THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-STREET

England & Wales · Charity number 1130847

Details

Other names	ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT CHURCH PCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-07-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Parish Centre Church Chare Chester Le Street DH3 3QB
Phone	01913883295
Email	jrowlandclsparish@gmail.com
Website	www.maryandcuthbert.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Church of England, mission

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£349,030	£376,258	-	-
2024-12-31	£422,486	£378,853	-	-
2023-12-31	£298,059	£322,893	-	-
2022-12-31	£283,110	£335,668	-	-
2021-12-31	£254,989	£270,624	-	-
2020-12-31	£360,274	£296,657	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Matthew David Strand	Chair	2022-03-10
Abbie Lauren Winter		2022-04-07
Alan Pritchard		2026-04-27
Alexander John Nelson		2015-04-21
Brian Armstrong		2023-05-15
Dorothy Crichton Hall		2015-04-21
Dr Kathryn Brown		2023-05-15
Dr Paul William Vincent		2025-05-06
James Peter Hall		2022-04-07
Janice Rowland		2025-05-06
June Austin		2024-04-22
Malcolm Kenneth Austin		2020-10-20
Norma Ann Hedley		2024-04-22
Peter Southern		2024-04-22
Rachel Orr		2024-04-22
Rev Miriam Wakefield		2023-07-01
Sharon Ann Pritchard		2025-05-06
Sharon Dodds		2021-05-04
Susan Mary Begg		2022-04-07
Theresa Anne Conder		2026-04-27
Thomas Appleby		2021-05-04

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-S

England & Wales - Charity number 1130847

Accounts

Charity registration number 01130847 (England and Wales)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Incumbent	The Rev. Matthew Strand
Charity number	01130847
Principal address	Church Chare Chester-le-Street County Durham DH3 3QB
Independent examiner	David McFarlane (ACA) DMC North Accounting Services A1 Marquis Court Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0RU
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 6/7 Market Place County Durham DH1 3ND

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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

Objectives and activities

St Mary and St Cuthbert's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Matthew Strand, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities of the Church Centre complex of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Correspondence may be addressed to the Church Office, Parish Centre, Church Chare, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3QB.

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

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

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. We have described some of the activities we have undertaken to fulfill our objectives below.

Achievements and performance

We aim to give away 5% of the congregation's giving from the previous year and we have achieved that goal - to the agreed charities/mission agencies - local, national and international.

The church's ministry is guided by our vision to be: "A multi-generational church that makes life long disciples of Jesus, where everyone flourishes" and values: "Christ Focussed, Generous Hospitality, Growing Together".

Church attendance

A new electoral roll is being prepared for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting being held on 27th April, 7.30pm.

Financial review

The general, unrestricted income of the PCC in 2025 was £289,299 compared to unrestricted income in 2024 of £282,760.

The organ restoration fund balance stood at £5,510 at the year end. This is restricted towards the repairs and restoration of the organ, and much of the work was undertaken during 2019.

As regards unrestricted expenditure, £121,272 Parish Share has been paid over during the year compared with £115,500 in 2024. Overall, the excess of ordinary unrestricted expenditure over income gave rise to a deficit for the year on unrestricted funds of £43,397 compared to a deficit of £47,620 in 2024.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a minimum cash reserve within its unrestricted funds of £10,000, to enable it to manage the church's normal expenditure requirements. Year end unrestricted bank balances total £13,863. Restricted funds are held until such time as expenditure arises for which they may be used in accordance with the restrictions placed upon their use. There are plans in place to ensure the unrestricted bank balance is in accordance with the policy by the end of 2026.

There has been one legacy in the year totalling £1,000 which was unrestricted in nature.

Risk Factors

The Council members has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

In relation to the management of the major risks that have the potential to adversely affect the work of the church, these are considered by the relevant sub-committees and issues are raised at Council meetings where action is necessary. A formal policy for the protection of children and vunerable adults has been put in place by the PCC and, in accordance with its terms, the necessary DBS searches are made through diocesan channels.

The Standing Committee on behalf of the PCC is responsible for health and safety and maintenance issues within the Parish Centre.

The Standing Committee is responsible for the initial management on behalf of the PCC of financial risks. The same Committee also manages health and safety and maintenance issues within the church building and for compliance with the 5 yearly programme of inspection required of church buildings by the Church of England central authorities. The quinquennial survey was carried out in 2023 and therefore the next report is due in 2028.

This survey covered the general condition of the church, and the recommended time frame for improvements. The area of most concern is the failed boiler which requires immediate action.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) .

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or may be co-opted.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Clergy (ex officio):
Rev Matt Strand, Rector
Rev Miriam Wakefield, Curate

Church Wardens (ex officio):
Brian Armstrong
Sue Begg
Dorothy Hall

Treasurer:
Mr Malcolm Austin

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio):
Alex Nelson (elected 2023)
Rachael Orr (elected 2024)
Peter Southern (elected 2024)
Paul Vincent (elected 2025)
June Austin (elected 2025)

Elected and Co-opted Members:
Edna Sanderson (3rd year of 2nd term)
Tom Appleby (3rd year of 2nd term)
Sharon Dodds (2nd year of 2nd term)
James Hall (2nd year of 2nd term)
Abbie Winter (1st year of 2nd term)
Will Hoy (1st year of 1st term)
Jan Rowland (1st year of 1st term)
Sharon Pritchard (1st year of 1st term)
Kathryn Brown (3rd year of 1st term)
Norma Hedley (2nd year of 1st term)
Elaine Rayner (1st year of 1st term)

Committees
Our Parochial Church Council met six times through the year as usual.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law.
It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Attends to the Financial concerns of the Parish and the Fabric of the Church.

The Council members report was approved by the Board of Council Members.

.....

Rev Matthew strand
Trustee
Dated: 27/4/26

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

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

Independent examiner's statement

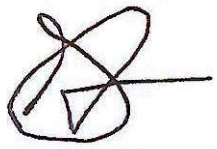
Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

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

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

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



David McFarlane (ACA)
A1 Marquis Court
Team Valley Trading Estate
Gateshead
NE11 0RU

Dated: 29/4/26

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Endowment funds Fixed Assets 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Endowment funds general 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds Fixed Assets 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds general 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	2	156,874	-	54,975	-	211,849	157,816	-	131,094	-	288,910
Charitable activities	3	25,695	-	-	-	25,695	26,680	-	-	-	26,680
Other trading activities	4	104,604	-	-	-	104,604	95,142	-	-	-	95,142
Investments	5	1,555	-	4,756	-	6,311	1,848	-	8,632	-	10,480
Other income	6	571	-	-	-	571	1,274	-	-	-	1,274
Total income		289,299	-	59,731	-	349,030	282,760	-	139,726	-	422,486
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	7	75,404	-	-	-	75,404	67,531	-	-	-	67,531
Charitable activities	8	257,292	4,064	39,498	-	300,854	262,849	4,660	43,813	-	311,322
Total expenditure		332,696	4,064	39,498	-	376,258	330,380	4,660	43,813	-	378,853
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	1,006	1,006	-	-	-	148	148
Net income/(expenditure)		(43,397)	(4,064)	20,233	1,006	(26,222)	(47,620)	(4,660)	95,913	148	43,781
Transfers between funds		32,286	8,323	(40,609)	-	-	(212)	9,277	(9,064)	-	1
Net movement in funds		(11,111)	4,259	(20,376)	1,006	(26,222)	(47,832)	4,617	86,849	148	43,782

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Endowment funds Fixed Assets 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Endowment funds general 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds Fixed Assets 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds general 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Reconciliation of funds:											
Fund balances at 1 January 2025		50,864	26,401	614,331	5,804	697,400	98,696	21,784	527,482	5,656	653,618
Fund balances at 31 December 2025		39,753	30,660	593,955	6,810	671,178	50,864	26,401	614,331	5,804	697,400

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		489,942		487,268
Investments	13		6,810		5,804
			496,752		493,072
Current assets					
Stocks	14	60		60	
Debtors	15	22,650		22,950	
Cash at bank and in hand		157,557		196,167	
		180,267		219,177	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(5,841)		(14,849)	
Net current assets			174,426		204,328
Total assets less current liabilities			671,178		697,400
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general			6,810		5,804
Income funds					
Restricted funds			593,955		614,331
Endowment funds -			30,660		26,401
Unrestricted funds			39,753		50,864
			671,178		697,400

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 27/4/26

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The Rev'd Matthew Strand
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

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

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

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

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.4 Income

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Fundraising costs comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the PCC's cafe.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the PCC in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the PCC.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs are analysed in the notes to the accounts as requested by the Trustees. This is a departure from the SORP which requires support costs to be allocated between the different activities engaged. The analysis in these accounts is thought to provide a more meaningful analysis to the readers of the accounts.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and seperately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

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

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

Plant and equipment	15% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Freehold land and buildings are retained for Church use. These are stated at cost and have not been depreciated due to their market value being considered to be higher than their carrying value.

1.7 Stocks

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	**2025**	**2025**	2024	2024	2024
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Gift Aid	94,941	-	94,941	95,274	-	95,274
Legacies	1,000	-	1,000	2,000	94,454	96,454
Regular non gift aid donations	6,734	-	6,734	7,036	-	7,036
Sundry donations	9,279	1,769	11,048	3,873	5,417	9,290
Miscellaneous appeals	-	2,114	2,114		1,794	1,794
Insurance claims	1,940	4,196	6,136	-	29,429	29,429
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	25,400	-	25,400	32,755	-	32,755
Collections (open plate) at all services	17,580	-	17,580	16,878	-	16,878
Parish centre repairs	-	46,896	46,896	-	-	-
	156,874	54,975	211,849	157,816	131,094	288,910

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Magazine income		
Total	1,167	1,185
PCC fees		
Total	13,134	13,491
Clergy fees		
Total	11,394	12,004
	25,695	26,680

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising	5,523	9,214
Parish centre lettings	26,883	28,419
Catering income	72,198	57,509
Other trading activities	104,604	95,142

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from unlisted investments	1,555	4,756	6,311	1,848	8,632	10,480

Restricted investment income is high in 2024 due to 2 years of Bayles interest being received.

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Feed in tariff	571	1,274

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Trading costs		
Catering costs	27,612	25,049
Parish Centre wages costs	47,792	42,482
Trading costs	75,404	67,531
	75,404	67,531

8 Charitable activities

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Depreciation and impairment	5,699	6,577
Missionary Societies	5,741	6,879
Relief agencies	1,641	2,344
Magazine costs	336	400
Parish centre costs	36,252	37,225
Clergy fees surrendered to Diocese	15,306	18,029
Parish shares	121,272	115,500
Bank charges - Go Cardless	726	-
Organ restoration	484	445
Parish Centre repairs	21,448	-
Curate house expenses	1,988	1,425
Church running expenses	47,329	82,488
Pension contributions	1,197	930
Salaries, wages and honoraria	31,085	28,869
Sundry expenses	666	600
Machine lease and expenditure	2,784	2,784
Accountancy fees	2,890	2,890
Independent examination fees	650	650
HR support	3,360	3,287
	300,854	311,322
	300,854	311,322
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	257,292	262,849
Endowment funds -	4,064	4,660
Restricted funds	39,498	43,813
	300,854	311,322

Church running expenses have decreased in the year due to £29.4k being paid out relating to the repair of the heating system in 2024. This restricted expense was covered by an insurance claim received in that year.

Parish Centre repair work has been carried out in the year, this was covered by donations in the year.

9 Trustees

None of the Council members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC during the year.

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
	8	8

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	74,761	67,587
Other pension costs	1,197	930
	75,958	68,517

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

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2025	450,000	110,757	90,774	651,531
Additions	-	8,323	50	8,373
At 31 December 2025	450,000	119,080	90,824	659,904
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2025	-	90,078	74,185	164,263
Depreciation charged in the year	-	3,204	2,495	5,699
At 31 December 2025	-	93,282	76,680	169,962
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2025	450,000	25,798	14,144	489,942
At 31 December 2024	450,000	20,679	16,589	487,268

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the Parish Centre. The Waldridge Mission Church site and the equity share of 16 Park Road North were both sold during the year.

13 Fixed asset investments

13 Fixed asset investments **(Continued)**

	Total £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2025	5,804
Valuation changes	1,006
At 31 December 2025	6,810
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2025	6,810
At 31 December 2024	5,804

The investment relates to The Lisle and Dorothy Pattison Gift (394.189 Charifund Units).

The Trust Fund is an endowment trust and the income earned may be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

14 Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	60	60

15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025 £	2024 £
Gift aid recoverable	19,000	19,000
Prepayments and accrued income	3,650	3,950
	22,650	22,950

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	5,841	14,849

17 Fund details

The unrestricted funds comprise the General and Areas/Groups Funds as well as the equity share of 16 Park Road North. All other funds are restricted in their use.

The endowment funds comprise of the trust fund as shown in note 12.

The bank account balances are represented by funds as follows:

Fund		Balance @ 01.01.25	Change in year	Transfered in year	Balance @ 31.12.25
General		32,097	(50,520)	32,286	13,863
Fabric	R	104,803	(6,551)	10,000	88,252
Organ Restoration Fund	R	5,994	(484)		5,510
Miscellaneous	R	31,984	18,945	997	49,932
Centre recoupment	R	21,289		21,289	-
		196,167	(38,610)	-	157,557
Total restricted bank balances	R				143,694
Total unrestricted bank balances					13,863

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Designated funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Endowment funds 2025	Total 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024	Designated funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Endowment funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2025 are represented by:										
Tangible assets	9,282	30,660	450,000	-	489,942	10,867	26,401	450,000	-	487,268
Investments	-	-	-	6,810	6,810	5,804	-	-	-	5,804
Current assets/(liabilities)	30,471	-	143,955	-	174,426	39,997	-	164,331	-	204,328
	39,753	30,660	593,955	6,810	671,178	56,668	26,401	614,331	-	697,400

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. CUTHBERT,
CHESTER-LE-STREET
MONDAY 27th APRIL 2026, 7.30 pm in the PARISH CENTRE
ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

AGENDA

All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish, or resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence, are entitled to vote at the election of churchwardens.

1. Bible Reading and Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of 2025 Election of Churchwardens Meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Thanks to Churchwardens
6. Election of Churchwardens
7. Any other business

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of 2025 APCM

3. Matters arising

4. Electoral Roll Report –
   202 people on Electoral Roll (14 people have joined, 23 live outside the parish)

5. Annual Report – including fabric, deanery synod and safeguarding reports

6. Presentation of the accounts for 2025 & resolution to accept the accounts

7. Rector's Report

8. Deanery Synod Election: 3 spaces for 2026 - 2029

9. PCC Election: 6 spaces for 2026-2029

10. Appointments: Independent Examiner -
    Proposal: DMC North Accounting Services

11. Any Other Business

12. Closing Prayer

MINUTES OF THE PARISH OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT, CHESTER LE STREET

Annual Meeting for the Election of Church Wardens
Held on Tuesday 6 May 2025

Revd. Matt Strand, Rector, opened the Meeting and welcomed any new attendees

Minutes of 2024 Meeting: these were agreed as an accurate record. There were 3 abstentions from people who did not attend

Thanks to Churchwardens: Thanks were given to Churchwardens and particularly to Elaine Rayner who had completed a 6-year term

Election of Churchwardens:

3 Churchwardens were proposed and appointed:

Brian Armstrong
Sue Begg
Dorothy Hall

No election was required as there were 4 vacancies

A.O.B

None

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Tuesday 6 May 2025

Apologies for Absence: Dennis & Sylvia Rudd, Michelle Dundas, Abbie Winter, Gordon Sanderson, Karen Richardson,

Matters Arising: None

Electoral Roll Report: 182 people on Electoral Roll, including 31 who live outside the Parish

Annual Reports: including Fabric Report, Deanery Synod and Safeguarding Reports. Matt said these reflected all that had been carried out in our Church between April 2024 and April 2025.

Thanks were given to people who had helped with the drapes in Cuthbert Hall and thanks were also given to kitchen volunteers.

Presentation of Accounts for 2024-25: No questions had been submitted on the Accounts.
Resolution to accept the Accounts was proposed and accepted unanimously. Thanks given to Treasurer Malcolm Austin

Rector's Report: Revd Matt Strand

Elections:

- Deanery Synod Elections:

Current Members:

Alex Nelson
Rachel Orr
Peter Southern

3 spaces available

June Austin and Paul Vincent were proposed and elected

- PCC Elections: 5 spaces available on the PCC were vacant

Jan Rowland
Abbie Winter
Will Hoy
Elaine Rayner
Sharon Pritchard

They were all proposed, seconded and elected

Appointments:

It was agreed to continue with our current auditors – DMC North Accounting Services
Any Other Business:

A.O.B.

Thanks were given to Matt

Closing Prayer: the meeting closed with a prayer from Revd Miriam

Dorothy Hall PCC Secretary

Rectors Report APCM 2025

Believe it or not, this is now my 4th APCM in Chester le Street! Although the first APCM was only a few weeks after I arrived, and this report is definitely longer than that one!

In this time, the life and ministry of the church has continued to progress and develop and as we look back at the past year, this year has certainly been no different. We have seen both the joys of parish life, whilst also facing the challenges.

We see this reflected in the many reports of the life of the parish – we can see God at work in so many ways. The reports are bursting with life and activity because of the hard work of so many people in this church, and because of the grace and goodness of God. Thank you for those who have submitted reports and given us all a snapshot of what has been going on in the life of our parish. Thank you to everyone involved and the many volunteer hours that make this possible. If I tried to name everyone individually who is involved in all that we do, I would either miss someone out or a ministry or activity out, so I won't do that. But please know that your contribution is greatly valued.

Last year, I mentioned about the general downward trend of the traditional ways that people in our parish would engage with our church even if they are not regular worshippers with us – that is through baptisms, weddings and funerals. Our number of funerals have dropped again slightly this year, with the number of weddings and baptisms being very similar.

But with this as a backdrop and general trend, on the other hand, we have also seen the numbers of people coming through the doors of the Parish Centre increase. This is a reflection of the significance of our hospitality. I was in the Parish Centre this morning and I heard the comment being made about how busy the café was. We have seen this increase in footfall reflected in room hire and therefore income from the Parish Centre.

Our services are also regularly welcoming new people, and our congregation size is growing, based on the statistics I submitted to the Diocese in January. Our typical Sunday attendance has increased as has our number of children and young people. As we seek to become a younger and church, this is very good news. The making of and growing disciples of Jesus remains core to what we are about.

These statistics are only based on our services, and don't cover things like Rhyme Time or Mother's Union or the many other mid-week ministries and activities that happen both inside our buildings as well as in the community.

We have also thankfully been warmer for a good part of 2024, as the heating in church was fixed, so thank you to everybody who contributed or gave towards that either practically with the process or with the fundraising effort.

We have also addressed some of the challenges with the Parish Centre – in particular the drains, but there are ongoing challenges with the gas supply and other issues, which I will come back to in a minute.

The backdrop of all of this life and ministry, is unsurprisingly and unfortunately the increase in running costs. Things such as the buying of resources, the wages for our staff and the Parish Pledge have all increase. Utility prices remain very high after their sharp increase a few years ago.

We are therefore in a position where we need to balance our income with our expenditure. One of the key ways of doing this is with the cost of running the Parish Centre. The age and state of the building cannot be ignored.

For example, we are losing a lot of heat out of our windows. They were the best you could buy in the 80s, but now they are not very efficient and a number of them are broken. We also know there are parts of the carpet that are in desperate need of replacing and the paintwork has seen better days. We would also like to use the energy we are generating through our solar panels by installing batteries and using this

energy to power what happens here. We are therefore hoping to reduce our running costs and also help to ensure we are a welcoming and hospitable building.

We are actively seeking a number a grants to do this, but we also need financial support from the congregation. The more funds we raise, the more we can apply for in grants, and the more we can do to improve the Parish Centre. This improvement will significantly help us financially in the longer term because we won't spend so much money on heating an inefficient building. What we are able to do, will entirely depend on how much we are able to raise.

We are therefore going to be launching a fundraising campaign for the Parish Centre, with the details hopefully finalised this week. A booklet is being produced and will hopefully be shared with the congregation on Sunday.

We are also wanting to develop and continue to grow the ministry of the life of the church. With Dave leaving, we will begin the conversation about his replacement with the Diocese in June, alongside having a conversation about a children and youth worker. There is funding available through the Diocese for children and youth work and so we will be talking to the Diocese about how the two roles – the associate and a children and youth worker – can be funded. However, it must be said that the Diocese are not going to completely pay for a children and youth worker and so we also need to ensure that this role is financially sustainable. Therefore, reducing our running costs of our buildings has a big impact not just on buildings, but on the opportunities for people and ministry.

And so, as we look back, we hold together all the things we must be thankful to God for. The ministry and growth that is taking place. But we are also mindful of the ongoing challenges and continuing to do what we feel God is calling us to. We pray for God's grace to abound as we seek his will for us into this next year.
Revd Matt Strand

Fabric Report 2025

Work carried out in the Church building

The work that was planned on the spire was completed. This consisted of the replacement of a rusted steelwork support, the repair of the lightning conductors and refurbishment and re-installation of the weathervane. There was also some repair to stonework on the Tower which was damaged by the weathervane as it came down in the heavy winds. Bird proof netting was fitted to the inside of the Louvre dents in the bell tower to prevent pigeons from nesting and damaging the stonework and making a mess at the church entrance.

The council also repaired the damaged clock pointer. We have reported that the clock is not showing the correct time at the moment but will have to wait until they come to look at it as the clock is their responsibility.

Insulated foil has been fitted behind radiators that are on outside facing walls to prevent heat loss and new brush Draught Proofing has been installed to doors and the internal porch to try to keep the heat in the building and draughts out.

The work to refurbish and repair the cast iron gutters and downspouts unfortunately did not go ahead as planned because of a family illness and bereavement with the contractor but we hope that it will go ahead soon. We send our prayers and condolences to the family.

We are hoping to get the church LED lighting updated and improved with the help of the £3000 grant. Thanks to Rachel Orr and Malcolm Rowland for their work to achieve this.

There is still some outstanding work to be done in the bell tower as identified in the quinquennial report. This is the painting of the steel

work supporting the bells. We will be getting quotes for this project soon.

Work carried out in the Parish Centre

We must thank you all for your most generous donations to our ongoing Parish Centre fundraising and for the many grants we have received from many sources that have enabled us to do the work so far this year in our Parish Centre. This work not only improves our building but it also helps us reduce our carbon footprint and helps us achieve a Net Zero target.

We have had new windows, doors and blinds installed. We have had insulation put in the lofts. The walls of the centre have had cavity wall insulation installed. We have had new kitchen equipment including a new electric oven, warming cabinet and water boiler. A few roof tiles had to be replaced near the Solar Panels to prevent leaks. The wooden floors in 'Mary' and 'Cuthbert' rooms have been re-polished as necessary to keep them in good condition. Some extra curtains have been added to the walls in Cuthbert to further improve the sound quality for the 11 am service. Thanks to Malcolm Rowland and Bob Davison for doing this. Thank you to everyone who works in or helps out in any way to keep our Parish Centre running smoothly and well maintained.
Brian Armstrong – Churchwarden

Safeguarding

As named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) for St Mary & St Cuthbert's Church I wish to report the following:

There are currently no active safeguarding incidents to report at this present time.

All existing safeguarding incidents have been actioned and dealt with following the appropriate procedures.

In the past 12 months we have had two safeguarding incidents. These have been fully investigated by the safeguarding team and, where necessary, outside agencies have been involved. The safeguarding incidents which we have supported in the last 12 months have brought new challenges for us. We are extremely grateful to the love and support shown by many of the Parish Centre volunteers, in particular those who have helped keep our most vulnerable members safe during this time. The safeguarding team have worked to support the wider families of those in need, ensuring health and safety is ensured for all members of our church, whilst supporting our most vulnerable.

Safer Recruitment of volunteers

We continue to use the Parish Safeguarding Dashboards to review and monitor our safeguarding policies and procedures. The dashboard is rooted in those safeguarding actions that are necessary under the Church of England 'Promoting a Safer Church' policy and the Durham Diocesan Safeguarding Policy. This remains ongoing.

During the past 12 months we have made good progress in completing this dashboard as we add details of training and checks completed by volunteers for different roles within the church. We thank all those who have completed and updated their training thus far. Support from the PCC is welcomed in achieving this.

Continued appreciation is extended to Sharon Dodds, Deputy PSO for all her hard work and dedication which occurs behind the scenes, updating the Parish Dashboard on an ongoing basis.

It is imperative that we work together as a team to help keep our church safe.

For all those involved in keeping our church safe, we give thanks.
Sarah Hindle-Green

PCC Report 2025-2026

The PCC had 22 members this year and there have been 7 meetings held since January 2025 up to this APCM.

The following matters were covered:

- Election of new PCC secretary – Rachel Orr. Dorothy Hall thanked for her 10 years' service.
- Fundraising launch for the Parish Centre supported by the Net Zero Action Planning Team. (Please see Outreach articles for further details.)
- Money raised through grants currently amounting to £22,413
- Areas in the Parish Centre addressed through fundraising – windows, blinds, loft insulation, kitchen appliances no electric and not gas, cavity wall insulation – this should have an impact upon our energy bills.
- Weather vane, clock repairs and church gutters carried out – the pictures shared in Outreach show how amazing the work was.
- Reports from Deanery Synod meetings – see separate report and all minutes are available to read.
- A portable card machine is now in use in the Parish Centre.
- Peter Jeynes given permission to officiate
- Sharon Pritchard nomination to train for licensed lay ministry approved by PCC
- 2 Debit cards approved by PCC for spending use
- The CofE has sold off the Parish Buying Scheme for energy and the PCC decided to stay in the new scheme.
- Diocesan Synod have approved a new safeguarding policy. The policy has been streamlined so that it reflects/signposts to the national guidance for safeguarding.
- Church charity accounts have been discussed with some monies being awarded to our charitable giving.
- DBS data breach reported by Access Personal Checking Services Ltd (APCS) – individuals affected in our church have been contacted.
- Limited remaining new graveyard space for ashes - estimated another few years.
- CMS financial support will continue, now that Ian and Sue Jennings have returned to UK, and will transfer to a new couple Elise and John Fletcher based in South East Asia in Bangkok

- Associate and Children & Youth Worker - The Archdeacon will be contacting the Bishop's leadership team first and then a further meeting will discuss the processes.
- We are moving to a new accounting system through the diocese.
- Additional curtains added to Cuthbert.
- Guided pledge discussed and confirmed at £121,000

Rachel Orr, PCC Secretary

Deanery Synod Report (Full Minutes are available)

- For the last year our church has been well represented at all synod meetings.
- At all synod meetings, each church represented spoke about their joys and challenges.
- Synod received a presentation from Claire Estall and Maddy Fisher from Communities Together Durham (CTD), detailing their work in our communities supporting people who are experiencing poverty of all kinds. There was a demonstration of how easily families with two children and a typical, but below the national average, income could fall into financial difficulties as a result of unexpected outgoings such as cars needing servicing, vets bills, new school uniforms, etc. Synod heard that working families were the fastest growing group of people who were falling into poverty, and that the financial baseline for free school meals was very low and means tested. Claire and Maddy noted that the Church was uniquely placed to support people experiencing any type of poverty as a result of geography (Churches are in all communities), autonomy (we need no permissions to care for people) and our calling to give hospitality. It was also noted that many people experiencing poverty have a distrust of institutions and government, even Doctors and housing associations, but they do trust the Church. CTD were carrying out a number of projects and initiatives to support our communities, including financial models for debt support, the Parish Nursing Project, toolkits to challenge negative mindsets, propaganda and bias (which Churches can use), a curriculum for year 7 and 8 designed for clergy and laity use with schools, a prison chaplaincy project, and the first food summit for the North East was planned for 2026 – "Hope and Scope – beyond food banks", with aim

of maximizing people's income and sourcing better and more economical food provision.

- Presentation by Revd Claire Gibbs, Creation Care Officer. (See Outreach article reflecting looking after our planet.)
- New Archdeacon of Sunderland is Rev Katherine Bagnall - announced. Rev Katherine presided over communion at Deanery Synod in October 2025.
- Presentation by Revd Steph Clark on the Vacancy Audit Process (VAP)
- Bishop of Durham announced and timescales shared
- Other vacancies for churches in our announced.

Rachel Orr

Net Zero and Parish Centre Fundraising

We have replaced the windows which were inefficient and broken and made the Parish Centre warmer for the winter. We have also replaced the old window blinds, the gas cooker with an electric cooker and a new extra water boiler. We have had loft and cavity wall insulation installed. These will all go towards reducing our gas consumption and help to bring our heating bills down. All the lighting in the Parish Centre will soon be LED and we shall have motion sensors in toilets and corridor areas.

This was achieved through donations from the congregation and local community and grants from the Diocese and the following charitable trusts:

Durham Diocese £3363
Benefact Trust £2300
Sir John Priestman Trust £5000
Catherine Cookson Trust £1000
Church of England Decarbonisation Grant £3000
Beatrice Laing £2500
Rothley Trust £1250

Next steps:

Continue to apply for grants as well as fundraising to zone of heating with thermostats so we only heat spaces being used and plan for new flooring and redecoration.

Our church is also registered with https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/ and top tips on being more environmentally and eco-friendly are shared in Outreach every month.
Rachel Orr

Mothers' Union January – December 2025

There have been some changes to our membership this year, currently totalling 47. We have enrolled two new members but also sadly a much loved member has passed. And two members have transferred to another Branch within the Diocese.

We have met regularly every second and fourth Mondays in the month with slight variations due to Bank and school holidays. These meetings being regularly attended by 25-30 members.

With the sudden and unexpected resignation of the Branch Leader, it was agreed at the Annual General Meeting in 2025 that the Committee would run the Branch in the absence of a Branch Leader. We did, however welcome a new member to the Committee. The Committee have met regularly to organise meetings and fundraising events.

During the year, our members can be seen ministering in many Church activities, Baptisms, Messy Church, Toddler Rhyme Time, Warm Spaces, in the Café and in Church services generally.

As usual for Mothering Sunday, Mothers' Union members assembled daffodils into posies to be presented to those ladies attending services that day. Bookmarks eing gifted to those attending the Thursday service the same week.

Members have continued to raise funds or donate goods to support local needs as well as Mothers' Union projects abroad. By celebrating and sponsoring influential women in our lives we were able to raise funds for Mothers' Union annual fundraising event to aid mothers in developing countries. Goods donated to our Harvest Festival Service were taken to a local Foodbank. A Christmas Fayre, and an Auctioning of donated goods on another occasion, gave us the opportunity to raise funds for Mothers' Union work at home and abroad.

We hosted the Deanery Quiet Day when we welcomed Mothers' Union members from other Churches in Chester-le-Street and Houghton-le-Spring Deanery, to a service in the Parish Church. The unexpected response of the written prayers from this reflective service can be seen on display in the Parish Centre.

We too, have travelled to join other Branch members for Deanery events, travelling to St Michael's and All Angels church Houghton-le-Spring and parading our banner for Lady Day, to Christ Church, Great Lumley for the Deanery "Rise Up" service and to Holy Trinity church, Washington to participate in the Deanery Overseas service.

At Branch meetings we have celebrated Holy Communion with Revd Matt, Revd Miriam visited us at "Celebrations" time to present long services awards to those members who had served 45 years, 30 years and 25 years respectively. Later in the year Revd Miriam joined us again to speak at our Carol service which was open to the wider church and community. Invitations being delivered to local churches. Peter Jeynes and John Hopper guided us through Lent.

Guest speaker, Maureen Nevitt from the local charity "Books and Bread for Kenya", gave us an update on the support the charity gives to needy children in Kenya.

Other Branch activities included topics such as, Inspirational women from the North East, crosses and their significance and the symbolic "Dove". Again some of our responses can be seen on display in the Parish Centre.

A very enjoyable social event was our Christmas meal at The Wheatsheaf, Barley Mow. Also some members joined Branch members of st Michael and All Angels, Houghton-le-Spring at their Summer of Hope event, a strawberry tea with entertainment by Sunderland Male Voice choir.

Our Branch were represented at Diocesan events, Council meetings and Founder's Day service held in Durham. And at two very special services held at Durham Cathedral, Indoor Members Prayer Circle and the Mothers' Union Festival service when again we paraded our banner.

As a Branch we have been very busy embracing new challenges and changes which we hope will bear fruit in the future.

The Committee would like to thank all Staff members, with special thanks to Jan and all our members for their prayers, generosity and support throughout the year.
Aileen Armstrong, Branch Secretary

Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team continues to offer pastoral care to any member of the congregation and wider community. This includes regular individual visits for general support and prayer, ad-hoc visits on request, bereavement visits and many regular Home Communion visits.

This past year past year has seen us continue to provide monthly Holy Communion services at St Mary's Nursing Home, Picktree Court Care Home, both sites of Lindisfarne Care Home and The Elms.

Holyoakes monthly drop-in group at South Pelaw continues to be a blessing to the community, thanks to its volunteers.

Huge gratitude goes to our team of volunteers who carry out these visits with compassion and respect, demonstrating God's love for all and strengthening our church 's links within the community.
Sharon Dodds

Bereavement Support Group

This year we have completed the third group and started a fourth, which will come to an end in June. A further group will start in September. Group meetings have between 6 to 12 attendees, typically 8-10, including Louise and myself and Sue Begg when needed. Some attended many meetings, some only one or two. We had originally envisaged that new group members would attend each group and then new members would start a new group. However, some have joined a group late in its cycle and continue into the next, and others have benefited from coming to several groups. Recruitment has been via word of mouth and posters in the parish centre. Disappointingly, posters in local supermarkets, the Elms, and writing to all the local GP practices' social prescribers and funeral homes, has not yet resulted in any new referrals.

We continue to be grateful for Sue Begg's gift of hospitality to the bereavement support group for all our sessions.

There is a loose curriculum, in that there are areas that we now know all bereaved people will want to cover. We try to make each topic reflect what the participants most want to cover at that time. The topic of the next session is chosen by general agreement of the group. Stories and difficulties are shared and there is much mutual support. And surprisingly, given the nature of everyone's loss, sometimes laughter.

At the end of each course our members can join the popular 'bereavement drop-in' facilitated by Norman and Julie, which runs on alternate Wednesday afternoons, for which we are very grateful.
Paul and Louise Vincent

Care home services at Picktree Lodge and Durham House.

Louise and I continue to visit both care homes once a month to lead services. These are a lot of fun and very rewarding. The congregation members clearly value our visits. We try to make the service relatively liturgy light, and we use some familiar passages for each service, including psalm 23. We typically have an attendance of about 14 to 20 residents.
We sing two songs usually accompanied by sax or guitar, mostly familiar hymns.

We have a participatory type of activity. A recent addition has been a set of real handbells which we have great fun trying to ring in 'rounds,' but usually end up making a happy noise. Acted out bible sketches seem to work well. Louise finishes the service with prayers.
We have started communion services at Durham House, at their request.
We have worked closely with activity coordinators which has been a real blessing in itself.
Paul and Louise Vincent

Prayer Ministry

Prayer ministry continues to be available at the 11.00am services, thanks to our wonderfully dedicated prayer ministry team including Tessa, Ann, Val, Karen, Lynda, Alan and Louise.

We would love more people to take advantage of prayer ministry provision, in response to the sermon and for personal requests.

It's always a privilege to support people in prayer and an encouragement to see the difference it makes. The Lord delights in us drawing near to Him in prayer.
Louise Vincent

Litter Picking Ministry

The litter picking groups at St Mary's and St Cuthbert's continue to be a visible and practical expression of our church's commitment to caring for God's world and serving our local community. Rooted in our Christian vision and values, this ministry brings together environmental stewardship, community engagement, and personal wellbeing in a simple but powerful act of service.

Vision and Values

Litter picking is one of **practical stewardship**: responding to God's call to care for creation and to love our neighbours through tangible action. By regularly caring for our streets, paths and green spaces, we seek to honour God as Creator and demonstrate a faith that is lived out beyond the church walls. This activity reflects our shared values.

Regular Activity and Commitment

The group continues to meet consistently:

- **Every Sunday**
- **Every Tuesday**
- **Every other Wednesday**

This regular rhythm has been key to making a sustained and visible difference in our local area. The commitment of volunteers week in and week out is a strong testament to the faithfulness and generosity of our church community.

Impact and Outcomes

The scale of the impact continues to be significant:

- **Over 2,000 bags of litter collected each year**
- **Around 1,000 discarded vapes removed annually**

These figures represent cleaner, safer public spaces and a positive witness to the wider community. Regular activity means that areas remain cleaner for longer, helping to discourage further littering and improving pride in the local environment.

Community Partnerships

The litter picking ministry has developed strong links beyond the church:

- **Local businesses** have supported and participated in activities
- **Local schools** have engaged with the project, helping to foster environmental awareness among young people

These collaborations reflect our commitment to working openly and positively with others for the common good, and help build relationships between the church and the wider community.

Growth and Wellbeing

The group has **continued to grow**, welcoming people of different ages and backgrounds. Alongside the environmental benefits, participants regularly report the positive effects on:

- **Mental wellbeing**, through social connection, purpose, and time outdoors
- **Physical wellbeing**, through gentle, regular activity

In this way, the ministry not only serves the community but also supports the health and wellbeing of those who take part.

Financial Support and Resources

We are grateful to have received a **£500 donation from a local businessman**, given specifically in recognition of the positive impact of the work. This generous support has enabled the purchase of **litter collection trolleys**, making the activity safer, more accessible, and more sustainable for volunteers.

Communication and Visibility

The work of the group is shared through an active Facebook community, helping to encourage participation, celebrate achievements, and maintain transparency and accountability. This has also helped raise awareness of the church's role within the local community.

Conclusion

The litter picking groups at St Mary's and St Cuthbert's remain a strong example of faith in action. Through regular, committed service, we continue to care for God's creation, strengthen community relationships, and support the wellbeing of those involved. We give thanks for the dedication of volunteers, the support of partners, and the opportunity to live out our Christian calling in such a practical and visible way. We are grateful for all those who help lead and participate making a difference across the area.
Ian Hoult

Messy Church Report

Group Name: Messy Church
Group Leader (with responsibility): Will Hoy
Group Leaders: 10
Group Members: 52 children (currently on the system - up from 42 in 2024)

We have had such an exciting year for Messy Church. Our numbers have stayed steady, and have been able to build our relationships with the families, which can he shown by attendance in some of our intergenerational and special services.

Achievements and Highlights

One of our highlights from the last year was our July Messy Church which took place in the Rectory Garden. There was a different atmosphere than normal, with us being outside and doing slightly different activities.

Activities and Events

During the year, we met 11 times – each month excluding August.

Each month we have a different theme, excluding the obvious themes, like Easter and Christmas, we also focus on parables, and many different stories teaching us lots of different things.

In our July Messy Church, as per our new tradition this took place in the Rectory Garden, having smaller activities, and also having a BBQ.

The first half of the session (4-5pm) runs in Mary, where there is a variety of crafts made for all ages, that way there is something for everyone. We usually have one food craft, followed by 5-6 craft/building activities.

After the children finish their crafts and activities at around 5pm, they walk across to the church for a short, fun-filled service. Normally we start off with a game or activity which is linked to the theme, for example, finding the sheep around the church for the parable of the lost sheep. The celebration (the service) consists of the story being told (which is normally in an interactive way), pictures of what the children have made, discussions on what they most enjoyed, and then it is followed by an action song, as well as an interactive talk and prayer.
Will Hoy

Warm Spaces

Our warm spaces group meets twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays, we have 8 volunteers split between the two meetings and approximately 20 to 25 regular guests. Our guests are offered refreshments with cake and biscuits and during the colder months (Oct to March) the addition of homemade soup on a Tuesday and sandwiches on a Friday.

At all our sessions we offer colouring / wordsearch books and on a Tuesday we have a Quiz and on a Friday we have bingo, both activities are greatly enjoyed. We celebrate birthdays with a cake and card; each guest receives a food bag once a month and we hold a Christmas party with Christmas carols from the local Ukulele group which we greatly appreciate and each guest receives a present. During our sessions we feel it is not just about giving out refreshments and food but spending

time getting to know our guests, offering emotional support, pastoral care and prayer when needed and showing Gods love in all we do.

With the very generous donations of food from our Church congregation, we are able to give each guest a food bag once a month. We are also able to provide approx. 16 bags a month to Durham food bank. We also have 4 emergency food bags made up for anyone who walks in and is in need of some support, the clergy and Jan are aware of this and can give out when needed.

Once a week the clothes that are donated are offered to our guests for a small donation, this is always popular and any money made goes straight back into Warm spaces funds to cover the running costs . However, it is important to mention that anyone in need , the homeless or anyone struggling are offered whatever they need from the clothes and toiletry donations .

We also have for the homeless, flasks and camping mats which were bought with a donation, Thankfully we have been able to kit out quite a few of our homeless guests. Our expenses cover the cost of providing food and drinks, craft supplies, Birthday cakes and cards, Christmas buffet and presents. Without these funds we would not be able to provide many of the prementioned items and activities, so your generous donations of food and clothes are much appreciated. We also bag up clothes that were not needed and we try to send them to homeless charities.

Thank you from the warm spaces team and guests for your love, prayers and generous donations.

Matthew 25:35
For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in.

Michelle Dundas

Parish Centre Café

It has been a busy year in the Parish Centre Café. It is a real resource and a place for the community to come and to gather throughout the week. A space for those who come daily, weekly or those who are just popping in. There is such an incredible team of volunteers who, without whom the café wouldn't be able to operate as well as our paid staff, Sharon, Ben, Caroline and Will.

Our kitchen volunteers do a great job of washing dishes, washing pots and pans, cleaning up after Sharon, Ben, Will and Caroline. They also may ask them to prepare the salads if we are particularly busy, also working the coffee machine which can still be problematic from time to time. Our waitress staff do a great job of taking orders and serving the customers, they also clear and clean the tables before they sit down for their free lunch which is well deserved for all staff. We ask all our customers to respect our amazing volunteers.

CAP Job Club

Our Job Club started in 2017 utilises the course created by Christians Against Poverty (CAP) a charity set up in Bradford 30 years ago to assist individuals escape from debt. CAP is championed by the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) to run job clubs across the country and we have received requests to organise and run job clubs in towns nearby. We remain focused on our dual aims of helping individuals in preparing them for their job journey from self-confidence improvement, through recognising skills they possess to CV improvement and job interview practice alongside being witness to the transformational impact of Jesus on lives.

Since the last APCM in 2025, the CAP Job Club Team have completed 3 eight week courses, supported with referrals from the Chester Le Street Job Centre

Attendances vary but the courses have involved participants ranging in number from 5 to 11 . The courses are well supported by volunteers including trained coaches, and befrienders.

We have seen many attendees achieve their goals in finding employment, seen many feel that they are loved and have skills and some making steps towards a love for Jesus.

The Team have completed 18 courses since 2017

In the last year courses ran as follows:

Series 16: February 2025 - April 2025

Series 17: September 2025 - November 2025

Series 18: February 2026 - March 2026

We are in regular contact with the Job Centre who support our work. The Team held a review in April 2025 when Team members discussed how to improve the delivery of the courses.

If you have a heart for helping others in a practical way to find work then please contact Ian Goulding (07594525585) as we are always looking to increase the team. Thanks to Matt and the PCC for financially supporting this outreach.
Ian Goulding & Dennis Hall

Open the Book

During the last year the team has continued to visit 3 schools (Chester-le-Street CofE, Newker and Red Rose) on a monthly basis. Although the team has a couple more members than we have had in previous years because of personal commitments and other problems some good and some not so good, we have sometimes had a bit of a struggle to get together enough members to be able to do justice to the stories we are telling. However we have fulfilled all our planned visits. It is a priviledge and a pleasure to visit the schools and do this work. We are warmly welcomed at all three schools.

These schools all visit the church at various times during the year. But Red Rose only bring their Key Stage 2 children and Key Stage 1 children miss out. So just before Christmas we were asked if we could do a Christingle service for them at the School. The children had made their

Christingles in lesson time and we showed a Powerpoint presentation, Bryan dressed in a Christingle costume. The afternoon ended with the children lighting their Christingles and singing 2 Christmas songs. It was a great time enjoyed by all and I think it might well be repeated next Christmas.

If you would like to find out more about Open the Book, do get in touch with myself or Ann Wilson via the Parish Office.
Norma Hedley

Small Groups

Small groups are a key way that people can develop in their discipleship and receive spiritual nourishment. Many of the groups have been meeting together for several years and good friendships have been formed as people have grown together in faith.

Each group decides whether to study a theme or a book of the bible, and there are many resources available to use. Some groups include sung worship in their time together and draw on other creative arts such as poetry or artwork. At Christmas one group distributed small knitted angels to the people of Chester-le-Street.

Revd Miriam meets with the small group leaders quarterly to reflect, receive some input and support one another.

Accounts can be viewed on the website:
www.maryandcuthbert.org.uk/apcm

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-S

England & Wales - Charity number 1130847

Accounts

TUESDAY 6th MAY 2025, 7.30 pm in PARISH CENTRE
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

AGENDA

All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish, or resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence, are entitled to vote at the election of churchwardens.

1. Bible Reading and Prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of 2024 Election of Churchwardens Meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Thanks to Churchwardens
6. Election of Churchwardens
7. Any other business

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

AGENDA

Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of 2024 APCM
3. Matters arising
4. New Electoral Roll Report
   182 people on Electoral Roll of which 31 live outside of the parish
5. Annual Report – including fabric, deanery synod and Safeguarding reports
6. Presentation of the accounts for 2024 & resolution to accept the accounts
7. Rector's Report
8. Deanery Synod Election: 2 spaces for 2023 – 2026
9. PCC Elections: 5 spaces available
10. Appointments: Auditor, proposal David Nattrass
11. Any Other Business
12. Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Election of Churchwardens
Held on Monday 24th April 2024

Revd Matt Strand welcomed 44 people to the meeting.

Minutes of 2023 Election of Churchwardens meeting
All who were present at 2023 meeting agreed, 11 abstentions

Thank you to our Churchwardens
Thank you to our Churchwardens who have served the parish in the past year, those being Sue Begg, Elaine Rayner and Brian Armstrong

Elections of Churchwardens
Nominations are:

Sue Begg, nominated by Peter Jeynes, seconded by Tom Appleby
Elaine Rayner, nominated by Sharon Dodds, seconded by Tom Appleby
Brian Armstrong, nominated by Sharon Dodds, seconded by Tom Appleby
Dorothy Hall, nominated by Tom Appleby, seconded by Vivienne Watson

All agreed unanimously.

Any other business
There was none

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on Monday 24th April 2024

No Matters arising from 2023 meeting.

Electoral Roll Report
329 people on electoral roll (4 people have joined, 5 people have died, 1 person has moved away).

Annual Report – including fabric, deanery synod and safeguarding reports.

As booklet which has been available the last two Sundays. Accepted as accurate record of things which have been happening in the life of the church. All agreed.

Presentation of accounts for 2023

There were no questions submitted to the Accountants from the congregation.

Resolution to accept the accounts for 2023 as an accurate record – unanimous

Rector's Report – this was shared with congregation on Sunday morning 4.5.25

APCM 24 Rector's Report
Based on Acts 4.5-12 & John 10.11-18

This morning, my sermon is going to be a bit different to normal. As part of the annual church meeting - the APCM that is taking place tomorrow evening at 7.30pm in church, there is always a Rector's Report. But of course, the only people who then hear that are those who attend the meeting. I am therefore going to share some thoughts with you as we look back to last year and forward to this year. But before I get into the details, let's take a brief look at today's passage.

Jesus says that he is the good shepherd. By that, he means that a shepherd who will do whatever it takes to protect his sheep. If you pay someone to look after your sheep, if there is any sign of danger, they will run away – thinking only about themselves and their own safety and survival. But if you are the shepherd and they are your sheep, you care deeply for them and do whatever it takes to protect them. There is a deep connection, bond and understanding between the sheep and the shepherd.

Jesus says of himself in John 10.14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me." One of the key markers of what it means to be a follower of Jesus [i.e. one of his sheep] is that his sheep "listen to my voice". Of course, Jesus demonstrates that he is the good shepherd by making the ultimate sacrifice, by laying down his life for the sheep.

A significant part of what it means for us to be a sheep of the good shepherd is to grow in hearing God's voice, discerning where he is leading us and following his guidance. As we live out our life as a church together every day, we are seeking to do the same.

Today this is an opportunity to talk about that journey. For us as a church, we went through this listening and discernment together through our prayer room and various meetings, and this process started about 18 months ago.

We agreed our vision to be: "A multigenerational church, that makes life-long disciples of Jesus, where everyone flourishes."

Multi-generational – church of all ages. Life-long disciples of Jesus – this is our purpose for existing as a church. Where everyone flourishes - whoever we encounter through the ministry of the church, we want them to flourish.

We want to flourish together across our broad spectrum of services and activities. We believe that ultimate flourishing comes from being a disciple of Jesus.

This discernment process also included the change of our service pattern. The outworking of this vision every day can be seen in the APCM booklet with lots of reports about what has been happening in life of the church during the past year or so. These reports represent a lot of hard work, prayer, passion and energy as so many people give their time towards the fulfilment of what God has called us to as a church.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has contributed and volunteered towards the life of this church over the past year in whatever way. Whether the ministry or activity is specifically mentioned in the booklet or not. You are what make this church what it is.

A few examples of what this vision has meant in practice this year, I think would be helpful. This is not an exhaustive list!

Multi-generational:
The children's work on a Sunday morning and Messy Church,

Launching of our toddler group Rhyme Time, Work with schools.

Life-long disciples of Jesus:
Developing our small groups, meeting with the leaders to discuss how to best support them, day time and evening Lent Course, Alpha Course with the other churches in January

Where Everyone Flourishes:
Warm spaces, Development of the café, new menu, pastoral care, visits and care homes, social events such as quiz.

Dave and Miriam joined us in July and have played a very significant part in this work and are both doing an excellent job. If we compare our annual attendance statistics to last year, our church has grown. We had more people through our doors at Christmas and Easter compared to the previous year. This has happened alongside challenges, such as the heating in the church. Thank you to everyone who donated or helped with that process, which is ongoing.

We are also in a significantly changed cultural landscape even compared to 10 years ago. What it means to be the church today is very different.

Funerals 2014 142 vs 2023 60
Weddings 2014 37 vs 2023 12
Baptisms 2014 93 vs 2023 42

We have to keep looking forward and to the future. As a team, we are constantly thinking and praying about how to develop the work and life of the church. Specifically, we have done and are doing that through the Diocesan ‘Health for Growth’ Learning Community.

A small group of us have been going to sessions at Cuthbert House every couple of months and thinking about various aspects of the church’s life, including our vision, discipleship, values and structures. This is where the survey we did in January came from. This process is ongoing, and we haven’t come to the end. But part of this process has helped us to think about our values as a church. If vision is about the destination we are working towards – by the grace of God, what we

want to see in the future. Values are about who we are on the journey towards the fulfilment of our vision.

We have developed 3 values that I want to share with you today, that were agreed at our latest PCC meeting. These values will help to shape our ministry and thinking in the future. They are both a part-reflection of who we are now, but also aspirational for who we want to be going forward. The 3 values all have the value itself and a short explanation of what that means.

Christ focused: All we do points to Christ.
All of our ministry and life together, however people interact with us, we want to point to Christ.

Generous Hospitality: All are welcomed, valued and known.
If you come through the doors of the church, Parish Centre or someone's home we want to be a church who go above and beyond to make everyone feel welcome.

Growing together: All have a place and part to play.
We want more than just everyone to feel welcome, we also want everyone to feel like they belong, it is a space to build deep relationships and we want to make space for everyone to be able to contribute and grow.

Over the next 3 Sunday's, our sermons are going to be looking at these values in more detail. The vision and values will both be really helpful as we continue to develop the life of the church. I am not here today to tell you we have got everything sorted. There are lots of areas that we pray will continue to grow and develop.

For example, to give you a little snap shop: We are currently finalising the details for the children and youth worker role. We hope to advertise for that soon. We are reflecting on how we best facilitate discipleship and exploring new groups. We are going to be running another Alpha Course in September (a daytime version). Developing the Parish Centre – we have received a grant for new tables, are improving the acoustics in Cuthbert (large hall). We are planning on more social events this year

Thank you for being part of this journey as we seek to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow his lead. Please continue to pray for the process and the next steps. Thank you again, for all that you do, all your prayers and support as we seek to follow God faithfully in Chester le Street.

Follow up questions from Rector's Report

Baptisms – there hasn't been baptism visitors going to families, we still hold baptism preparation evenings before the baptism services.

Christmas Day and Easter services – wonderful services – will there be more opportunities to worship as a whole parish at other times of the year. We reflect on how we do that in the future, we are all going together in the same direction through different services to welcome more people in.

We respond to where we are now culturally, baptisms, funerals and weddings are all low. People do value the services but do things differently.

Follow up after funerals – families feedback is very positive.

Deanery Synod Elections nominations

We have four vacancies for this: Rachel Orr, proposed by Peter Southern, seconded by Elaine Rayner all in favour.
Peter Southern, proposed by James Stothard, seconded by Rachel Orr
Deanery Synods will be working with a new Bishop, when appointed and will
decide on clergy number appointments moving forward.

Thankyou to Mike Heaps for his service on the Deanery Synod and has decided to stand down

PCC Elections: Nominations

Norma Hedley, proposed by Michelle Dundas seconded by Aileen Armstrong
Sharon Dodds proposed by Jan Rowland, seconded by Terry Culkin

June Austin, proposed by Malcolm Austin, seconded by Jan Rowland
James Hall, proposed by Frances Hall, seconded by Malcolm Rowland
All agreed

Thank you to all those who have served on the PCC over the last year. Anne Smith will stand down.

Appointments

Current Auditors: DMC North Accountants – all agreed to continue with them.

Any other business

Rachel Orr – attended today a Collective Worship at C of E School, It's great to see how the children interact – Rachel is a Foundation Governor at the school along with Revd Matt and Revd Dave, the school needs co-opted governors, if you are interested speak to Rachel. Great to see lots of events which involve lots of children in church.

Tessa Condor – thank you to the team and all involved in all that goes on in our church.

Paul Vincent – asked for church heating system update – we are confident that the heating will be installed soon. It will be two boilers as the 'Greener' option was not possible, after much investigating, in church this time. Petitions will go up for a month shortly and then hopefully agreed by the Chancellor.

Joyce Armstrong – loves the 11 am service – enjoys the joy of the children being there.

Peter Southern – part of the stewarding team, encourage others to join the team.

Louise Vincent – feels church is moving forward, intergenerational, wondered if there are any plans for toilets in church– Matt recognises there are accessibility challenges with the church building, lots of challenges, the reality to put in toilets will be part of a long term plan as will take hundreds of thousands of pounds as well as other projects in church. We are talking about this.

Closing prayers – led by Revd Dave.

APCM Reports 2025

PCC Report 2024-2025 - Dorothy Hall, PCC Secretary

The PCC had 20 members this year and six meetings have been held. The following matters were covered:

- The setting up of a Net Zero Action Group
- The future appointment of a new Children and Youth worker
- Safeguarding: the need for everyone who has a Church role to do safeguarding training
- Purchase of new tables and chairs for the café
- Installation of bike rack and noticeboard outside the Parish centre
- Energy audit
- Health for Growth course update
- Budget and cash flow
- Mission giving
- Safer recruitment of volunteers
- Reports from Deanery Synod meetings
- Appointment of extra daytime staff member in café
- New Church heating and insurance payment-what to do with surplus funds
- Parish Pledge
- Net Zero Action Group - actions to be taken
- Key Leaders meeting
- Fire Training
- Updating of DBS database
- End of year accounts and budget for 2025
- Legacy Policy
- Font Cover
- Fall of weathervane

- Diocesan Safeguarding Policy approved and Safeguarding Action Plan agreed

Deanery Synod Report (Full Minutes are available)

We are in the second of a three year cycle for the Synod, which has held three meetings on 28th May, 17th July and 6th November 2024. The representatives for the parish of Chester-le-Street are Mike Heaps (stood down in April 2024), Alex Nelson and from last APCM Rachel Orr and Peter Southern joined.

Issues discussed were:

- Presentation from Revd Paul Child's, Parish Giving Advisor
- Elections to Diocesan Synod
- News from around the deanery and updates on vacancies and Appointments
- Presentation from Beth Miller, Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Fabric Report 2024/2025 – Brian Armstrong, Churchwarden

Work done in our Church and Parish Centre

The Church Building

After a long and cold winter and a lot of work and negotiations we eventually were able to replace the church heating boilers with new more efficient ones. Many thanks to all who helped us get this work done and especially to the very hard working engineers from GR Heating and Plumbing who did the removal and installation for us.

Thanks to the congregation for their patience and financial support during this difficult period.

We have had some issues with our church roof during this period. The flashing between the tower and the Anker's House failed and we had

some leaks in the Anker's House but because of Elaine's prompt response there was little damage to the building.

A few months ago, the Weathervane on the top of the Spire unscrewed itself because it had seized up and fell down causing some damage to the tower and the church roof. The roof was repaired very quickly but as many of you may have seen we had to have a firm of Steeplejacks to inspect the spire for any signs of damage that we couldn't see. We are awaiting their reports but the initial verbal response is that the spire is in excellent condition but we may need some work done on the lightening conductors. We are also seeking clarification on whether we need to replace the weathervane.

In the 2023 quinquennial report we were told that the rain gutters and downspouts needed repairs and re painting. We have had quotes from 3 companies and have selected one contractor to do the work which will take place as soon as the weather gets warmer.

The insurance company told us that the wooden cover on the old font which is on a counter balance lifting mechanism should not be used for health and safety reasons. We have therefore put a notice on it and have put some bungee cords on it to stop it being used accidentally.

The Parish Centre

Many thanks to the team of hardworking volunteers who organized the planning, purchasing and ironing of the soundproofing drapes for 'Cuthbert' hall. The sound is much improved. Thanks to Malcolm Rowland, Bob Davison and Dave Mallams for putting them up. Malcom has also made improvements to the sound system and hardwired the computer so it can be controlled from the back of the hall. This has much improved the flow and enjoyment of the 11am service.

Malcolm has also fitted LED lights into the cleaner's cupboard, disabled toilet and connecting corridor. He has also installed new hand driers in the toilet blocks. One of the Ladies toilets has been fitted with a combination lock to keep it for the staff only as often the toilets are left in a poor condition by the end of the day. We had to have nearly all the Ladies toilet pans re fastened to the floor and new waste pipes fitted.

There was also a broken toilet seat, not really sure what has caused these problems but hopefully they have been resolved.

The floor in 'Mary' hall has been re varnished and will be done on a regular basis as it is used for Rhyme Time our toddler group. The sports Hall floor in Cuthbert was in a very poor state and has been stripped back resealed and varnished. It will be maintained on a regular basis also.

Unfortunately, we had some damage done to the Parish Centre roof by thieves who stole the lead flashing from the chimney stack and roof gutter even though it was protected by smart water. This was replaced and some new roof tiles were fitted. There has been some movement of roof tiles at the front of the building, these were also replaced with new ones.

The Parish Centre had to be closed for a couple of days because of a blocked drain. The drain company dug up the floor in the cleaner's cupboard but failed to repair the drain. We had to replace some floor tiles thanks to Bob for doing that. Everyone is happy to hear that we seem to have solved the problems we were having with the drains in the Parish Centre. We found some old collapsed drains that are not used but hadn't been capped off. They have now been capped off and we have had no further problems since. We are hoping to replace an internal inspection cover in the chair store area in Cuthbert with an airtight seal to prevent any smells entering the building.

After a safety check on the gas systems we had to have a new safety interlock valve fitted to the gas supply in the kitchen. We also replaced the condensing water pump on the heating boiler and need to replace the pressure unit pump which is failing. The kitchen had its deep clean during the Christmas break.

In our quest to get to NetZero we have adjusted the fire doors to prevent draughts and installed radiator insulation foil behind the radiators that are fastened to outside walls and are looking at lots of different ways to reduce our carbon footprint. You will be hearing much more about this in the near future.

We have replaced the tables and chairs in the cafe area and Mary. Thanks to Elaine for her work in getting a grant to help us with the cost

of this upgrade Also a big thanks to the team of volunteers who came armed with tools to put together the tables and a thank you to Andrew Gardiner for taking away the old tables and chairs.

Finally, a very big thank you to anyone who has helped with the upkeep of our Parish Centre and especially to Bob Davison who devotes many hours of his time to the day to day upkeep of the Parish Centre.

Safeguarding – Sarah Hindle

As named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) for St Mary & St Cuthberts Church I wish to report the following.

There is currently one ongoing safeguarding incident to report at this present time.

All existing safeguarding incidents have been actioned and dealt with following the appropriate diocese safeguarding procedures.

In the past 12 months we have had 3 safeguarding incidents and one historical safeguarding disclosure was reported. All have been fully investigated by the safeguarding team and where necessary outside agencies have been involved. As safeguarding lead I have liaised with the police and Diocesan Safeguarding Officer (DSO) Beth Miller.

In the last 12 months I have attended all necessary safeguarding training needed for this role. During this time I have continued to develop my professional relationship with the DSO.

Safer Recruitment of volunteers

The Diocese of Durham has introduced Parish Safeguarding Dashboards to support Parishes in reviewing and monitoring their local safeguarding policies and procedures. The dashboard is rooted in safeguarding actions which are necessary under the Church of England ‘Promoting a Safer Church’ policy and the Durham Diocesan Safeguarding Policy.

During the past 12 months we have made good progress in completing this dashboard as we add details of training and checks completed by volunteers for different roles within the church. We thank all those who have completed and updated their training thus far. Support from the PCC is welcomed in achieving this.

On 12th April we hosted a safeguarding training session for our Deanery which was led by Sheila Bamber from the Diocese. This was well attended and received much positive feedback.

An audit of Parish Dashboards will take place in May to determine progress being made and identify areas of concern.

An appreciation is extended to Sharon Dodds, Deputy PSO for all her hard work and dedication which occurs behind the scenes, updating the Parish Dashboard on an ongoing basis.

It is imperative that we work together as a team to help keep our church safe.

For all those involved in keeping our church safe, we give thanks.

Parish Charities: Henry Smith Charity 2024 – Elaine Rayner

Since our last report we have made the following donations:

1 fridge
1 freezer
4 Grocery Vouchers
1 washing machine
1 double bed
1 house deposit
1 fridge freezer

These have been, or will be, fully refunded to us by the Henry Smith Charity.

We currently hold £1890.91 from the Henry Smith Charity.

We welcome applications for small grants to those in need who live within our Parish or the old District Council of Chester le Street.

Warm Spaces Report 2024-25 – Michelle Dundas

Our warm spaces continues to meet twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays, we have 8 volunteers split between the two meetings and approximately 20 regular guests. Our guests are offered hot drinks with cake and biscuits and during the winter the addition of soup or sandwiches, our guests enjoy colouring in and sometimes we have bingo, we were also blessed with a table tennis table which is enjoyed greatly.

During our sessions we feel it is not just about giving out refreshments but spending time getting to know our guests, offering emotional support, pastoral care and prayer when needed and showing Gods love in all we do. So we sometimes need to assess and adapt how we run our meetings and change accordingly. We celebrate birthdays with a cake and card, each guest receives a food bag once a month and we hold a Christmas party and gift a present for each of them.

We have also been able to provide 60 meals to Durham food bank with food donations. We have emergency food bags made up for anyone in need, For the homeless we have flasks and camping mats which were bought with a donation and clothes gifted from mountain warehouse. We also offer clothes to our guests for a small donation which goes back into Warm spaces funds

Going forward we are hoping to have some training on Mental health issues so we have a better insight on how to support our guests when needed.

None of the above would be possible without the generous donations of food, money and clothes from our church family and your love and prayers.

Thank you from the warm spaces team.

Matthew 25:35

For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in.

Chester le Street Litter Picking Heroes – Ian Hoult

In Chester le Street, where the rivers flow,
Heroes gather, their spirits aglow.
Together they strive, their hearts to the core,
Making a difference, and so much more.

With gloves and bags, they march each day,
Clearing the litter, showing the way.
Over 2000 bags, they've collected with pride,
1500 vapes, recycled, set aside.

1400 hours of volunteer might,
New members welcomed, joining the fight.
For God's glory, they care for the land,
A cleaner world, by their loving hand.

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Sundays they meet,
Christ-focused, growing, their mission complete.
Generous hospitality, values they share,
A living demonstration, showing they care.

"Why do you litter pick?" they ask with cheer,
"To make a difference, to hold nature dear."
"Seeing the change, the best thing of all,
More people join, answering the call."

"Helps the community, self-satisfaction too,
Well-organised, welcoming, through and through."
"Educate the masses, target the need,
Together we flourish, together we lead."

"Community contribution, making a mark,
but never the spark."
"Environmental impact, blight to erase,
Volunteering together, a friendly embrace."

"To help the environment, to keep fit,
Photos of triumph, the litter we split."
"Nature, people, God, cleanest town in sight,
Bins and signs, a future so bright."

"Love for Chester le Street, community care,
Schools aware, keeping it fair."
"Improve the area, pollution to fight,
Social media push, equipment in sight."

"Supporting each other, friendships anew,
For the work we do."
"Environmental, social, wellbeing blend,
Fab team, like-minded, till the end."

In Chester le Street, where heroes unite,
For God's glory, they shine so bright.
Looking after our world, with love and grace,
Chester le Street Litter Picking Heroes, leading the race.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Job Club – Ian Goulding

In 2024 we hosted 3 separate job club courses, each of 8 weeks in length, and journeyed with 25 local jobseekers. The 4 trained job coaches and 5 befrienders have assisted these 'job clubbers' through a weekly course focused on improving motivation and self confidence as well as introducing them to the employers mindset and assisting them to improve their CV, job applications and interview techniques. Alongside the course we have met with the individuals in a safe coaching environment always with at least two of the church volunteers present to work specifically on CV's, areas of personal need, signposting to other agencies, referring to CAP Debt Centre managers and of course interview practice.

There have been many notable successes this year both in individuals finding paid roles and getting started with relevant volunteering opportunities which could lead to paid roles. We have continued to invite job clubbers to attend church and two did attend and love Christmas services in 2024. The DWP Job Centre remains confident to

refer individuals to our Job Club. We are making a difference in Chester le Street.

The CAP job club only happens through the generous support of church, the ongoing encouragement of church and all the wonderful volunteers (Dennis, Malcolm, Paul, Mike, Bryan, Ann, Sue, Karen) who give up their time so willingly, as well as staff in the Parish Centre and kitchen including Jan who gives us much support.

Please continue to pray for the unemployed people in our town that they can see opportunity ahead because we know a job brings so much more than a wage. We have just completed Job Club number 16 and look forward to number 17 very soon. If you have time to get alongside a job seeker and support their learning and development we'd love to have more volunteers, please get in touch.

Bereavement Support group report – Paul & Louise Vincent

The first bereavement support group ran from Easter 2024 to December 2024 on a fortnightly basis on a Wednesday afternoon in Eardulph room, Parish Centre from 1.30 to 3pm.

This group typically had 12 to 15 people, some moved away, and new folk joined. Membership was from churches all around Chester Le Street.

We discussed various bereavement topics taking a theme each meeting. All of us shared our experiences and feelings as and when we felt comfortable, which proved to be helpful as we supported each other. We ended the course with a Christmas meal at the Lambton Worm.

Our next group started in January, and is due to finish in the early summer.

Many thanks to those who have contributed and enabled these meetings, we have hugely valued their support. Members have made new friends and we have helped each other to grow around our loss.

Louise and I have learnt much which we trust we can use in future groups.

Members of the first BSG have moved on to a fortnightly bereavement drop in Eardulph which is proving to provide invaluable ongoing support. “Just come and be alongside folk.”

Care Home Services – Paul & Louise Vincent

Monthly services are held in Picktree Court and now Durham house. Services have to take account of various faith backgrounds and physical and or cognitive disabilities.

We work closely with the home’s activity coordinators (who are a real blessing to us) so that we can incorporate arts and crafts that the residents have created into the service.

As well as the usual readings homily and prayers, we try and make it as participatory as possible, and using sight touch and smell and weight as well as listening. So for example in a harvest service we “made” soup by passing round raw vegetables and then putting them into a pot. For many it was the first time they’d handled a vegetable in years.

On another occasion we did a “beach hunt” of things we’d picked up from beaches on Shetland to celebrate the beautiful world God has created. We are blessed with 15 to 25 people at each service.

Pastoral Team – Louise Vincent

The Pastoral Team continues to offer pastoral care to any member of the congregation in need. This includes regular individual visits for general support and prayer, ad-hoc visits on request, bereavement visits and many regular Home Communion visits.

During the past year we have established a regular service, with Holy Communion for those who wish, at St Mary's Nursing Home.

We continue to hold a monthly service at Picktree Court Care Home and have begun monthly Holy Communion visits for several residents across both sites of Lindisfarne Care Home.

Despite the retirement of several volunteers, we continue to hold a monthly communion service at The Elms. We extend our sincere gratitude to Doreen Butts and Jean Turnbull for their years of dedicated service.

Holyoakes Drop-in group at South Pelaw continues to be a blessing to the community, thanks to its volunteers.

As a team, we are very keen to link with anyone across the parish who is involved in pastoral care of any kind, so that we might better understand, coordinate and appreciate the wonderful work that goes on.

Prayer Ministry is now available during the 11am Sunday service thanks to the efforts of members of the Pastoral Team, as well as others within the congregation.

Prayer Ministry Report – Louise Vincent

Many thanks to our wonderful prayer ministry team for making themselves available to pray with members of the 11.00am Sunday services. Each Sunday prayer ministry is on offer, thanks to our faithful team . We praise God for His faithful response to our prayers.

Prayer ministry at the 9.30am service was explored, but not taken up.

At the 11.00am service , there are 2 prayer ministry stations set up near the front of the main hall in the parish centre. Prayer ministry is available after the services, however on Holy Communion Sundays, it is available immediately after receiving communion during the service. At intergenerational services, if someone would like prayer, they're invited to approach a member of the prayer ministry team after the service.

The number of people looking to receive prayer ministy varies from week to week. It is always an honour to pray with those who come forward and a great encouragement some children have requested prayer.

People do not appear to have to wait for prayer ministry either during or at the end of services and we just about always manage to have 2 members of the prayer ministry team available. However, it would be

helpful if more people were able to join the team as holiday times are challenging.

We're excited to welcome a male onto the team as this is something for which we have prayed.

If you are interested in joining the prayer ministry team, please contact Jan in the office or speak to a member of the team. Safeguarding training is required and we follow a code of conduct.

Our aim in prayer ministry is to come alongside people to facilitate healing and wholeness. Your prayers for prayer ministry are very much appreciated.

Small Groups – Revd Miriam Wakefield

St Mary and St Cuthbert's currently has seven small groups which meet regularly throughout the year. Small groups are a key way that people can develop in their discipleship and receive spiritual nourishment. Many of the groups have been meeting together for several years and good friendships have been formed as people have grown together in faith.

Each group decides whether to study a theme or a book of the bible, and there are many resources available to use. Some groups include sung worship in their time together and draw on other creative arts such as poetry or artwork. At Christmas one group distributed small knitted angels to the people of Chester-le-Street, some members of this group have also begun praying for the railway station and the staff there.

Over the last year those leading small groups have begun meeting with Miriam quarterly to reflect, receive some input and support one another. A new group was formed last summer which has been meeting fort-nightly. It is hoped that in the coming year another group will be formed so that more people can benefit from being part of a group.

Mothers' Union January – December 2024 – Aileen Armstrong

Our membership has remained fairly constant throughout the past year, totalling 52 including indoor members. We have had 2 new members enrolled in the year and two former members have moved to other parts of the country to live closer to their families.

We have met regularly every second and fourth Monday each month, with slight variations due to Bank and School holidays. These meetings are regularly attended by 25 to 30 members.

At our Annual General Meeting in February, we were able to welcome Sue Brissenden as our new Branch Leader, after a nomination by a branch member, seconded by two more members was accepted by the majority of the assembly. Branch leader and Committee Members have met monthly to organise meetings and fundraising events.

During this year, many of our members can be seen ministering in many Church activities, Baptisms, Messy Church, Toddler Rhyme Time, Warm Spaces, in the Cafe and in Church services generally. For Mothering Sunday posies of daffodils were assembled and gifted by Mothers' Union to be presented to all those, in a mothering role, attending church services that day. Bookmarks being gifted to those attending the Thursday service in the same week.

Members have continued to raise funds or donate goods to support local needs as well as Mothers' Union projects in this country and abroad. By celebrating and sponsoring influential women in our lives we were able to raise funds for Mothers' Union annual fundraising event to aid mothers in developing countries. Goods donated at our Harvest Festival service in October went to the aid of The People's Kitchen in Newcastle. An Open Afternoon in December in the form of a Christmas Fayre gave us the opportunity to raise funds for Mothers' Union work at home and abroad.

We were privileged this year to welcome our new staff members to meetings. In January we were delighted to be able to celebrate Holy Communion with Rev. Matt for the first time since his coming to Chester-le-Street. We were also able to welcome Rev, Matt again later in the year to celebrate Holy Communion with us again. Rev. Miriam joined

us at our Celebration of Women meeting in March giving us a very interesting talk about the strength of women in the Church. Rev. Miriam was to speak later in the year at the Carol Service, which for the very first time was a joint service with Townswomen's Guild Branches in our town. And Rev. Dave joined us at our last meeting before the Summer break telling us about his journey of Faith before coming up north.

We were honoured to have Rev Mary as our guest speaker when we hosted Lady Day Service for our combined Chester-le- Street and Houghton Deanery when we were joined by members of other branches in the Deanery. We, too, have travelled to join other branch members for Deanery events, travelling to St. Barnabus, Bournmoor for Quiet Day Reflection and St. Michael and All Angels, Houghton-le-Spring for the Overseas Service.

June was a special month which included our new Branch Leader's Commissioning Service in June, when Sue Brissenden, organised this service to include her favourite hymns and readings, was presided over by Rev. Matt, followed by refreshments which included Mothers' Union themed cupcakes!. Also at this very special event Committee members reaffirmed their wows and some members were awarded long service awards. At our second meeting of this month we welcomed Rachel Orr who entertained us in her own special way with delightful songs, some of which we joined in with.

Other Branch based events included a fact finding meeting to establish what members, liked, disliked and wanted included in our meetings, in order to inform new Branch leader and Committee for future planning. Sue Brissenden, our new Branch Leader, also organised a meeting to inform Branch members how she, being born with a missing right hand, performed everyday tasks including beautiful needlework.

Other guest speakers at meetings were Peter Jeynes leading one of our services during Lent. Paul Vincent, who gave a very moving account of his visit to Auschwitz, Kathleen Wilson, who talked about Mothers' Union work in Prison, and Sue Begg, who brought to us awareness of Modern Day Slavery.

Sue Begg and Michelle Dundas, both Committee members of the Branch, were instrumental in organising the Souls of our Shoes display

in The Parish Centre to raise awareness of domestic abuse during the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender- Bases Violence from November 25th to December 10th, which is actively supported by Mothers' Union.

Social events this year were a Christmas meal at The Wheatsheaf in Barley Mow in December. Also in December some of us joined a coach trip to Helmsley Christmas Tree Festival, which also included a visit to Thirsk. Both events being organised by Social Secretary, Michelle Dundas.

Some members attended Diocesan events, including Council meetings and The Founder's Day Services held at Waddington Street Chapel in Durham. Our Branch was also represented at two very special Diocesan events, the Indoor members' Prayer Circle and the Mothers' Union Festival Service, both held at Durham Cathedral.

As a Branch, we have been very busy embracing new challenges and changes which we hope will bear fruit in the future.

Branch leader and the Committee would like to thank all staff members, including Jan, and all our members for their prayers, generosity and support throughout the year.

Net Zero Action Group for 2024 – Rachel Orr

1. A Net Zero Action Group has been formed and they have met twice in 2024.
    a. Brian Armstrong
    b. Rachel Orr
    c. Peter Jeynes
    d. Peter Southern
    e. Paul Vincent
    f. Bryam Wilson
    g. Rev Matt Strand
2. Form 1 has been submitted and Bethan Still has confirmed receipt and that it contains more than enough detail for the first submission.
3. Peter Jeynes and Rachel Orr attended the online session provided by the diocese on Monday 14th October for quick wins.

4. A practical path to net zero carbon checklist for your church has been completed with priority action and explore further actions identified.
5. We already have an energy report for the church building and the diocese are making representation for an energy audit to be undertaken for the Parish Centre.
6. We have already completed The Energy Footprint Tool (EFT)which is required should we submit an application for a grant.
7. Form 2 completion has now been extended to the end of March 2025. SUBMITTED
8. The group would like to submit an application for a grant to replace the light fittings and bulbs in the Parish Centre for LEDS where applicable. This would require quotes prior to submitting the form. This is part of the 'quick wins' grant application. Funding for this would have to be spent first by the church and then an invoice sent to the diocese for reimbursement. This needs further clarification and exploration. IN PROGRESS
9. The group have put in some tentative timescales.

Although this report details the work of the Net Zero Group for 2024, further progress has been made and quotes along with grant applications are ready to submit shortly.

Children & Youth Report – Will Hoy
Group Overview's

Group Name: Messy Church
Group Leader (with responsibility): Rev. Dave Edmondson
Group Leaders: 9
Group Members: 42 children (currently on the system)

Group Name: Youth Meal
Group Leader (with responsibility): Rev. Dave Edmondson
Group Leaders: 2
Group Members: 5 young people

Group Name: Creative Ministry
Group Leader (with responsibility): Will Hoy
Group Leaders: 2

Group Members: 6 young people

Group Name: Sunday Morning Groups
Group Leader (with responsibility): Rev. Dave Edmondson, Sharron Pritchard
Group Leaders: 3 + helpers
Group Members: Approx 20 semi-regular toddlers/children/young people

As a church we currently have over 50 toddlers, children and young people who are signed up to one or more activities.

Messy Church Report

We have had such an exciting year for Messy Church. We have grown in numbers and have been able to reach more and more families through the outreach and activities which we do.

Achievements and Highlights

One of our highlights from the last year was our July Messy Church which took place in the Rectory Garden. There was a different atmosphere than normal, with us being outside and doing slightly different activities.

Activities and Events

During the year, we met 11 times – each month excluding August.

Each month we have a different theme, excluding the obvious themes, like Easter and Christmas, we also focus on parables, and many different stories teaching us lots of different things.

In our July Messy Church, as per our new tradition this took place in the Rectory Garden, having smaller activities, and also having a BBQ.

The first half of the session (4-5pm) runs in Mary, where there is a variety of crafts made for all ages, that way there is something for everyone. We usually have one food craft, followed by 5-6 craft/building activities.

After the children finish their crafts and activities at around 5pm, they walk across to the church for a short, fun-filled service. Normally we start off with a game or activity which is linked to the theme, for example, finding the sheep around the church for the parable of the lost sheep. The celebration (the service) consists of the story being told (which is normally in an interactive way), pictures of what the children have made, discussions on what they most enjoyed, and then it is followed by an action song, as well as an interactive talk and prayer.

Once the celebration time has finished, we head back over to the Parish Centre to share a meal together (normally it is something like Pizza, Fries and Chicken Nuggets, or Pasta Bake). Thank you to Anne and her team in the kitchen for always bringing together such a lovely meal.

Youth Meal Report

With this being the first year of Youth Meal, it is safe to say that it has started off a great success. Going from nothing to having multiple young people who are so engaged is a really good thing to see.

Achievements and Highlights

Over this past year, there have been so many achievements and highlights from what we have done. Some of the young people who come to our group have never really cooked or baked before. Knowing this and seeing how far they have come is such a lovely sight.

Activities and Events

During the year we met most months on the 4th Sunday night. The young people arrive, and we start to cook and bake what they requested the month before. We split up in smaller groups to do each task to – this is so they can all be doing something and are not sharing a simple task.

Once all whatever we are cooking is in the oven, we tend to sit down at the table all together, we play some table games, and we also go through and discuss whatever the biblical theme/topic of the night is.

Once they have all eaten, they can take any of their left-over food back with them, and we decide what we will make the following month.

Creative Ministry Report

Achievements and Highlights

Our highlight of the year was our Christmas performance, where we had a stunning performance in both services, and members of our team lead the readings during both of the Christingle Services.

Activities and Events

Over the year we have met almost all Friday's to have a catch-up, play some games, and practice future performances.

Challenges We Have Faced

Once again this year we have struggled with numbers as it is not something which appeals to everyone. Next year we will meet and make a plan on how to continue.

Sunday Morning Groups Report

This year has been a great year for our Sunday Morning groups. We have had some amazing achievements this year which are highlighted below.

Achievements and Highlights

This year on top of our usual Kids Group, we have launched a Youth Group and Toddler Group. This is a huge achievement for us that we now have 3 different groups going out, and also the fact that there are so many keen volunteers within our church who are eager to help out.

Activities and Events

These groups meet during the 11am Services in the Parish Centre (excluding the first Sunday which is our intergenerational service).

We use a mix of recourses – some of which are Bubble & Squash from Scripture Union, Roots from the Church of England and other resources to gather content for our groups.

Generally speaking we have a similar focus as the service, though at parts of the year (such as Easter), we spend much more time going through the Easter story part by part, digging it all up.

Rhyme Time – Lynda Beveridge

When Dave announced that he and Caitlin were going to start a toddler group, they said that it was going to be a structured time and would include singing, a story, bubbles and a signed blessing. Refreshments would then be served during social and play time.

Initially, three volunteers stepped forward with Dave and Caitlin leading, and the volunteers signing families in, talking with the adults who came, playing with the children and serving refreshments. Another volunteer has since joined.

As Dave and Caitlin have moved on to pastures new, the volunteers along with Reverand Miriam have stepped up and are now leading the group. Rhyme Time has continued to grow in the number of children attending with twenty- one children on at least one occasion. This is probably our limit given restraints of space and manpower.

Rhyme Time is not just a toddler group. It is a community that has given so many people support, space and connection. It has had far more reaching effects than we could ever have imagined. The ripple effect of that small community that started in just less than two years is amazing. We have had numerous baptisms in our church and there will be a wedding in May as a direct consequence of parents bringing their children to Rhyme Time.

I asked some of the people who attend our group to say what Rhyme Time means to them. Here are a few things they said:

"This is one of my favourite classes to come to each week. I was made to feel really welcome on the first week. I felt confident to come here with two children. It's nice and relaxed"

“This is a safe environment for adults and children. It is really welcoming and lovely. It has brought my grandson out of himself who was very shy to begin with. He is much more confident and when I ask him, ‘Shall we go to Rhyme Time?’ He says, ‘Yes. To the church.’ He loves coming.

‘Lots of entertainment for my son and a nice break for me’.

“There is always an extra pair of hands to help with my two children. Everyone is welcoming and friendly. Some of my friends have started to come with me.

And from one of our volunteers, “I really enjoy the ministry. I enjoy the children and their families, I especially enjoy talking to the adults as they need all the help and support they can get. It is often the first church that the children experience and that’s important.

We have met a lot of amazing people and have had great conversations. Through this group, the church has managed to reach people who have become part of a community, and who have been supported and helped in all sorts of ways through God’s love.

May God’s blessings go with Dave and the family and the family and may Rhyme Time continue to flourish.

Open the Book – Norma Hedley

Open the Book material has changed since our original team was formed in 2015. When we first began Open the Book the team went into Chester-le-Street CofE school nearly every week. Covid changed everything and we had a break from going into any school. Last Summer old and new members went for training with the new material at Cuthbert House in Durham and a new team was formed. Instead of just going into one school we now go into 4 schools (Chester-le-Street CofE, Cestria, Newker and Red Rose) but now each school gets a visit once a month instead of weekly. Thank you to all the team members who take this bible story telling into schools. It is appreciated by the school staff and children.

Parish Centre Café

It has been another busy year in the Parish Centre Café, it continues to be an amazing outreach for our church. It is a safe space for those who come daily, weekly or those who are just popping in.

We are so thankful for our incredible volunteers, who work tirelessly and faithfully alongside our Catering staff, Sharon Phillips, Ben Milner, Caroline MacKay-Christie and Will Hoy – we wouldn't be able to operate without them. We are always looking for extra volunteers who would be interested in joining them.

Our aim for the Café is to be affordable whilst being able to cover its own costs.

Charity registration number 01130847

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Incumbent	The Rev. Matthew Strand
Charity number	01130847
Principal address	Church Chare Chester-le-Street County Durham DH3 3QB
Independent examiner	David McFarlane (ACA) DMC North Accounting Services A1 Marquis Court Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0RU
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 6/7 Market Place County Durham DH1 3ND

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

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

Objectives and activities

St Mary and St Cuthbert's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Matthew Strand, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities of the Church Centre complex of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Correspondence may be addressed to the Church Office, Parish Centre, Church Chare, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3QB.

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

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

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. We have described some of the activities we have undertaken to fulfill our objectives below.

Achievements and performance

We aim to give away 5% of the congregation's giving from the previous year and we have achieved that goal - to the agreed charities/mission agencies - local, national and international.

The church's ministry is guided by our vision to be: "A multi-generational church that makes life long disciples of Jesus, where everyone flourishes" and values: "Christ Focussed, Generous Hospitality, Growing Together".

Church attendance

A new electoral roll is being prepared for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting being held on 6th May, 7.30pm.

Financial review

The general, unrestricted income of the PCC in 2024 was £282,760 compared to unrestricted income in 2023 of £271,044.

The organ restoration fund balance stood at £5,994 at the year end. This is restricted towards the repairs and restoration of the organ, and much of the work was undertaken during 2019.

As regards unrestricted expenditure, £115,500 Parish Share has been paid over during the year compared with £110,000 in 2023. Overall, the excess of ordinary unrestricted expenditure over income gave rise to a deficit for the year on unrestricted funds of £47,620 compared to a deficit of £9,861 in 2023. Although this deficit has risen, it should be noted that £30,000 was transferred into the unrestricted fund from restricted in the 2023 year end. This was due to land which was sold in the year previously being categorised as restricted in the accounts.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a minimum cash reserve within its unrestricted funds of £10,000, to enable it to manage the church's normal expenditure requirements. Year end unrestricted bank balances total £32,097, well in excess of the £10,000 limit. Restricted funds are held until such time as expenditure arises for which they may be used in accordance with the restrictions placed upon their use.

There has been two legacies in the year totalling £96,453, of which £94,453 was restricted in nature.

Risk Factors

The Council members has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

In relation to the management of the major risks that have the potential to adversely affect the work of the church, these are considered by the relevant sub-committees and issues are raised at Council meetings where action is necessary. A formal policy for the protection of children and vunerable adults has been put in place by the PCC and, in accordance with its terms, the necessary DBS searches are made through diocesan channels.

The Standing Committee on behalf of the PCC is responsible for health and safety and maintenance issues within the Parish Centre.

The Standing Committee is responsible for the initial management on behalf of the PCC of financial risks. The same Committee also manages health and safety and maintenance issues within the church building and for compliance with the 5 yearly programme of inspection required of church buildings by the Church of England central authorities. The quinquennial survey was carried out in 2023 and therefore the next report is due in 2028.

This survey covered the general condition of the church, and the recommended time frame for improvements. The area of most concern is the failed boiler which requires immediate action.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) .

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or may be co-opted.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Clergy (ex officio):
Rev Matt Strand, Rector
Rev Dave Edmondson, Associate Rector
Rev Miriam Wakefield, Curate

Church Wardens (ex officio):
Brian Armstrong
Sue Begg
Elaine Rayner
Dorothy Hall

Treasurer:
Mr Malcolm Austin

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio):
Alex Nelson
Rachael Orr (elected 2024)
Peter Southern (elected 2024)

Elected and Co-opted Members:
Edna Sanderson (2nd year of 2nd term)
Tom Appleby (2nd year of 2nd term)
Sharon Dodds (1st year of 2nd term)
James Hall (1st year of 2nd term)
Abbie Winter (3rd year of 1st term)
Ann Wilson (3rd year of 1st term)
Kathryn Brown (2nd year of 1st term)
Norma Hedley (1st year of 1st term)
June Austin (1st year of 1st term)

Committees
Our Parochial Church Council met six times through the year as usual.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law.
It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Attends to the Financial concerns of the Parish and the Fabric of the Church.

The Council members report was approved by the Board of Council Members.

.....

Rev Matthew strand
Trustee
Dated: 19/5/25

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

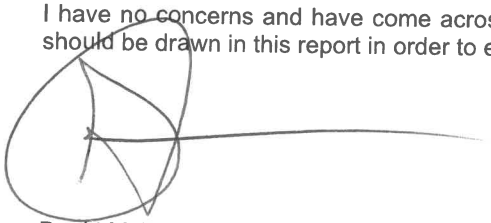
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

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

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



David McFarlane (ACA)
A1 Marquis Court
Team Valley Trading Estate
Gateshead
NE11 0RU

Dated: 22 MAY 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds general 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds general 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	2	157,816	-	131,094	-	288,910	147,265	-	26,399	-	173,664
Charitable activities	3	26,680	-	-	-	26,680	30,379	-	-	-	30,379
Other trading activities	4	95,142	-	-	-	95,142	78,133	-	-	-	78,133
Investments	5	1,848	-	8,632	-	10,480	1,606	-	616	-	2,222
Other income	6	1,274	-	-	-	1,274	13,661	-	-	-	13,661
Total income		282,760	-	139,726	-	422,486	271,044	-	27,015	-	298,059
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	7	67,531	-	-	-	67,531	59,647	-	-	-	59,647
Charitable activities	8	262,849	4,660	43,813	-	311,322	251,258	3,845	8,143	-	263,246
Total expenditure		330,380	4,660	43,813	-	378,853	310,905	3,845	8,143	-	322,893
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	148	148	-	-	-	(136)	(136)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(47,620)	(4,660)	95,913	148	43,781	(39,861)	(3,845)	18,872	(136)	(24,970)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds general 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds general 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(47,620)	(4,660)	95,913	148	43,781	(39,861)	(3,845)	18,872	(136)	(24,970)
Gross transfers between funds		(212)	9,277	(9,064)	-	1	30,000	-	(30,000)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(47,832)	4,617	86,849	148	43,782	(9,861)	(3,845)	(11,128)	(136)	(24,970)
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		98,696	21,784	527,482	5,656	653,618	108,557	25,629	538,610	5,792	678,588
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		50,864	26,401	614,331	5,804	697,400	98,696	21,784	527,482	5,656	653,618

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		487,268		484,568
Investments	13		5,804		5,656
			493,072		490,224
Current assets					
Stocks	14	60		60	
Debtors	15	22,950		21,050	
Cash at bank and in hand		196,167		148,663	
		219,177		169,773	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(14,849)		(6,379)	
Net current assets			204,328		163,394
Total assets less current liabilities			697,400		653,618
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general			5,804		5,656
Income funds					
Restricted funds			614,331		527,482
Endowment funds - designated			26,401		21,784
Unrestricted funds			50,864		98,696
			697,400		653,618

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 6/5/25

.....

The Rev'd Matthew Strand
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

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

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.4 Income

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Fundraising costs comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the PCC's cafe.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the PCC in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the PCC.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs are analysed in the notes to the accounts as requested by the Trustees. This is a departure from the SORP which requires support costs to be allocated between the different activities engaged. The analysis in these accounts is thought to provide a more meaningful analysis to the readers of the accounts.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and seperately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

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

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

Plant and equipment	15% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Freehold land and buildings are retained for Church use. These are stated at cost and have not been depreciated due to their market value being considered to be higher than their carrying value.

1.7 Stocks

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	**2024**	**2024**	2023	2023	2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Gift Aid	95,274	-	95,274	95,737	-	95,737
Legacies	2,000	94,454	96,454	-	-	-
Regular non gift aid donations	7,036	-	7,036	6,567	-	6,567
Sundry donations	3,873	5,417	9,290	3,789	24,729	28,518
Miscellaneous appeals	-	1,794	1,794		1,670	1,670
Insurance claims	-	29,429	29,429	-	-	-
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	32,755	-	32,755	26,567	-	26,567
Collections (open plate) at all services	16,878	-	16,878	14,605	-	14,605
	157,816	131,094	288,910	147,265	26,399	173,664

3 Charitable activities

	Magazine income 2024	PCC fees 2024	Clergy fees 2024	Total 2024	Magazine income 2023	PCC fees 2023	Clergy fees 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sales within charitable activities	1,185	13,491	12,004	26,680	1,659	15,810	12,910	30,379

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising	9,214	7,567
Parish centre lettings	28,419	19,075
Catering income	57,509	51,491
Other trading activities	95,142	78,133

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £
Income from unlisted investments	1,848	8,632	10,480	1,606	616	2,222

Restricted investment income is high in 2024 due to 2 years of Bayles interest being received.

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	11,736
Feed in tariff	1,274	1,925
	1,274	13,661

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Trading costs		
Catering costs	25,049	22,317
Parish Centre wages costs	42,482	37,330
Trading costs	67,531	59,647
	67,531	59,647

8 Charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Depreciation and impairment	6,577	6,102
Missionary Societies	6,879	790
Relief agencies	2,344	83
Magazine costs	400	393
Parish centre costs	37,225	42,635
Clergy fees surrendered to Diocese	18,029	19,486
Parish shares	115,500	110,000
Bank charges	8	-
Organ restoration	437	-
Curate house expenses	1,425	941
Church running expenses	82,488	44,384
Pension contributions	930	802
Salaries, wages and honoraria	28,869	27,213
Sundry expenses	600	550
Machine lease and expenditure	2,784	2,980
Accountancy fees	2,890	2,890
Independent examination fees	650	650
Legal fees	3,287	3,347
	311,322	263,246
	311,322	263,246
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	262,849	251,258
Endowment funds - designated	4,660	3,845
Restricted funds	43,813	8,143
	311,322	263,246

Church running expenses have increased in the year due to £29.4k being paid out relating to the repair of the heating system. This restricted expense was covered by an insurance claim received in the year.

9 Trustees

None of the Council members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC during the year.

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	8	6

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	67,587	60,677
Social security costs	-	3
Other pension costs	930	802
	68,517	61,482

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

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxationof Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	450,000	101,480	90,774	642,254
Additions	-	9,277	-	9,277
At 31 December 2024	450,000	110,757	90,774	651,531
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2024	-	86,428	71,258	157,686
Depreciation charged in the year	-	3,650	2,927	6,577
At 31 December 2024	-	90,078	74,185	164,263
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2024	450,000	20,679	16,589	487,268
At 31 December 2023	450,000	15,052	19,516	484,568

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the Parish Centre. The Waldridge Mission Church site and the equity share of 16 Park Road North were both sold during the year.

13 Fixed asset investments

	Total £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2024	5,656
Valuation changes	148
At 31 December 2024	5,804
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	5,804
At 31 December 2023	5,656

The investment relates to The Lisle and Dorothy Pattison Gift (394.189 Charifund Units).

The Trust Fund is an endowment trust and the income earned may be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

14 Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	60	60

15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2024 £	2023 £
Gift aid recoverable	19,000	16,165
Prepayments and accrued income	3,950	4,885
	22,950	21,050

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	14,849	6,379

17 Fund details

The unrestricted funds comprise the General and Areas/Groups Funds as well as the equity share of 16 Park Road North. All other funds are restricted in their use.

The endowment funds comprise of the trust fund as shown in note 12.

The bank account balances are represented by funds as follows:

Fund		Balance @ 01.01.24	Change in year	Transfered in year	Balance @ 31.12.24
General		71,441	(39,344)		32,097
Fabric	R	17,912	86,891		104,803
Organ Restoration Fund	R	6,431	(437)		5,994
Miscellaneous	R	31,590	394		31,984
Centre recoupment	R	21,289			21,289
		148,663	47,504	-	196,167
Total restricted bank balances	R				164,070
Total unrestricted bank balances					32,097

18 Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of the net book value of assets purchased out of restricted funds which become unrestricted assets once purchased.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Designated funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:										
Tangible assets	10,867	26,401	450,000	-	487,268	12,784	21,784	450,000	-	484,568
Investments	-	-	-	5,804	5,804	-	-	-	5,656	5,656
Current assets/(liabilities)	39,997	-	164,331	-	204,328	85,912	-	77,482	-	163,394
	50,864	26,401	614,331	5,804	697,400	98,696	21,784	527,482	5,656	653,618

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-S

England & Wales - Charity number 1130847

Accounts

Charity registration number 01130847

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Incumbent	The Rev. Matthew Strand
Charity number	01130847
Principal address	Church Chare Chester-le-Street County Durham DH3 3QB
Independent examiner	David McFarlane (ACA) DMC North Accounting Services A1 Marquis Court Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0RU
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 6/7 Market Place County Durham DH1 3ND

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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

Objectives and activities

St Mary and St Cuthbert's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Matthew Strand, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities of the Church Centre complex of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Correspondence may be addressed to the Church Office, Parish Centre, Church Chare, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3QB.

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

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

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. We have described some of the activities we have undertaken to fulfill our objectives below.

Achievements and performance

We aim to give away 5% of the congregation's giving from the previous year and we have achieved that goal - to the agreed charities/mission agencies - local, national and international.

Following church-wide consultation and discernment, in December 2022 the following new vision was announced to the congregation, as agreed by the PCC:

"A multi-generational church that makes life long disciples of Jesus, where everyone flourishes."

Church attendance

At the 2024 Annual meeting our Electoral Roll stood at 329, 5 had died, 1 moved away and 4 new people joined.

Financial review

The general, unrestricted income of the PCC in 2023 was £271,044 compared to unrestricted income in 2022 of £254,661.

The organ restoration fund balance stood at £6,431 at the year end. This is restricted towards the repairs and restoration of the organ, and much of the work was undertaken during 2019. This fund has not moved during 2023 other than for a small amount of bank interest.

As regards unrestricted expenditure, £110,000 Parish Share has been paid over during the year compared with £106,500 in 2022. Overall, the excess of ordinary unrestricted expenditure over income gave rise to a deficit for the year on unrestricted funds of £9,861 compared to a deficit of £50,406 in 2022. Although this deficit has fallen, it should be noted that £30,000 was transferred into the unrestricted fund from restricted. This was due to land which was sold in the year previously being categorised as restricted in the accounts.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a minimum cash reserve within its unrestricted funds of £10,000, to enable it to manage the church's normal expenditure requirements. Year end unrestricted bank balances total £71,441, well in excess of the £10,000 limit. Restricted funds are held until such time as expenditure arises for which they may be used in accordance with the restrictions placed upon their use.

There has been no legacies in the year.

The share of the property at Park Road North and accompanying land has been disposed of during the year. The profit on these sales has been classified as unrestricted.

Risk Factors

The Council members has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

In relation to the management of the major risks that have the potential to adversely affect the work of the church, these are considered by the relevant sub-committees and issues are raised at Council meetings where action is necessary. A formal policy for the protection of children and vunerable adults has been put in place by the PCC and, in accordance with its terms, the necessary DBS searches are made through diocesan channels.

The Standing Committee on behalf of the PCC is responsible for health and safety and maintenance issues within the Parish Centre.

The Standing Committee is responsible for the initial management on behalf of the PCC of financial risks. The same Committee also manages health and safety and maintenance issues within the church building and for compliance with the 5 yearly programme of inspection required of church buildings by the Church of England central authorities. The quinquennial survey was carried out in 2023 and therefore the next report is due in 2028.

This survey covered the general condition of the church, and the recommended time frame for improvements. The area of most concern is the failed boiler which requires immediate action.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) .

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or may be co-opted.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Clergy (ex officio):
Rev Matt Strand, Rector
Rev Dave Edmondson, Associate Rector
Rev Miriam Wakefield, Curate

Church Wardens (ex officio):
Brian Armstrong
Sue Begg
Elaine Rayner

Treasurer:
Mr Malcolm Austin

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio):
Alex Nelson
Mike Heaps

Elected and Co-opted Members:
Edna Sanderson (1st year of 2nd term)
Tom Appleby (1ST year of 2nd term)
Daniel Green (3rd year of 1st term) – stood down
Sharon Dodds (3rd year of 1st term)
Anne Smith (3rd year of 1st term)
James Hall (3rd year of 1st term)
Abbie Winter (2nd year of 1st term)
Ann Wilson (2nd year of 1st term)
Kathryn Brown (1st year of 1st term)
Dorothy Hall (1st year of 1st term)

Committees
Our Parochial Church Council met six times through the year as usual.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law.
It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Attends to the Financial concerns of the Parish and the Fabric of the Church.

The Council members report was approved by the Board of Council Members.

M. Strand

.....

Rev Matthew strand
Trustee
Dated: 22/4/24

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

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

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

David McFarlane (ACA)
A1 Marquis Court
Team Valley Trading Estate
Gateshead
NE11 0RU

Dated: 24/4/24

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds general 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds designated 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds general 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	2	147,265	-	26,399	-	173,664	160,259	-	24,375	-	184,634
Charitable activities	3	30,379	-	-	-	30,379	33,749	-	-	-	33,749
Other trading activities	4	78,133	-	-	-	78,133	58,309	-	-	-	58,309
Investments	5	1,606	-	616	-	2,222	1,369	-	4,074	-	5,443
Other income	6	13,661	-	-	-	13,661	975	-	-	-	975
Total income		271,044	-	27,015	-	298,059	254,661	-	28,449	-	283,110
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	7	59,647	-	-	-	59,647	52,115	-	-	-	52,115
Charitable activities	8	251,258	3,845	8,143	-	263,246	252,952	4,591	26,010	-	283,553
Total expenditure		310,905	3,845	8,143	-	322,893	305,067	4,591	26,010	-	335,668
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	(136)	(136)	-	-	-	(342)	(342)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(39,861)	(3,845)	18,872	(136)	(24,970)	(50,406)	(4,591)	2,439	(342)	(52,900)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds general 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds designated 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds general 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(39,861)	(3,845)	18,872	(136)	(24,970)	(50,406)	(4,591)	2,439	(342)	(52,900)
Gross transfers between funds		30,000	-	(30,000)	-	-	-	2,659	(2,659)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,861)	(3,845)	(11,128)	(136)	(24,970)	(50,406)	(1,932)	(220)	(342)	(52,900)
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		108,557	25,629	538,610	5,792	678,588	158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		98,696	21,784	527,482	5,656	653,618	108,557	25,629	538,610	5,792	678,588

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		484,568		534,733
Investments	**13**		5,656		5,792
			490,224		540,525
Current assets					
Stocks	**14**	60		60	
Debtors	**15**	21,050		20,550	
Cash at bank and in hand		148,663		124,567	
		169,773		145,177	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(6,379)		(7,114)	
Net current assets			163,394		138,063
Total assets less current liabilities			653,618		678,588
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general			5,656		5,792
Income funds					
Restricted funds			527,482		538,610
Endowment funds - designated			21,784		25,629
Unrestricted funds			98,696		108,557
			653,618		678,588

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22/4/24

.....

The Rev'd Matthew Strand
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

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

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

1.4 Income

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Fundraising costs comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the PCC's cafe.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the PCC in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the PCC.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs are analysed in the notes to the accounts as requested by the Trustees. This is a departure from the SORP which requires support costs to be allocated between the different activities engaged. The analysis in these accounts is thought to provide a more meaningful analysis to the readers of the accounts.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and seperately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

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

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

Plant and equipment	15% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Freehold land and buildings are retained for Church use. These are stated at cost and have not been depreciated due to their market value being considered to be higher than their carrying value.

1.7 Stocks

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	**2023**	**2023**	2022	2022	2022
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Gift Aid	95,737	-	95,737	99,354	-	99,354
Legacies	-	-	-	10,200	-	10,200
Regular non gift aid donations	6,567	-	6,567	6,420	-	6,420
Sundry donations	3,789	24,729	28,518	1,493	20,735	22,228
Miscellaneous appeals	-	1,670	1,670		3,640	3,640
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	26,567	-	26,567	28,681	-	28,681
Collections (open plate) at all services	14,605	-	14,605	14,111	-	14,111
	147,265	26,399	173,664	160,259	24,375	184,634

3 Charitable activities

	Magazine income 2023	PCC fees 2023	Clergy fees 2023	Total 2023	Magazine income 2022	PCC fees 2022	Clergy fees 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sales within charitable activities	1,659	15,810	12,910	30,379	1,004	17,952	14,793	33,749

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising	7,567	214
Parish centre lettings	19,075	17,261
Catering income	51,491	40,834
Other trading activities	78,133	58,309

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from unlisted investments	1,606	616	2,222	1,369	4,074	5,443

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	11,736	-
Feed in tariff	1,925	975
	13,661	975

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023	2022
	£	£
Trading costs		
Catering costs	22,317	15,316
Parish Centre wages costs	37,330	36,799
Trading costs	59,647	52,115
	59,647	52,115

8 Charitable activities

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Depreciation and impairment	6,102	6,656
Missionary Societies	790	5,251
Relief agencies	83	2,302
Magazine costs	393	332
Parish centre costs	42,635	31,184
Clergy fees surrendered to Diocese	19,486	22,941
Parish shares	110,000	106,500
Curate house expenses	941	1,430
Church running expenses	44,384	53,062
Pension contributions	802	838
Salaries, wages and honoraria	27,213	44,328
Sundry expenses	550	779
Machine lease and expenditure	2,980	2,980
Accountancy fees	2,890	2,890
Independent examination fees	650	650
Legal fees	3,347	1,430
	263,246	283,553
	263,246	283,553
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	251,258	252,952
Endowment funds - designated	3,845	4,591
Restricted funds	8,143	26,010
	263,246	283,553

9 Trustees

None of the Council members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC during the year.

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	6	7

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	60,677	75,986
Social security costs	3	-
Other pension costs	802	838
	61,482	76,824

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

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxationof Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	497,000	99,564	89,754	686,318
Additions	-	1,916	1,020	2,936
Disposals	(47,000)	-	-	(47,000)
At 31 December 2023	450,000	101,480	90,774	642,254
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2023	-	83,769	67,815	151,584
Depreciation charged in the year	-	2,659	3,443	6,102
At 31 December 2023	-	86,428	71,258	157,686
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2023	450,000	15,052	19,516	484,568
At 31 December 2022	497,000	15,794	21,939	534,733

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the Parish Centre. The Waldridge Mission Church site and the equity share of 16 Park Road North were both sold during the year.

13 Fixed asset investments

	Total £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2023	5,792
Valuation changes	(136)
At 31 December 2023	5,656
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2023	5,656
At 31 December 2022	5,792

The investment relates to The Lisle and Dorothy Pattison Gift (394.189 Charifund Units).

The Trust Fund is an endowment trust and the income earned may be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

14 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	60	60

15 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2023 £	2022 £
Gift aid recoverable	16,165	16,165
Prepayments and accrued income	4,885	4,385
	21,050	20,550

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	6,379	7,114

17 Fund details

The unrestricted funds comprise the General and Areas/Groups Funds as well as the equity share of 16 Park Road North. All other funds are restricted in their use.

The endowment funds comprise of the trust fund as shown in note 12.

The bank account balances are represented by funds as follows:

Fund		Balance @ 01.01.23	Change in year	Transfered in year	Balance @ 31.12.23
General		64,747	6,694		71,441
Fabric	R	21,912	(4,000)		17,912
Organ Restoration Fund	R	6,416	15		6,431
Miscellaneous	R	8,733	22,857		31,590
Centre recoupment	R	21,289			21,289
Areas/Groups		1,470	(1,470)		-
		124,567	24,096	-	148,663
Total restricted bank balances	R				77,222
Total unrestricted bank balances					71,441

18 Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of the net book value of assets purchased out of restricted funds which become unrestricted assets once purchased.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Designated funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Endowment funds 2023	Total 2023	Unrestricted funds 2022	Designated funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Endowment funds 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:										
Tangible assets	12,784	21,784	450,000	-	484,568	29,104	25,629	480,000	-	534,733
Investments	(5,656)	-	-	11,312	5,656	5,792	-	-	-	5,792
Current assets/(liabilities)	85,912	-	77,482	-	163,394	79,453	-	58,610	-	138,063
	93,040	21,784	527,482	11,312	653,618	114,349	25,629	538,610	-	678,588

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-S

England & Wales - Charity number 1130847

Accounts

Charity registration number 01130847

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Incumbent	The Rev. Matthew Strand	Appointed 10 March 2022
Charity number	01130847	
Principal address	Church Chare Chester-le-Street County Durham DH3 3QB	
Independent examiner	David McFarlane (ACA) DMC North Accounting Services A1 Marquis Court Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0RU	
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 6/7 Market Place County Durham DH1 3ND	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

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

Objectives and activities

St Mary and St Cuthbert's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Matthew Strand, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities of the Church Centre complex of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Correspondence may be addressed to the Church Office, Parish Centre, Church Chare, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3QB.

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

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

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. We have described some of the activities we have undertaken to fulfill our objectives below.

Achievements and performance

We aim to give away 5% of the congregation’s giving from the previous year and we have achieved that goal - to the agreed charities/mission agencies - local, national and international.

Following church-wide consultation and discernment, in December the following new vision was announced to the congregation, as agreed by the PCC:

"A multi-generational church that makes life long disciples of Jesus, where everyone flourishes."

Church attendance

At the 2022 Annual meeting our Electoral Roll stood at 317 (58 live outside the parish), 6 had died, 3 moved away and 7 new people joined.

Financial review

The general, unrestricted income of the PCC in 2022 was £254,661 compared to unrestricted income in 2021 of £240,097.

The organ restoration fund balance stood at £6,416 at the year end. This is restricted towards the repairs and restoration of the organ, and much of the work was undertaken during 2019. This fund has not moved during 2022.

As regards unrestricted expenditure, £106,500 Parish Share has been paid over during the year compared with £75,000 in 2021. Overall, the excess of ordinary unrestricted expenditure over income gave rise to a deficit for the year on unrestricted funds of £50,406 compared to a deficit of £14,627 in 2021.

Looking forward to 2022, now Covid restrictions have been fully relaxed it is hoped the finances of the PCC return to pre pandemic levels.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a minimum cash reserve within its unrestricted funds of £10,000, to enable it to manage the church's normal expenditure requirements. Year end unrestricted bank balances total £66,217, well in excess of the £10,000 limit. Restricted funds are held until such time as expenditure arises for which they may be used in accordance with the restrictions placed upon their use.

£10,200 has been bequeathed to the PCC in 2022 with no restrictions attached.

Risk Factors
The Council members has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

In relation to the management of the major risks that have the potential to adversely affect the work of the church, these are considered by the relevant sub-committees and issues are raised at Council meetings where action is necessary. A formal policy for the protection of children and vunerable adults has been put in place by the PCC and, in accordance with its terms, the necessary DBS searches are made through diocesan channels.

The Parish Centre Management Committee is responsible for health and safety and maintenance issues within the Parish Centre.

The Standing Committee is responsible for the initial management on behalf of the PCC of financial risks. The same Committee also manages health and safety and maintenance issues within the church building and for compliance with the 5 yearly programme of inspection required of church buildings by the Church of England central authorities. The quinquennial survey was carried out in 2018 and therefore the next report is due in 2023.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) .

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or may be co-opted.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Clergy (ex officio):
The Rev'd Matt Strand

Church Wardens (ex officio):
Mrs Sue Begg
Mrs Dorothy Hall
Mrs Elaine Rayner
Mr David Mallams

Treasurer:
Mr Malcolm Austin

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio):
Mr Alex Nelson
Mr John Hopper
Mrs Karen Richardson
Mr Ian Goulding
Mr Mike Heaps

Elected and Co-opted Members:
Mrs June Austin
Mrs Norma Hedley
Mrs Edna Sanderson
Mrs Ann Brown
Mr Alex Webster
Mr Tom Appleby
Mr Daniel Green
Mrs Sharon Dodds
Mrs Anne Smith
Mr James Hall
Mrs Abbie Winter
Mrs Ann Wilson

Committees
Our Parochial Church Council met six times through the year as usual.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law.
It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Attends to the Financial concerns of the Parish and the Fabric of the Church.

The Council members report was approved by the Board of Council Members.

.....
Rev Matthew strand
Trustee
Dated: .....

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

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

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

David McFarlane (ACA)
A1 Marquis Court
Team Valley Trading Estate
Gateshead
NE11 0RU

Dated: .....

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds designated 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds general 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds designated 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds general 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	**2**	160,259	-	24,375	-	184,634	158,614	-	11,242	-	169,856
Charitable activities	**3**	33,749	-	-	-	33,749	33,670	-	-	-	33,670
Other trading activities	**4**	58,309	-	-	-	58,309	33,049	-	-	-	33,049
Investments	**5**	1,369	-	4,074	-	5,443	295	-	3,650	-	3,945
Other income	**6**	975	-	-	-	975	14,469	-	-	-	14,469
Total income		254,661	-	28,449	-	283,110	240,097	-	14,892	-	254,989
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	**7**	52,115	-	-	-	52,115	41,158	-	-	-	41,158
Charitable activities	**8**	252,952	4,591	26,010	-	283,553	213,278	4,864	11,324	-	229,466
Total expenditure		305,067	4,591	26,010	-	335,668	254,436	4,864	11,324	-	270,624
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	(342)	(342)	-	-	-	724	724
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(50,406)	(4,591)	2,439	(342)	(52,900)	(14,339)	(4,864)	3,568	724	(14,911)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds designated 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds general 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds designated 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds general 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(50,406)	(4,591)	2,439	(342)	(52,900)	(14,339)	(4,864)	3,568	724	(14,911)
Gross transfers between funds		-	2,659	(2,659)	-	-	(288)	12,597	(12,309)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(50,406)	(1,932)	(220)	(342)	(52,900)	(14,627)	7,733	(8,741)	724	(14,911)
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488	173,590	19,828	547,571	5,410	746,399
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		108,557	25,629	538,610	5,792	678,588	158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		534,733		538,146
Investments	**12**		5,792		6,134
			540,525		544,280
Current assets					
Stocks	**14**	60		60	
Debtors	**15**	20,550		16,266	
Cash at bank and in hand		124,567		176,864	
		145,177		193,190	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(7,114)		(5,982)	
Net current assets			138,063		187,208
Total assets less current liabilities			678,588		731,488
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general			5,792		6,134
Income funds					
Restricted funds			538,610		538,830
Endowment funds - designated			25,629		27,561
Unrestricted funds			108,557		158,963
			678,588		731,488

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

.....
The Rev'd Matthew Strand
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

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

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.4 Income

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Fundraising costs comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the PCC's cafe.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the PCC in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the PCC.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs are analysed in the notes to the accounts as requested by the Trustees. This is a departure from the SORP which requires support costs to be allocated between the different activities engaged. The analysis in these accounts is thought to provide a more meaningful analysis to the readers of the accounts.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and seperately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

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

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

Plant and equipment	15% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Freehold land and buildings are retained for Church use. These are stated at cost and have not been depreciated due to their market value being considered to be higher than their carrying value.

1.7 Stocks

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	**2022**	**2022**	2021	2021	2021
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Gift Aid	99,354	-	99,354	101,991	-	101,991
Legacies	10,200	-	10,200	15,447	4,386	19,833
Regular non gift aid donations	6,420	-	6,420	7,248	4,386	11,634
Sundry donations	1,493	20,735	22,228	620	2,750	3,370
Miscellaneous appeals	-	3,640	3,640		4,106	4,106
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	28,681	-	28,681	20,134	-	20,134
Collections (open plate) at all services	14,111	-	14,111	13,174	-	13,174
	160,259	24,375	184,634	158,614	11,242	169,856

3 Charitable activities

	Magazine income 2022	PCC fees 2022	Clergy fees 2022	Total 2022	Magazine income 2021	PCC fees 2021	Clergy fees 2021	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sales within charitable activities	1,004	17,952	14,793	33,749	665	15,280	17,725	33,670

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Fundraising	214	750
Parish centre lettings	17,261	10,623
Catering income	40,834	21,676
Other trading activities	58,309	33,049

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	**2022**	**2022**	2021	2021	2021
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Income from unlisted investments	1,369	4,074	5,443	295	3,650	3,945

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Feed in tariff	975	1,255
Furlough receipts	-	13,214
	975	14,469

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Trading costs		
Catering costs	15,316	8,169
Parish Centre wages costs	36,799	32,989
Trading costs	52,115	41,158
	52,115	41,158

8 Charitable activities

	Total 2022	**Total 2021**
	£	**£**
Depreciation and impairment	6,656	7,258
Missionary Societies	5,251	11,483
Relief agencies	2,302	3,079
Magazine costs	332	353
Parish centre costs	31,184	14,574
Clergy fees surrendered to Diocese	22,941	24,086
Parish shares	106,500	75,000
Curate house expenses	1,430	1,149
Church running expenses	53,062	37,372
Pension contributions	838	1,297
Salaries, wages and honoraria	44,328	47,724
Sundry expenses	779	871
Machine lease and expenditure	2,980	1,680
Accountancy fees	2,890	2,890
Independent examination fees	650	650
Legal fees	1,430	-
	283,553	229,466
	283,553	229,466
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	252,952	213,278
Endowment funds - designated	4,591	4,864
Restricted funds	26,010	11,324
	283,553	229,466

9 Trustees

None of the Council members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC during the year.

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
	7	8

Employment costs	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	75,986	77,896
Social security costs	-	603
Other pension costs	838	1,297
	76,824	79,796

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	497,000	98,074	87,999	683,073
Additions	-	1,489	1,755	3,244
At 31 December 2022	497,000	99,563	89,754	686,317
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2022	-	80,983	63,945	144,928
Depreciation charged in the year	-	2,786	3,870	6,656
At 31 December 2022	-	83,769	67,815	151,584
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2022	497,000	15,794	21,939	534,733
At 31 December 2021	497,000	17,092	24,054	538,146

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the Parish Centre and associated land, Waldridge Mission Church site and the equity share of 16 Park Road North.

12 Fixed asset investments

	Total
	£
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2022	6,134
Valuation changes	(342)
At 31 December 2022	5,792
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	5,792
At 31 December 2021	6,134

The investment relates to The Lisle and Dorothy Pattison Gift (394.189 Charifund Units).

The Trust Fund is an endowment trust and the income earned may be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

13 Financial instruments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	5,792	6,134

14 Stocks

	2022	2021
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	60	60

15 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	16,165	12,000
Prepayments and accrued income	4,385	4,266
	20,550	16,266

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	7,114	5,982

17 Fund details

The unrestricted funds comprise the General and Areas/Groups Funds as well as the equity share of 16 Park Road North. All other funds are restricted in their use.

The endowment funds comprise of the trust fund as shown in note 12.

The bank account balances are represented by funds as follows:

Fund		Balance @ 01.01.22	Change in year	Transfered in year	Balance @ 31.12.22
General		116,689	(51,942)		64,747
Youth	R	-			-
Charities	R	2	(2)		-
Fabric	R	29,210	(7,298)		21,912
Organ Restoration Fund	R	6,416			6,416
Miscellaneous	R	1,745	6,988		8,733
Centre recoupment	R	21,289			21,289
Areas/Groups		1,513	(43)		1,470
		176,864	(52,297)	-	124,567
Total restricted bank balances	R				58,350
Total unrestricted bank balances					66,217

18 Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of the net book value of assets purchased out of restricted funds which become unrestricted assets once purchased.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	**Designated funds 2022 £**	**Restricted funds 2022 £**	**Endowment funds 2022 £**	**Total 2022 £**	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Designated funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 are represented by:										
Tangible assets	29,104	25,629	480,000	-	534,733	24,451	27,561	480,000	6,134	538,146
Investments	-	-	-	5,792	5,792	6,134	-	-	-	6,134
Current assets/(liabilities)	79,453	-	58,610	-	138,063	128,378	-	58,830	-	187,208
	108,557	25,629	538,610	5,792	678,588	158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT PARISH CHURCH, CHESTER-LE-S

England & Wales - Charity number 1130847

Accounts

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. CUTHBERT, CHESTER-LE-STREET
7.30pm, THURSDAY 7TH APRIL 2022, PARISH CENTRE

ANNUAL MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

All persons whose names are entered on the church electoral roll of the parish, or resident in the parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors by reason of such residence, are entitled to vote at the election of churchwardens.

1. Bible Reading and Prayer
2. Minutes of 2021 Election of Churchwardens Meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Thanks to Churchwardens
5. Election of Churchwardens
6. Any other business

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of 2021 APCM
3. Matters arising
4. Electoral Roll Report – Alex Nelson
5. Annual Report – including fabric, deanery synod and safeguarding reports
6. Presentation of the accounts for 2021 & resolution to accept the accounts
7. Rector's Report
8. Deanery Synod Election: 1 space for the final year of the current term
9. PCC Election: 2 spaces
10. Appointments: Auditor
11. Any Other Business
12. Closing Prayer

Date of next Standing Committee: 25th April, 9.15am
Date of next PCC meeting: 12th May, 7.30pm, Eardulph Room

THE PARISH OF ST MARY & ST CUTHBERT , CHESTER LE STREET

Minutes of the Annual Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Held on Tuesday 4 May 2021

Rev. David Tully ,Rector, welcomed 43 people to the meeting (with social distancing).

Readings & Prayers: Rev. Mark Harrison read from Luke 5 and Rev. David led the meeting in prayer.

Vestry Meeting: Purposes And Qualifications: Rev. David read out the qualifications for the Vestry Meeting.

Minutes of 2020 Annual Vestry Meeting : agreed as an accurate record.

Matters Arising: None

Parish Charities:

Henry Smith Charity: -
Savings Account: £306.51 (@ 1.1.20); £440.39 (@31.12.20)
Received from national charity £133.62 and 0.26 interest
Current Account: £296.02 (@1.1.20); £6.02 (@ 31.12.20)
£350 paid out in grants - and paid into the account £60

Hudson and Tewart Charity
Account :£4506.11 (@1.1.20); £6678.19 (@31.12.20)
Received from national charity £168.01 and from Henry Smith £2000 and interest of £4.07
Nothing paid out

Shipperdson Educational Trust
Account: £1041.44 (@1.1.20); £1152.80 (@31.12.20)
Received from national charity £210.51 and interest of 0.85)
Paid out £100

Thanks to Churchwardens: David gave thanks to the Churchwardens for their ongoing work in complicated times.

Election of Churchwardens: 4 Nominations**:**

David Mallams
Elaine Rayner
Malcolm Rowland
Dorothy Hall

These four people were declared elected.

A.O.B

None

This terminated the Vestry meeting

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Tuesday 4 May 2021

Qualifications For Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Rev. David explained the requirement for participants to be on the Electoral Roll.

Apologies for Absence: Dennis and Sylvia Rudd.

Minutes of 2020 Meeting: Agreed as accurate record.

Matters Arising: None

Electoral Roll Report: 315 people are on the Roll of which 59 live outside the Parish. Doreen Yeates stepped down as Electoral Roll Officer and David thanked her for her many years of service. Alex Nelson agreed to accept the role.

Safeguarding Report: Sue White, Safeguarding Officer, reminded us that safeguarding is still a priority and new safeguarding guidelines are being implemented. She gave thanks to the members of the Safeguarding Team - Elaine Rayner, Michelle Dundas, Sarah Hindle and Dave Mallams (Health and Safety). David expressed his gratitude to Sue for all her hard work.

Presentation of Accounts for 2020: The Treasurer, Malcolm Austin, presented the Accounts and there was a formal resolution to accept them which was carried unanimously. David thanked Malcolm for all his efforts.

Reports:

David read the Churchwardens' Report and Malcolm Rowland gave thanks to David from the Churchwardens for leading the Church throughout this time.

Deanery Synod Report - David explained that they had not met since the last APCM.

PCC Report- Since October the PCC had met 5 times. All meetings had been held on Zoom with over 90% attendance.

Rector's Report: Rev. David explained that it was only 6 months since the last APCM and that it was 5 days before his retirement. He reminded us that he had been at our Church for 12 years, his last year being the most difficult because of the pandemic.

Elections:

PCC Members**:** David explained the composition of the PCC. This Parish elects 20 people including 4 Churchwardens, 5 Deanery Synod representatives, and 11 lay representatives. Representatives are elected for 3 years and are allowed to do 2 terms of 3 years. At the moment there are 3 vacancies and 6 people have been nominated. David invited the candidates to address the Meeting for 1 minute. David explained the procedure for the secret ballot that then took place. The votes were counted by 2 Churchwardens and the candidates were:

Sharon Dodds
Daniel Green
John Lane
Anne Smith

Peter Southern
Jim Stothard

The following were elected:
Sharon Dodds
Daniel Green
Anne Smith

Appointments:

Accountants**:** Agreed to continue with David Nattrass at DMC North and this was confirmed unanimously.

Any Other Business:

None

Closing Prayer: David closed the meeting with prayer.

Dorothy Hall PCC Secretary

PCC REPORT

The PCC consisted of 22 members during 2021/22.

6 meetings were held.

The main items considered were:-

- New sound system in Church
- Broadcasting and live-streaming of services
- CMS Mission Support
- Safeguarding
- Parish Share 2022
- Quinquennial and Church repairs
- Parish Charity requests
- Parish Prioritisation Process
- Eco-Church
- Ankers House transfer
- Appointment of Rector
- Purchase of defibrillator
- 2021 Accounts

Mike Alton has completed his term of office and we are grateful for his service on the PCC.

We remember the sad death of Ann Curry and give thanks for her service on the PCC and Deanery Synod.

Dorothy Hall
PCC Secretary

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

These were both online Zoom meetings during the pandemic.

The deadline for APCMs and election for Deanery reps was delayed until October in June 2020's deanery Synod, the last meeting before July 2021. The 2020 Deanery afternoon and the Deanery pilgrimage were both postponed due to the pandemic.

Six of the Clergy members were elected to the House of clergy, and from our church Karen Richardson was elected to the House of Laity, one of four after the first election returned only two lay members and no House of Clergy members.

Diocesan Synod Notes from report presented to Deanery synod 9/21: Due to the pandemic there were fewer candidates than the required representation in many deanery synod elections. Diocesan Board of Education, Bishop's Council and Vacancy in See Committee elections were planned for Autumn 2021, where James Hall was elected as a youth member to the Bishop's council.
The Living in Love and Faith book and Course was introduced for participation and discussion in parishes and to feedback to The Diocese by the end of 2021. (This was later extended to April 2022).
Income for the Parish Pledge was 16% below budget in 2020, and pledges for 2021 was 22% below what was requested.

A motion was passed that the diocese to register and become an EcoDiocese.
All incumbents received a copy of the Living in Love and Faith book from the Bishop.
Rev'd Tim Wall served as Acting Area Dean During Rev'd John Lintern's Autumn sabbatical.
Guided Parish Pledges were due to be submitted in October.
The next Deanery Synod will be in person at the end of April.

Karen Richardson

PARISH CHARITIES

We have made dispersements to 8 households in the past twelve months and spent a total of £2971.58. Three more applications, for three more households are currently pending.

Our funds are from the Henry Smith Charity. This charity will replace what we have spent to use again in the following year

Two other charities previously linked to our parish and church, the Shipperdson Memorial Fund and the Hudson Tewart Charity, are no longer registered with the charity commission. Funds from the Hudson Tewart Charity were formally transferred to the Henry Smith Charity some years ago and the Shipperdson Fund has closed.

This does not restrict our access to funds but it does clarify the process.

Updated guidance from the Henry Smith Charity indicates that they expect most grants to be in the region of £50 to £100 although purchase of more expensive items is not prohibited.

Elaine Rayner

CHURCHWARDENS' AND FABRIC REPORT 2021-2022

The churchwardens started to meet together monthly in May 2021, then fortnightly and are now meeting weekly with the Rector.

Works required in the Quinquennial were organised including:
-Church gutters cleaned
-pointing of hood mould over West entry door
-pointing of East Gable water tables
-pointing of hood mould over North door
-replacement of frame and meter cupboard door
-painting of outside doors
-electrical test report
-Lightning conductor test report

Parish Inspection with Archdeacon Bob Cooper on 23 June was successful

Other issues that have been dealt with include:-

Installation of new sound system in Church
Replacement of lighting in Church
Liaising with vermin control to remove rat infestation and install mesh over air bricks

Organising live-streaming and broadcasting of services
Dealing with drain blockage in Parish Centre
Investigation of stone fallen from the side of the Church
Minor repair to 'Cuthbert' bell
Renewing risk assessments in Church
Cleaning of surfaces after each service
Checking Rectory while vacant and arranging repairs
Organisation of cover by external clergy for Church services
Transfer of Anker's House Museum to the Church
Repair of Church boiler
Updating of boards outside and inside Church with name of new Rector
Checking Park Road North property while vacant
Monitoring Clergy Vestry for signs of damp - keeping gullies and gutters clear and humidifier running
Purchase of defibrillator
Dorothy Hall
Churchwarden

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

As new developments have happened this year it seemed sensible to I have a safeguarding team despite not meeting in our usual way as area churches, we meet about 4 monthly currently .

We discuss any new policy processes we need to be aware of, changes to safeguarding, and how safeguarding effects our area services.

We are in the process of building a data base to better keep track of what training and certification all our volunteers have. This is proving to be a long job, please to speak to one of the team if you have completed new training that supports your voluntary or paid parish role. Jan , Sharon and myself can currently add to the info sheet.

We now have in place all policies up to date - however new information has been released that significantly changes the safer recruitment process enforced from January. This new process is a priority within safeguarding and as we move forward with all prospective volunteers we will be fully complying with the new process . To my knowledge this does not effect anyone who currently volunteers or has been recruited prior to the above date.

Our team is committed to supporting all adults who are vulnerable and young people within the parish and have been doing so if issues have occurred.

I have completed a train the trainer course to further support anyone who wishes to complete their safeguarding training in person, I can now deliver that training in-house and the diocese will issue the certification.

I must say thanks to everyone who dedicates time and energy to making sure our spaces are safe. Many thanks to my safeguarding team who continue to support me in my role.

Sue White - Youth & Children Co-ordinator

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORK REPORT

I can't quiet believe it's only a year ago since I was delivering packs to all our families for messy church , Easter gardens and parties Creating original video content just about weekly for schools and church.

It feels like the longest shortest year ever ! So much has happened.

My role has changed progressively over lockdown and during our vacancy I am working towards getting back some semblance of all age youth and children's work, but some elements feel painfully slow.

This is a reflection of the last year

*created video collective worships weekly for schools
*Maintained messy church , either with craft packs and videos , outdoor gatherings and events .Since last sept back in the parish centre .
*Restarted and got new members in to our toddler group
*Completed paediatric first aid at work training
*Coordinated a very successful week long holiday club with 35 children and 20 volunteers and 4 young leaders in attendance , all meals and activities provided free for the whole group.
* Ran one day half termly events for the holiday club attendees and additional young people
*Delivered cards and advent calendars to all our holiday club children , and messy church families.
*Prayer spaces event in church for school
*Ran weekly groups for young people 7-11's
*worked alongside ReNew Charity to provide youth events
*Communion Course
*Mentored young person and completed Youth Alpha - linked to ReNew Charity (one year)
*Became a school governor (as a replacement for Rev David they have since asked me to stay on as a permanent foundation Governor)
*Completed roughly 10-15 online training events in relation to the Governor role
*Currently completing a certificated course for the Role of a Governor in a Church of England School through Liverpool Hope University (the school paid for this)

*Started chaplaincy in CofE school , within that we have developed a children's collective worship team
*Delivered training to staff on collective worship
*Developed new volunteer teams
*Maintained our Facebook and website to reflect the change in rules/services etc
*Restarted our Facebook live streams supported with funeral live streams.
*Created - in person school services for celebrations times and seasons
*Restarted chaplaincy in Park View as soon as we were allowed in person
*Developed new links with Hermitage School (watch this space on that one)
*Supported RE department in Park View taken part in Ethics Classes, Introductions to GCSE Faith and Ethics
*Attended a 3day youth event to develop skills and Knowledge for progressing our current youth work.
*Completed Chaplaincy Certification with Nottingham University (church paid half)
*Lead Celebration/Christmas Services , more recently taking a bigger role in regular church weekly services.
*Supported individuals and Families by getting financial support, giving pastoral care and regularly praying for them.
*Run a regular online Bible study group - currently looking at living in love and faith course
*PCC member , Member of the Eco group committee
Moving forward I would like to get back to having an after school club and start a youth cafe as my top goals , also getting back in person to each of the schools in Chester-le-Street some schools are still not having whole school collective worships.

I would like to give a personal thanks to all my volunteers and people who support in the varied ways you do through time, finance , prayer and encouragement . I am truly blessed to be a part of this church and community . I thank God for each one of you and the special gifts and talents you bring.

Sue White – Youth & Children Coordinator

MOTHERS' UNION REPORT

After what has been a difficult two years for everyone, Mothers' Union members are now meeting together not weekly as before but every 2 weeks either in the Parish Centre or in Church.
Our membership has fluctuated over the past 2 years as sadly some members have passed away and some have moved into care and are sadly missed. But we are happy to report that we have enrolled 5 new members this year with 2 more new members to be enrolled this month.

During the early days of Lock down in 2020 we kept in touch with each other through regular phone calls and cards sent to all by Branch Leader, Sue Begg. Prayer Diaries and Durham Diocese Newsround booklets were delivered to members' homes when possible. Later we used Zoom and Why Pay Telephone Conferencing facilities and as soon as was possible we began monthly meetings in church observing the safety restrictions in operation at those times as we recognised all of us were in a vulnerable position due to either age and/or infirmities.

We had the opportunity to say farewell to retiring Rector , Rev. David Tully in 2021 at our April church meeting.

In May 2021 we resumed Mothers' Union members ministry with monthly baptisms in Church.

Our Summer of Hope fundraising appeal was launched in July with some members also undertaking the Summer of Hope 5km Sponsored Walk in September 2021. All in all thanks to the generosity of our members £392.78 was raised on this occasion.

We were also able to resume regular meetings in the Parish Centre in September 2021.

Activities since then have included a Harvest Festival collection of foods which were donated to The People' Kitchen in Newcastle along with £110 again generously donated by our members.

Involvement in 16 Days of Activism to raise awareness of Gender-based Violence, with some of our members attending both the Prayer Walk in Durham City and the Eucharist and Prayer Session in Durham Cathedral arranged at that time despite the unfavourable weather.

Our branch have also decided to contribute goods to the charity “Smalls for All”.

Some changes have had to be made to usual practices. Instead of a fundraising Coffee morning open to the general public we had an in-house fundraising after our meeting. On that occasion £386.20 was raised. Also instead of our annual Christmas meal away we had our Christmas celebrations at the Parish Centre with Carols and a “Goody” bag of seasonal delicacies and a small gift for each member.

This year for our Lent programme we were delighted to welcome back Rev. Nicola Jay.
The Lady Day celebration is to be conducted by Durham Diocese Mothers' Union Chaplain Rev. Norma Clee in our Church to which we have invited members of other Mother' Union branches within our Diocese. Also this year we will be assembling posies to be given out at the Mothering Sunday services in our Parish.

We are looking forward to be able to parade our Mothers' Union Banner alongside the banners of the many branches of Mothers' Union in Durham Diocese at the Mothers' Union Festival Service to be held in Durham Cathedral in June this year especially as our Branch Leader Sue Begg as well as being a Trustee of Durham Diocese will also take on the role of a Vice President.

We are encouraged by the enthusiasm in our group and are looking ahead to the new normality which is emerging this year and are eagerly looking ahead to trying new ideas using the many talents displayed by our members.

Aileen Armstrong
Branch Secretary

Parish South Pilot Group Annual Report March 20th 2022

We have seen unprecedented changes in our day to day lives, which has impacted on all our lives and in the meeting together for worship, fellowship and socialising. It has been a privilege to serve with the Pilot Group who have constantly thought round ways to maintain our fellowship with each other and in serving the community, whilst observing the government restrictions on our usual liberties.

I am always impressed by the way people make imaginative responses to unusual situations and it has been a delight to me to see the rapid responses people made to the bann on meeting together. The group who pastorally rang us from time to time to ensure all was well, and then sent cards of good wishes, and special messages.

The use of social media has been a godsend in these days, and the on line services helped many to deal with the extraordinary circumstances of our lives. The value of social media should not be undervalued, it reached a wider audience than was imagined. I know from personal experience that the Parish Church transmissions were watched by people in the far North of Scotland and also in Southland New Zealand. We thank God for that Ministry.

I pay tribute to all on the Pilot Group who have worked tirelessly to ensure we remain in contact as Parish South Thank you all, & God Bless you for all you have done in service to us all, and in your continued commitment to Parish South and above all to our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have undergone many changes in the past 3 years, the unexpected and early retirement of Jon Wilkinson, our Vicar, the coming and going Simon Grundy as curate both hugely missed for the very different styles of ministry, care and love they brought to us. The retirement of David Tully also occurred within a few short months Jon & Simon leaving.

The return to Hermitage on the 9th January 2022, has begun a new era in our journey and witness to the parish. The return went smoothly thanks to many people who worked tirelessly to achieve it. It is good to have face to face contact once more.

I have been blessed to see so many people stepping into roles they would not normally have done. The leaders of our worship, the musicians, the set up teams who ensure we have the sound system in place and the means of projecting the services on screen, and those who prepare the sermons/talks each week.

The opportunity to help the community with Litter Picking has had an impact and one lady who saw the team out a few months ago asked to be included. She turns up regularly, has not come to church yet…

Sharon Dodds who has served us faithfully as Secretary of the Pilot Group is standing down as of today. I know the pilot group members appreciate all her hard work and I pay personal tribute to her for her support and commitment to the group and to me. Sharon Thank you.

If you have any ideas, views, comments re Parish South please let us have them so we can look at fresh ways of outreach and service.

I am conscious that over the past nearly 3 years of Pandemic members of our fellowship have lost Loved ones. Please continue to support and pray for them in their sorrow and loss.
We do not know what the days ahead will bring but one thing is certain we do not face this alone, take courage in the fact that we are not alone because as the Hymn writer put it, On Christ the Solid Rock we stand, All other Ground is sinking Sand. Be Blessed

Mike Heaps - Chair of Pilot Group

Parish South
Year ended 31st December 2021

		£	£
Balances at 1st January 2021			
	Bank	248.94	
	Cash	118.93	
Money in			
Donation		22.00	
Money out			
Laptop - shared cost with Central			212.50
Balances at 31st December 2021			
	Bank		111.44
	Cash		65.93
		389.87	389.87

Parish North Chairperson's Report March 2022

Services

The past year has been a mixed year managing Covid restrictions and relaxations. We were pleased to be able to use the Parish Centre alternate weeks and our services were well-attended. Safety measures were put in place in accordance with government and Church of England guidelines. Many thanks go to the team of people who set up and put away equipment. This was quite a heavy task and our services could not have happened without their efforts.
We are delighted to now be back in the school at South Pelaw and our numbers, although down a little, are beginning to recover.
We are grateful to the people on the rota who help to ensure the smooth running of the services. Especial thanks to Norma and Pilot Group who have worked very hard to keep things going over very difficult times. The good news is that there is always room for extra people so don't be shy!
We had to say goodbye to Mark and Julie in January. We very much appreciated Mark's short time with Parish North and we wish them well in their new parish.
We would like to thank all those who have helped us to celebrate Holy Communion and those who have brought God's word to us, each with an individual perspective.
We welcome Matt, Sarah and the boys and look forward to their time with us.

Pilot Group

Pilot Group have met regularly over the year. Pastoral care has been the main focus of our meetings and communication with members of the congregation has been a priority. We did not want anyone to feel isolated from church. We have encouraged people to take responsibility for passing on news and information to those without email. A weekly notice sheet has been sent out via email. Palm crosses were delivered last year along with Easter cards. Mother's day flowers were prepared and delivered. Christmas cards, including the Church of England booklet, 'At the heart of Christmas', were also sent out to all members of the congregation. Easter cards, along with decorated crosses, are planned for Easter. We are a small group and hope to increase our numbers this year.

Music Group

We are delighted to have our music group leading us once more in praising God. Despite difficulties with managing practices because of Covid issues, they have risen to the challenge and it's a joy to hear them once more.

Lightseekers

Many, many thanks go to Gillian, Tracey and Joanne for all the work they have done with our children over the years. We are so grateful for their commitment to bringing the message of good news to the children through their teaching. They have decided to stand down and we hope that we will still see them in our services. We are extremely grateful to Joe who has stepped into the breach and taken on the running of our Lightseekers group.

Social Activities

These, of course, have been much reduced but we had a lovely Christmas meal at the Cricket Club. Thank you to Mary for organising this. The pantomime was an enjoyable evening, as usual. Thanks to Helen for organising this. As restrictions continue to ease, and infection rates permitting, we hope to be able to plan events for later in the year.

Outreach

Our drop-in sessions on the first Wednesday of the month have restarted and most of our regular guests have retuned. It's been good to be able to pick up where we left off and to continue to share God's love with members of the community. Thanks to all those who come along to help.

Doreen continues to take responsibility for the child sponsorship scheme. Thanks to her for doing that. .We continue to sponsor Daniel from Equador.The majority of people currently in the Parish North Child Sponsorship Scheme are within the congregation, but we must also thank those who are past members of our congregation but have maintained their support, and also in certain cases other people who are friends.

We trust that God will continue to reveal His plans for Parish North and look forward to enabling everyone to use their gifts and talents to further His work in our community.

“'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future. '” — Jeremiah 29:11.

Ann Wilson

Parish North Accounts year ended 31.12.21

Income

Date	Details	Cash	Banked
		0.00	0.00
Totals		0.00	0.00

Brought forward from	
Previous year 2020	332.50
Excess ex/in	63.95
Balance	**268.55**

Expenditure

Date	Cheque	Cash		
20.12	498		Norma Hedley	
			Ref Tesco & CPO	38.95
20.12	499		Ann Wilson	
			Ref CPO Easter Cards	25.00
				63.95

Charity Registration No. 01130847

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Incumbent	The Rev. David J Tully	Resigned 31 December 2021
	The Rev. Matthew Strand	Appointed 10 March 2022
Charity number	01130847	
Principal address	Church Chare Chester-le-Street County Durham DH3 3QB	
Independent examiner	David McFarlane (ACA) DMC North Accounting Services A1 Marquis Court Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0RU	
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC 6/7 Market Place County Durham DH1 3ND	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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

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

Objectives and activities

St Mary and St Cuthbert's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, Revd David J Tully, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities of the Church Centre complex of the Parish Church of St Mary and St Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Correspondence may be addressed to the Church Office, Parish Centre, Church Chare, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3QB.

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

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

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. We have described some of the activities we have undertaken to fulfill our objectives below.

Achievements and performance

As usual we aim to give away 10% of the congregation’s giving from the previous year and we have achieved that goal - to the agreed charities/mission agencies - local, national and international.

The PCC still hold to **our Parish Values** (agreed in January 2013):
- Reaching out with God’s love
- Serving the people of Chester-le-Street
- Doing everything for Jesus.

The **priorities to develop** in the next few years, agreed by PCC in November 2017, slightly modified from the previous ones:
- Parish Centre improvement and developing our links through it
- Children’s and Youth work development
- Faith sharing.

The Rector, Rev David Tully announced in November 2020 that he is to retire in May 2021.

Matthew Strand was announced as the new Rev on the 10 March 2022.

No Alpha courses ran in 2021 due to Covid restrictions.

Street Friends, HOPE evangelism and our termly Job Club remain suspended.

We conducted about 24 baptisms, about 6 weddings and about 117 funerals through the year. Baptisms and weddings were severely reduced in number because of COVID Restrictions.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Church attendance
Church attendance has not yet returned to pre pandemic levels.

Online services that started in March 2020 were ceased at the request of the Curate.

At the 2021 Annual meeting our Electoral Roll stood at 315 (57 live outside the parish), 6 had died and 2 moved away.

Financial review
The general, unrestricted income of the PCC in 2021 was £240,097 compared to unrestricted income in 2020 of £351,384. Income has decreased due to gift day in 2020, where two large donations were received.

The organ restoration fund balance stood at £6,416 at the year end. This is restricted towards the repairs and restoration of the organ, and much of the work was undertaken during 2019. This fund has not moved during 2021.

As regards unrestricted expenditure, £75,000 Parish Share has been paid over during the year compared with £100,000 in 2020. Overall, the excess of ordinary unrestricted expenditure over income gave rise to a deficit for the year on unrestricted funds of £14,911 compared to a surplus of £68,141 in 2020.

Looking forward to 2022, now Covid restrictions are it is hoped the finances of the PCC return to pre pandemic levels.

The policy of the PCC is to maintain a minimum cash reserve within its unrestricted funds of £10,000, to enable it to manage the church's normal expenditure requirements. Year end unrestricted bank balances total £118,202, well in excess of the £10,000 limit. Restricted funds are held until such time as expenditure arises for which they may be used in accordance with the restrictions placed upon their use.

£10,000 has been bequeathed to the PCC in 2022 with no restrictions attached.

Risk Factors
The Council members has assessed the major risks to which the PCC is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

In relation to the management of the major risks that have the potential to adversely affect the work of the church, these are considered by the relevant sub-committees and issues are raised at Council meetings where action is necessary. A formal policy for the protection of children and vunerable adults has been put in place by the PCC and, in accordance with its terms, the necessary DBS searches are made through diocesan channels.

The Parish Centre Management Committee is responsible for health and safety and maintenance issues within the Parish Centre.

The Standing Committee is responsible for the initial management on behalf of the PCC of financial risks. The same Committee also manages health and safety and maintenance issues within the church building and for compliance with the 5 yearly programme of inspection required of church buildings by the Church of England central authorities. The quinquennial survey was carried out in 2018 and therefore the next report is due in 2023.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended) .

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, or may be co-opted.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Clergy (ex officio):
The Rev'd David J Tully (to May 2021)
The Rev'd Simon Grundy (to April 2021)
The Rev'd Mark Harrison

Church Wardens (ex officio):
Mr Malcolm Rowland
Mrs Dorothy Hall
Mrs Elaine Rayner
Mr David Mallams

Deanery Synod Representatives (ex officio):
Mr Alex Nelson
Mrs Edna Sanderson
Mrs Ann Curry
Mrs Karen Richardson
Mr Ian Goulding
Mr Mike Heaps

Elected and Co-opted Members:
Mr Mike Alton
Mrs June Austin
Mrs Norma Hedley
Mrs Edna Sanderson
Mr Malcolm Austin (Treasurer)
Mrs Ann Brown
Mr Alex Webster
Mr Tom Appleby
Mr Daniel Green
Mrs Sharon Dodds
Mrs Anne Smith
Mr James Hall

Committees
Our Parochial Church Council met six times through the year as usual.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law.
It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Attends to the Financial concerns of the Parish and the Fabric of the Church.

The Council members report was approved by the Board of Council Members.

.....
Rev Matthew strand
Trustee
Dated: .....

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

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

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

David McFarlane (ACA)
A1 Marquis Court
Team Valley Trading Estate
Gateshead
NE11 0RU

Dated: .....

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds designated 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds general 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Endowment funds designated 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Endowment funds general 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies	**2**	158,614	-	11,242	-	169,856	261,063	-	8,790	-	269,853
Charitable activities	**3**	33,670	-	-	-	33,670	33,629	-	-	-	33,629
Other trading activities	**4**	33,049	-	-	-	33,049	33,176	-	-	-	33,176
Investments	**5**	295	-	3,650	-	3,945	498	-	100	-	598
Other income	**6**	14,469	-	-	-	14,469	23,018	-	-	-	23,018
Total income		240,097	-	14,892	-	254,989	351,384	-	8,890	-	360,274
Expenditure on:											
Raising funds	**7**	41,158	-	-	-	41,158	40,264	-	-	-	40,264
Charitable activities	**8**	213,278	4,864	11,324	-	229,466	242,979	3,499	9,915	-	256,393
Total resources expended		254,436	4,864	11,324	-	270,624	283,243	3,499	9,915	-	296,657
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	724	724	-	-	-	(1,136)	(1,136)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(14,339)	(4,864)	3,568	724	(14,911)	68,141	(3,499)	(1,025)	(1,136)	62,481

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds designated 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Endowment funds general 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Endowment funds designated 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Endowment funds general 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(14,339)	(4,864)	3,568	724	(14,911)	68,141	(3,499)	(1,025)	(1,136)	62,481
Gross transfers between funds		(288)	12,597	(12,309)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(14,627)	7,733	(8,741)	724	(14,911)	68,141	(3,499)	(1,025)	(1,136)	62,481
Fund balances at 1 January 2021		173,590	19,828	547,571	5,410	746,399	105,449	23,326	548,596	6,546	683,917
Fund balances at 31 December 2021		158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488	173,590	19,827	547,571	5,410	746,398

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		538,146		532,806
Investments	**12**		6,134		5,410
			544,280		538,216
Current assets					
Stocks	**14**	60		60	
Debtors	**15**	16,266		28,483	
Cash at bank and in hand		176,864		184,435	
		193,190		212,978	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(5,982)		(4,796)	
Net current assets			187,208		208,182
Total assets less current liabilities			731,488		746,398
Capital funds					
Endowment funds - general			6,134		5,410
Income funds					
Restricted funds			538,830		547,571
Endowment funds - designated			27,561		19,827
Unrestricted funds			158,963		173,590
			731,488		746,398

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

.....
Mrs Norma Hedley
Trustee

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church of St Mary's & St Cuthbert's is governed by the Church of England measures which comprise of 1) the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and 2) the Church Representation Rules (contained in schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended)

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.4 Income

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

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

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

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross.

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Fundraising costs comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the PCC's cafe.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the PCC in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the PCC.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs are analysed in the notes to the accounts as requested by the Trustees. This is a departure from the SORP which requires support costs to be allocated between the different activities engaged. The analysis in these accounts is thought to provide a more meaningful analysis to the readers of the accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and seperately disclosed.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment

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

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

Plant and equipment	15% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	15% reducing balance

Freehold land and buildings are retained for Church use. These are stated at cost and have not been depreciated due to their market value being considered to be higher than their carrying value.

1.7 Stocks

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

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	**2021**	**2021**	2020	2020	2020
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Gift Aid	101,991	-	101,991	106,606	-	106,606
Legacies	15,447	4,386	19,833	5,000	-	5,000
Regular non gift aid donations	7,248	-	7,248	17,587	-	17,587
Sundry donations	620	2,750	3,370	87,025	7,137	94,162
Miscellaneous appeals	-	4,106	4,106		1,653	1,653
Income tax recoverable on gift aid	20,134	-	20,134	25,596	-	25,596
Collections (open plate) at all services	13,174	-	13,174	19,249	-	19,249
	158,614	11,242	169,856	261,063	8,790	269,853

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Charitable activities

	Magazine income 2021	PCC fees 2021	Clergy fees 2021	Total 2021	Magazine income 2020	PCC fees 2020	Clergy fees 2020	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sales within charitable activities	665	15,280	17,725	33,670	1,375	10,992	21,262	33,629

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Fundraising	750	716
Parish centre lettings	10,623	15,682
Catering income	21,676	16,778
Other trading activities	33,049	33,176

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2021	**2021**	**2021**	2020	2020	2020
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Income from unlisted investments	295	3,650	3,945	498	100	598

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Feed in tariff	1,255	619
Electricity refund	-	7,411
Furlough receipts	13,214	14,988
	14,469	23,018

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7 Raising funds **(Continued)**

Trading costs		
Catering costs	8,169	7,190
Parish Centre wages costs	32,989	33,074
Trading costs	41,158	40,264
	41,158	40,264

8 Charitable activities

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Depreciation and impairment	7,258	6,319
Missionary Societies	11,483	11,886
Relief agencies	3,079	3,152
Magazine costs	353	807
Parish centre costs	14,574	22,734
Clergy fees surrendered to Diocese	24,086	20,318
Parish shares	75,000	100,000
Clergy expenses	-	895
Organ restoration	-	37
Curate house expenses	1,149	1,137
Church running expenses	37,372	31,626
Pension contributions	1,297	1,303
Salaries, wages and honoraria	47,724	48,112
Sundry expenses	871	708
Machine lease and expenditure	1,680	3,665
Accountancy fees	2,890	3,044
Independent examination fees	650	650
	229,466	256,393
	229,466	256,393
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	213,278	242,979
Endowment funds - designated	4,864	3,499
Restricted funds	11,324	9,915
	229,466	256,393

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

9 Trustees

None of the Council members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the PCC during the year.

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
	8	8

Employment costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	77,896	78,321
Social security costs	603	965
Other pension costs	1,297	1,303
	79,796	80,589

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant and equipment £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	497,000	86,077	87,399	670,476
Additions	-	11,998	600	12,598
At 31 December 2021	497,000	98,075	87,999	683,074
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2021	-	77,970	59,700	137,670
Depreciation charged in the year	-	3,013	4,245	7,258
At 31 December 2021	-	80,983	63,945	144,928
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2021	497,000	17,092	24,054	538,146
At 31 December 2020	497,000	8,107	27,699	532,806

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the Parish Centre and associated land, Waldridge Mission Church site and the equity share of 16 Park Road North.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12 Fixed asset investments

	Total
	£
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2021	5,410
Valuation changes	724
At 31 December 2021	6,134
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2021	6,134
At 31 December 2020	5,410

The investment relates to The Lisle and Dorothy Pattison Gift (394.189 Charifund Units).

The Trust Fund is an endowment trust and the income earned may be used for the general purposes of the PCC.

13 Financial instruments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	6,134	5,410

14 Stocks

	2021	2020
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	60	60

15 Debtors

	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	12,000	21,486
Prepayments and accrued income	4,266	6,997
	16,266	28,483

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	5,982	4,796

17 Fund details

The unrestricted funds comprise the General and Areas/Groups Funds as well as the equity share of 16 Park Road North. All other funds are restricted in their use.

The endowment funds comprise of the trust fund as shown in note 12.

The bank account balances are represented by funds as follows:

Fund		Balance @ 01.01.21	Change in year	Transfered in year	Balance @ 31.12.21
General		115,275	1,702	-288	116,689
Youth	R	2,551	(2,839)	288	-
Charities	R	2			2
Fabric	R	31,246	(6,687)	4,651	29,210
Organ Restoration Fund	R	6,416			6,416
Miscellaneous	R	5,888	508	-4,651	1,745
Centre recoupment	R	21,289			21,289
Areas/Groups		1,768	(255)		1,513
		184,435	(7,571)	-	176,864
Total restricted bank balances	R				58,662
Total unrestricted bank balances					118,202

There was a transfer from unrestricted funds to restricted funds of £288 to cover youth work activities during the year.

There was a transfer of £4,651 from miscellaneous to fabric fund to remove old balances.

18 Designated funds

Designated funds comprise of the net book value of assets purchased out of restricted funds which become unrestricted assets once purchased.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S & ST CUTHBERT'S

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021	**Designated funds 2021**	**Restricted funds 2021**	**Endowment funds 2021**	**Total 2021**	Unrestricted funds 2020	Designated funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Endowment funds 2020	Total 2020
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2021 are represented by:										
Tangible assets	30,585	27,561	480,000	-	538,146	32,979	19,827	480,000	-	532,806
Investments	-	-	-	6,134	6,134	-	-	-	5,410	5,410
Current assets/(liabilities)	128,378	-	58,830	-	187,208	140,611	-	67,571	-	208,182
	158,963	27,561	538,830	6,134	731,488	173,590	19,827	547,571	5,410	746,398

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).