

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Nantwich

Registered Charity Number 1130903

Trustees' Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2023

Aims and Purposes

St Mary's PCC, in conjunction with the incumbent, is responsible for the whole mission of the church – through worship, teaching, nurture, social gatherings and special events, pastoral care, evangelism and ecumenical cooperation. The PCC also seeks to recognise gifts and skills in others, encouraging them to share in this mission.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission in the parish is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC seeks to enable parishioners to live out their faith as part of our growing parish community and is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.

As stewards of the church's resources, the PCC seeks to fulfil this objective as efficiently and effectively as reasonably possible. When planning our activities for the year, the Rector and the PCC considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and especially the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain and develop the fabric of our Grade 1 listed 14th century church.

Staff

Serving alongside Rev Dr Mark Hart as Rector is Rev Vanessa Layfield as Curate (licensed as Assistant Priest from October 2023). We also have a Youth and Children's Worker, Susie Phillips. We continue to be well supported by a dedicated team of lay leaders, and retired ministers who assist in maintaining the ongoing ministry of St Mary's.

Property

A house in Stapeley, Nantwich, owned by St Mary's, either accommodates a curate or is let. St Mary's and All Saints churchyards continues to be maintained by Cheshire East and are closed to new burial plots.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The Electoral Roll membership of 401 was reported at the Annual Parochial Church meeting in April 2023, an increase of 7 from the total reported in 2022.

A range of services is offered on a Sunday, during the week and over the course of the year. These activities gather our community together for different forms of worship and provide opportunities to invite others to join us.

The usual timetable for public worship on Sunday is:-

8am	Holy Communion
9:30am	All Age Worship
10:45am	Holy Communion
2.30pm	Holy Baptism (1 st & 3 rd Sundays)
3pm	Afternoon Prayer or Holy Communion (Richmond Village)
3pm	Seniors' Lounge (2 nd Sunday)
3.30pm	Holy Baptism (1 st & 3 rd Sundays)
6pm	Evensong
7.15pm	Encounter (1 st & 3 rd Sundays)

The Sunday 9.30am and 10.45am services are normally live-streamed and available online. Particular thanks are due to the ministry team and technical staff who work so hard to ensure that services are made widely accessible.

The average weekly attendance (October count) was 468 adults and 60 children. A total of 1859 people attended services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The occasional offices ministry continues to be a significant part of our outreach, with regular baptisms and weddings. During the year, there were a total of 55 Baptisms including 4 adults; 14 Confirmed; 14 Weddings; 56 Funerals in church; 12 Funerals (crematorium or cemetery only).

Pastoral Care and Outreach to the Local Community

Nurture

St Mary's seeks to nurture and encourage people of all ages in their Christian faith. The Baptism Team provides support for families both before and after a Baptism has taken place.

Our Pastoral Visiting Team has been busy leading services in 9 local residential homes.

We have a small number of Home Groups for adults as well as groups for young people across all age ranges. These groups aim to encourage members to grow in fellowship and their Christian faith.

Volunteers

All these activities, and more, are maintained by a wide range of volunteers to whom we are grateful for their valuable contributions as they live out their faith through practical action. There are also the Readers, retired clergy, and those who have served on the PCC or other committees and groups.

Alison Phillips, our Director of Music, leads our well-respected choir which supports many of our regular and special services and leads our young choir "Sing @ St Mary's". In addition, there is a worship band and singers who support the 9:30 all age service.

The church building is open for visitors Monday to Saturday from 9:30am to 4:00pm with a rota of stewards in attendance. This provides a place for quiet prayer and contemplation.

The Church Shop is open daily and sells books, cards, church guides and souvenirs. Volunteers enable us to carry out this valuable outreach work.

Ecumenical Relationships and Outreach

St Mary's works alongside its partner churches under the umbrella of the Churches Together in Nantwich (CTiN). The partner churches worship and collaborate together at a number of key points throughout the year. These normally include: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Good Friday open-air witness, Nantwich Show, Nantwich Angels, and a Christmas Day lunch for those who would otherwise be on their own.

Through CTiN, grants are also made available to young people undertaking significant humanitarian or evangelical work, usually overseas, in the form of Millennium Bursaries.

Churches Together supports the Foodbank which continues to assist a significant number of struggling local individuals and families throughout the year.

Our parish magazine along with the weekly news sheet are circulated by email as well as being available in printed form. Both publications are also available on the website www.stmarysnantwich.org.uk. The St Mary's Facebook page is regularly updated with useful information as well as hosting videos of streamed/recorded church services and worship song recordings. Our weekly email bulletin continues to prove very useful and is sent to 607 subscribers.

The Visits Team Ministry

We are pleased to welcome large numbers of visitors, tourists, and organised groups to the church as well as school parties both local and from further afield. We are a member of the Major Churches Network and the Rector attended their conference in Oxford in 2023.

Events

The church is a much-appreciated venue for many additional events including a variety of concerts including those for Concordia, Nantwich Choral Society, Nantwich Singers, and the Nantwich Words & Music Festival as well as lunchtime concerts through the summer. In 2023 a Christmas Tree Festival was held for the first time, in collaboration with St Luke's Hospice – a great success. Spring, Summer, Autumn and Christmas Fairs were held, raising significant funds. Monthly Saturday St Mary's Breakfasts recommenced in 2023.

Children's and Young People's Work

St Mary's is very active in youth and children's work, from babes in arms to young adults, in a variety of settings. There are various children's groups meeting during the 9.30am service on Sunday mornings. Friday Nite Live is a lively, friendly group for young people in Year 7 and upwards that meets weekly. We also host many of the local primary schools for special events before Easter and Christmas.

Mission Support

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. St Mary's Mission Support Group with the approval of the PCC channelled £4000 to two charities - Church Missionary Society (CMS) working in Bolivia and the Crewe Community Support Worker. We also continued in our commitment to support two Kenyan students in their schooling.

Financial Review

The finances of the Church have fully recovered from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, they have been impacted by high energy costs.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £240,424. Restricted income of £44,673 was also received and is detailed in the Financial Statements.

The planned giving through stewardship envelopes and standing orders increased by £1,474 (1%) and loose plate at £15,533 increased by £3,539, (29%) due to continuing increased foot fall in the Church. On-line and contactless giving continue to grow.

£237,174 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from St Mary's Church, including the contribution to the Diocesan of "parish share" which increased by £2,090 (3%) in the year and provides the stipend and housing for the clergy. The restricted income of £44,673 was largely due to several bequests and other generous donations. Restricted expenditure at £46,505 was for the start of the restoration work on the North and East Elevations (£27,877) and initial development work on a new Visitor Centre (£5,900)

The net result for the year was an excess of income over expenditure of £568 (unrestricted) and an excess of income over expenditure of £850 (restricted), making a £1,418 total surplus. After adding the balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward as at 31st December 2023 were £55,386 unrestricted (including General Fund) and £375,858 restricted.

Reserves policy

In 2023 it continued to be PCC policy to maintain a balance in unrestricted funds (if possible) of an amount equal to three months unrestricted expenditure. This amounts to approximately £50,000. The balance of £55,386 held on unrestricted funds achieves this target.

The balance of £375,858 in restricted funds is retained for the purposes described in the Financial Statement for each fund. It is noted, the Restoration and Development Fund ring fenced £116,272 for the restoration work on the North and East Elevations of which £28,877 was spent in the year. The total cost of this restoration work is now estimated to be £800,000. Grant applications are in hand.

Structure, Governance and Management

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

The appointment of PCC members was governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules 2015 and since registration in July 2009 with the Charity Commissioners. PCC members are also Trustees.

At the end of the year, the number of elected lay members of the PCC was 11. In addition, there were 5 elected Deanery Synod representatives, and one elected representative from each of the General and Diocesan Synods. These, together with the ex-officio members, the Incumbent (Rev Dr Mark Hart), the Assistant Priest (Revd Vanessa Layfield), Pastoral

Worker (Mrs Mary Harris) the 2 Churchwardens made a total membership of 22 at the end of 2023. John Rivers is PCC Secretary (non-voting)

There were 7 full Council meetings during the year, including the short meeting immediately following the APCM. The incumbent together with the two churchwardens and three members of the PCC formed the Standing Committee which met between PCC meetings.

The PCC monitored the work of various groups, receiving reports from the Mission Support Group, Youth & Children Steering Group, Eco Church Group, Outreach Group, Deanery Synod and Churches Together in Nantwich. PCC received regular reports on the finances of the church and decided how the funds should be spent.

St. Mary's Church takes the responsibilities of safeguarding very seriously. The PCC has adopted National Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance, issued by the Church of England, including 'Promoting a Safer Church' and the 'Parish Handbook'. The Parish Handbook is carefully referenced to support the day to day work of the parish in relation to safeguarding. St. Mary's Parish Policy is reviewed and signed annually. Volunteers who work with children, youth and vulnerable adults complete safeguarding training to the required level.

We have a Parish Safeguarding Officer, covering activities for children and for vulnerable adults. Safeguarding is reported on at every PCC meeting, with Parish Safeguarding meetings being held monthly. Safeguarding reporting has been maintained as required.

Administrative information

This report is in respect of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary Nantwich in the Diocese of Chester. The correspondence address is St Mary's PCC, The Parish Office, Church Walk, Nantwich, CW5 5RQ

The Registered Charity Number is 1130903

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Incumbent:	The Reverend Dr Mark Hart
Curate:	The Reverend Vanessa Layfield
Pastoral Worker:	Mary Harris
Churchwardens:	Chris Harris
	Paul O'Brien

Jan Allotey (General Synod representative)
Gill Appleton (Deanery Synod representative)
Wendy Beastall
Keith Billing
Phil Boxhall
Ernie Charlton (Deanery Synod representative)
Belinda Coghlan (Safeguarding Officer)
Bryan Coghlan (Diocesan Synod representative, PCC Vice Chair)

Jane Knight
Jonathan Layfield
Linda Lewis
Steve Lockett (Deanery Synod representative & Treasurer)
Alison Phillips
Beth Roberts
Pat Stalker (Deanery Synod representative)
Penny Smith
Janet Thompson

Approved by the PCC in April 2024 and signed on their behalf by Rev Dr Mark Hart (PCC Chairman)

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be 'Mark Hart' written in a cursive style.

4/6/24

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

of the

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Charity number 1130903

Incumbent:

The Rector is Rev. Dr. Mark Hart

Independent Examiner

Mr John Sheridan
Birchfield,
London Road, Woore,
Crewe. CW3 9SQ.

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2023

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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1130903

Set out on pages

03 to 10

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the ACCA

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

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

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

Signed:

John Sheridan

Date:

3/4/2024

Name:

John Sheridan

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

ACCA

Address:

Birchfield, London Road, Woore, Crewe. Cheshire CW3 9SQ

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2023**

Incoming Resources



		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	<i>Total 2022</i>
	Note	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income	2a	169,201	28,061	197,262	247,327
Funds Generation	2b	15,703	6,654	22,357	15,642
Investments	2c	463	8,183	8,646	1,341
Church Activities	2d	34,445	1,775	36,220	41,491
Special Collections	2e	-	-	-	-
Other Income	2f	20,611	-	20,611	9,867
Total Incoming Resources		240,424	44,673	285,097	315,668

Resources Expended

Grants	3a	4,000	2,064	6,064	8,562
Church Activities	3b	139,468	44,331	183,799	137,473
Administration	3c	93,706	110	93,816	91,118
Total Resources Expended		237,174	46,505	283,679	237,153
Net Incoming Resources		3,250	(1,832)	1,418	78,515
Transfers between Funds	10	(2,682)	2,682	-	-
Net Movement of Funds		568	850	1,418	78,515
Balance brought forward at 1st January 2023		54,819	375,008	429,827	351,312
Balance carried forward at 31st December 2023		55,386	375,858	431,244	429,827

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Fixed Assets	1b	207,000	207,000
Investment Assets	4	-	-
Current Assets			
Stock	5	3,108	3,329
Stone for New Shop Floor	6	2,520	2,520
Debtors and Prepayments	7	10,627	38,520
Bank Accounts	8	317,537	291,472
Cash in Hand		155	339
Total Assets		540,947	543,180
Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and Accruals	9	14,649	16,118
Liabilities: Amounts falling due after one year			
Mortgage on the Curate's House	10	95,054	97,235
Total Liabilities		109,703	113,353
Total Net Assets		431,244	429,827
Funds			
Restricted.	11	375,858	375,008
Unrestricted	12	55,386	54,819
Total Funds		431,244	429,827
Approved by the Parochial Church Council on <u>19th March</u> 2024			
and signed on its behalf by:			
			
Rev. Dr. Mark Hart. Rector of Nantwich		Mr. Steve Lockett PCC Treasurer	

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

1.Accounting Policies

1a. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and Charities Statement of Recommended Practice(SORP 2005). As in previous years the PCC accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis. This means that the cost of goods and services is accounted for in the year they were supplied even if payment was not made until the following year.

1b. We are required to produce a balance sheet which includes the value of fixed assets, any assets that are considered to have a limited useful life will be depreciated. It is not considered necessary to depreciate any fixed assets this year. Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts under the Charities Act 2011. The purchase of nearly all other assets have, in the past effectively been written off in the year of purchase. The exception is the Curates House which is valued at cost.

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Voluntary Income				
2a Stewardship	104,159	-	104,159	102,685
Gift Aid	26,105	-	26,105	30,599
Loose Plate	15,533	-	15,533	11,994
Church Box (Cash & Card)	13,640	8,443	22,083	21,644
Donation towards Youth Worker	-	-	-	1,250
Grants	-	-	-	50,000
Bequests	-	19,488	19,488	18,498
Gifts and Donations	9,764	130	9,894	10,657
TOTAL	169,201	28,061	197,262	247,327
Funds Generation				
2b Church Magazine	2,366	-	2,366	2,130
Visitors Centre Income before interest	-	6,654	6,654	5,933
Fairs and Fundraising Events	13,337	-	13,337	7,579
TOTAL	15,703	6,654	22,357	15,642
Investments				
2c Dividends and Interest	463	8,183	8,646	1,341
TOTAL	463	8,183	8,646	1,341
Church Activities				
2d PCC Fees	19,241	-	19,241	21,369
Verger & Organist Fees	10,065	-	10,065	12,340
Place of Welcome	567	-	567	1,010
Mums &Tots	-	720	720	820
Flowers - Contributions and Donations	-	1,055	1,055	1,550
Lunchtime Concerts	4,572	-	4,572	4,402
TOTAL	34,445	1,775	36,220	41,491
Special Collections				
2e Mission	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-
Other Income				
2f Raising Trust Grant (the balance of £7,500 accrued to 2023)	7,500	-	7,500	2,500
Church Hire	2,845	-	2,845	2,384
Diocesan Energy Grant	-	-	-	986
Curates House Rental Income	8,538	-	8,538	2,583
Sundries	1,728	-	1,728	1,415
TOTAL	20,611	-	20,611	9,867
Total Incoming Resources	240,424	44,673	285,097	315,668

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023

3.Resources Expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
3a Grants to....				
Mission: from PCC	4,000		4,000	8,000
Churches together in Nantwich	-		-	-
Preservation Appeal Trust		2,064	2,064	562
TOTAL	4,000	2,064	6,064	8,562
3b Church Activities				
Parish Share	71,757		71,757	69,667
Clergy Expenses	3,330		3,330	3,090
Council Tax	3,773		3,773	4,733
Gas/Electricity	28,418		28,418	17,692
Insurance -390 c/h	11,200		11,200	15,172
Telephone	872		872	568
General Maintenance	12,852		12,852	9,047
Flowers & Associated Costs	-	1,119	1,119	1,407
Visitor Centre Expenditure	-	4,236	4,236	4,885
on trading	-	5,900	5,900	1,200
on development	-	27,877	27,877	-
Restoration Work in Church	-	4,419	4,419	1,188
Development Work in Church	1,321		1,321	932
Choir and Music Expenses	-		-	-
Place of Welcome	682		682	1,190
Children's Work		780	780	680
Mums &Tots		-	-	-
CAP Partnership	2,865		2,865	4,016
Lunchtime Concert Expenses	2,112		2,112	2,007
Bread, Wine and Candles	-		-	-
Servers Expenses	285	-	285	-
Training				
TOTAL	139,468	44,331	183,799	137,437
3c Administration				
Lay Employees	57,879		57,879	54,135
Fees Organist & Verger	10,065		10,065	12,340
Printing/Postage/Stationery	1,665		1,665	1,113
Church Office Rent	6,960		6,960	6,960
Contribution to Church House running costs	3,840		3,840	3,840
Curates House - Mortgage Interest	4,507		4,507	3,646
- Insurance	390		390	326
- Repairs	36		36	1,550
Bank Charges	631		631	587
Copier	3,989		3,989	2,744
Magazine Printing and Editing	2,122		2,122	1,814
Sundries	1,622	110	1,732	2,064
TOTAL	93,706	110	93,816	91,118
Total Resources Expended	237,174	46,505	283,679	237,153

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023

4. Investments

2023	2022
£	£
0	0

There are a small number of ancient investments in Government Stock and CBF accounts that are not included in these accounts. They have a cost of approximately £3,000. They generated an income of £389 in the year (2022 - £282). The PCC plans to sell these investments at an appropriate time in the coming year and treat the capital as income.

5. Stock.

2023	2022
£	£
3,108	3,329

The stock is all relating to the Visitor's Centre. It is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The stock represents less than 2 years normal cost of sales

6. Stock of Stone.

2023	2022
£	£
2,520	2,520

In preparation for development of a Visitor Centre inside the Church the opportunity was taken to purchase some matching stone when it was available.

7. Debtors and Prepayments

(All General Fund)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Boiler Repair Prepayment	-	1,187
Gift Aid Claim received in 2023	-	30,599
Council Tax Refund	-	432
Unpaid Church Hire for 2023	250	
Unpaid Magazine Adverts for 2023	434	
Handrail Contribution	-	259
Gas Contributions	9,943	5,015
Curates House Rental for December	-	1,028
TOTAL	10,627	38,520

8. Bank Accounts

	Current Accounts	Deposit Accounts	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
Bourne Fund		4,312	4,312	4,293
Church Flower Arrangers Fund		4,856	4,856	4,659
Mums & Tots Fund (Incl: for first time in 2021.)		5,673	5,673	5,642
Curate's House Fund		10,157	10,157	10,074
Restoration and Development Fund	36,431	106,904	143,335	143,428
CAP Partnership	2,899	-	2,899	2,899
Visitor's Centre Fund (shop)	2,968	28,539	31,507	33,433
Education Fund		9,017	9,017	8,695
Youth Project - Palin	440		440	
The Lyon Restoration Fund		45,933	45,933	45,933
TOTAL	42,738	215,391	258,129	259,056
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	47,762	3,550	51,312	24,649
Place of Welcome	729		729	2,163
Lunchtime Concert Fund	32	7,334	7,366	5,605
TOTAL	48,524	10,884	59,408	32,417
Total Bank Accounts	91,262	226,275	317,537	291,472

Deposit Accounts include those held at NatWest Bank , YBS and COIF

The Parochial Church Council of St. Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

9. Creditors and Accruals

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Rausing Trust Grant 2023 apportionment	-	-	-	7,500
Curates House rent paid in advance for 2024	9,312	-	9,312	-
Lunchtime Concert - Performing Rights Subscription	425	-	425	-
Lunchtime Concert - Chorister Fees	55	-	55	-
Delayed Salary Increases for 2023	1,010	-	1,010	-
Gas and Electric	3,848	-	3,848	8,618
TOTAL	14,649	-	14,649	16,118

10. Mortgage on Curate's House

The Curates House at 22, Beatty Road was sold in July 2018 for £229,000 resulting in £80,921 accruing to the PCC. We purchased a new Curates House at 12, Hallams Drive in July 2019. The purchase price was £207,000. The purchase was achieved by taking a mortgage of £130,000 from Methodist Chapel Aid Ltd (MCA), supported by a contribution of £77,000 from the PCC / Curates House Fund

11. Restricted Funds

	b/f 1st January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer from / (to) Other Funds	c/f 31st December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Bourne Fund	4,293	19	-	-	4,312
Church Flower Arrangers Fund	4,998	1,132	1,119	-	5,011
Mums & Tots Fund (new from 2022)	5,642	811	780	-	5,673
Curate's House Fund	119,839	83	-	2,182	122,104
R & D Fund (Incl: Tapestry Fund from 2021)	143,428	31,813	32,406	500	143,335
CAP Partnership	2,899	-	-	-	2,899
Visitor's Centre Fund (Church Shop)	39,282	7,989	10,136	-	37,136
Education Fund	8,695	322	-	-	9,017
Youth Project - Palin	-	440	-	-	440
The Lyon Restoration Fund	45,933	2,064	2,064	-	45,933
Total Restricted Funds	375,009	44,673	46,505	2,682	375,858

12. Unrestricted Funds

	b/f 1st January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer from/(to) Other Funds	c/f 31st December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	47,051	235,211	234,309	(182)	47,770
Place of Welcome Fund	2,163	567	-	(2,000)	729
Lunchtime Concert Fund	5,605	4,646	2,865	(500)	6,886
Total Unrestricted Funds	54,819	240,424	237,174	(2,682)	55,386

Transfers between funds are as follows:-

£2,000 from the Place of Welcome Fund to the General Fund. £500 from the Lunchtime Concert Fund to the embryo Organ Fund held in the R&D Fund and £2,182 being Capital repayed on the MCA mortgage from the General Fund to the Curates House Fund.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023**

13. Notes on Funds

Restricted

13(a). The Bourne Fund.

This fund was established by a local family to provide flowers for the Church where appropriate.

13(b). The Curate's House Fund.

This fund was established to provide for the maintenance and decoration of the house. At the beginning of 2019 it held the proceeds of sale of the Curates House at 22 Beatty Road. These funds were used as a deposit on a new Curates House, 12, Hallams Drive, in July 2019.

This fund can be analysed as follows: -	2023	2022
Deposit on Purchase	£77,000	£77,000
Capital repayments brought forward	32,765	9,819
Capital repayments in year	<u>2,182</u> 34,947	<u>22,946</u> 32,765
Funds on deposit	<u>10,157</u>	<u>10,074</u>
TOTAL	<u>£122,104</u>	<u>£119,839</u>

13(c). The Restoration and Development Fund (R&D Fund)

The PCC have determined the R&D Fund should maintain a minimum balance of £40,000 to cover emergencies.

During 2022 the PCC received a grant of £50,000 towards the restoration of the North and East Elevations from the Rausing Charitable Trust. This, together with funds already held of £66,272, making a total of £116,272, have all been ringfenced for this purpose. During the year there was a net spend of £28,877 on architect's fees leaving £87,395 available at 31st December 2023.

Also held within the fund is the balance of the Moira Blakemore Legacy of £10,748. This will eventually be used for development purposes, funding further IT / technical upgrades and replacement Muniment Boards dedicated to her memory.

13(d). The Visitor's Centre Fund.

This activity was originally started to generate funds for the R&D Fund. This is done by operating the Church Shop and providing refreshments for visitors. This fund will now be used to part finance the creation of a Visitor Centre including a small shop in the Church hopefully in 2024 or 2025, funds permitting.

13(e). The Education Fund

This fund originated from the sale, by the Diocese, of the Church of England School in the town. The Diocese allocated a small part of the sale price to the PCC, the capital of which is held to generate income to be used for educational purposes.

13(f). The Lyon Restoration Fund

This fund resulted from a bequest of Mr Ben Lyon, a local businessman. As its name indicates the income is for the purpose of restoration of the Church. Some years ago, the PCC decided, for the time being, the income should be transferred, as it accrues, to the Nantwich Parish Church Preservation Appeal Trust. (NPCPAT)(see 13I overleaf). At the request of the NPCPAT the PCC have agreed the remaining capital of this fund should be allocated to the restoration of the North and East Elevations of the Church.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023**

13. Notes on Funds (cont'd)

13(g). The Church Flower Arrangers Fund.

This fund receives donations towards and pays for flowers to decorate the Church.

13(h). Mums & Tots

Mums, Dads, and carers with their pre-school age children meet once a week in the Parish Hall for fun activities, tea, coffee and a chat.

This activity and its associated fund were adopted by the Church in 2021

Unrestricted

13(i). The Summer Concert Fund (previously the Piano Fund)

This fund was originally established to generate funds for the purchase of a grand piano for use in the Church. The acquisition happened in 2016. In 2019 the fund provided improved seat pads for the choir. Post Pandemic the concerts have recommenced and continue to be well attended.

13(j). Place of Welcome Fund (previously Friday Soup Lunch Fund)

The provision of a soup and a sandwich to the needy in Nantwich up to early 2017 was undertaken by Churches Together in Nantwich (NTiC). When NTiC withdrew, the Church picked up the baton in 2017. This fund has been set up to receive income and make payments independent of the General Fund. The provision of a welcome, soup and a sandwich restarted after the Pandemic and is now well attended. This year the fund has been renamed Place of Welcome Fund

Endowments

The Church has no endowment funds.

Funds not under the control of the PCC

13(k). The Church House, Nantwich.

Reg No 1177087

This is a charity charged with the care of the building known both as Church House and the Parish Hall. The trustees manage the building and associated assets for the benefit of St Mary's Church, Nantwich, and the wider community. The Charity had excepted status until 2018 at which time it registered with the Charity Commission.

13(l). The Nantwich Parish Church Preservation Appeal Trust.

Reg No: 507911

The object of this charity is the raising and administering of funds for the preservation, restoration, and repair of the fabric of St Mary's Parish Church Nantwich Cheshire. They are currently raising funds for a £800,000 restoration of the external North Wall and East End elevations of the Church.

13(m). The Nantwich Churchwardens' Merged Charities

Reg No: 216367

This charity was established to provide relief to residents of the Parish of Nantwich who are in need, hardship, or distress.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary, Nantwich, Cheshire.

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1130903

Set out on pages

03 to 10

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the ACCA

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

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

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

Signed: *John Sheridan*

Date: 3/4/2024

Name: John Sheridan

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

ACCA

Address: Birchfield, London Road, Woore, Crewe. Cheshire CW3 9SQ