

Registered Charity Number: 1131068

REPORT OF THE
TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS FOR THE
YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

FOR THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number

1131068

Administrative information

St. Lawrence Church is situated in Eastcote, Middlesex and is part of the Willesden Area in the Diocese of London within the Church of England.

Its principal address is:

St Lawrence Parish Office
2a Bridle Road
Eastcote
Middlesex
HA5 2SJ

The PCC is a body corporate which it means that it is legally a separate entity from its members.

The St Lawrence PCC is also a charity registered with the Charity Commission (No 1131068) which means that its members are also trustees of the church and have various responsibilities under charity law.

Trustees

The following served on the PCC in 2023:

Parish Priest Rev'd Dr John Seymour, PCC chair (appointed 9.2.2020)

Churchwardens: None appointed

Deputy Churchwardens (undertaking churchwarden functions on behalf of the PCC):

Scott Boobier (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM) – stood down as DCW at May 2023 APCM

Gerry Edwards (appointed 22.05.2022 APCM)

Darren Fletcher (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM) – stood down from PCC at May 2023 APCM

Judith Howe (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM)

Mary Thomas (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM, re-elected 14.05.2023 APCM) DCW from 05 2023

Members

Christina Barham (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Lindsay Baxter (appointed 22.05 2022 APCM)

Richard Bursford (appointed 25.04.2021 APCM) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Philippa Cooper (appointed 25.04.2021 APCM) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Robert Hinson (appointed 25.04.2021 APCM)

Julie Siddle (appointed 18.10.2020 APCM) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Frances Soames (co-opted 14.06.2022) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Duncan Sykes (appointed 25.04.2021 APCM) – stood down at May 2023 APCM

Michael Whitton (appointed 22.05.2022 APCM, resigned 09.01.2023)

Elaine Wigington (appointed 22.05.2022 APCM)

Ian Woodhouse (co-opted 15.11.2022)

Stuart Woods (appointed 14.05.2023)

Sue Cobb (appointed 14 May 2023 APCM)

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Independent Examiner

Samara & Co
511 Kenton Lane
Harrow
HA3 7JW

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Appointments to the PCC are made by nomination and election, in accordance with the Church Representation rules. At St Lawrence, the PCC currently includes 1 ex-officio member - the parish priest and 9 members elected by those members of the congregation who are also on the church's electoral roll.

Given the wide range of its responsibilities, the PCC has set up several committees to handle business relating to different aspects of parish life. The following committees met in 2023: the Standing Committee, Finance, Premises, Fellowship, Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and Communications. Each is responsible to the PCC which receives regular reports on their activities and decisions.

Aims and Purposes

The functions of St Lawrence's Parochial Church Council (PCC) are defined by the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure, 1956. Key amongst these is the duty for 'the minister and church council to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish' and 'co-operation with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'.

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the church hall and for the St Lawrence Centre both of which are found on site. PCC is landlord to the 4th Eastcote Scouts, who occupy a hut on church grounds. The PCC also owns a property, 1 Farthings Close. The PCC owns more than an acre of land on which the Church Hall, St Lawrence Centre and Scout hut are situated and is also responsible for its maintenance.

Objectives and activities

Parish activity in 2023 focussed on:

- Restoring worship in the renovated church building, promoting the parish by advertising the improved facilities to the local community, and seeing through completion of unfinished elements of the renovation works.
- Mitigating the impact of a lack of leadership and management capacity corresponding to the small number of trustees and of deputy church wardens.
- Establishing the conditions required for the leadership and management capacity to be developed and for the congregation to grow.

A chronology gives a sense of the related processes:

- In February 2023, in response to congregational survey work and progress made to date, Bishop Lusa approved extension of the parish's interim ministry period by another three years. Key outstanding tasks are to achieve a wide stakeholder consensus on the immediate and medium-term ambitions for the parish and acknowledgement of the current lack of capacity, and so a plan to put in place sufficient leadership and management capacity with an appropriate skills mix and commitment to meet the parish's needs. In particular, sufficient lay leadership needs to be established to allow an incumbent to function effectively in their role as parish priest and so congregational commitment is needed to a future plan. Whilst there is some aspiration to support a new incumbent, the lay leadership capacity and commitment to support a substantive appointment is currently absent.
- Practical completion of the church renovation works was certified on 22 April 2023, allowing worship to return to the church building. On 13 May 2023, the Area Bishop led a service of blessing for the church works attended by representatives of the local community.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

- The parish's APCM took place on 14 May 2023. Eight people stood down from the PCC in 2023 without replacements being found for them. Two deputy church wardens stood down from the team of four; one person was added to the team. These changes resulted in leadership and management capacity being critically low to support the core functions of the parish.
- Volunteer posts were advertised with a view to addressing key capacity and sustainability concerns: a community stakeholder engagement lead, a grant fundraising lead and an office and finance systems lead. Caroline Thuo was appointed to the office systems lead role and made some progress on establishing systems for generating invoice and a booking system workflow. A paper-based booking system was migrated to being online. Proposals for a new finance system were also formulated. It was not possible to implement these before Caroline withdrew from the post for paid employment elsewhere.
- A Flower Festival was held from 22 – 25 June which saw wide participation and many visitors to the church, culminating in a service of Choral Evensong themed, 'Renewal, transition and hope'. The Summer Fair took place on 1 July.
- The parish priest worked remotely from 3 June to 7 July 2023 because it became apparent that his licence to minister in the parish had been invalid since February 2023, compounding safety fears arising from harassment from a parishioner. The absence of the parish priest from the Summer Fair and Flower Festival is likely to have had an impact on the networking that might otherwise have been possible.
- Fr Dioynisius Anthony was licensed as a self-supporting minister in the parish on 3 December 2023 at the popular Christingle service which saw many members of the local community present. An experienced priest who led a parish in the Roman Catholic Church in India, Fr Dioynisius' focus in the parish is on establishing home groups in the church to support spiritual and numerical growth in the congregation and their participation in leading the parish's mission.
- In light of volunteers not being found for the development posts outlined above, the PCC approved in principle appointment of an Operations Manager alongside allocating funds to pay for regular occasional works from a self-employed builder to address some of the outstanding site needs.
- Catechesis was on-going through the year, as a result three people were prepared for baptism and a total of seven (including those three) for confirmations which took place early in 2024.

Objectives

Objectives follow from the parish's mission statement:

Mission statement: St Lawrence, Eastcote 2022 – 2027

S strapline: 'The people of Eastcote are the treasure of God's Church'

Purpose statement

We are a Church of England parish in the borough of Hillingdon which originated as a mission plant in the hamlet of Eastcote. The founding of St Lawrence's anticipated development of Eastcote to form part of suburban London.

We continue to provide a Christian witness in this community, offering resource for stability and integration for lives shaped through encounter with difference, adaptation to change, and evolutionary growth.

Inspired by the example of St Lawrence as a disciple of Jesus Christ, our vision is to see God's grace and generosity shared as the gospel demonstrates its power at the interface of the church life and local lives.

To affect this vision we:

- worship God and offer spiritual nurture
- resource activities and events with a community focus
- build relationships which enable transforming encounter
- develop and share our resources and facilities

Values

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we work to cultivate the fruit of the Spirit as individuals and in our church community and expect these to be its hallmark:

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5.22-23

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Key objectives (2022-2027)

The PCC's targets are summarised into five key objectives for the next five years:

- Achieve a sustainable mission (or business model) for local Christian discipleship
- Most parishioners (85% of congregation) identify with core purpose of parish and become partners in mission (i.e. delivery)
- Core functions established (discipleship, hospitality, administration, governance, evangelisation)
- Failing plant and site due diligence issues addressed
- Congregation embraces a realistic development plan for next 5 years (years 6-10)

The parish remains in interim ministry, the principles and background of which are outlined in the 2020 Trustee's report.

Achievements and performance

The current lack of available trustee person-hours is a predictable outworking of the interim process in the parish. Younger families who joined the congregation over recent years left following the last incumbent's departure, feeling their place in the church community to be insecure, or the interim process to be at odds with the kind of added value they were looking for from being part of a church community. Older and more established members of the congregation have become limited in what they can do through the impact of aging. Younger members of the congregation who took on lay leadership roles during the last incumbency have been asked to take on significant responsibility over an extended period of time in the interim process and the church renovation work and seem to have tired of this. Equally, the amount of time the parish priest has to give to administration and site maintenance issues has limited his availability to socialise and relax with parishioners, limiting volunteers' sense of reward for motivating volunteering, which too often feels like work.

Worship and prayer

The numbers of people attending Sunday worship increased marginally through 2023. There was a visible increase in the ethnic diversity of the congregation with a sense of people from the range of ethnicities present in Sunday worship feeling relaxed and at home to a degree that had not been apparent before. The sense of intimacy in relationships and joy in worship has been maintained. New leaders have come forward and been developed within Young Church, which now has a more integrated and systematic approach to programming.

The main congregational pattern of worship continues with a regular pattern of Sunday services at 08:00 and 10:00 and monthly Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. A monthly Family Celebration remains popular and is an effective form of outreach for those new to or exploring the Christian faith.

Young Church and Youth Church have continued to make distinctive progress in becoming established and are proving attractive to new families who visit St Lawrence's.

Pastoral care

Ministry continues to give members of the congregation Communion at home. The Friendship Café is now well established and remains popular. The parent and baby group was discontinued through a lack of interest. Other groups exist locally to offer this support.

The parish priest's time for pastoral work is very limited because of the demands of leading site maintenance responses and supporting and organising PCC members and volunteers to complete tasks that in the past have been led by members of the PCC and congregation, such as the Summer and Winter Fairs.

Governance

The parish's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) took place on 14 May 2023. The congregation had not identified representatives to be Churchwardens, leaving these posts vacant. The Deanery Synod representatives stood down from their posts (Frances Soames, Mary Thomas and Christina Barham) with no one who could be found to take on these responsibilities.

Mike Whitton resigned from the PCC with a family relocation to another country. He completed a handover to Stuart Woods to lead the Health and Safety committee with support from the Premises committee with Stuart then being co-opted to the PCC in 2022. Stuart was subsequently elected to the PCC at the May 2024 APCM.

The following congregation representatives stood down at the May APCM: Richard Burdford, Philippa Cooper, Julie Siddle, Duncan Sykes.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Scott Boobier, Judith Howe and Mary Thomas were prepared to be re-elected to the PCC and were appointed without a vote, vacancies exceeding the number of nominations.

Having been co-opted to the PCC as Treasurer in October 2022, Ian was elected to the PCC at the May 2023 APCM to continue in the same role.

Premises continued to be chaired by Gerry Edwards. Mary Thomas joined the Finance committee in 2023, tasked to streamline finance administration and support the committee to work effectively. The Communications committee continued to be very active. The Children and Families group was re-established with Lindsay Baxter as chair. The Safeguarding committee met in 2023 under Christine Edwards' leadership. Fr John and Christine Edwards continued to meet regularly to monitor and implement safeguarding requirements. Elaine Wigington continued to chair the Fellowship committee. The Outreach committee remained without a chair and did not meet, Fr John instead consulting ad hoc with individual members of the group as required.

Risks

Business continuity and sustainability remain critical risks for the parish.

The primary issue the parish faces in the short to medium term is that the available management and leadership capacity is being consumed by administrative demands and the need to maintain ageing church plant, rather being available for building capacity towards a financially sustainable mission. Oversight of day-to-day care of the site, organising volunteers and scaffolding, supervising and monitoring progress with tasks for them, and addressing immediately pressing Health and Safety risks fall disproportionately to the parish priest, also taking time and energy from servicing and maintain the congregation as a Christian community. A programme to replace and renovate existing buildings will need to be resourced through a triad of effective stakeholder engagement, site development planning and grant fundraising. The PCC's decision to appoint an Operations Manager will be key to freeing capacity towards these tasks.

Energy costs rose considerably. The increase of combined gas and electricity costs from £7k in 2022 to £20k in 2023 must be seen in the context of the impact of lockdown recovery limiting hire use and the church building (and so heating) being out of use through the winter, the last normal year for comparison being 2019. Giving has remained stable at just under £75k between 2022 and 2023, despite the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on parishioners' finances. The parish will continue to pay off loans taken out to fund the church renovation works over the next four years along with interest.

The PCC's desire to continue to support the Scouts as part of the parish's mission requires that a new building is conceived and constructed for the Scouts' use which will also further the parish's mission by generating income and wider community outreach, ensuring that this is a financially viable development. The church hall shows evidence of subsidence which needs to be addressed, the roofing and toilets in the hall need to be replaced.

Accessibility remains a concern that needs to be addressed in relation to the church building. The St Lawrence Centre blocks access to and optimal use of the site. The site's extensive grounds and wooded areas need maintenance that is beyond the capacity of the volunteer team.

Congregational renewal requires pastoral engagement, building effective pastoral structures, Christian nurture and catechesis, and probably 'planting' an additional congregation to ensure that provision is made for the demographic spread of the parish. The likely longevity of the buildings on site makes these concerns ones that need to be addressed simultaneously, rather than consecutively. The licensing of Fr Dioynisius to the parish offers the opportunity to start to address this need.

Church Hall and St Lawrence Centre, Church building

2023 saw a fall in income from Church Hall lettings, despite increases in hire fees. Income in 2022 was £49,595 and in 2023 £47,139. Both figures are down from the pre COVID income of £59,221 in 2019. Enquiries about hall hire still outstrip availability; regular single slot hire results in office hours booking from a single agent being turned away, partly through commitment to community groups' use.

Other property: 1 Farthings Close, Scout hut, land maintenance

1 Farthings Close is a property owned by the parish to support the parish's mission, originally purchased to provide accommodation for a curate. This is currently let for commercial rent. The parish priest took over the portfolio for oversight of 1 Farthings Close when Scott stood down from being a deputy church warden when no other PCC member could be found to do this. The rent has now been increased year on year in relation to the retail price index and the maintenance needs of the property are being addressed.

The Scout hut is a prefabricated building originally constructed in 1947. Negotiations on a lease had made good progress, but time to take forward recommendations from a follow up surveyor visit has not been found. The current occupation is irregular, whilst this remains the case, presents a risk to the PCC.

In 2023 the vicarage kitchen was redecorated.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Mission and evangelism

People continue to be attracted to worship in the parish and are drawn into the congregation with catechesis often following requests for baptism and confirmation. The Lunch Club, Film Club, Friendship Café, Baby and parent group, Christmas and May/Summer fairs form the main outreach in the parish by way of mission and evangelism.

It was possible to undertake more missional engagement with local schools in 2023 with the church building available as a teaching aid. Cannon Lane and Coteford both came to St Lawrence's for visits to support their RE curriculum. Notably, Coteford and Newnham schools held Christmas celebrations in the church building, with this use of the space and clergy support commented upon as being highly valued. Newnham and Warrender Primaries both sang at the Christmas Fair and found this opportunity for performance rewarding. Fr John delivered assemblies at Coteford Infants and Bishop Ramsey schools.

Ecumenical relationships

The parish's primary means of building ecumenical relations is through its contribution and fellowship within 'churches together in Eastcote'. During 2023, activities included in person worship and a collaboratively produced Carol service. Clergy from the different denominations met for lunch, which provided for pastoral and personal engagement.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Interim ministry

Early in 2023, Bishop Lusa agreed to extend the interim ministry period for up to another three years. In addition to the outstanding tasks of formulating the parish's plans for the future and unconscious bias training, it became apparent that further attention to the parish's leadership was required, not least in light of the size of the PCC and lack of Churchwardens. Through a series of administrative irregularities, Fr John was not relicensed to the parish until 7 June 2023.

Formulation of the volunteer development lead roles in the spring of 2023 was to provide for increased leadership and management capacity in the parish. Only one of these roles was filled, and even this was on a short-term basis. As it became apparent that these roles were not going to be filled through volunteer time, the alternative seemed to be to appoint an Operations Manager. A decision to do this was approved by the PCC in the autumn of 2023, representing a significant commitment in relation to the parish's future.

Congregational survey work identified and celebrated the progress made with the interim process but advertised a sense that these changes remain fragile. The overall view of the congregation was that the interim process, which would usually last for a period of three years, should be extended for a further three.

Financial Review

Total receipts for 2023 were £243,267 (2022 £317,144) of which £42,764 (2022 £46,501) was unrestricted voluntary donations through the stewardship scheme standing orders and £25,739 (2022 £19,283) through the Parish Giving Scheme. A further £1,670 (2022 £6,159) was received through stewardship contributions and £16,317 (2022 £6,760) from other collections and donations.

Total voluntary unrestricted income including tax reclaimed was £114,397 (2022 £118,021) and donations and legacies applied to the church heat and light project were £48,578 (2022 £107,842).

Hall lettings income was £47,139 (2022 £49,595) and the freehold house at 1 Farthings Close continued to be let on a temporary basis providing income of £18,855 (2022 £18,155).

A total of £403,980 (2022 £364,699) was spent on Christian ministry from St Lawrence, including a contribution of £87,775 (2022 £85,200) towards the Common Fund which goes towards providing stipends, training and housing for clergy within the Diocese. This represents 100% of the figure that the Diocese invites parishes to contribute.

Expenditure was incurred on the heat and light project in the church of £220,239 (2022 £211,465). The total expenditure over 2022 and 2023 was £431,704. We have taken out loans with the Diocese which total £119,262 (2022 £130,000). These are being repaid at a rate of £6,833 per quarter.

A deficit of expenditure over income was recorded in the year which reflects the major repairs incurred on the church. We therefore require additional income to provide for ongoing general costs and to repay the loans.

Reserves Policy

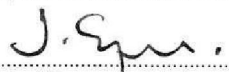
PCC policy is to aspire to maintain cash reserves in non-restricted funds equating to 3 months of Common Fund liability plus 6 months general running and maintenance expenses based on historic expenditure. For 2023 this comprises:

Common Fund provision - £22,825

General Running expenses - £37,955

It is our policy to invest our fund balances surplus to general running expenses in the CCLA Church of England deposit fund.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 29 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Rev'd Dr John Seymour – Chair and Trustee

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 10 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - o to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - o to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

SAMARA + CO
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511 Kenton Lane
Harrow
HA3 7JW

Date:.....

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	114,397	—	48,578	162,975	225,863
Activities for generating funds	53,174	—	—	53,174	64,397
Investment income	22,003	—	—	22,003	22,353
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4,606	—	—	4,606	3,980
Other incoming resources	509	—	—	509	521
Total income	194,689	—	48,578	243,267	317,114
Resources used					
Cost of generating funds	7,642	—	—	7,642	3,548
Cost of generating voluntary income	1,211	—	—	1,211	1,291
Investment management costs	239	—	—	239	364
Charitable activities	75,909	—	220,239	296,148	272,201
Governance costs	98,739	—	—	98,739	87,295
Total expenditure	183,741	—	220,239	403,979	364,699
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	10,948	—	(171,661)	(160,713)	(47,585)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	10,948	—	(171,661)	(160,713)	(47,585)
Total funds brought forward	1,121,300	143,184	127,769	1,392,253	1,439,839
Total funds carried forward	1,132,248	143,184	(43,892)	1,231,540	1,392,254
Transfer between funds	—	(62,964)	62,964		
Total funds carried forward after transfer	1,132,248	80,220	19,072	1,231,540	1,392,254
Represented by					
Unrestricted					
General fund	1,132,248	—	—	1,132,248	1,121,300
Designated					
Music Fund	—	—	17,717	17,717	17,717
Property Improvements	—	—	—	—	108,696
Woodland Quiet Area	—	—	1,356	1,356	1,356
Restricted					
Agency collection	—	38	—	38	38
Church Fabric Fund	—	69,808	—	69,808	127,440
Fr W Hitchinson	—	—	—	—	115
Gospel Book Cover	—	373	—	373	373
Sanctuary Fund	—	—	—	—	5,218
Sunday School Fund	—	10,000	—	10,000	10,000
Total Funds Carried Forward	1,132,248	80,220	19,073	1,231,540	1,392,254

The notes form part of these financial statements

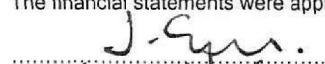
THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

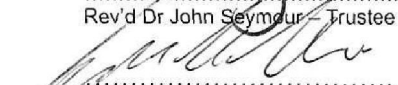
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

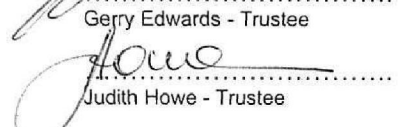
Balance sheet

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	1,178,316	1,178,816
	1,178,316	1,178,816
Current assets		
Debtors	24,360	1,060
Cash at bank and in hand	154,905	344,927
	179,265	345,987
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	5,898	1,668
Creditors < Amounts falling due in more than one year	120,143	130,882
	126,041	132,550
Net current assets less current liabilities	53,224	213,437
Total assets less current liabilities	1,231,540	1,392,253
Total net assets less liabilities	1,231,540	1,392,253
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
General fund	1,132,248	1,121,300
Designated		
Woodland Quiet Area	1,356	1,356
Music Fund	17,717	17,717
Property Improvements	—	108,696
Restricted		
Woodland Quiet Area	—	—
Gospel Book Cover	373	373
Church Fabric Fund	69,808	127,440
Fr W Hitchinson	—	115
Sanctuary Fund	—	5,218
Sunday School Fund	10,000	10,000
Agency collection	38	38
Funds of the church	1,231,540	1,392,253

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 29 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:


Rev'd Dr John Seymour - Trustee


Gerry Edwards - Trustee


Judith Howe - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities. The charity is taking advantage of Smaller Entities and being exempt in not producing Cash Flow Statement.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life at 25% straight line method.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. FUND RAISING EVENTS

	Income	Expenditure	Profit 2023	Profit 2022
	£	£	£	£
Supper Quiz ^a	1,053	650	403	581
May Fair	-	-	-	6,163
Harvest Lunch	366	197	169	114
Flower Festival ^a	2,225	569	1,656	-
Christmas Bazaar	3,142	559	2,583	1662
Summer fair	2,527	455	2,072	
Total	<u>9,313</u>	<u>2,430</u>	<u>6,883</u>	<u>8,520</u>

Note: ^a – under INCOME, allocated to 'Fundraising Activities Heat and Light'

3.

INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Farthings Close Lettings	18,855	18,155
Interest on bank deposits	<u>3,148</u>	<u>4,199</u>
	<u>22,003</u>	<u>22,354</u>

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

4. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Property repairs	-	-

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year-ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year-ended 31 December 2022.

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	1,175,754	9,061	1,184,815
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2023	-	5,999	5,999
Charge for year	-	500	500
At 31 December 2023	-	6,499	6,499
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	1,175,754	2,562	1,178,316
At 31 December 2022	1,175,754	3,562	1,179,316

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	24,360 ^b	1,060

Note^b – Debtors include: Outstanding Gift Aid £18,091, Prepayment of insurance £5,487

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	5,898	1,668
	5,898	1,668

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

9. Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
Woodland Quiet Area						
Designated	1,356	—	—	—	—	1,356
Sub-total for Woodland	1,356	—	—	—	—	1,356
Book - Gospel Book Cover						
Restricted	373	—	—	—	—	373
Sub-total for Book	373	—	—	—	—	373
Fabric - Church Fabric Fund						
Restricted	127,440	—	—	(57,632)	—	69,808
Sub-total for Fabric	127,440	—	—	(57,632)	—	69,808
Hitch - Fr W Hutchinson						
Restricted	115	—	—	(115)	—	—
Sub-total for Hitch	115	—	—	(115)	—	—
Music - Music Fund						
Designated	17,717	—	—	—	—	17,717
Sub-total for Music	17,717	—	—	—	—	17,717
Property - Property Improvement						
Designated	108,696	48,578	(157,274)	—	—	—
Sub-total for Property	108,696	48,578	(157,274)	—	—	—
Sanctuary - Sanctuary Fund						
Restricted	5,218	—	—	(5,218)	—	—
Sub-total for Sanctuary	5,218	—	—	(5,218)	—	—
Youth - Sunday School Fund						
Restricted	10,000	—	—	—	—	10,000
Sub-total for Youth	10,000	—	—	—	—	10,000
Agency Collection *						
Restricted	38	—	—	—	—	38
Sub-total for Agency Collection	38	—	—	—	—	38
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	1,121,300	10,948	—	—	—	1,132,248
Sub-total for General	1,121,300	10,948	—	—	—	1,132,248
Grand total	1,392,253	59,526	(157,274)	(62,965)	—	1,231,540

* - Agency Collection of £38.00 are the fees payable to Diocese for weddings/funerals

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

Analysis of income and expenditure

						Total
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
INCOME						
Incoming resources from generated funds - Voluntary income						
Stewardship - Bank	42,764	—	—	—	42,764	46,501
Parish Giving Scheme	25,739	—	—	—	25,739	19,283
Envelopes C/S	1,670	—	—	—	1,670	6,159
Loose plate collections	2,893	—	—	—	2,893	2,194
I Zettle Donations	—	—	—	—	—	—
Giving through church boxes	68	—	—	—	68	34
Appeals	894	—	—	—	894	463
Donations	2,479	—	—	—	2,479	4,394
Donations Light & Heat Project	—	48,578	—	—	48,578	63,178
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	25,211	—	—	—	25,211	18,899
Tax recovered Parish Giving Scheme	2,696	—	—	—	2,696	4,778
Legacies	2,856	—	—	—	2,856	42,664
Covid-19 Income	—	—	—	—	—	43
Scouts	48	—	—	—	48	—
Flower Festival	2,225	—	—	—	2,225	—
Sum Up Receipts	699	—	—	—	699	—
Other Income	4,155	—	—	—	4,155	17,273
Total	114,397	48,578	—	—	162,975	225,863
Incoming resources from generated funds - Activities for generating funds						
Fund Raising Events	—	—	—	—	—	9,810
Fundraising Activities Light & Heat Fund	6,035	—	—	—	6,035	4,992
Bookstall sales	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church hall lettings	47,139	—	—	—	47,139	49,595
Total	53,174	—	—	—	53,174	64,397
Incoming resources from generated funds - Investment income						
Bank and building society interest	3,148	—	—	—	3,148	4,198
Rent from investment property	18,855	—	—	—	18,855	18,155
Total	22,003	—	—	—	22,003	22,353
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Fees for weddings and funerals	4,556	—	—	—	4,556	3,980
Memorial book	50	—	—	—	50	—
Bookstall sales	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4,606	—	—	—	4,606	3,980
Other incoming resources						
Insurance claims	250	—	—	—	250	—
4 th Age	259	—	—	—	259	521
Sequestration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	509	—	—	—	509	521
INCOME TOTAL	194,689	48,578	—	—	243,267	317,114

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LAWRENCE

ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 December 2023

EXPENDITURE

Cost of generating funds

Wedding/Funeral Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	(28)
Hall refund Deposit	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rental Property Costs	6,423	—	—	—	6,423	3,236
4th Age	650	—	—	—	650	340
Flower Festival	569	—	—	—	569	—
Total	7,642	—	—	—	7,642	3,548

Cost of generating funds - Cost of generating voluntary income

Costs of fetes & other events	1,211	—	—	—	1,211	1,291
Total	1,211	—	—	—	1,211	1,291

Cost of generating funds - Investment management costs

Bank Charges	239	—	—	—	239	364
Total	239	—	—	—	239	364

Charitable activities

Relief and development agencies	18	—	—	—	18	216
Appeals	963	—	—	—	963	463
Secular charities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parish Administrator Salary	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vicar expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assistant Vicar expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vicarage expenses – interregnum	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vicar's telephone	1,160	—	—	—	1,160	1,196
Junior Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parish training and mission	—	—	—	—	—	125
Hospitality	659	—	—	—	659	429
Church office - telephone	—	—	—	—	—	105
Organ / piano tuning	1,200	—	—	—	1,200	415
Church maintenance	41	—	—	—	41	43
Organist	1,985	—	—	—	1,985	—
Church Cleaning	—	—	—	—	—	(1,146)
Upkeep of services	545	—	—	—	545	1,103
Upkeep of churchyard	15	—	—	—	15	94
Administration	3,038	—	—	—	3,038	2,940
Administrators Salary	16,214	—	—	—	16,214	11,360
Other Expenses	3,191	—	—	—	3,191	6,566
Depreciation	500	—	—	—	500	500
Magazine expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bookstall costs	—	—	—	—	—	119
Free for All	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parish Outings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bookstall costs	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hall Refuse	121	—	—	—	121	131
Cleaning	9,489	—	—	—	9,489	8,499
Consumables	847	—	—	—	847	356
Electricity	6,244	—	—	—	6,244	3,206
Gas	14,044	—	—	—	14,044	4,157
Insurance	4,369	—	—	—	4,369	5,408
Repairs and maintenance	8,025	—	—	—	8,025	9,480

Office Telephone	923	—	—	—	923	879
Water	—	—	—	—	—	1,563
Hall running - heating and lighting	493	—	—	—	493	891
Accounts Independent Exam Fee	1,322	—	—	—	1,322	1,140
Car Park Resurfacing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church major repairs - installation	—	220,239	—	—	220,239	211,465
Hall + interior and exterior decorating	—	—	—	—	—	9
Other PCC property upkeep	—	—	—	—	—	489
Hall + major repairs - installation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal expenses Scout hut	504	—	—	—	504	—
New building Church	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	75,910	220,239	—	—	296,148	272,201
Governance costs						
Common Fund	87,775	—	—	—	87,775	85,200
School Mission Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—
PAYE and Pension	450	—	—	—	450	406
Quarterly Returns to Diocese	1,974	—	—	—	1,974	1,689
Loan Interest	8,540	—	—	—	8,540	—
Accounts Independent Examination Fee	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	98,739	—	—	—	98,739	87,295
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	183,741	220,239	—	—	403,980	364,699
GRAND TOTAL	10,948	(171,661)	—	—	(160,713)	(47,585)