

## **PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, GREAT MEOLS**

### Annual report of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ending

31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

The principal function of the PCC is “to promote, in the parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.” The PCC members are also Trustees, and, therefore, stewards both of the mission and the resources of the Church, ensuring that it is solvent, well-run and delivering its charitable outcomes. In addition, the PCC is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Church Centre.

PCC members were:

Vicar	Gillian Rossiter
Readers	David Moss Lesley Young
Churchwardens	Steve Symes (Assistant Treasurer) Martin Hodson
Representatives on Deanery Synod	Lesley Young Claire Barnard, Daniel Branch, Eunice Moss Sheena Wilson
Pastoral Worker	Chris Branch Andy Liston Alex Calvert
Elected members	Steve Austin (Treasurer) Clive Burgess Gill Childs Rowan Connell Sue Dutton (Secretary) Jean Hodgson (until September 2024) Hazel Moon Clare O’Connell Adele Sedgwick Steve Symes

Both the PCC and Standing Committee met on six occasions each in 2024, without having to resort any virtual meetings as in previous years. Safeguarding is a constant agenda item, and a Safeguarding team led by Rev Gillian with Chris Branch and Sheena Wilson were appointed. A designated safeguarding email account was set up for the team to share confidential information and to alert the Diocese of any concerns. The ministry team and all members of the PCC have completed safeguarding training which they have to renew every three years. By the end of the year the team had completed the first two levels of the Parish Safeguarding

Dashboard which required the PCC reviewing and updating our Safeguarding policies, the final level will be complete in 2025.

We continue to err on caution with regard to coronavirus, and although the shared chalice has been reintroduced, many parishioners continue to opt to intinct. We continue to offer hand gel before communion.

In January, the roll out of the Diocese's new finance package 'My Fund Accounting' eagerly awaited by our treasurer, was delayed and was not actually implemented until October. Despite teething problems, the finance team, Steve Austin and Steve Symes have been able to upload our 2024 figures on to the new system in time to produce our end of year accounts.

Church finances continue to be a cause for concern especially as the shortfall between Planned Giving and our Parish Share forever widens. Church fundraising projects such as the Summer Fair, the Take-away Afternoon teas, the annual church barbecue, the 'Vicars Surprise' evening and the Advent Fair, which are all always well supported, not only bring people together but provide the extra that we need. However, these are dependent on people's good will, and we cannot guarantee being able to maintain long term. We were fortunate this year to receive two legacies from parishioners, which have helped to keep us solvent and without which we could have had a deficit of £24k.

Despite the ever-increasing costs of energy and the ongoing running of the church, St John's is in a better financial position than many churches, and we are thankful for the incredibly support we receive from so many people not just our church members, but also the wider community.

St John's continues to grow as the heart of the local community, together with links with the neighbouring churches of St Catherine's, St Andrew's, and St Hildeburgh's and of course St Chad's in Leasowe.

Members of the local community who are not members of our church community have continued to help with the making and delivering of soup and sandwiches to the housebound, joined in church activities, donated, and washed and ironed clothes for the Swap Shop at St Chads, donated pyjamas at Christmas, together with financial contributions to the causes we support. We are extremely thankful for their continuing support.

Links with Great Meol's Primary school have also continued, and the children have enjoyed Easter and Christmas Experiences organised by our church volunteers together with Harvest Festival and Christmas Concerts organised by school in church. They joined with the Community Choir in October for their annual charity concert and the School Ambassadors returned to help pack bags for our Soup & Sandwich deliveries.

Children have also enjoyed an evening of Pancake Fun on Shrove Tuesday, Messy Church events, a week-long Holiday Club based on 'Beauty and the Beast', a 'Light Party' in October, and a Christmas Fun Day. This year also saw the relaunch of our Sunday School and although numbers are small at present we hope to see them grow in 2025.

The numbers attending our Monday Café and Young at Heart group continue to increase both offering food, friendship and a 'Warm Space'. The Café held a fund-raising Cake Sale, together with a fundraiser for Christian Aid. The three 'Men's Breakfast' held throughout the year and the Patronal lunch in June, were all enjoyed by those who attended.

St John's hosted the Lent Lunches & Reflections this year. The Meol's Community Choir performed a very moving Passion play on Palm Sunday. Easter Sunday saw the annual early morning pilgrimage to Hilbre Island, following a short service it was back to St John's for coffee and bacon butties. At our confirmation service in October, Bishop Julie Conalty confirmed six of our members, together with others from St Hildeburg's. The end of the year saw our usual Christmas Toy service, with donations of new toys to Charles Thompson Mission, our ever-popular Christingle services and our service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

Thankfully, we have had no major building projects this year, the west and east wall repairs being complete. However, there are always repairs and maintenance jobs to do, including replacing the metal shed with a wooden one that does not leak, replacing the Emergency doors in the hall and replacing the heaters in the Vestries. Our thanks to Steve Symes for overseeing and organising these jobs as well as being on hand to solve every maintenance and computer problem that arises. Constant rain and then storm damage and a blocked drain pipe gave cause to a series of leaks round the church resulting in the resurrection of scaffolding so that repairs could be carried out.

In July, Sheena suggested we got involved with Eco church, a scheme run by A Rocha UK equipping churches to care for God's creation through their worship, buildings, land, community engagement and individual lifestyles. By December having completed the questionnaire we received a Bronze level Award with some areas far exceeding the level required. We look forward in 2025 to building on this, so watch out for a Wilde Messy Church as the children start to create a wild garden.

Throughout 2024 we have continued to support Tanzanian Church (£600), SAT-7 (£600), the Bible Society (£500) and Childrens Society (£600). Carols on the Green raised £250 and Café fundraiser £455 for MIND, £500 went to the Charles Thompson Mission and Jig saw sales raised funds for KIDS CONNECT.

In September we were sorry to see Sheena Wilson step down as a Reader and will miss her contributions to church life. We were also devastated to learn that Rev Gillian was retiring in January. Her leadership over the past 18 years has been exemplary and we will miss her enthusiasm, boundless energy, friendship, and support to all in so many ways. This news raised so many questions about the future and how we prepare for the appointment of a new incumbent. Thankfully, Gillian laid the foundation of the work the ministry team and PCC needed to do in preparation for her successor.

2024 continued to provide challenges for everybody at St John's but it is thanks to Rev Gillian's leadership, with the support of the Ministry team, the Wardens, Steve and Martin, the PCC, and the army of ready volunteers that we continue to strengthen our church community at St John's and its impact on our wider community by being a 'Place of Welcome' and sanctuary.

You can keep up to date with all that goes on at St John's at the website

[www.stjohnsmeols.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsmeols.co.uk)

**Sue Dutton**

**Saint John the Baptist**  
**Receipts and Payments Account**  
**For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations and legacies	129,053.28	-	-	-	129,053.28	-
Income from charitable activities	18,334.79	-	-	-	18,334.79	-
Investments	352.17	-	-	-	352.17	-
Other income	13,457.94	-	5,159.74	-	18,617.68	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>161,198.18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,159.74</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>166,357.92</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
Raising funds	207.32	-	-	-	207.32	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	134,776.04	-	4,289.07	-	139,065.11	-
Other expenditure	9,229.89	-	-	-	9,229.89	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>144,213.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,289.07</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>148,502.32</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments before transfer</b>	<b>16,984.93</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>870.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,855.60</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Transfers:</b>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Excess of receipts over payments before other gains</b>	<b>16,984.93</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>870.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,855.60</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>21,973.04</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>870.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,843.71</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
<b>Excess of receipts over payments at beginning of the year</b>	<b>130,616.11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,990.91</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>151,607.02</b>	<b>151,607.02</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments for the year</b>	<b>152,589.15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,861.58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174,450.73</b>	<b>151,607.02</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
Unrestricted						
General Fund	152,589.15	-	-	-	152,589.15	130,616.11
Restricted						
Keightley Trust	-	-	21,861.58	-	21,861.58	20,990.91

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# Saint John the Baptist

## Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

					Total	
	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
<b>Receipts</b>						
<b>Donations and legacies</b>						
0101 - Planned giving standing orders	47,494.50	-	-	-	47,494.50	-
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	1,037.00	-	-	-	1,037.00	-
0301 - Loose plate collections	3,653.44	-	-	-	3,653.44	-
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	2,055.00	-	-	-	2,055.00	-
0502 - All purpose donations	10,440.95	-	-	-	10,440.95	-
0550 - Donations appeals etc	7,970.89	-	-	-	7,970.89	-
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	11,838.75	-	-	-	11,838.75	-
0701 - Legacies	42,500.00	-	-	-	42,500.00	-
0901 - Other funds generated	50.00	-	-	-	50.00	-
0902 - Sumup contactless donations	2,012.75	-	-	-	2,012.75	-
<b>Donations and legacies Totals</b>	<b>129,053.28</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>129,053.28</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>						
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	2,868.00	-	-	-	2,868.00	-
1221 - Cafe, coffee and lunches	8,519.79	-	-	-	8,519.79	-
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	6,397.00	-	-	-	6,397.00	-
1261 - Refugee furniture grant received	550.00	-	-	-	550.00	-
<b>Income from charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>18,334.79</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,334.79</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Investments</b>						
1020 - Bank and building society interest	352.17	-	-	-	352.17	-
<b>Investments Totals</b>	<b>352.17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>352.17</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other income</b>						
0802 - Grants received	7,980.00	-	-	-	7,980.00	-
1021 - Barclays loyalty reward	93.94	-	-	-	93.94	-
1262 - Church holiday receipts	5,304.00	-	-	-	5,304.00	-
1263 - KT interest received	-	-	5,159.74	-	5,159.74	-
1505 - Gillian Rossiter collections	80.00	-	-	-	80.00	-
<b>Other income Totals</b>	<b>13,457.94</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,159.74</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,617.68</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Receipts Grand totals</b>	<b>161,198.18</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,159.74</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>166,357.92</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
<b>Raising funds</b>						
1730 - Costs of fetes & other events	207.32	-	-	-	207.32	-
<b>Raising funds Totals</b>	<b>207.32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>207.32</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>						
1801 - Giving to missionary societies	1,170.59	-	-	-	1,170.59	-

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		Total				
	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
1850 - Home mission	30.00	-	-	-	30.00	-
1870 - Secular charities	40.53	-	-	-	40.53	-
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	92,027.88	-	-	-	92,027.88	-
2170 - Education	320.00	-	-	-	320.00	-
2201 - Parish training and mission	70.00	-	-	-	70.00	-
2301 - Church running - insurance	3,940.47	-	-	-	3,940.47	-
2310 - Church office - telephone	1,020.57	-	-	-	1,020.57	-
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	200.00	-	-	-	200.00	-
2321 - Organist fees	1,875.00	-	-	-	1,875.00	-
2330 - Church maintenance	3,217.98	-	-	-	3,217.98	-
2331 - Cleaning	653.30	-	-	-	653.30	-
2340 - Upkeep of services	305.69	-	-	-	305.69	-
2345 - Funeral catering expenses	399.41	-	-	-	399.41	-
2360 - Administration	969.02	-	-	-	969.02	-
2401 - Church running - electric	700.34	-	-	-	700.34	-
2410 - Church running - gas	7,013.39	-	-	-	7,013.39	-
2420 - Church running - water	487.53	-	-	-	487.53	-
2501 - Magazine and printing expenses	615.47	-	-	-	615.47	-
2511 - Sumup contactless donations charges	36.39	-	-	-	36.39	-
2513 - Kitchen expenses	2,754.77	-	19.86	-	2,774.63	-
2801 - Hall + major repairs - structure	723.93	-	-	-	723.93	-
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	9,974.78	-	-	-	9,974.78	-
2840 - Other PCC property upkeep	5,680.00	-	-	-	5,680.00	-
2841 - Refugee furniture payment from grant	549.00	-	-	-	549.00	-
2843 - KT expenses	-	-	4,269.21	-	4,269.21	-
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</b>	<b>134,776.04</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,289.07</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>139,065.11</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other expenditure</b>						
1835 - Gifts and dedications	252.94	-	-	-	252.94	-
2361 - Travel expenses	52.31	-	-	-	52.31	-
2362 - CCLI copyright licences and WEB costs	970.77	-	-	-	970.77	-
2512 - Bank charges	621.87	-	-	-	621.87	-
2842 - Church holiday payments	7,332.00	-	-	-	7,332.00	-
<b>Other expenditure Totals</b>	<b>9,229.89</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,229.89</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Payments Grand totals</b>	<b>144,213.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,289.07</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>148,502.32</b>	<b>-</b>

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Saint John the Baptist

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by code)  
As at: 31 December 2024

Class and nominal code	General (Unrestricted)	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Last year
<b>Fixed Asset - Investments</b>						
6640: CCLA Legacy Reserve investment	103,034.38	-	-	-	103,034.38	98,046.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,034.38</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103,034.38</b>	<b>98,046.27</b>
<b>Current Asset - Cash At Bank And In Hand</b>						
6501: Bank current account Barclays	18,790.93	-	(7,023.20)	-	11,767.73	14,678.19
6510: CCLA (CBF) deposit account St Johns	37,512.11	-	-	-	37,512.11	17,512.11
6511: CCLA (CBF) deposit account Keightley Trust	(786.78)	-	23,012.99	-	22,226.21	20,990.91
6590: Cash in hand	(5,787.82)	-	6,375.03	-	587.21	314.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,728.44</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,364.82</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>72,093.26</b>	<b>53,496.07</b>
<b>Current Asset - Debtors</b>						
6595: Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	1,101.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,101.68</b>
<b>Liability - Agency Accounts</b>						
6699: Agency collections	173.67	-	503.24	-	676.91	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>173.67</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>503.24</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>676.91</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Liability - Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year</b>						
Z04: Accounts Payable	-	-	-	-	-	1,037.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,037.00</b>
<b>Net total assets</b>	<b>152,589.15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,861.58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174,450.73</b>	<b>151,607.02</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
General (Unrestricted)	152,589.15	-	-	-	152,589.15	130,616.11
Restricted - KT	-	-	21,861.58	-	21,861.58	20,990.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>152,589.15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,861.58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174,450.73</b>	<b>151,607.02</b>

C Branch





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the  
trustees/members of

Charity Name

Parish of Saint John The Baptist , Great Meols

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1131062

Set out on pages

One to four

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

*Robert Smith*

Date:

11-5-25

Name:

Robert Smith

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

FCA

Address:

C/O St John The Baptist Great Meols

Forest Road

Meols , Wirral

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).





Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the  
trustees/members of

Charity Name

Parish of Saint John The Baptist , Great Meols

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1131062

Set out on pages

One to four

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

*Robert Smith*

Date:

11-5-25

Name:

Robert Smith

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

FCA

Address:

C/O St John The Baptist Great Meols

Forest Road

Meols , Wirral

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).