent - Safeguarding Officer**

### **BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

One of the most notable changes to the church this year was the installation of a fire alarm, which was long overdue. Our thanks goes to The Fire Brigade Trust for helping to fund this.

This year the task of keeping our beautiful church and other buildings in good repair has been greatly assisted by the hard work of the Building Committee members; so I would like to thank Keith Nichols, Keith Hawkins, Peter Rennie, Simon Darvall and Stuart Bowman for all their assistance and advice, as I couldn't do the job without them. I would also like to thank Chris West for his great help in creating more storage cupboards at The Ark, which will make a huge difference in keeping the hall tidy and helps with the smooth running of the many different groups that use The Ark each week.

**Liz Nelson**

### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

It's been a really quiet year for the social committee because of covid. Our first event was the Songs of Praise service in July where we served tea with homemade cakes and biscuits after the service. In November we served wine after the All Souls Service and then wine and mince pies for Nine Lessons and Carols.

Many thanks to all who helped to set up, serve and clear away at these events – your help is greatly appreciated and we couldn't do it without you.

**Sue Peters**

### **THE PARISH MAGAZINE**

I am pleased to report that at the end of 2021, in a time of great uncertainty for the future of many church and parish magazines around the country, that almost all The Parish Magazine advertisers not only decided to continue advertising with us but were willing, as always, to pay for their space in the magazine for the forthcoming year. And, equally as important, was the good news that the space vacated by a small number

of advertisers who no longer had a need to advertise, was soon replaced by new advertisers, ensuring that we were well placed for 2022.

My thanks for achieving this in what continued to be a difficult year for many magazine publishers, churches, and local businesses, is down to my colleague, Gordon Nutbrown, whose tireless work behind the scenes ensures that we maintain a strong financial position and so enables us to produce the magazine free of charge for our readers.

During 2021 we occasionally adjusted the number of issues printed each month to reflect the reduced numbers of visitors in church caused by Covid restrictions. However, we are pleased to report that it is now back to the full quantity of 2,400 copies per month. The small reduction in the number being printed made little difference financially but it meant that we saved unnecessary wastage – any spare copies are always recycled, and we try to keep this to a minimum.

As well as the printed version of the magazine, it continued to be available online at <http://www.theparishmagazine.co.uk> Throughout the year we received an average of just over 900 views per issue. Interestingly, almost all the copies that are available online were also visited regularly. In 2021 the magazine received its 7th national parish magazine award in the previous 6 years. The 2021 award was for 'best content' for which I thank our band of contributors who keep me informed of what's going on, who write interesting and informative articles, who provide good quality photographs, and our readers who not only encourage us, but also make suggestions for future content. The Parish Magazine continues to be a truly team effort.

**Bob Peters**

## **SUNDAY CLUB**

It continues to be a privilege to create a space for children to learn about and respond to God and we have been encouraged by the number of families attending Sunday Club, including during the online sessions which dominated the spring term. We use an online resource from Urban Saints called Energize, and we started the year looking at the nature of God, followed by Bible characters in the summer term and ended the year with Christian Commitments: living like Jesus. Christmas and Easter are special points in the year marked by the Crib Service, which was great to be able to do 'live' again, and making the Easter Garden. A huge thank you to the leaders and helpers of Sunday Club who so willingly give of their time.

**The Sunday Club Team**

## **STAY ON SUNDAY**

At the beginning of 2021 the country went into lockdown so STAY on Sunday started on zoom and didn't meet in person until March 28th 2021. We managed to still have fun, play games and think about our Christian faith. From the end of March until now we have been meeting in person, which has made planning the sessions a whole lot easier. We've covered a range of themes from the Bible and from September 2021 we've been looking at relationships. From friends to family and toxic relationships to intimate ones. We've pretty much covered them all. We've laughed until it hurts, we've stuffed our faces until we can't eat anymore and we've prayed for our lives to be forever changed into being all that God calls us to be. The group has doubled from the 10 or so we had last year to 21 this year. Mind, that's if they all came on the same day!

**Chris West**

## **SUNDAY AT SIX**

Having hoped to start this new service in March 2020 we waited until it was safe to do so in 2021. Sunday at Six began in September 2021 & we met outside. We had an amazing time of singing modern worship songs, hearing some great biblical teaching and gave space to pray for people's needs. The monthly service continues on the last Sunday of each month at 6pm and we've grown in number from around 17 to 60 who gather regularly. Sunday at Six has followed a theme of 'Heroes of the faith' and we've had some wonderful thoughts shared on some amazing heroes - Esther, David, Mary and Paul to name a few. Every few months we try to have a guest speaker and the worship lead by an excellent collection of local musicians and singers.

**Chris West**

## **THURSDAY AT EIGHT**

Thursday @ 8 started as a homegroup in 2020 on zoom with a few people who wanted to meet together to build community at St Andrews in what was a really challenging time. We met each week to chat, pray and study God's word at 8pm each Thursday which is where the group got its name from. We took it in turns sharing a thought and then we decided it would be good to do the Alpha course together as a group. We started Alpha at the beginning of 2021 and when we had finished launched Alpha to the wider community. When Alpha finished we started to meet again as Thursday @ 8 and were joined with some of the people who had done Alpha. Since then we have followed a few different courses including a

prayer course and discipleship course. We have recently started to meet in person and would invite anyone who would like to join us to contact Helen Craig on [helen.craig50@gmail.com](mailto:helen.craig50@gmail.com).

**Helen Craig**

### **ALPHA COURSE**

In April 2021 we started the Alpha course and had around 10 guests join us for the 12 weeks of videos and discussion. It was so exciting and by the end we had people becoming Christians, others reigniting their faith, others prayed out loud, some read the Bible for the first time and others still, felt like their eyes had been opened to the wondrous world God has created. The videos lend themselves really well to being on zoom and with the discussion notes to accompany each video it makes for some amazing conversations.

**Chris West**

### **MUSIC AT ST. ANDREW'S**

September 2021 marked several new beginnings in the musical life of the church: The "Songs of Praise" service on 12th September – a triumph for both Senior and Junior choirs and visiting singers from Papplewick School, Ascot, and a very well-attended service – saw the official launch of the new Choral Foundation as well as the formal dedication of the new Viscount organ by Lord Carey. Also in September, I joined as the Director of Music.

Despite the outbreak of COVID within the church community in the following weeks, meaning another break from choral singing, the choirs resumed their usual work at the start of October. November saw both an evening All Souls service (07/11) as well as a special service for Remembrance Day (14/11) at which the choirs were present. Unlike in previous years, the choir were not joined by the Salvation Army band for the latter service, but it was a moving and well-supported occasion nonetheless.

December was a busy month for both choirs, with the first "normal" run of Advent and Christmas services for a couple of years. The first Sunday of December (05/12) saw the return of the Family Service, which was played for by Nathan May (Organ Scholar) and Jamie Taylor, as I was away. The Nine Lessons and Carols service (19/12) was a resounding success, and featured music by Palestrina, Willcocks, Rutter and many others. We were delighted to be joined by Guest Organist, Isaac Adni (The Queen's

College, Oxford), who accompanied this service. On Christmas Eve, the Junior Choir sang at the Crib Service and the Senior Choir at Midnight Mass. Both choirs joined together to lead the sung worship on Christmas morning.

These months saw slight changes in membership to each choir. Jean Tinson retired from the Senior Choir following the "Songs of Praise" service, following many loyal years of service to the choir. In December, we were delighted to welcome Trevor Watson to the bass section, though just on a temporary basis in the knowledge that he would shortly be moving house. Thanks to a collaboration between the Junior Choir and STAY, we recruited one more member into the Junior Choir (Jos Marsh), who sang with the choir for the first time at the Crib Service.

Throughout this period of time, each choir has shown promising developments. Through a focus on elements of choir- and ensemble-training aspects in rehearsals, in addition to preparing the hymns and anthems for upcoming services, the choirs now each sing more coherently as an ensemble and are even better equipped to lead the congregation during sung worship. They look forward to continuing and strengthening these skills, as well as welcoming new members into their ranks, in the new year.

**Hannah Towndrow - Director of Music**

### **STAY ON FRIDAY**

The youth club on Friday nights has continued to grow and reach more young people from the local area. With so little for young people to do nowadays it's of paramount importance to keep safe places, like youth clubs, open for young people to enjoy themselves. We get an around of 50-60 young people each week and together we enjoy games, sports, the nail bar, baking cookies, skipping, Xbox and to end each term we bring out the donut wall and hire inflatables to play on.

We end each week with a final thought where the young people are challenged, given something to provoke their thinking and asked what they think about some bit topics. In 2021 we covered; 'being different and that's ok', 'who are the voices we listen to', 'who influences our decisions', 'how to deal with stress' and 'when are the times we need to persevere and when should we move on?'

**Chris West**

## RENDEZVOUS LUNCH CLUB

Like all the other church actives in 2021 Rendezvous Club was disrupted by the pandemic, but we have bounced back remarkably well. Initially there was naturally some concern about meeting together inside at The Ark, so we put in place some extra safety measures, such as initially limiting tables to just 4 people, opening windows and doors and limiting the number of people serving. We have worked hard to return the twice monthly lunch club to a thriving and welcoming place to meet and enjoy an excellent meal together.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who help with the front of house work and especial thanks to Emma Saville and Serena Goodwin who produce fabulous food and take such special care to provide meals for everyone to enjoy, including those with allergies and special dietary requirements.

**Liz Nelson**

## BELL RINGERS

There was no tower bell ringing for the first part of the year. We met socially on zoom and practiced ringing electronically using a computer programme called Ringing Room. The ringers can see a circle of ropes on their computer screen and ring their bell by pressing a particular key on the keyboard. All the bells can be heard on each computer and we can see each other on zoom. This is still used by many ringers as it can link together ringers in different parts of the country and around the world.

One ringer came into the tower in February and tolled the tenor bell half muffled in memory of Sir Tom Moore and in April to mark the death and funeral of Prince Philip. We resumed tower bell ringing in May. We tested for covid before attending, wore masks and ventilated the ringing room with fans. We have rung for all the Sunday morning services since then and rang a half muffled quarter peal before the All Souls service.

**Pam Elliston - Tower Captain**

## THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (FoStAC)

2021 saw the return of some of annual fundraising activity after the forced pause of 2020 as well as sadly the passing of some of our longstanding members, including former FoStAC Trustees. After a forced slow start to the year including an online AGM for the 2020 Annual Report and Accounts, the August Bank Holiday Garden Party held by kind permission of Wendy & Allan Williams was a great success, both from the enjoyment of those attending and also for the fund-raising opportunities. Christmas card sales were buoyant, and Wendy Williams' preserves continued to be in demand.

2021 saw the exceptional continuation of Bob Hine as Chairman and myself as Honorary Treasurer for a fourth consecutive year given the circumstances of COVID-19, in line with a resolution passed at our AGM. The Trustees only met twice in 2021 given the lack of fundraising activity, however, with the regular support of our members and associated Gift Aid from 2020, FoStAC was able to accrue over £9,000 towards its reserves to support future grants to St. Andrew's Church, Sonning.

2021 saw the departure of Janet Giles and Paul Grist as Trustees following many years of service to FoStAC between them. They have been replaced by Keith Hawkins, and in early 2022, Ian McCann, respectively. Together with Sally Wilson as Honorary Secretary, Keith Nichols as my replacement as Honorary Treasurer, Liz Nelson and Bob Hine, we have a full complement of FoStAC Trustees in preparation for our planned events in 2022. I would like to thank them all for their voluntary time and effort, which is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I thank you as our members and supporters of our events. It has been a welcome return to FoStAC events in 2021 which we will look to build on during 2022 and subsequent years. It is a privilege to create the opportunities to socialise, have fun and build community whilst also enhancing the fabric of our beautiful church building. If anyone would like to find out more about FoStAC, please approach one of the Trustees or look on the St. Andrew's Church website.

**Magnus Smyly - Chairman**

## **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

I am pleased to report that the level of planned giving continued to grow during the year, with more donors, old and new, committing to regular standing orders, as well as increasing amounts given.

Cash giving at services has declined as givers switch to standing orders or use the contactless terminal, which, despite some issues from time to time, has proved a worthwhile addition to our ways of giving.

We continue to encourage people to use standing order as the preferred method of giving as this provides the treasurer with a better level of certainty when forecasting our income and involves less work for those doing the weekly bankings. Also if you are able to give under Gift Aid as a UK tax payer this increases the value of your gift by 25% as we are able to claim the relevant tax from HMRC.

If anyone would like a standing order form or a gift aid form to complete please e-mail me at [treasurer@sonningparish.org](mailto:treasurer@sonningparish.org) or call me on 0118 9692588.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year.

**Richard Moore - Treasurer and Stewardship Co-ordinator**

### **THE PARISH OF SONNING - Giving outside the Parish 2021**

It was agreed at the PCC on 27 January 2016 that the list of recipients presented to that meeting would remain largely the same for 5 years, unless there were significant reasons for any variation, with a view to supporting smaller, largely local, organisations and giving amounts that would be more significant to them. Outside Giving in 2021 continued to be based on this list.

A range of areas are covered, including Christian outreach, older people, children and families, health and homelessness. The PCC is also committed to supporting the worldwide church and in view of the continuing situation in the Middle East we are supporting Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), a UK based Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East.

At the same time, it was agreed to maintain a small reserve, from which specific requests might be met during the year.

Donations made during 2021 were as follows:

**Charities in the parish and local area:**

Age Concern Twyford & District	£ 750
Sonning School and School House Trust	£ 1,500
Woodley Foodbank	£ 750
Yeldall Christian Centre	<u>£ 750</u>
Total of charities serving the parish and local area	£ 3,750

**Charities serving the wider local area:**

Berkshire Clergy Charity	£ 750
Christian Community Action (CCA)	£ 750
Parents and Children Together (PACT)	£ 750
Salvation Army, Reading	£ 750
Faith Christian Group	£ 750
Thames Valley Air Ambulance	<u>£ 750</u>
Total of charities serving the wider local area	£ 4,500

**Charities serving internationally:**

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (Ukraine)	£ 750
Foundation for relief & reconciliation - Middle East	£ 2,000
Karun Orphanage and School (India)	<u>£ 1,000</u>
Total of charities serving internationally	£ 3,750

**TOTAL GIVING OUTSIDE THE PARISH 2021** **£12,000**

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

## The Parish Church of St Andrew

Sunday 11 July 2021  
Written Reports for 2020



THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW, SERVING  
CHARVIL, SONNING AND SONNING EYE

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)  
OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF SONNING  
For the year ended 31st December 2020**

**Incumbent: The Revd. Jamie Taylor,  
The Vicarage, Thames Street, Sonning, RG4 6UR**

**Independent Examiner: Banks & Co, Newbury, Berkshire**

## Aim and Purpose

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance - To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

### **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames Valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire

RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission. (Registered Charity Number: 1130763)

During the year, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens (normally 5 year term)	Perry Mills Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Mark Jordan ( <i>retired APCM 11 October 2020</i> ) Liz Nelson Sue Peters Simon Darvall ( <i>appointed APCM 11 October 2020</i> ) Molly Woodley ( <i>Emeritus Deputy Warden from APCM 2019</i> )
Treasurer	Richard Moore
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term) (Total elected: 4)	Bob Hine Mark Jordan ( <i>retired APCM 11 October 2020</i> ) Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent ( <i>re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020</i> ) Helen Craig ( <i>appointed APCM 11 October 2020</i> ) Sandra Grist Tom Jeffery Emma Leggett Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly ( <i>re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020</i> )

The PCC only met on 2 occasions during the year due to the Covid pandemic and the average attendance at these meetings was 67%

## **COMMITTEES**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

### **Standing and Finance**

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

### **Buildings and Maintenance**

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Perry Mills

### **Mission and Pastoral**

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor

### **Social**

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Sue Peters

### **The Parish Magazine**

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

## **ELECTORAL ROLL**

At the APCM in October 2020 there were 229 people on the Electoral Roll. The total number on the new 2021 Electoral Roll is 226.

## THE VICAR'S REPORT

2020 is not a year any of us will look back on with great fondness. As a church, we were forced to close our doors to all visitors, including me! This was a silly overreaction from panicky Archbishops and I actually now wish that we had ignored their instructions, but hindsight is a wonderful thing. The problem with locked doors was that it presented an image of a frightened church in retreat. Happily for us at St. Andrew's this couldn't have been further from reality. We realised in those first few days of lockdown that we needed to do something different to meet the challenges of this unprecedented situation and so the St. Andrew's Shepherds were born. Liz Nelson did a sterling job in getting it off the ground and about 70 parishioners volunteered, and the benefits are still being felt now.

Many of us had to adapt, with varying degrees of success and frustration, to Zoom meetings and church went on-line, something that, whilst necessary at the time, is not, in my view, a medium that lends itself to the worship of Almighty God. The sight of the Archbishop of Canterbury officiating on Easter Sunday from his kitchen table when he has two chapels in Lambeth Palace is a case in point.

The Sunday Club and STAY on Sunday leaders adapted magnificently, as did the choir, and so some degree of continuity was achieved when some churches just went to sleep and have yet to wake up from what I can see. We were saddened to have to suspend Rendezvous and STAY on Friday but simply had no choice. It all seems a blur now, but I am so pleased we stuck our necks out to carry on with Christmas 2020 when every other church in our locality, including St. George's, Windsor, had shut up shop, even though carrying on was legal. Good for us I say!

I have complete admiration for all my colleagues through this period and thank them warmly for their work and ministries and also for their support for me, something that has been particularly welcome in this period. Hilary adapted brilliantly to working from home and keeping everyone connected through news sheets and emails and I have heard from many of you just how much you have appreciated this.

We were very pleased to welcome the new digital organ in July 2020 and, although still not being used to its full potential because of Covid, it is proving to be a marvellous addition to our worshipping life. I am grateful to the historic old Vicarage Maintenance Trust who paid their remaining

funds over to this project of about £30,000. The sponsor a stop campaign has yielded another £21,600, the Listed Places of Worship Scheme covered the VAT of £12,000 and the Blue Coat School donated £2,000, leaving the PCC to pay just under £8,000.

The dreaded death toll in the early days of lockdown failed to materialise in this parish, something that is a huge relief to us all. I was asked to count out remaining grave spaces by the local authority in March last year, which was a sobering task, but, thanks be to God, we haven't lost a single member of the congregation to the virus. As most of us have now had both jabs, let us hope that a corner is being turned and that normal life can resume shortly.

Jamie

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net income of £50,636 compared to £4,895 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £324,511. There were grants received of £127,888, which included £84,750 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust and £30,168 from The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust in respect of the digital organ project. A legacy of £24,224 was received during the year. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, as more givers moved to standing orders. Income from collections and weddings was down due to the restrictions on services in place during the year. Restricted Investment Income of £6,541 was received, mostly for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Major items of expenditure in 2020 included £73,500 on the purchase and installation of a new digital organ. Church service and mission costs were lower during the year due to the various restrictions in place.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

Depreciation for the New Hall Building, the Youth Minister's House, and Equipment was £37,033.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to a move to digital printing.

## Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and £58,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2020 to £58,175.

**Richard Moore - Honorary Treasurer**

## CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

Unprecedented times has become the normal narrative when describing the previous twelve months or so, and sadly we can offer no alternative definition to summarise the headlines of the Warden's Report.

It has been both incredibly challenging and rewarding to have been part of the St Andrews team during this period. The challenges have been obvious, as we have ebbed and flowed with the dynamics of the lockdowns and the impact on our ability to worship collectively.

Yet rewards have arisen out of these challenges, and there are key people who we would like to acknowledge and convey our thanks and gratitude to:

Jamie, Kate, Bob and Westy first and foremost for their continued spiritual leadership throughout the pandemic; ensuring that from the youngest to the oldest, all of our congregation had the opportunity to remain engaged in worship and connected to their parish church.

Liz Nelson was integral in the introduction the St Andrew's Shepherds, an initiative that has brought light and comfort to so many during the long periods of national lock down.

Caroline and her technical skills and facilitating the Zoom Sunday Services. Chris for ensuring that music could return to the church at the earliest opportunity. Thanks also to Alison and Magnus Smyly for ensuring Sunday Club continued during lock down and to Hilary for her continued excellence in ensuring the administration of the parish is seamless. Lastly, thanks to the limited number on the Welcome Team who have ensured that worship has been safe and as normal as possible – Hilary, Simon Darvall, Richard Moore, Helen Craig, Liz Nelson, Nick Sawyer and Sue Peters.

**Stu Bowman and Perry Mills - Churchwardens**

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The PCC has complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. The PCC has adopted the model Parish Safeguarding Policy from the Diocese of Oxford. The PCC has a policy on recruitment and follows the safer recruitment advice for paid and volunteer roles. Safeguarding training has been provided to those in paid and volunteer roles. Safeguarding concerns were raised with the Diocese on one occasion in 2020. This was investigated by the Oxford Diocese Safeguarding Team and the Archdeacon of Berkshire's Office and found to be unsubstantiated with no on-going safeguarding risk.

**Rachel Argent, Safeguarding Officer**

## **BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

Not surprisingly, with us all having to stay away for months on end as part of our lockdown response, it's been much quieter in terms of works, general or non-scheduled maintenance, being carried out.

As you'd expect, all essential servicing and scheduled maintenance works have been kept up to date and apart from a watching brief to make sure all our buildings are safe, we really have had a lot less to do.

We've extended some security protection to our Mower store and have undertaken some general tidying of various trees and bushes in and around the churchyard.

We're still trying to assess the rising damp issues in the church and we've some enquiries out to a few qualified specialists to meet with us to inspect and advise.

**Perry Mills - Chairman**

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Due to the Covid pandemic there have been no social events in the year to 31 December 2020. We hope to resume social events as soon as Government restrictions are lifted.

**Sue Peters**

## **OTHER REPORTS**

Due to the Covid pandemic reports are not being presented for the various activities usually running at the church in more normal times. Reports for these activities will be presented at the 2022 APCM when Government restrictions have been fully lifted.

## THE PARISH OF SONNING - Giving outside the Parish 2020

It was agreed at the PCC on 27 January 2016 that the list of recipients presented to that meeting would remain largely the same for 5 years, unless there were significant reasons for any variation, with a view to supporting smaller, largely local, organisations and giving amounts that would be more significant to them.

A range of areas are covered, including Christian outreach, older people, children and families, health and homelessness. The PCC is also committed to supporting the worldwide church and in view of the continuing situation in the Middle East we are supporting Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East (FRRME), a UK based Christian charity which aims to rebuild lives and restore hope in the Middle East.

At the same time, it was agreed to maintain a small reserve, from which specific requests might be met during the year.

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Woodley Foodbank	£ 750
Yeldall Christian Centre	£ 750
Total of charities serving the parish and local area	£ 3,750

### Charities serving the wider local area:

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Christian Community Action (CCA)	£ 750
Parents and Children Together (PACT)	£ 750
Salvation Army, Reading	£ 750
Faith Christian Group	£ 750
TVC Air Ambulance	£ 750
Total of charities serving the wider local area	£ 4,500

### Charities serving internationally:

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline (Ukraine)	£ 750
FRRME	£2,000
Karuneipuri Orphanage (India)	£1,000
Charities serving internationally	£ 3,750

**TOTAL GIVING OUTSIDE THE PARISH 2020** **£12,000**

# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** of the **Parochial Church Council** for the year ended **31 December 2020**

### **INCUMBENT**

The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Perry Mills Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Mark Jordan (retired APCM 11 October 2020) Liz Nelson Sue Peters Simon Darvall (appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Richard Moore
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Bob Hine Mark Jordan (retired APCM 11 October 2020) Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent (re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Helen Craig (appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Sandra Grist Tom Jeffery Emma Leggett Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly (re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the associate vicar, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC only met on 2 occasions during the year due to the Covid pandemic and the average attendance at these meetings was 67%.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

#### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

#### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Mr Perry Mills

#### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor.

#### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Mrs Sue Peters.

#### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

#### **Electoral Roll**

At the APCM on 11 October 2020 there were 229 people on the Electoral Roll.  
The total number on the new 2021 Electoral Roll is 226

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net income of £50,636 compared to £4,895 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £324,511. There were grants received of £127,888, which included £84,750 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust and £30,168 from The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust Fund in respect of the digital organ project. A legacy of £24,224 was received during the year. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, as more givers moved to standing orders. Income from collections and weddings was down due to the restrictions on services in place during the year. Restricted Investment Income of £6,541 was received, mostly for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Major items of expenditure in 2020 included £73,500 on the purchase and installation of a new digital organ. Church service and mission costs were lower during the year due to the various restrictions in place.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

Depreciation for the New Hall Building, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £37,033.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to a move to digital printing.

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £58,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2020 to £58,175.

**Richard Moore - Honorary Treasurer**

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
	2					
Voluntary Income		282,075	685	--	282,760	277,710
Activities for Generating Funds		27,189	--	--	27,189	25,800
Income from Investments		1,012	251	6,291	7,554	7,632
Church activities		7,009	--	--	7,009	15,738
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>317,285</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>324,512</b>	<b>326,880</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
	3					
Church activities		247,941	33,815	6,291	288,047	359,134
Raising Funds		62	--	--	62	433
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>248,003</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>288,109</b>	<b>359,567</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>69,282</b>	<b>(32,879)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>36,403</b>	<b>(32,687)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments		(832)	578	14,487	14,233	37,582
<b>Net income</b>		<b>68,450</b>	<b>(32,301)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>	<b>4,895</b>
Transfers between Funds		(11,423)	11,423	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>57,027</b>	<b>(20,878)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>	<b>4,895</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>154,603</b>	<b>1,286,883</b>	<b>209,812</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>	<b>1,646,403</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>	6					
Tangible assets		77,582	1,160,983	-	1,238,565	1,191,592
Investments		24,691	8,932	224,299	257,922	243,689
		<b>102,273</b>	<b>1,169,915</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,496,487</b>	<b>1,435,281</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,963	-	-	4,963	30,628
Cash at bank and in hand	8	132,867	98,772	-	231,639	223,241
		<b>137,830</b>	<b>98,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>236,602</b>	<b>253,869</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	9					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		28,473	2,682	-	31,155	37,852
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>109,357</b>	<b>96,090</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>205,447</b>	<b>216,017</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>
<b>Represented by</b>	10					
General fund		67,168	-	-	67,168	61,052
Organ		73,500	-	-	73,500	-
Mission & Development		3,461	-	-	3,461	28,572
Parish Magazine		6,898	-	-	6,898	1,704
General Reserve		58,178	-	-	58,178	58,175
External Giving		2,425	-	-	2,425	5,100
New Hall		-	680,759	-	680,759	691,324
Youth		-	3,544	-	3,544	2,860
Frances Cooper		-	2,881	-	2,881	2,695
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,051	-	6,051	5,659
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	572,770	-	572,770	584,345
Price Davies		-	-	818	818	765
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,130	4,130	3,864
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	104,564	104,564	97,811
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,089	4,089	3,825
Palmer Charity		-	-	109,472	109,472	102,399
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,084	1,084	1,014
William Payne		-	-	142	142	134
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 6th July 2021 and signed on its behalf by



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Richard Moore (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

Parish of Sonning

Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		84,850		21,529
<b>Cash Flows from investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from investments	7,554		7,632	
Equipment Costs	(73,500)		(2,558)	
Buildings Cost	(10,506)		(500,234)	
Net Cash provided by / (used in) Investing activities		(76,452)		(495,160)
<b>Cash Flows from financing activities</b>				
		--		--
Net Cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		--		--
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		8,398		(473,631)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		223,241		696,872
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>231,639</b>		<b>223,241</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		36,403		(32,687)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		37,033		35,177
Dividends, Interest and Rent from investments		(7,554)		(7,632)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		25,665		27,114
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		(6,697)		(443)
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>84,850</b>		<b>21,529</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		227,781		219,399
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		3,858		3,842
		<b>231,639</b>		<b>223,241</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2020

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over an appropriate number of years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2	INCOMING RESOURCES	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Income</b>							
	Planned Giving		84,888	300	--	85,188	78,263
	Tax Recoverable		21,762	75	--	21,837	19,048
	Collections (Open Plate)		877	--	--	877	6,838
	Other Donations		46,660	310	--	46,970	20,456
	Grants	2 (a)	127,888	--	--	127,888	153,105
			<u>282,075</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>282,760</u>	<u>277,710</u>
<b>2(b) Activities for Generating Funds</b>							
	Magazine Advertising		27,159	--	--	27,159	25,769
	Sundry Activities		30	--	--	30	31
			<u>27,189</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>27,189</u>	<u>25,800</u>
<b>2(c) Income from Investments</b>							
	Dividends and Interest		1,012	251	6,291	7,554	7,632
			<u>1,012</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>6,291</u>	<u>7,554</u>	<u>7,632</u>
<b>2(d) Income from Church Activities</b>							
	Lettings		180	--	--	180	1,134
	Fees		4,964	--	--	4,964	8,027
	Sundry Income		1,865	--	--	1,865	6,577
			<u>7,009</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>7,009</u>	<u>15,738</u>
<b>Total Income</b>			<u><b>317,285</b></u>	<u><b>936</b></u>	<u><b>6,291</b></u>	<u><b>324,512</b></u>	<u><b>326,880</b></u>

2(a) Included in Grants is an amount of £12,250 received from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme in respect of VAT on the new digital organ

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

#### 3(a) Charitable Activities

<b>Missionary &amp; Charitable Giving</b>							
	Church Overseas: Missionary Societies		4,000	--	--	4,000	3,000
	Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies		750	--	--	750	750
	Home Mission and Other Church Societies		5,750	--	--	5,750	5,412
	Secular Charities		4,000	--	--	4,000	3,000
	Diocesan Parish Share		80,000	--	--	80,000	80,000
	Ministry Team Costs		57,630	11,075	--	68,705	69,820
	Upkeep of Services		2,283	--	--	2,283	4,773
	Parish Training and Mission Costs		7,867	--	--	7,867	19,038
	St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance		15,962	81	3,077	19,120	25,981
	Organ, Organist, Choir, Music		11,875	--	--	11,875	16,060
	Upkeep of Churchyard		4,030	170	3,214	7,414	14,412
	Jubilee Hall Running Costs and Maintenance		--	--	--	--	(1)
	St Sarik Room Running Costs and Maintenance		325	--	--	325	212
	The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance		3,302	14,498	--	17,800	23,653
	Administration		24,902	6,573	--	31,475	29,206
	Magazine Printing and Other Costs		21,935	--	--	21,935	27,391
	Miscellaneous		(120)	1,418	--	1,298	2,338
	Major Repairs/Decorating		--	--	--	--	34,089
	New Buildings/Churchyard		3,450	--	--	3,450	--
			<u>247,941</u>	<u>33,815</u>	<u>6,291</u>	<u>288,047</u>	<u>359,134</u>

#### 3(b) Cost of Generating Funds

	Cost of Generating Voluntary Income		62	--	--	62	433
	Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs		--	--	--	--	--
			<u>62</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>433</u>

<b>Total Resources Expended</b>			<u><b>248,003</b></u>	<u><b>33,815</b></u>	<u><b>6,291</b></u>	<u><b>288,109</b></u>	<u><b>359,567</b></u>
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**4 STAFF COSTS**

The PCC had two employees at the end of the year. Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	42,199
Pension Contribution	1,391
	<u>43,590</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.  
Chris West, a trustee, was employed as Youth Minister and his remuneration is included in the above amounts.

**5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS**

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister and the Lay Minister may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except to directly reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

**6 FIXED ASSETS**

(a) Tangible

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2019	1,219,269	56,304	772,781
	Disposals	--	(851)	(851)
	Additions at Cost	10,506	73,500	84,006
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>1,229,775</u>	<u>128,953</u>	<u>857,638</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2019	53,078	30,903	48,804
	Withdrawn on Disposal	--	851	851
	Charge for the Year	24,504	12,529	37,033
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>77,582</u>	<u>42,581</u>	<u>86,688</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2019	1,166,191	25,401	1,191,592
	Additions at Cost	10,506	73,500	84,006
	Depreciation for Year	(24,504)	(12,529)	(37,033)
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>1,152,193</u>	<u>86,372</u>	<u>1,238,565</u>

(b) Investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Market Value at 1 January	243,689	206,107
Revaluation Gain	14,233	37,582
As At 31 December 2020	<u>257,922</u>	<u>243,689</u>

The Market Value represents investments for

Unrestricted Funds	24,691	25,523
Restricted Funds	8,932	8,354
Endowment Funds	224,299	209,812
	<u>257,922</u>	<u>243,689</u>

**7 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

Tax Recoverable	4,679	4,940
Prepayments	284	24,270
Accounts Receivable	--	1,418
	<u>4,963</u>	<u>30,628</u>

**8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

CAF Bank Acc Balance	198,557	191,985
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	28,045	26,379
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	3,858	3,842
Cash in Hand	1,179	1,035
	<u>231,639</u>	<u>223,241</u>

**9 LIABILITIES**

Magazine Adverts Next Year	21,147	26,575
Other	10,008	11,277
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>31,155</u>	<u>37,852</u>

10 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2019 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		270,550	7,160	--	277,710
Activities for Generating Funds		25,800	--	--	25,800
Income from Investments		1,296	224	6,112	7,632
Church activities		15,738	--	--	15,738
Other Income		--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>313,384</b>	<b>7,384</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>326,880</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	3				
Church activities		317,772	35,250	6,112	359,134
Raising Funds		433	--	--	433
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>318,205</b>	<b>35,250</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>359,567</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>(4,821)</b>	<b>(27,866)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(32,687)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on		3,175	1,318	33,089	37,582
<b>Net income</b>		<b>(1,646)</b>	<b>(26,548)</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>4,895</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(1,646)</b>	<b>(26,548)</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>4,895</b>

For clarity, amendments have been made to the presentation of income and expenditure.

11 FUNDS

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		61,052	228,585	173,083	(49,386)	--	67,168
Organ		--	59,187	--	14,313	--	73,500
Mission & Development		28,572	1,488	38,424	11,825	--	3,461
Parish Magazine		1,704	27,190	21,996	--	--	6,898
General Reserve	10(a)	58,175	835	--	--	(832)	58,178
External Giving		5,100	--	14,500	11,825	--	2,425
		<b>154,603</b>	<b>317,285</b>	<b>248,003</b>	<b>(11,423)</b>	<b>(832)</b>	<b>211,630</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		691,324	--	22,488	11,923	--	680,759
Youth	10(b)	2,860	684	--	--	--	3,544
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,695	82	82	--	186	2,881
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	5,659	170	170	--	392	6,051
Ecclesiastical Fund		584,345	--	11,075	(500)	--	572,770
		<b>1,286,883</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>11,423</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	765	18	18	--	53	818
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	3,864	116	116	--	266	4,130
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	97,811	2,935	2,935	--	6,753	104,564
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	3,825	115	115	--	264	4,089
Palmer Charity	10(d)	102,399	3,073	3,073	--	7,073	109,472
Witherington Trust	10(c)	1,014	30	30	--	70	1,084
William Payne		134	4	4	--	8	142
		<b>209,812</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>224,299</b>
		<b>1,651,298</b>	<b>324,512</b>	<b>288,109</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>14,233</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

10(c)

Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves

10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(d)

Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

11 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2019 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		41,707	277,599	233,154	(25,100)	--	61,052
Mission & Development		54,194	6,220	44,392	12,550	--	28,572
Parish Magazine		798	28,656	27,750	--	--	1,704
General Reserve	10(a)	55,000	909	909	--	3,175	58,175
External Giving		4,550	--	12,000	12,550	--	5,100
		<b>156,249</b>	<b>313,384</b>	<b>318,205</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3,175</b>	<b>154,603</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		712,363	--	21,039	--	--	691,324
Youth	10(b)	186	6,660	3,986	--	--	2,860
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,270	59	59	--	425	2,695
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	4,766	165	165	--	893	5,659
Ecclesiastical Fund		593,846	500	10,001	--	--	584,345
		<b>1,313,431</b>	<b>7,384</b>	<b>35,250</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,286,883</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	644	22	22		121	765
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	3,255	113	113		609	3,864
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	82,384	2,850	2,850		15,427	97,811
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	3,222	111	111		603	3,825
Palmer Charity	10(d)	86,250	2,982	2,982		16,149	102,399
Witherington Trust	10(c)	854	30	30		160	1,014
William Payne		114	4	4		20	134
		<b>176,723</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>209,812</b>
		<b>1,646,403</b>	<b>326,880</b>	<b>359,567</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>37,582</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves  
 10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

12 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £84,750 during the year (2019 - £113,000) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £12,000 during the year (2019 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Associate Vicar. The PCC also settled certain invoices on behalf of The Ranmore Trust which were directly reimbursed by the Trust during the year.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2019 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

Mr R Hine and Mrs E Nelson, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Friends of St Andrew's Church, Sonning, from which the PCC received a grant of £720 during the year (2019 - £26,103) to fund certain repair and maintenance work for the church.

Mr R Hine, who is a trustee of the PCC, is also a trustee of The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust Fund, from which the PCC received a grant of £30,168 during the year (2019 - £nil) towards the Organ Fund.

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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 forms 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.

*R M L T A L.*

Richard Mark Lodge Taylor FCCA  
On behalf of Banks & Co Limited  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berks RG14 5DJ

Date: *10.6.2021*

# **Sonning Parochial Church Council**

*Registered Charity No 1130763*

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** of the **Parochial Church Council** for the year ended **31 December 2020**

### **INCUMBENT**

The Revd. Jamie Taylor  
The Vicarage  
Thames Street  
Sonning

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Banks & Co.  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury

**The Parochial Church Council (PCC)  
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Sonning**

During the year, the following served the Parish:

Incumbent (and Chairman)	Revd Jamie Taylor
Associate Vicar	Revd Kate Toogood
Licensed Lay Minister	Bob Peters
Youth Minister	Chris West
Churchwardens	Perry Mills Stuart Bowman
Deputy Churchwardens	Mark Jordan (retired APCM 11 October 2020) Liz Nelson Sue Peters Simon Darvall (appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Molly Woodley (Emeritus Deputy Warden)
Treasurer	Richard Moore
Secretary	Hilary Rennie
Representatives on the Sonning Deanery Synod (normally 5 year term)	Bob Hine Mark Jordan (retired APCM 11 October 2020) Rory Symes Molly Woodley
Other PCC Members (normally 3 year term)	Rachel Argent (re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Helen Craig (appointed APCM 11 October 2020) Sandra Grist Tom Jeffery Emma Leggett Jenny Sawyer Alison Smyly (re-appointed APCM 11 October 2020)

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Andrew's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, the associate vicar, the licensed lay minister and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral role of the church.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The PCC only met on 2 occasions during the year due to the Covid pandemic and the average attendance at these meetings was 67%.

## **Administrative Information**

The Parish of Sonning encompasses the thriving communities of Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil, located between Reading and Henley-on-Thames in a beautiful section of the Thames valley. We have a growing congregation and are welcoming and uplifting, embracing the broad Anglican tradition.

The correspondence address is:

St Andrew's Church Office

Thames Street

Sonning

READING

Berkshire RG4 6UR

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (Registered Charity Number: 1130763).

## **Aim and Purpose**

To provide:

- Regular public worship that is open to all
- Sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation
- Pastoral work which includes visiting the sick and the bereaved
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The leadership of religious assemblies in schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and meetings, and in the distribution of literature
- Promotion of the mission of the Church through provision of activities for all ages in our Parish
- Support of other charities in the UK and overseas

## **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our parish and to become part of our parish community within Sonning, Sonning Eye and Charvil. The PCC vision is to:

- Serve better those who choose to worship with us and share a journey in faith
- Reach out and draw others to the knowledge and love of God
- Attend to the pastoral needs of those around us (As individuals and as an organisation)
- Preserve our Anglican heritage
- Engage with our local community and find new ways to serve it

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

- Worship – Learning about the Gospel and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Mission and pastoral care – Giving to others and the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Buildings and Maintenance – To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our church
- Social – Arranging social events throughout the year

## **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between the full meetings of the PCC. These are:

#### Standing and Finance

This is the only committee required by law and has power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members are the Incumbent, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and the Secretary.

#### Buildings and Maintenance

This committee attends to matters relating to stewardship of the church buildings and fabric. Chairman: Mr Perry Mills

#### Mission and Pastoral

This committee attends to matters concerning external giving from the Parish. Chairman: Revd Jamie Taylor.

#### Social

This committee is responsible for arranging social events.  
Chairman: Mrs Sue Peters.

#### The Parish Magazine

Delivered free to every house in the parish.

Editor: Bob Peters

Advertising and Distribution: Gordon Nutbrown

#### **Electoral Roll**

At the APCM on 11 October 2020 there were 229 people on the Electoral Roll.  
The total number on the new 2021 Electoral Roll is 226

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Review

The PCC ended the year with a total net income of £50,636 compared to £4,895 for the previous year.

Total income for the year was £324,511. There were grants received of £127,888, which included £84,750 from The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust and £30,168 from The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust Fund in respect of the digital organ project. A legacy of £24,224 was received during the year. Planned Giving increased over the prior year, as more givers moved to standing orders. Income from collections and weddings was down due to the restrictions on services in place during the year. Restricted Investment Income of £6,541 was received, mostly for the Churchyard and St Andrew's building maintenance.

Major items of expenditure in 2020 included £73,500 on the purchase and installation of a new digital organ. Church service and mission costs were lower during the year due to the various restrictions in place.

The Parish Share contribution was maintained at £80,000.

Depreciation for the New Hall Building, the Youth Minister's House and Equipment was £37,033.

The cost of producing the Parish Magazine continues to be covered by the revenue from advertising and the cost of distribution continues to be funded from General Funds. Magazine production costs were lower during the year due to a move to digital printing.

### Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on Unrestricted and Undesignated Funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months normal Unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, and approximately £58,000 is held in a Designated General Reserve Fund for this. The Reserve increased in 2020 to £58,175.

**Richard Moore - Honorary Treasurer**

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
	2					
Voluntary Income		282,075	685	--	282,760	277,710
Activities for Generating Funds		27,189	--	--	27,189	25,800
Income from Investments		1,012	251	6,291	7,554	7,632
Church activities		7,009	--	--	7,009	15,738
Other Income		--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>317,285</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>324,512</b>	<b>326,880</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
	3					
Church activities		247,941	33,815	6,291	288,047	359,134
Raising Funds		62	--	--	62	433
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>248,003</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>288,109</b>	<b>359,567</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>69,282</b>	<b>(32,879)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>36,403</b>	<b>(32,687)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on investments		(832)	578	14,487	14,233	37,582
<b>Net income</b>		<b>68,450</b>	<b>(32,301)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>	<b>4,895</b>
Transfers between Funds		(11,423)	11,423	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>57,027</b>	<b>(20,878)</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>50,636</b>	<b>4,895</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>154,603</b>	<b>1,286,883</b>	<b>209,812</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>	<b>1,646,403</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

**Parish of Sonning**  
**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	This Year Total	Last Year Total
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>	6					
Tangible assets		77,582	1,160,983	-	1,238,565	1,191,592
Investments		24,691	8,932	224,299	257,922	243,689
		<b>102,273</b>	<b>1,169,915</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,496,487</b>	<b>1,435,281</b>
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors and prepayments	7	4,963	-	-	4,963	30,628
Cash at bank and in hand	8	132,867	98,772	-	231,639	223,241
		<b>137,830</b>	<b>98,772</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>236,602</b>	<b>253,869</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	9					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		28,473	2,682	-	31,155	37,852
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<b>109,357</b>	<b>96,090</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>205,447</b>	<b>216,017</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>
<b>Represented by</b>	10					
General fund		67,168	-	-	67,168	61,052
Organ		73,500	-	-	73,500	-
Mission & Development		3,461	-	-	3,461	28,572
Parish Magazine		6,898	-	-	6,898	1,704
General Reserve		58,178	-	-	58,178	58,175
External Giving		2,425	-	-	2,425	5,100
New Hall		-	680,759	-	680,759	691,324
Youth		-	3,544	-	3,544	2,860
Frances Cooper		-	2,881	-	2,881	2,695
Jacqueline Hadida		-	6,051	-	6,051	5,659
Ecclesiastical Fund		-	572,770	-	572,770	584,345
Price Davies		-	-	818	818	765
Churchyard Trust		-	-	4,130	4,130	3,864
Dickson Memorial Trust		-	-	104,564	104,564	97,811
Mitchell Trust		-	-	4,089	4,089	3,825
Palmer Charity		-	-	109,472	109,472	102,399
Witherington Trust		-	-	1,084	1,084	1,014
William Payne		-	-	142	142	134
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>211,630</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>	<b>224,299</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 6th July 2021 and signed on its behalf by



Revd. Jamie Taylor (PCC Chairman)



Richard Moore (Treasurer)

The Notes on pages 8 to 12 form part of these accounts

**Parish of Sonning**

**Cash Flow Statement**

**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

	2020		2019	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>		84,850		21,529
<b>Cash Flows from investing activities</b>				
Dividends and Interest from investments	7,554		7,632	
Equipment Costs	(73,500)		(2,558)	
Buildings Cost	(10,506)		(500,234)	
Net Cash provided by / (used in) Investing activities		(76,452)		(495,160)
<b>Cash Flows from financing activities</b>				
	--		--	
Net Cash provided by / (used in) financing activities		--		--
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in reporting period</b>		8,398		(473,631)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		223,241		696,872
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<b>231,639</b>		<b>223,241</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/expenditure</b>				
Net Income before investment gains/(losses) 31 Dec		36,403		(32,687)
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation Charges		37,033		35,177
Dividends, Interest and Rent from investments		(7,554)		(7,632)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors		25,665		27,114
(Decrease) / increase in creditors		(6,697)		(443)
<b>Net Cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>		<b>84,850</b>		<b>21,529</b>
<b>Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash and Bank		227,781		219,399
Short term deposits (less than 3 months)		3,858		3,842
		<b>231,639</b>		<b>223,241</b>

# Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ended 31 December 2020

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair' provisions, together with FRS 102 as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(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 main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

#### Funds

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be retained either 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.

*Restricted funds* represent (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants received for a specific PCC activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investments is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

*Unrestricted funds* (including designated funds) are general funds which are to be spent on the PCC's general purposes.

#### Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received, if necessary by estimated amounts. Grants (including government grants) and legacies are accounted for under the performance model when the PCC is entitled to use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends and rental income are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued (where material). All other income is generally recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

#### Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share expected to be paid over is accounted for when due.

All other expenditure is generally recognized when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

#### Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements. Subsequently no individual item has cost more than £1,000 so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over an appropriate number of years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<b>2(a) Voluntary Income</b>						
Planned Giving		84,888	300	--	85,188	78,263
Tax Recoverable		21,762	75	--	21,837	19,048
Collections (Open Plate)		877	--	--	877	6,838
Other Donations		46,660	310	--	46,970	20,456
Grants	2 (a)	127,888	--	--	127,888	153,105
		<u>282,075</u>	<u>685</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>282,760</u>	<u>277,710</u>
<b>2(b) Activities for Generating Funds</b>						
Magazine Advertising		27,159	--	--	27,159	25,769
Sundry Activities		30	--	--	30	31
		<u>27,189</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>27,189</u>	<u>25,800</u>
<b>2(c) Income from Investments</b>						
Dividends and Interest		1,012	251	6,291	7,554	7,632
		<u>1,012</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>6,291</u>	<u>7,554</u>	<u>7,632</u>
<b>2(d) Income from Church Activities</b>						
Lettings		180	--	--	180	1,134
Fees		4,964	--	--	4,964	8,027
Sundry Income		1,865	--	--	1,865	6,577
		<u>7,009</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>7,009</u>	<u>15,738</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u><b>317,285</b></u>	<u><b>936</b></u>	<u><b>6,291</b></u>	<u><b>324,512</b></u>	<u><b>326,880</b></u>

2(a) Included in Grants is an amount of £12,250 received from the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme in respect of VAT on the new digital organ

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

<b>3(a) Charitable Activities</b>						
Missionary & Charitable Giving						
Church Overseas: Missionary Societies		4,000	--	--	4,000	3,000
Church Overseas: Relief and Development Agencies		750	--	--	750	750
Home Mission and Other Church Societies		5,750	--	--	5,750	5,412
Secular Charities		4,000	--	--	4,000	3,000
Diocesan Parish Share		80,000	--	--	80,000	80,000
Ministry Team Costs		57,630	11,075	--	68,705	69,820
Upkeep of Services		2,283	--	--	2,283	4,773
Parish Training and Mission Costs		7,867	--	--	7,867	19,038
St Andrew's Running Costs and Maintenance		15,962	81	3,077	19,120	25,981
Organ, Organist, Choir, Music		11,875	--	--	11,875	16,060
Upkeep of Churchyard		4,030	170	3,214	7,414	14,412
Jubilee Hall Running Costs and Maintenance		--	--	--	--	(1)
St Sarik Room Running Costs and Maintenance		325	--	--	325	212
The Ark Running Costs and Maintenance		3,302	14,498	--	17,800	23,653
Administration		24,902	6,573	--	31,475	29,206
Magazine Printing and Other Costs		21,935	--	--	21,935	27,391
Miscellaneous		(120)	1,418	--	1,298	2,338
Major Repairs/Decorating		--	--	--	--	34,089
New Buildings/Churchyard		3,450	--	--	3,450	--
		<u>247,941</u>	<u>33,815</u>	<u>6,291</u>	<u>288,047</u>	<u>359,134</u>
<b>3(b) Cost of Generating Funds</b>						
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income		62	--	--	62	433
Fundraising Trading Cost of Goods Sold & Other Costs		--	--	--	--	--
		<u>62</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>433</u>
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<u><b>248,003</b></u>	<u><b>33,815</b></u>	<u><b>6,291</b></u>	<u><b>288,109</b></u>	<u><b>359,567</b></u>

**4 STAFF COSTS**

The PCC had two employees at the end of the year. Details of costs are as follows:

Salary	42,199
Pension Contribution	1,391
	<u>43,590</u>

The above amounts are included in Ministry Team Costs and Administration Costs in Note 3 above.  
Chris West, a trustee, was employed as Youth Minister and his remuneration is included in the above amounts.

**5 PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS**

Expenses paid to Clergy, the Youth Minister and the Lay Minister may include a small immaterial proportion which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments or expenses were paid to any other PCC members or their related parties, except to directly reimburse items paid for on behalf of the PCC.

**6 FIXED ASSETS**

(a) Tangible

		Freehold Land and Buildings	Church Equipment	Total
		£	£	£
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1st January 2019	1,219,269	56,304	772,781
	Disposals	--	(851)	(851)
	Additions at Cost	10,506	73,500	84,006
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>1,229,775</u>	<u>128,953</u>	<u>857,638</u>
DEPRECIATION	At 1st January 2019	53,078	30,903	48,804
	Withdrawn on Disposal	--	851	851
	Charge for the Year	24,504	12,529	37,033
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>77,582</u>	<u>42,581</u>	<u>86,688</u>
NET VALUES	At 1st January 2019	1,166,191	25,401	1,191,592
	Additions at Cost	10,506	73,500	84,006
	Depreciation for Year	(24,504)	(12,529)	(37,033)
	As At 31 December 2020	<u>1,152,193</u>	<u>86,372</u>	<u>1,238,565</u>

(b) Investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Market Value at 1 January	243,689	206,107
Revaluation Gain	14,233	37,582
As At 31 December 2020	<u>257,922</u>	<u>243,689</u>

The Market Value represents investments for

Unrestricted Funds	24,691	25,523
Restricted Funds	8,932	8,354
Endowment Funds	224,299	209,812
	<u>257,922</u>	<u>243,689</u>

**7 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

Tax Recoverable	4,679	4,940
Prepayments	284	24,270
Accounts Receivable	--	1,418
	<u>4,963</u>	<u>30,628</u>

**8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

CAF Bank Acc Balance	198,557	191,985
CAF Bank Mag Acc Balance	28,045	26,379
CCLA (CBF) Deposit Acc	3,858	3,842
Cash in Hand	1,179	1,035
	<u>231,639</u>	<u>223,241</u>

**9 LIABILITIES**

Magazine Adverts Next Year	21,147	26,575
Other	10,008	11,277
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>31,155</u>	<u>37,852</u>

10 COMPARATIVE FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2019 FIGURES)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>	2				
Voluntary Income		270,550	7,160	--	277,710
Activities for Generating Funds		25,800	--	--	25,800
Income from Investments		1,296	224	6,112	7,632
Church activities		15,738	--	--	15,738
Other Income		--	--	--	--
<b>Total income</b>		<b>313,384</b>	<b>7,384</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>326,880</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>	3				
Church activities		317,772	35,250	6,112	359,134
Raising Funds		433	--	--	433
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>318,205</b>	<b>35,250</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>359,567</b>
<b>Net Income/(Expenditure) before Investment Gains</b>		<b>(4,821)</b>	<b>(27,866)</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>(32,687)</b>
Net Gains/(Losses) on		3,175	1,318	33,089	37,582
<b>Net income</b>		<b>(1,646)</b>	<b>(26,548)</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>4,895</b>
<b>Transfers between Funds</b>		<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(1,646)</b>	<b>(26,548)</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>4,895</b>

For clarity, amendments have been made to the presentation of income and expenditure.

11 FUNDS

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		61,052	228,585	173,083	(49,386)	--	67,168
Organ		--	59,187	--	14,313	--	73,500
Mission & Development		28,572	1,488	38,424	11,825	--	3,461
Parish Magazine		1,704	27,190	21,996	--	--	6,898
General Reserve	10(a)	58,175	835	--	--	(832)	58,178
External Giving		5,100	--	14,500	11,825	--	2,425
		<b>154,603</b>	<b>317,285</b>	<b>248,003</b>	<b>(11,423)</b>	<b>(832)</b>	<b>211,630</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		691,324	--	22,488	11,923	--	680,759
Youth	10(b)	2,860	684	--	--	--	3,544
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,695	82	82	--	186	2,881
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	5,659	170	170	--	392	6,051
Ecclesiastical Fund		584,345	--	11,075	(500)	--	572,770
		<b>1,286,883</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>33,815</b>	<b>11,423</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>1,266,005</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	765	18	18	--	53	818
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	3,864	116	116	--	266	4,130
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	97,811	2,935	2,935	--	6,753	104,564
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	3,825	115	115	--	264	4,089
Palmer Charity	10(d)	102,399	3,073	3,073	--	7,073	109,472
Witherington Trust	10(c)	1,014	30	30	--	70	1,084
William Payne		134	4	4	--	8	142
		<b>209,812</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>6,291</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>14,487</b>	<b>224,299</b>
		<b>1,651,298</b>	<b>324,512</b>	<b>288,109</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>14,233</b>	<b>1,701,934</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

10(c)

Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves

10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(d)

Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

11 FUNDS (continued)

Comparatives for movement in funds (2019 figures)

Fund	Notes	Balances Brought Forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Balances Carried Forward
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>							
General Fund		41,707	277,599	233,154	(25,100)	--	61,052
Mission & Development		54,194	6,220	44,392	12,550	--	28,572
Parish Magazine		798	28,656	27,750	--	--	1,704
General Reserve	10(a)	55,000	909	909	--	3,175	58,175
External Giving		4,550	--	12,000	12,550	--	5,100
		<b>156,249</b>	<b>313,384</b>	<b>318,205</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3,175</b>	<b>154,603</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
New Hall		712,363	--	21,039	--	--	691,324
Youth	10(b)	186	6,660	3,986	--	--	2,860
Frances Cooper	10(d)	2,270	59	59	--	425	2,695
Jacqueline Hadida	10(c)	4,766	165	165	--	893	5,659
Ecclesiastical Fund		593,846	500	10,001	--	--	584,345
		<b>1,313,431</b>	<b>7,384</b>	<b>35,250</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,286,883</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>							
Price Davies	10(c)	644	22	22		121	765
Churchyard Trust	10(c)	3,255	113	113		609	3,864
Dickson Memorial Trust	10(c)	82,384	2,850	2,850		15,427	97,811
Mitchell Trust	10(c)	3,222	111	111		603	3,825
Palmer Charity	10(d)	86,250	2,982	2,982		16,149	102,399
Witherington Trust	10(c)	854	30	30		160	1,014
William Payne		114	4	4		20	134
		<b>176,723</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>6,112</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>33,089</b>	<b>209,812</b>
		<b>1,646,403</b>	<b>326,880</b>	<b>359,567</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>37,582</b>	<b>1,651,298</b>

10(a) Reserve of 3 months expenditure

10(b) Funds for Youth Work

10(c) Income to be applied to upkeep of graveyard and certain graves  
 10(d) Income to be applied to Repairs and Maintenance of St Andrew's

12 RELATED PARTIES

The Vicar and Churchwardens, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Bull Inn Ecclesiastical Trust, from which the PCC received grants of £84,750 during the year (2019 - £113,000) to support the work of the PCC in the Parish.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Ranmore Trust, to which the PCC made payments of £12,000 during the year (2019 - £12,000) for the use of a house for the Associate Vicar. The PCC also settled certain invoices on behalf of The Ranmore Trust which were directly reimbursed by the Trust during the year.

The Vicar and Churchwardens are also trustees of The Sonning School and School House Trust, to which the PCC made a donation of £1,500 during the year (2019 - £1,500) to help the Trust support the work of Sonning Primary School.

Mr R Hine and Mrs E Nelson, who are trustees of the PCC, are also trustees of The Friends of St Andrew's Church, Sonning, from which the PCC received a grant of £720 during the year (2019 - £26,103) to fund certain repair and maintenance work for the church.

Mr R Hine, who is a trustee of the PCC, is also a trustee of The Sonning Vicarage Maintenance Trust Fund, from which the PCC received a grant of £30,168 during the year (2019 - £nil) towards the Organ Fund.

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sonning Parochial Church Council

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

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

### Independent examiner's statement

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

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 charity 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 forms 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.

*R M L T A L.*

Richard Mark Lodge Taylor FCCA  
On behalf of Banks & Co Limited  
1 Carnegie Road  
Newbury  
Berks RG14 5DJ

Date: *10.6.2021*