

**ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
LONDON FIELDS**

**with**

**ST PAUL'S HAGGERSTON**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024**



Registered Charity Number 1130974

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## ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY

**Charity Name:** The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Michael and All Angels London Fields with St Paul's Haggerston ('the PCC')

**Registered Charity Number:** 1130974

**Members of the PCC (Charity Trustees):** The members of the PCC who served during the year were:

Chair (*ex officio*): The Revd Daniel Gerrans, Vicar

Churchwardens (*elected for one year at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners, and ex officio members of the PCC provided they are actual communicants whose names are on the electoral roll of the parish*): Jimmy Asakes and Lily Ejeka (until 1.7.24); Rebecca Marques and Devon Stewart (from 17.3.24).

Lay members of Hackney Deanery Synod (*elected for terms of 3 years, and ex officio members of the PCC provided their names are on the electoral roll of the parish*): Savitri Maitreyi Maria Hensman, Garofina Voichita Morton and Christina Richardson.

Elected representatives of the laity (*elected for terms of 3 years on a rotation basis, one third retiring and being elected each year*): Jimmy Asakes (from 17.3.24), Elizabeth Bower, Lily Ejeka (from 17.3.24), Patricia Fraser (until 22.9.24), Maggie Hamand LLM, Matthew Marques (Treasurer), Godwin Ogholo, William F O'Loughlin, Claudia Russell-Banahan, Cathie M Smith, Devon Stewart (until his election as Churchwarden as noted above) and Katrina Stewart.

**Church address:**

Lansdowne Drive, London E8 3ER

**Correspondence address:**

The Vicarage, 97 Lavender Grove, London E8 3LR

**Independent Examiner:**

Rev John Irwin FCA AMCT

Chartered Accountant

**Bankers:**

National Westminster Bank plc

Reliance Bank Limited

Cover Image: *Angels and Shepherds*, by local artists Fiona Eastwood and daughter Primrose aged 8, with homage to the mural in St Michael's Church by John Hayward (1929-2007)

# TRUSTEES' REPORT

The PCC presents its Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

St Michael & All Angels London Fields with St Paul's Haggerston ('the Parish') is the Church of England (Anglican) Parish Church for London Fields, Hackney, London E8.

The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 11 below and comply with the PCC's governing documents, applicable laws and the requirements of the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP (FRS 102)).

## PCC STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### Governing Documents

The PCC is governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation, called Measures. These are:

- The Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended ('the 1956 Measure').<sup>1</sup>
- The Church Representation Rules, contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended ('the CRR').<sup>2</sup>

### Charitable status, purposes and activities

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission. Its primary charitable purpose is the advancement of the Christian religion within the parish. Under section 2(2) of the 1956 Measure, as amended, this purpose includes the following functions:

- (a) *co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;*
- (b) *the consideration and discussions of matters concerning the Church of England or any other matters of religious or public interest, but not the declaration of the doctrine of the Church on any question;*
- (c) *making known and putting into effect any provision made by the diocesan synod or the deanery synod, but without prejudice to the powers of the council on any particular matter;*
- (d) *giving advice to the diocesan synod and the deanery synod on any matter referred to the council;*
- (e) *raising such matters as the council consider appropriate with the diocesan synod or deanery synod;*
- (f) *appointing sidesmen (who are also known as assistants to the churchwardens).*

The PCC's activities include:

- Regular public worship open to all.
- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Teaching Christianity through sermons, courses and small study groups.
- Taking religious assemblies in the parish primary school, St. Paul's with St Michael's School.
- Providing services to the community, especially through the church hall and hosting visits by community schools to the church.

PCC members are charitable trustees, so all the provisions of charity law apply to their corporate responsibilities, financial management and decision making, as explained in guidance of the General Synod's Legal Advisory Commission at <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/legal%20position%20of%20pcc%20members%20final.pdf>. Its members have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Commission's public benefit guidance<sup>3</sup> when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

<sup>1</sup> The full text of the 1956 Measure, before the addition of paragraph (f) by the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019 Schedule 2 paragraph 10 (see <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/2019/1/schedule/2/paragraph/10#schedule-2-paragraph-10-2>) is available on the Statute Law Database at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/Eliz2/4-5/3/contents>.

<sup>2</sup> The CRR were replaced by the Church Representation and Ministers Measure 2019 section 1 and Schedule 1 (see <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukcm/2019/1/section/1>). The text of the rules as currently in force is available online at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/church-representation-rules>.

<sup>3</sup> Comprising: Public benefit: the public benefit requirement (PB1): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-benefit-the-public-benefit-requirement-pb1>; Public benefit: running a charity (PB2): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-benefit-running-a-charity-pb2>; and Public benefit: reporting (PB3): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-benefit-reporting-pb3>.

## REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

### Annual Report for 2024 on the proceedings of the PCC and the activities of the Parish generally

(as required by Rule M5(1)(b) of the Church Representation Rules)

#### Mission during the year

The task of furthering in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical<sup>4</sup> belongs not just to the PCC but to all church members. The PCC's special function is to provide leadership in order to promote that mission. This Report summarises the main activities undertaken by the PCC to carry out its charitable purposes for the public benefit, and its main achievements.<sup>5</sup>

#### (I) The proceedings of the PCC

In addition to the church's core role of offering public worship of, and witness to, God as revealed to humanity in Jesus Christ, in order more effectively to promote in the parish the church's 'whole mission', the PCC periodically identifies specific objectives which are distilled in a Mission Action Plan (MAP) and at each of its full meetings reviews progress in achieving them. In 2024 the PCC formally met 7 times, also conducting some business through Committees. The table below lists the goals set in the current MAP and the progress in achieving them by the end of the year under review.

St Michael & All Angels London Fields Mission Action Plan 2022-2025			Approved by the Parochial Church Council 26/01/2022 and subsequently updated
<b>Vision:</b>	Being <i>Open to God, open to all</i> means being passionate about:		
• loving and serving God	in joyful, reverent, orderly, welcoming, creative and imaginative worship		
• loving neighbour by	• being a community where all are known and valued		
	• sharing the Good News of God's love		
	• being agents of the new creation through service, creativity, growth and development		
<b>Action:</b>	In addition to what is already happening, we aim to:		
What	How	Who	Progress at 31/12/2024
<b>1. Confident Disciples</b>	Explore other 'gateway activities' we might be able to offer	PCC	21.6.23 PCC agreed (1) some already being provided i.e. school visits, confirmation classes and carol service should be promoted more; (2) Summer outings for children, families and older people are also 'gateway activities' (3) to allocate time at a future meeting for further discussion about such activities
	Upgrade sound system in church to make our worship more accessible to people inside and outside the church building	Working Group comprising Cathie (Chair), Elizabeth, Daniel, Devon and (from 4.7.22) Christina Richardson	Achieved Dec 2022
	And see 4 and 5 below		
<b>2. Compassionate Communities</b>	Participate in the Eco Church Programme	(1) Maggie to complete questionnaire; Daniel to explore with (2) Deanery Chapter colleagues possibilities for collaboration or sharing good practice in this area	(1) 16.12.22 Eco Church Bronze Award gained; 23.2.23 free Eco Audit awarded by City Bridge Trust; 21.6.23 PCC decided in principle, and subject to funding, to implement some or all of the recommendations in the Eco Audit; 31.1.24 PCC decided to prioritise hall by replacing current gas boiler heating with a heating system powered by air source heat pumps and improve insulation of ceiling, windows and external wall; 25.7.24 funding application submitted to City Bridge Trust based on detailed plans; 28.11.24 notified funding application not successful; alternatives being explored (2) achieved (discussed at Deanery Chapter 14.10.22 and 17.1.23; Oct 23 Daniel appointed Creation Care Area Lead)
	Disability Ministry	Disability Working Group: Enable all including those perceived as 'disabled' to participate fully and fulfilling and find acceptance and value at St Michael's	25.9.24 Disability Champions appointed. 27.11.24, Disability Policy approved and Disability Working Group appointed.
	And see 4 and 5 below		
<b>3. Creative Growth</b>	Seek to build back Children and Youth Ministry better by trying to:		
	i. Recruit (1) a paid Coordinator to administer and support All Stars and Youth Group activities on Sundays and if possible at other times and (2) a Youth Worker to be paid on a sessional basis	Children and Youth Ministry Team ('CYMT')	Volunteer Coordinator for All Stars recruited w.e.f 5.12.21, stepped down 31.8.24; 27.11.24 PCC decided after stewardship campaign to seek to recruit Children's Worker
	ii. Resume altar serving	Daniel to help Katrina coordinate recruitment & rota	Ongoing: new YP servers recruited from Autumn 22
	iii. Explore how we can better hear the voices of young people in shaping our church for the future (e.g. reporting on Children and Youth Ministry at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, taking part in PCC or its Committees) and equip families to raise their children in the Christian faith	Children's Champion, CYMT	5.12.21 Jon Hart volunteered to offer training; 26.3.23 PCC received children's ideas and asked CYMT to follow up; 10.9.23 CYMT meeting
	And see 4 and 5 below		
<b>4. Striving for racial justice</b>	Open up membership of the Steering Group to other sinterested in taking part, especially younger people, and try to be more inclusive of younger adults generally	Vicar, Steering Group	29.6.22 Jon Hart and Katherine Gerrans added; 30.10.22 Mabel Anyiam added
	Explore what we can we do to increase diversity in leadership and vocations, especially young people	Vicar, Steering Group, everyone	Ongoing: new YP servers recruited from Autumn 22
	Review our liturgy, icons, artwork & memorial to see if they are racially just	Steering Group	Achieved: 10.6.22 new order of service approved for All Saints Sunday with Thanksgiving for the Holy One of God more representative of worldwide church, in use from 30.10.22; 14.6.22 purchased African Nativity set; 29.6.22 PCC approved £250 budget for new books for children's library and other children's resources; July 22 new children's books bought; 27.11.24 PCC approved new Order of service for Racial Justice Sunday
	Explore what we need to grow in our theological understanding of racial justice	Steering Group	Ongoing: from 2021, aspiration to devote 3 Sundays a year to racial justice: Racial Justice Sunday in February, the Sunday in June nearest Windrush Day, and All Saints, with an outside member of the clergy to preach on one of these Sundays and lay members of the congregation on the other two; 11.2.22 Purchased Africa Bible Commentary for reference by preachers etc.
<b>5. Becoming safer</b>	Ask our Parish Safeguarding Officer ('PSO') to report on whether in line with our Safeguarding Policy (a) all staff and officers' DBS checks are in place (b) all parish safeguarding roles are filled (c) a system is in place to ensure safeguarding training is kept up to date (d) there is any more we can do to create a safeguarding culture in and around our church	PCC, PSO	Ongoing. Initial report by PSO to PCC 17.11.21; recommendations adopted; Parish Safeguarding Dashboard now in active use as tool to monitor ongoing compliance with relevant Guidance
<b>6. The other 5 'key London 2030 mission themes'</b>	(i.e. 1: mental health and isolation; 2: modern slavery, refugees & asylum seekers; 3: debt and financial wellbeing; 4: serious youth violence; 5: housing and homelessness) Monitor and promote opportunities for training and/or guidance in these and other areas, for example via	Vicar	Ongoing
<b>7. Review</b>	this Mission Action Plan regularly and where appropriate update it	PCC	Ongoing

As part of its function, the PCC also controls the parish's financial resources and accounts for its stewardship of them in its annual financial statements, which are presented separately pursuant to Rule M5(1)(c) of the CRR.

<sup>4</sup> Section 2(2)(a) of the 1956 Measure.

<sup>5</sup> As required by Regulation 40 of the <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uk/si/2008/629/regulation/40/made>.

Actions achieved or planned during the year under review included, in addition to the MAP goals and actions listed above and the activities listed later in this Report:

- (1) Agreeing to participate, with other parishes in the Catholic liturgical tradition in Hackney, in a **Catholic Mission Covenant**, expressed to be made with God (committing to be '*conformed to the mind of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit*'), with one another (committing '*to renewing bonds of trust and friendship and to strengthening relationships between people, clergy and parishes*') and with our neighbourhoods (committing '*to listening to our neighbours, discerning God's action in our midst*'), by which we undertake, amongst other things, to:
  - Pray regularly for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for being attentive and responsive to God's mission in Hackney, and for the welfare and flourishing of one another.
  - Ensure we have workable and ambitious *Mission Action Plans* and share good practice with one another.
  - Equip congregation members so that they are confident in their discipleship and able to share their faith with others and draw them into the life of the church.
  - Work with the *Stepney Area Dean of Mission* and others to access high quality training.
  - Seek out and learn from people and parishes who are doing effective mission, especially in the Catholic tradition.
  - Engage with the *Centre for Theology & Community* to benefit from their experience and expertise.
  - Cooperate, when appropriate, in activities such as introductory and nurture courses, confirmation preparation, pilgrimages, vocations work, promoting a 'rule of life'.
- (2) Recruiting a **part-time Parish Administrator** to reduce the administrative burden previously borne by the Vicar, in response to (a) a significant and welcome increase in *church hall bookings* since the COVID-19 pandemic, and (b) the *Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing* adopted by General Synod as an Act of Synod in 2020 and which encourages a mutual commitment by clergy and laity '*to work together to coordinate and improve our approach to clergy care and wellbeing so that the whole Church may flourish in the service of the mission of God*'.

## (2) The activities of the Parish generally

### Public worship

Sunday services were maintained in Church throughout the year and livestreamed for those preferring to remain at home for whatever reason. Some of those unable to connect digitally or attend in person continued to be supported by weekly bulletins delivered to their homes. Services continued to be enriched musically by St Michael's *Singing Group* and *Choir*. Thanks are due, in particular, to *David Carr* and *Maggie Hamand* (Licensed Lay Ministers); *Mabel Anyiam* (Singing Group leader), *Jon Hart* (Acting Director of Music) and *Elizabeth Bower* (Organist). *Weekday morning Eucharists* continued, and *online Evening Prayer on Thursdays* continued to be open to all.

### Pastoral Care, Nurture and Outreach

Overall responsibility for pastoral care lies with the Vicar, who during the year received valuable help and support from (in particular): *Godwin Ogholo* (Commissioned Pastoral Assistant) and Churchwardens *Jimmy Asakes* and *Lily Ejeka*, who stepped down at the 2024 Annual Meeting, having both completed 6 years in post, the maximum permitted term of office, and *Rebecca Marques* and *Devon Stewart*, who were elected in their place. Significant areas of pastoral care, nurture and outreach included the following:

- (a) **Easter and Christmas:** As in previous years, before *Holy Week* and in *Advent*, attractive Easter and Christmas cards featuring images of, or drawn from, the fine artwork in St Michael's Church and containing details of and invitations to upcoming services and other events were distributed across the parish by members of the congregation, and in the run-up to Christmas, an enthusiastic group of *Carol Singers* sang in *Broadway Market* and the *Blackstone Estate*, publicising our Christmas services and increasing our local profile.
- (b) **Children and Youth Ministry:** Ministry with children and young people was taken forward in several ways during the year, including:
  - Our strong relationship with *St Paul's with St Michael's CE Primary School* ('SPWSM') continued, with
    - i. *Weekly Assemblies in School*, supported by a team including, in addition to the Vicar, *Jon Hart*, a member of St Michael's, and *Gavin and Mary Dunn*, Ministers at the *Salvation Army, Cambridge Heath*;
    - ii. *A Service of Blessing* for the School at the start of the Autumn Term and new School Year;
    - iii. *School Services in Church* at the end of the Spring Term, marking *Holy Week and Easter*; at the end of the Summer Term, commemorating the achievements of *Leavers* and the end of the School Year; at *Harvest*, with a substantial and generous collection from the school community for *Hackney Foodbank*; and at the end of the Autumn Term, celebrating *Christmas*;
    - iv. *Termly Eucharists* for each Key Stage;
    - v. An annual *Memorial Service* for each Key Stage, to support those bereaved or grieving in the school community;
    - vi. *A Course on the Christian faith* for Year 6 pupils, leading to *Confirmation* for those wishing it; and
    - vii. The Vicar and 2 other church members serving as *Governors* during the year.
  - *Local Community Primary Schools* brought classes and year groups on visits to St Michael's church with structured programmes delivering part of their RE Curricula. During the year, 4 groups visited from *Gayhurst School*, 3 from *London Fields School* and 1 from *Queensbridge School*.
  - Young people assisted as *Altar Servers* and at *St Michael's Christmas Fete*.

- Supported by generous pledges from members of the congregation in response to a fundraising campaign, the PCC resolved in November to try to recruit a paid part-time *Children's Worker* to lead, enable and develop St Michael's ministry with and among children aged 0-11 and their families. It is hoped to recruit a suitable candidate during 2025.
  - St Michael's in collaboration with ecumenical partners continued its partnership with the Christian detached Youth Work charity XLP <https://www.xlp.org.uk/> (whose vision is 'creating positive futures for young people'), with its ongoing pledge to contribute £200pa towards the cost of XLP's work in Hackney.
- (c) **Adult Education, Nurture, Spirituality and Fellowship:** Ways in which this was promoted during the year included:
- Fortnightly *Bible Studies* continuing on Thursday lunchtimes.
  - During Lent, members of St Michael's participated in a *Lent Course* exploring what contemporary Christians can learn from St Paul's correspondence with his newly planted church in Corinth.
  - A *Parish Retreat* was organised to take place in June 2025.
- (d) **Pastoral Offices:** During the year 8 *baptisms* took place, 16 people were *confirmed*, one *marriage* was solemnized, and parish clergy and/or Licensed Lay Ministers officiated at 7 *funerals*, of which 5 were held in church. In addition, following consultation of the PCC and congregation, the *Prayers of Love and Faith* for same-sex couples (<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2023-12/prayers-of-love-and-faith.pdf>, as authorised by the House of Bishops etc from time to time) began to be offered at St Michael's.
- (e) **Racial Justice:** The *Steering Group* set up in 2020 as a Committee of the PCC, prompted by the *Black Lives Matter* movement, to help us strive for greater racial justice in the church and the world, continued its work. The action taken during the year in furtherance of commitments in our current Mission Action Plan included 3 main Sunday services focusing on this issue: *Racial Justice Sunday*, now the second Sunday in February, *Windrush Sunday* in June and *All Saints Sunday* in late October or early November.
- (f) **Accessibility and inclusion:** St Michael's already has step-free access, WC facilities for wheelchair users, a hearing loop and free WiFi, but we want disabled people to play a full part in our worship and common life. Recognising that more needs to be done to ensure they can, and to help make it happen, during the year the PCC adopted a *Parish Disability Policy* <https://stmichaelslondonfields.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Disability-Policy-approved-241127.pdf> and appointed a *Disability Working Group* to drive its implementation.
- (g) **Safeguarding:** With support from our *Parish Safeguarding Officers*, Dorian Stewart and Samantha O'Loughlin, the PCC has sought to comply with its duty under section 5 of the *Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016* to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. In particular, during the year it received regular reports from its *Safeguarding Officers*, continued to seek to adhere to safer recruitment practices in relation to individuals working with children and vulnerable adults in accordance with relevant guidance issued by the National Church and the Diocese of London,<sup>6</sup> including the provision of appropriate safeguarding training, and utilised the *Parish Safeguarding Dashboard* provided by the Diocese of London in order to monitor compliance. In addition, following the unnecessarily strip-searching of a 15-year-old girl (anonymised as 'Child Q' in the ensuing safeguarding review) by police at a school in Hackney in 2020, representatives of St Michael's on Hackney Deanery Synod were instrumental in Synod's decision in April 2024 to commend a *Charter for Valuing Children & Young People in Hackney Deanery Churches* for adoption by parishes. Intended to reassure parents, caregivers, children and young people by clearly setting out our absolute allegiance to Jesus Christ in his uncompromising care and welcome for all children, the Charter commits parishes adopting it not to allow anyone under 18 to be strip searched on any church premises or at any activities run by the church. St Michael's PCC adopted the Charter in June 2024: see <https://stmichaelslondonfields.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Child-Q-Charter-St-Michaels.pdf>.

The PCC records its gratitude to everyone who helped with or supported these activities.

## Ecumenical

For the 11<sup>th</sup> year running, during the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* (18-25 January) St Michael's joined 7 other local churches spread across 5 different denominations, each of which hosted a service on one of the 8 days of the Week. St Michael's and our neighbours at *Hackney Methodist Church* in Mare Street also continued our collaboration in response to the Anglican-Methodist Covenant signed in 2003 (<https://anglican-methodist.co.uk/covenant-text/>), with members of St Michael's once again joining *Hackney Methodist Church* for their annual *Covenant Service* in January and members of Hackney Methodist Church coming to St Michael's for our *Patronal Festival* (*St Michael & All Angels*) in September.

## Social, Community and Environmental Engagement

During 2024:

Under St Michael's *Open Church Programme*, the church building, which is listed (Grade II) and a beautiful sacred space, was open to visitors and the wider community most Wednesday mornings in furtherance of our mission to be *Open to*

<sup>6</sup> National Church: see <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/policy-and-practice-guidance/templates-and-resources>, particularly the *Parish Safeguarding Handbook* <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-10/ParishSafeGuardingHandBookAugust2019Web.pdf>, the House of Bishops' guidance '*Promoting a Safer Church; Safeguarding Policy Statement*' <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-12/PromotingSaferChurchWeb.pdf> and '*Safer Recruitment and People Management Guidance*', see <https://www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-e-manual/safer-recruitment-and-people-management-guidance>). Diocese of London: see <https://safeguarding.london.anglican.org/parish-resources/>.

All. During colder months, in response to the impact increased energy costs have had on many in our community, the Church was heated during Open Church sessions in colder weather and promoted as a *warm welcome space*.<sup>7</sup> The PCC records its gratitude to *Lily Ejeka*, volunteer steward for Open Church.

- (a) *St Michael's Church Hall* continues to be an important resource in service of our community. Benefiting from a fully-equipped kitchen, Wifi, a broadband-connected 55" TV screen in the hall, and disabled access and WC facilities for mobility-restricted users, it is a valuable community resource for hire by community groups wishing to operate in London Fields. In addition to our own use of this space, regular users during the year included:

- *Lucy Sparkles & Friends*: (music classes for pre-schoolers)
- *Perform Workshops* (children's drama classes)
- *Pilates* (an adult mat class)
- *Tap Classes* (for adults)
- *Hackney Ballet* (lessons for children and adults)
- *Baby Sensory* (sensory classes for babies)
- *8<sup>th</sup> Haggerston (St. Michael's) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides*
- *Puppy Training Classes*
- *Moving Shadow Karate Club*
- a *Playgroup/Book Club* for Japanese speaking children
- *Divine Youth Association's Youth Forum*
- *Eternal Sacred Order of The Morning Star Church*; and
- *House of Prayer Church, Hackney*

*St Michael's Hall* is also used as a polling station and for children's parties and other social gatherings.

- (b) Regarding *Creation Care* (amplifying the summary in the Mission Action Plan of progress achieved under 'Compassionate Communities'), building on the PCC's award in 2022 of a *Bronze Certificate* under A Rocha's *Eco Church Programme* <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/> and in response to the General Synod's 2020 resolution calling on Parishes to work towards *net zero carbon emissions by 2030*, during 2024 the PCC resolved to prioritise works on the Church Hall due *inter alia* to its significantly greater usage and carbon footprint than the Church; developed detailed plans to replace the current gas-fired boiler heating the hall with a heating system powered by suitable air source heat pumps and to insulate the ceiling, windows and walls; and embarked on fundraising for the associated costs, a process still under way at the end of the year.
- (c) *St Michael's Social Events Organising Team* organised a *parish barbecue* in July, the first held since the COVID-19 pandemic, and 2 well-received *day outings*. The PCC records its gratitude to *Vicky Morton*, Chair of the Team, and its other members for organising and supporting these activities.
- (d) *St Michael's Social Group*, capably coordinated by *Rebecca Marques*, continued to meet fortnightly with a programme which included several excursions.
- (e) *St Michael's* long-established annual *Christmas Fete* was held in the church and hall, thanks to the hard work of *Sue Carr, Sally Smith, Dave Carr, Bill O'Loughlin, Sam O'Loughlin, Cathie Smith* and many others, giving pleasure to many in the community, enhancing *St Michael's* profile within it and raising more than £2,000 for church funds.
- (f) *Collections or donations* were made or pledged for: (a) *Student Christian Movement*; (b) *Macmillan Cancer Care*, with a Fundraising Cake Sale which raised £230; (c) *XLP* (see above); and (d) *Hackney Foodbank*, for which Money collections at our Carol Singing and Carol Service raised £436.97, and as in previous years, in Lent and at Harvest, and additionally during the Summer, collections were made of tinned food and other long-life goods to support families and individuals in crisis. Of these, the largest collection was the Harvest one which, with generous support from *St Paul's with St Michael's Primary School* and *8<sup>th</sup> Haggerston (St. Michael's) Rainbows, Brownies and Guides* at their respective Harvest services or celebrations, raised 396.85kg of provisions.
- (g) During Fairtrade Fortnight *St Michael's* hosted a *Fairtrade Stall* run by Hackney Fairtrade Group and Sustainable Hackney.
- (h) The letting of the *Church Flat* to a refugee family from Syria, completed in 2017, continued during the year.

### Care, maintenance and improvement of the Church Buildings

Repairs and decorations were carried out as needed, as was routine maintenance in accordance with the PCC's Annual Maintenance Plan. The most important were: (1) various redecorations carried out in January and July-August, including meeting room, link corridor, hall entrance lobby and WCs (total cost £3425); (2) repair of 4 metal sacristy items (£3822, fully funded by an anonymous donation); and (3) plumbing and associated repairs in the bathroom of the Church Flat (£1079.61). Further details are contained in the Churchwardens' separate Fabric Report prepared under Rule M5(1)(d) of the CRR. The PCC records its gratitude to the Churchwardens for their ongoing work in maintaining the fabric.

*The Revd Daniel Gerrans, Chair, for and on behalf of the Parochial Church Council*  
23 March 2025

<sup>7</sup> Registered on <https://www.warmwelcome.uk/#find-a-space>

## **FINANCES**

### **The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on 31 December 2024**

#### **Statement of the PCC's financial responsibilities**

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the charity's state of affairs at the end the year and of its income and expenditure for the year.

In preparing those accounts, the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in its activities.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the entity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant legislation. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Review of financial position**

The results for the year and financial position are set out below. The PCC thanks all who have contributed in any way to church funds, especially those giving regularly through stewardship programmes, which have enabled the Parish to remain financially resilient and in particular to sustain and increase its contribution to the Diocesan Common Fund.

#### **Reserves policy**

Reserves are held for the furtherance of the PCC's charitable objects, including as provision for significant unexpected but necessary expenditure.

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by:



*The Revd Daniel Gerrans, Chair,  
for and on behalf of the Parochial Church Council  
23 March 2025*



# **ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON**

## **Independent Examiner's report to the members of Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

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I report on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

Note 8 provides details of the church flat which is managed by the PCC; it has a current valuation of £300,000 and has not been included on the balance sheet.

I have no other 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.



Rev John Irwin FCA AMCT  
Chartered Accountant

Date: 16 March 2025

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 December 2024

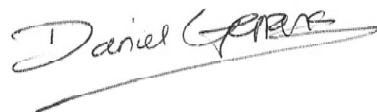
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>Donations, legacies and grants</b>					
Church collection	7,420			7,420	5,757
Freewill offerings	26,500			26,500	26,447
Donations and gifts	5,844			5,844	3,726
Charitable collections	-			-	1,094
Grants received	1,381	2,400		3,781	3,499
Donations to restricted funds	-			-	-
Income tax refund	6,553			6,553	8,043
<b>Other activities</b>					
Rent:					
Church and hall	35,377			35,377	30,935
Flat	16,279			16,279	18,522
Fees	2,125			2,125	985
Fetes and events	2,345			2,345	2,173
Other income	525			525	-
<b>Investment income</b>					
Interest and increase in value of fund assets	2,324		4,300	6,624	12,229
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>106,673</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>4,300</b>	<b>113,373</b>	<b>113,410</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
London Diocese (Common fund)	53,000			53,000	50,000
London Diocese (Fees)	1,121			1,121	450
Staff expenses	34			34	564
Youth work expenses	70	337		407	443
Music and organist	676			676	1,383
Repairs and refurbishment:				-	-
Church	16,211			16,211	9,634
Flat	2,052			2,052	1,065
Garden	1,858			1,858	530
Insurance and security	5,239			5,239	5,137
Gas and electricity	3,780			3,780	3,746
Water rates	585			585	264
Cleaning	3,170			3,170	1,071
Consumables	1,467			1,467	992
Stationery, books and advertising	2,048			2,048	1,265
Telephone and internet	651			651	492
Social events	373	738		1,111	20
Other	909	155		1,064	120
Administrator	9,428			9,428	-
Charity and gifts (from general funds)	1,482	55		1,537	1,850
Charity and gifts	0			-	894
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>104,154</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>105,439</b>	<b>79,922</b>
Transfer between funds	(1,000)		1,000	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>1,519</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>7,934</b>	<b>33,488</b>
<b>FUNDS brought forward</b>	<b>136,667</b>	<b>5,645</b>	<b>93,026</b>	<b>235,338</b>	<b>201,850</b>
<b>FUNDS carried forward</b>	<b>138,186</b>	<b>6,760</b>	<b>98,326</b>	<b>243,272</b>	<b>235,338</b>

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Investments - Trust Fund	2	<u>88,525</u>	<u>84,226</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank		156,427	150,412
Debtors	3	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>
<b>Total current assets</b>		158,127	152,112
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>			
	4	<u>(3,380)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		154,747	151,112
<b>Total net assets</b>	6	<u>243,272</u>	<u>235,338</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted Funds		138,186	136,667
Restricted Funds	5	6,760	5,645
Designated Funds		98,326	93,026
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>243,272</u>	<u>235,338</u>

These accounts were approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf by



Date: 23 March 2025

The Revd Daniel Gerrans  
For the Parochial Church Council

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS

## with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' 'true and fair view' provisions, together with FRS 102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP (FRS 102)).

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are shown at market value.

The financial statements are prepared in £ sterling rounded to the nearest £.

##### 1.2 Income recognition

Income represents amounts received from freewill offerings, church collections and donations, and other sources of income from specific church activities, which are recognised as follows:

- Collections and other giving are recognised when received;
- Donations and grants are recognised when received unless a specific pledge or contract has been received;
- Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid is recognised with the relevant income;
- Funds raised by the fete and similar events are recognised when received;
- Rental income from the rent of the church premises is recognised when due;
- Investment gains or losses are recognised at the year end.

##### 1.3 Expenditure

All expenses are considered as charitable expenditure, being the costs incurred directly and indirectly in the delivery of its charitable purposes.

Expenses are recognised when the liability is incurred.

##### 1.4 Unrestricted, restricted & designated funds

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC which are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for the general purposes of the PCC.

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Direct expenditure which meets these criteria are assigned to the funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that the PCC has chosen to allocate for a specified purpose. These funds may be un-designated and returned to the unrestricted fund.

##### 1.5 Cash

Cash includes cash held at banks in current and deposit accounts, and cash in hand; it is a basic financial asset under FRS102.

#### 2 Investments

The investments are held in shares in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund which is managed by CCLA and are included at market value.

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### 3 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Income tax recoverable	1,700	1,700
	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>

### 4 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	3,380	1,000
	<u>3,380</u>	<u>1,000</u>

### 5 Restricted and Designated Funds

Restricted funds comprise:

#### Grants received

Grant income received for specified purposes has been allocated to restricted funds.

The PCC gratefully acknowledges grants received during the year from the **Hackney Parochial Charities** (£2,400 received) for relief of individuals in need (2023: £2,500) and a grant of £1,129 under the Listed Places of Worship scheme for repairs to the building.

Designated funds comprise:

#### Trust Fund

The Trust Fund comprises the balance of the proceeds of the sale of church premises sold in 1986 and the use of both capital and income may be used for any ecclesiastical purpose within the parish, in accordance with the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956. The PCC has adopted a policy to designate the use of the Trust Fund as follows: until further resolution and where possible: (i) capital should be preserved; (ii) future income should be reinvested as an accretion to capital; and (iii) the Trust Fund should be used for capital (not revenue) expenditure which will make or contribute to a lasting improvement to the church or hall.

#### Vicarage Repair Fund

Unrestricted funds are transferred into a designated fund to provide for the future redecoration of the Vicarage when needed.

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS LONDON FIELDS with ST PAULS HAGGERSTON

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### 6 Net assets attributable to the funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed assets				
Investments	-	-	88,526	88,526
Current Assets				
Cash	139,866	6,760	9,800	156,426
Debtors	1,700	-	-	1,700
	141,566	6,760	98,326	246,652
Current liabilities	(3,380)			(3,380)
Net assets represented by funds	138,186	6,760	98,326	243,272

### 7 Summary of funds

	£
Unrestricted	138,186
Restricted Ministers - Discretionary Grant	6,760
Designated - Trust Fund	88,526
Designated - Vicarage Repair Fund	9,800
	<u>243,272</u>

### 8 Benefits in kind to community groups

During the year St Michaels has allowed certain community groups to use church and hall space free of charge. These groups included The 8th Haggerston Rainbows, Brownies and Guides. Had rent been charged at the normal rates this would have amounted to £4,000 (2024 - £3,000).

### 9 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

### 10 Other Assets

#### Church flat

The PCC undertakes the management of the flat and has the benefit of the rental income. The flat is part of the premises and like the rest of the building it is owned by the London Diocesan Fund.

The rental from the flat is recognised as income when it becomes due.

The balance sheet does not include a value for the flat. It is valued at £300,000 (2023 - £300,000).