THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWERBY BRIDGE

England & Wales · Charity number 1131180

Details

Other names	CHRIST CHURCH PCC,SOWERBY BRIDGE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-08-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Vicarage 62 Park Road Sowerby Bridge HX6 2BJ
Phone	07378517835
Email	info@christchurchsb.org.uk
Website	www.christchurchsb.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Regular public worship open to all.Provision of sacred space for personal prayer & contemplation.Pastoral work including visiting the sick & bereaved.Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses, schools & small groups.Supporting other charities in the UK & overseas.Providing family and children's activities for community.Building available for community activities

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£42,090	£37,145	-	-
2023-12-31	£35,992	£42,829	-	-
2022-12-31	£66,581	£39,305	-	-
2021-12-31	£38,310	£41,209	-	-
2020-12-31	£48,606	£39,921	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Tommy Daglish	Chair	2023-09-01
Alyssa Allison Hargreaves		2025-05-04
Angela Wilkins		2019-04-28
Anthea Lesley Gee		2015-04-25
Catherine Ann Wallace		2025-05-04
DAVID GILL		2011-07-29
Graham Lamb		2015-04-26
Helen Mary Pedley		2014-04-06
Janet Turner		2019-04-28
PAUL HEALEY		
Peter James Henry		2015-04-24
Sarah Helen Towler		2023-04-23

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWER

England & Wales - Charity number 1131180

Accounts

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2024

Parish Carol Service, 19 December 2024

Registered Charity Number 1131180

2024 Annual Report

Aim and Purposes

The PCC of Christ Church has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Sowerby Bridge. This includes pastoral care, social engagement with the community, and ecumenical working with Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge. We work closely with and provide foundation governors to Christ Church (VA) Junior School on Park Road, Sowerby Bridge. Pupils receive an education promoting Christian values, based on Christian principles and on the Anglican foundation of the school.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission promotes living out our faith as part of our parish community. We are:

Ordinary people sharing God's love in our world.

Growing in faith; Living by prayer; Loving God's word.

Our values are: **To be Living, Loving, Learning and Confident, Growing, Changing**

To facilitate this work it is important that the PCC maintain the fabric of Christ Church, our Grade 2 listed building for which we are responsible. This has historic significance and is a prominent feature in the conservation area, at the centre of Sowerby Bridge. We co-operate with Calderdale Council to maintain our closed graveyard, contributing a regular Gardening Group of volunteers from both church and community to make a green oasis for the community to enjoy.

Vicar's Report

Our weekly attendance numbers are healthy and continue to grow slowly. Using I Know for some statistics in January 2022 our average attendance on a Sunday was 25, it went down to 20 in 2023, then up to 41 in 2024 and 46 in 2025. Likewise in February 2022 we were at 25, this year it's 37. March in 2022 was 46 now it's 51 and April was 33 in 2022 & is now 50.

Despite my CV wanting to claim this victory, like many things it is not down to the Vicar. It is down to you, and in two significant ways. Firstly, quite frankly by turning up, this is not a joke either. Life presents us challenges, and turning up anywhere can be difficult. I know many of you have to make tremendous effort to come here. For some it is hard most weeks, for other I don't yet know your story or the challenges that you face. But to all of you I am incredibly grateful and you make the Church what it is.

Secondly it is down to you by you telling other people, the studies I have read all point to the fact that word of mouth is still the best way to get people into Church. Imagine if each of us could bring one person to Church next year.

Invite people not just to Sundays, but Tuesdays, Bible Studies or Messy Church. Attendance at all of these remain strong. Each has its own congregation and these numbers like those on a

Sunday flux. Tuesdays I try to make slower and reflective, although I naturally talk fast. At Bible study we work through a book over several weeks and share our own reflection on them, why not give it a try if you have not already?

Going forward I want us to hold more services at feasts, next Easter we will continue to hold services with St Peter's and St Paul's, but we will also hold services here. We need to keep our eyes on the cross, on why we are here.

Engagement

We continue to work closely with Tuel Lane and Christ Church School and occasionally with Bolton Brow. I do assemblies at Tuel Lane every Tuesday and Anthea and I do assemblies at Christ Church every Wednesday. These are always fun and the children bring a great perspective on familiar stories. At Bolton Brow we do assemblies at Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Day and at the Anniversary of the Bolton Brow disaster. I do talk to the head there often and when doing out reach it is important to remember what we are all part of a web of relationships. So, going to school does not just allow us to share our faith with children, but help build links with parents, families and the community. We all want to find a way to connect with people and schools offer the best way to do that. We are there for the teachers when they need support, and they too help us to create further links.

We maintain strong links with Memory Lane and Happy Days and have now developed links with Citizens Advice with people being referred to us for support. St Peter's also inform us of problems in our local community and the struggles facing people. Make no mistake times are hard for a lot of people and trauma and poverty are inherited.

Building

You will have noticed new LED lights outside and we are also doing repairs to the handrail and fence. I know that these changes can be difficult for people, and I want to assure you that we are considerate of maintaining the character of the building and it's dialogue with the Diocese. They are the landlords and we are the tenants after all. I also ask you to think of all the changes that have been made to the building over the years. The vestry moving, pews been taken out etc. These are now part of the look of the Church and part of its history. We are joining in that history and we make changes not just for us but for future congregations.

Thank You

There are lots of people I need to thank and this could go on and on. To summarise , Thank you to our churchwardens, and all members of our PCC in governance and financial roles. Thank you to those who help with our work in schools and Messy Church. Passing our faith on is not only valuable but part of our discipleship, so thank you everyone who works so hard to do this. Thank you to those who lead our worship in church and "on line "with skills and technical gifts. Thank you to our fundraising and community events team, and everyone who helps with hospitality. Tea and coffee are a key part of the Church experience. Finally to Donna, Tabitha and Mia who are always there to support me – thank you. **Revd Tommy Daglish**

Achievements and Performance 2024

Growing in Faith – through worship and prayer

At the annual meeting in 2024 our Electoral Roll stood at 51 people. The percentage of members living within the parish is unchanged at 39%. We continue to provide our "Live Streaming" service to housebound members to view via our You Tube channel. Our WhatsApp Prayer and Support group continues to be a way of sharing news and keeping in touch.

We continue to provide an "All age service" for families and anyone new to church. On other Sundays our Junior Church follow the same Bible passages, but use more active and creative ways to learn about God, before joining us for communion and setting us all the 'challenge for the week' ahead. They also participate as acolytes, in the procession. Numbers grew (up to 12 on some weeks), and some of our older children have now matured to enjoy the main service. After many years of leading Sunday School our main leader felt the time was right to pass on the baton, and when two new leaders answered our prayers in stepping forward, a smooth handover was made at Christmas.

We started our monthly "Messy Church" in May. Parents and children come straight from school to share a snack and learn more about God through Bible stories, activities, and action songs. To finish we all share a buffet or similar meal giving parents a break from having to cook tea for one day through the month. Messy Church is not just for the children but for the adults to chat and make friends too, as some don't get out a lot to meet other people.

A weekly Bible Study group now meets

During 2024 for the community, we have:

- Baptised 4 adults and 7 children, welcoming them into our church;
- Married 4 couples;
- Rev Tommy has conducted 3 funerals in the crematorium or at the graveside.

Our Mothers Union continue to meet regularly and support the local hospital with emergency toiletry bags, and knitted garments for the premature baby unit. This year they have also added knitted "fiddle toys" for the Dementia Hub at Age UK, and knitted toys and blankets for our baptism families. They led the Mary Sumner Day service, showing a video of what MU does, and two new members were enrolled during the year.

Sharing God's love in our world, our parish and our community

Deanery Synod representatives have reported back on their 3 meetings with news from the Diocese and Deanery. The first was when each parish brought examples of resources illustrating their good practice. This led us to putting in place a welcome pack for new children starting school at Tuel Lane Infants. During discussions possible areas of training

were identified, and these were followed up at the next session when Revd Helen Collings (Lay Training) attended to shared information on various training sessions that the Diocese were running. The other initiative discussed was the new "Trinity Church", located at Trinity Academy, Halifax, and organised by their Chaplain. Pupils can attend the "after school" Trinity Church, and numbers are growing but they are hoping for more. When Clergy attended this had a significant impact and children felt able to drop in for conversation even if they didn't stay each week. The final meeting discussed how we could work together as a Deanery to make a bigger impact and witness. Suggested areas were at Halifax Charity Gala, Halifax Show, Calderdale Pride, and also that more churches could join in Eco Church.

PCC continue to provide all our year 6 leavers from Christ Church CE (VA) Junior School, with a gift of a cross together with the "Moving On" booklet from Scripture Union to help their transition to secondary education. PCC also continue to donate monthly to the work of CICS, contributing towards a schools worker's salary to reach the 95% of children not in contact with any church.

Parish and Community Focus activity in 2024

A few months after Rev Tommy's arrival we started to trial several new activities, so this year has been one of seeing what worked well and ideas that didn't attract as much support.

Reaching out to groups and seasonal events

a) Children's events. We ran our KS2 visit for New Road School for the first time: one day for Yrs 5&6 and another for Yrs 3&4 which both children and teachers really enjoyed. Helen & Rev Tommy volunteered at the Footsteps event at Cragg Vale to see how the story of Rev Thomas Crowther might be adapted for Sowerby Bridge schools.

Our Brownies Unit celebrated its 100th Birthday in the autumn with a really exciting trip to an adventure centre in North Yorkshire, for all 28 girls. We then had a big Birthday Party where we invited many members from the past, plus local dignitaries. Brownies earned Skills for my Future and Be Well badges.

In Rainbows our numbers have stayed steady at around 15 which is a nice manageable number. The girls have worked through Express myself, and Know myself themes, and enjoyed some seed planting. Two of our young leaders will be moving on next year but we have planned a replacement leader to move from Brownies to help us.

2024 was a year of growth for the Girl Guide unit. In January there were six girls and by December we grew to 15 girls & two new leaders. We played getting to know you games and as some of the girls were new to Guiding, started looking at the Promise, Law and history of Girl guiding. In summer we looked at Water Safety including hiring the swimming pool, as one of our Young Leaders is a Lifeguard, and also how to light a match and start a fire safely. To end the year we had formed patrols and started work on the Reflect Skills builder badge.

b) Adult support for those lonely or isolated. Our Digital Café continues on Tuesdays and we believe it is now the only "drop in" session available locally. Knit and Natter group on Tuesday afternoon has made Easter Chicks, Penguin vests, and Christmas angels.

c) Support for those in food or fuel poverty. We continue to host a groceries collection point for Happy Days "Community supermarket" donations. These can also be used for those in immediate need, and we also signpost people to the weekly "Sunday Get Together" lunch at St Paul's.

d) Seasonal services. We "Lit up Christ Church with Love" for Mothering Sunday, and held another pancake party before Ash Wednesday. Christingle was another success, and this year our song group sang 4 choral pieces as part of the Parish Carol's by Candlelight. SB Snails sang carols around the Christmas tree, which was once again provided by Tommy Topsoil and the SB Development Board. For Remembrance we enhanced the poppy display to make it easier to put up and take down

e) Community events. Our monthly Family Film night has been our greatest success, with just a short break over summer. We have U rated family films: some old, (when Mary Poppins attracted many of our friends from Memory Lane), and new classics from Pixar & Disney. At Rushbearing we repeated our "Craft Fair" with more variety of local "makers" and the "Virtual" balloon race. A car treasure hunt and quiz was held. This year's Heritage Open day clashed with a wedding, so church couldn't be used. However we experimented with a QR code walking tour along Wharf Street instead.

Access

There has been no visible progress to make physical access into the building easier this year. We have continued to keep the paths swept and cleaned to avoid slips, trips and falls and have submitted a faculty application to make access around the interior of the church easier removing many of the steps and uneven levels. We hope to start fundraising once it is approved.

ECO Church, Carbon footprint & environment

A Rocha issued a completely revised ECO church questionnaire in 2025, which is more challenging so we will be looking for more volunteers to help us "Go for Gold".
Our Gardening Group have managed the churchyard during Plantlife's "No Mow May", by creating "zones" so that the frontage to Wharf St remained looking neat and tidy, whilst the east end was left to grow long and "wild". We also sowed a wild flower mix in the bed below the tower to the west which gave a beautiful display of poppies, and put up 3 bird boxes.

The Church of England continues to change its reporting process for carbon emissions every year. This year it has tightened up on what it considers a "green" energy source. Our electricity supply has met carbon net zero standards, but our gas supply no longer meets the more stringent criteria. Therefore in 2024 we an only claim to have offset 1% of all our carbon emissions and our total emissions have grown by 20%. This means our carbon footprint has increased and will continue to do so until we can either pay for premium Bio

Gas, or change our heating source to a combination of electric, heat pump or solar power. See the comparison below.

Total Parish Carbon Footprint

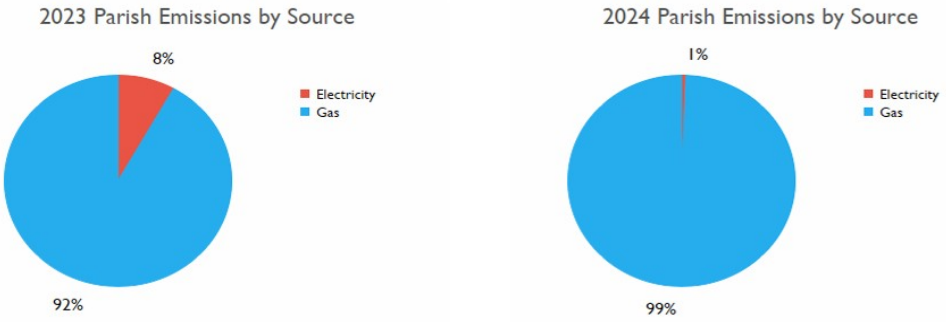
The carbon emissions calculated in this table only include buildings that have been reported through the EFT survey.

	This Year	Last Year
Gross CO_2 emissions (Tonnes) ?	15.4	12.7
Net CO_2 emissions (Tonnes) ?	14.7	1.7

If the figure here is not what you expected, this may be because you have been using a supplier that was previously listed as 'green', but that supplier is no longer on an updated list for 2025. Find out more here

Total Parish Emissions Data

The carbon emissions calculated in these charts only include buildings that have been reported through the EFT survey.



Maintaining Christ Church -a grade II listed building

We have consulted our inspecting architect regarding a few issues over the past year. This has included:

• Discussion on how to modify the staging at the front of the Church, and identification that some external stonework on the Church roof is loose and needs new mortar.

• The flooring in one of the toilets was repaired and the waste pipe from the toilets has been smoothed to improve the flow of waste when flushed. This requires more work.

Churchyard Work: Calderdale Council have responsibility for the Churchyard and have maintained it during the year with the help of the monthly gardening team. Risk assessments have been completed for the churchyard

• Fall pipes and soak aways have been maintained by the monthly gardening team to ensure rainwater is taken away from the building and does not incur any damage.

• We've initiated a scheme called "Adopt a Grave," where individuals maintain graves assigned by the Churchwardens to keep them tidy, helping our gardening team no end.

The Churchwardens assisted by members of the PCC and congregation ensure regular review of equipment and machinery within the church and the implementation of routine service requirements. In the last year this has included the organ, fire extinguishers, boilers and the Roof alarm. The motor powering the public clock on the tower was found to be beyond repair. Fundraising was started to pay for a replacement

Internal Matters

• A new purple altar frontal was purchased through donations in memory of two former members of our Mothers Union. We have also been donated coloured spot lights to illuminate the appearance of the main altar in the liturgical seasons.

• On 4 April 2024 we entered into a long term Hire Agreement of a fully supported Photocopier service for 65months. This enables us to design and print more of our own publicity and worship materials, such as A3 posters and information booklets.

Conclusions

In addition to the preparation and presentation of this report, the Wardens are also required to maintain a full terrier of all the lands belonging to the church and a full inventory of all the articles belonging to it, as well as a logbook noting all alterations, additions and repairs. Our current terrier and inventory was last updated in 2024 and is now computerised to assist with keeping these documents up to date. This was presented to the PCC for inspection. A hard copy is kept and can be made available for inspection by the PCC if required. To the best of our knowledge, the contents of these documents and this report is an up-to-date assessment of Christ Church and the churchyard. The Wardens would like to record their thanks to everyone who has given of their time freely, and who have unseen roles which are, nevertheless, vital to the smooth running of the Church.

Communication

2024 was a year of consolidation to our digital systems and offerings. We also did a significant amount of work on updating and modernising our website and messaging to the community. There were some major achievements and improvements in the reliability of hardware, lighting and microphones and an improved visitor experience of our website. All current software is either open source or used on a charitable basis, meaning no ongoing costs to the Church to continue to support the Church's ministry both in church and in the Digital Space. In software we provide dyslexic friendly font for ministers using the i-pad service stage view, and live caption system accessible by any connected device, even on guest broadband. All the achievements above, except where noted, were undertaken without additional funding and without direct cost to the Church.

Structure, governance and management

PCC have met 11 times during 2024 with a mixture of topics to discuss including: Reports on the fabric of Church, information on repairs and projects in hand; Safeguarding; Diocesan events; Community projects including support of local schools; seasonal services and much more. We receive financial information each month, including results of fundraising events and stewardship giving, which generally leads to discussion around Parish Share and our commitments. We manage to work through the hard items which are sometimes difficult yet also have a laugh. We look to support our community in Sowerby Bridge and bring God's love to all. Sometimes all that is needed is a smile and "Hi, how are you doing?", or a listening ear. Together we are a great team of dedicated people and if anyone would like to find out more about the workings of the Church of England and in particular Christ Church, please ask us.

Administrative information

Christ Church is situated on Wharf Street, Sowerby Bridge postcode HX6 2LW. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ, or via the website at www.christchurchsb.org.uk or info@christchurchsb.org.uk

Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/Christchurchsb

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and the method of appointment of its members is set out under these rules. We encourage everyone in Christ Church to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. At PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There are no paid employees but training costs and travel have been reimbursed and occasional office fees are paid at the Church of England annual rates e.g. at funerals, to church members, including members of PCC.

The PCC is also a charity registered with the Charities Commission, Registration number 1131180. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2024 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent	**Revd Tommy Daglish**		**Chairman**
Warden	**Peter Henry**	**re-elected 4 May 2025**	
Warden	**David Gill**	**re-elected 4 May 2025**	
Assistant warden	**Alyssa Hargreaves**	**elected 4 May 2025**	
Elected Members			
	Paul Healey	**re-elected 4 May 2025**	**Treasurer**
	Helen Pedley		**Vice chair, Data protection lead**
	Anthea Gee		**Secretary & Deanery Synod Rep**
	Angela Wilkins		**Deanery Synod Rep**
	Graham Lamb		
	Kevin Henry	**retired 4 May 2025**	
	Ian Ross	**resigned 25 March 2025**	
	Sarah Towler		
	Janet Turner		
	Catherine Wallace	**elected 4 May 2025**	

This summary review of the year's activities given to members at the APCM was approved by the PCC on the 8th July 2025.

It is to be read in conjunction with the attached financial review, notes and examined financial statements for 2024, approved on 27th March 2025.

Signed on their behalf by:

PCC Chairman

The PCC of Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

Financial Statements for year ending

31 December 2024

Christ Church

Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1821

Financial Review

Income, Activities and Growth

2024 saw Rev Tommy deepening connections with all 4 schools in the parish: visiting Christ Church and Tuel Lane every week throughout each term, and Bolton Brow and Trinity Grammar at least once a term. Our Sunday school has grown: now averaging 9 regular attenders, and our adult congregation is also slowly growing, now averaging 40. During Lent we had soup lunches to get to know each other better. We offer an All Age Service on the 1st Sunday in the month suitable for anyone new to church, and in April launched a monthly "Messy Church". We began regular bible studies and prayer walks around the parish. At Christ Church this year we conducted 13 baptisms, 4 weddings, and 2 funerals.

In the community we continue to provide our Tuesday Digital Café, Saturday Coffee morning, and Knit and Natter twice a month, with refreshments generating £750 this year. Our other fundraising has included a history talk, quiz nights, a treasure hunt, our virtual balloon race, which together with Rushbearing and Christmas Fair, raised £2,700. We continue to connect with the parish through social media, signposting information from other charities to highlight what help is available, and working with other churches and charities to benefit everyone in Sowerby Bridge. We are grateful to the Nathaniel Waterhouse Trusts who have given us a grant of £2,000 to support families in our schools and in the wider parish.

We remain reliant on, and very grateful to all our regular givers whose number increased this year to 26 "households". Having a reliable £1,500 per month enables us to budget and plan. We are grateful to everyone who supports us with ad hoc donations through our card reader, website, or in cash at our services and activities. Our free Family Film Night is still

very popular with families in the parish. During the year we received an unexpected legacy of £2,000, which was designated to our Buildings fund to build up our reserves. In January 2025 PCC met with the Diocesan Finance manager who gave help and information to launch a new Lenten stewardship review.

Expenditure

It remains our strategy that our church members' donations primarily pay our Parish Share whilst our community activities and donations generate funds to meet the building's running costs. In 2024 we sent £14,750 to the Diocese which was far higher than we have achieved for some time, increasing the percentage paid to 64.5% (2023 was 37%). For 2025 our Parish Share will increase by almost 7% to £24,442 and we will strive again to increase our payments. Our major expenditure is always insurance (over £6,000 for our grade II listed building) and utility bills which jumped significantly after being fixed for two years. This year in total they were over £5,000 mainly due to heating in the winter months. In summer the heating is switched off. These high overheads hamper our efforts to increase the amount of Share we can pay, and we seek grant funding more often to help with maintenance. The public clock, on our tower in the centre of the conservation area, stopped in October and we have launched a community fundraiser to help us replace the motor expected to cost £2,280. At the year end, we have raised almost 50%,including a Ward forum grant of £500. We make regular monthly donations totalling £300 p.a. to Christians in Calderdale Schools, and support their outreach work. This year we were able to replace the tattered purple altar frontal using restricted donations from two local families in memory of loved ones. PCC also donated £300 to the Church Mission Society collected by our members, and from our Christingle Service, £215 collected on behalf of The Childrens' Society. Individual members generously donated to CART at Harvest Festival and regularly bring items of food to the donations box we host for Happy Days our local "community supermarket" provider.

Summary

We remain thankful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. The PCC aim to increase the percentage paid year on year until we can meet the full total requested every year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended December 31st 2024, which are set out on the previous pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

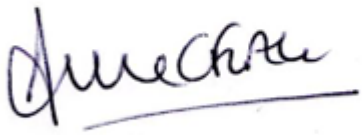
Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner
As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this Report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 Edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 I do not express and audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act: and to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

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



Anne Firth, 51 The Maltings, Mirfield, WF14 9PU

March 5th 2025

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge - 1131180

Statement of Financial Activities

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
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	31,285	30	4,447	—	35,763	30,558
Income from charitable activities	1,986	—	—	—	1,986	975
Other trading activities	3,888	—	—	—	3,888	4,178
Investments	—	—	452	—	452	280
Total income	**37,159**	**30**	**4,900**	**—**	**42,090**	**35,992**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	301	—	2	—	303	237
Expenditure on charitable activities	34,337	—	2,504	—	36,842	42,591
Total expenditure	**34,638**	**—**	**2,507**	**—**	**37,145**	**42,829**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**2,521**	**30**	**2,393**	**—**	**4,944**	**(6,836)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	2,000	8	—	2,008	701
Gross transfers between funds - out	(2,006)	—	(2)	—	(2,008)	(701)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	**515**	**2,030**	**2,399**	**—**	**4,944**	**(6,836)**
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	**3,064**	**3,725**	**25,727**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**
Total funds carried forward	**3,579**	**5,756**	**28,127**	**—**	**37,462**	**32,518**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	3,579	—	—	—	3,579	3,064
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	5,756	—	—	5,756	3,725
Restricted						
Building Grants -	—	—	2,655	—	2,655	2,655
Community Support grants	—	—	2,000	—	2,000	—
Flower Fund	—	—	317	—	317	241
Organ Repair Fund	—	—	20,733	—	20,733	20,280
Res Access	—	—	1,152	—	1,152	1,152
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	240	—	240	1,252
Small project fund £3k	—	—	1,027	—	1,027	142
Sound System	—	—	—	—	—	2

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge - 1131180

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Current assets			
	Z07: Cash on hand	—	50.00
	Z10: Barclays Current	3,294.59	3,392.66
	Z15: Barclays Bus Saver	34,118.31	29,075.48
	Z20: Vicars Discretionary Cash on hand	50.00	—
	Total Current assets	**37,462.90**	**32,518.14**
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	—	—
	Total Liabilities	**—**	**—**
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	**37,462.90**	**32,518.14**
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	4,944.76	(6,836.56)
	Z01: Starting balances	32,518.14	39,354.70
	Total Reserves	**37,462.90**	**32,518.14**

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	3,579.55	3,064.42
Designated	5,756.27	3,725.77
Restricted	28,127.08	25,727.95
Endowment	—	—
Total	**37,462.90**	**32,518.14**

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge - 1131180

Fund movement by type
Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances carried forward
Access							
Restricted	1,152	—	—	—	—	—	1,152
Sub-totals	**1,152**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,152**
Flowers							
Restricted	241	237	166	6	—	—	317
Sub-totals	**241**	**237**	**166**	**6**	**—**	**—**	**317**
Rep-organ							
Restricted	20,280	452	—	—	—	—	20,733
Sub-totals	**20,280**	**452**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**20,733**
ResMinry							
Restricted	1,252	135	1,149	2	—	—	240
Sub-totals	**1,252**	**135**	**1,149**	**2**	**—**	**—**	**240**
Small							
Restricted	142	2,075	1,190	—	—	—	1,027
Sub-totals	**142**	**2,075**	**1,190**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,027**
Sound							
Restricted	2	—	—	(2)	—	—	—
Sub-totals	**2**	**—**	**—**	**(2)**	**—**	**—**	**—**
General							
Unrestricted	3,064	37,159	34,638	(2,006)	—	—	3,579
Sub-totals	**3,064**	**37,159**	**34,638**	**(2,006)**	**—**	**—**	**3,579**
Resbuild							
Restricted	2,655	—	—	—	—	—	2,655
Sub-totals	**2,655**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**2,655**
CSH							
Restricted	—	2,000	—	—	—	—	2,000
Sub-totals	**—**	**2,000**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**2,000**
Fabric							
Designated	3,725	30	—	2,000	—	—	5,756

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Fund and type	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances carried forward
Sub-totals	**3,725**	**30**	**—**	**2,000**	**—**	**—**	**5,756**
Totals	**32,518**	**42,090**	**37,145**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**37,462**

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge - 1131180

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

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Gift Aid Bank	16,079	—	—	—	16,079	15,869
0105 - Gift Aid Envelopes	600	—	50	—	650	258
0201 - Other Planned giving	2,085	—	—	—	2,085	3,590
0301 - Sunday collections	1,599	—	—	—	1,599	1,151
0305 - Collections at special services	384	30	1,183	—	1,598	230
0401 - Special appeals	69	—	291	—	360	692
0501 - Donations by public	3,280	—	262	—	3,543	2,307
0503 - Voluntary Contributions to general expen	—	—	55	—	55	456
0601 - Gift aid income tax recovered	5,187	—	105	—	5,292	5,802
0701 - Legacies	2,000	—	—	—	2,000	—
0801 - Grants one off	—	—	2,500	—	2,500	200
Donations and legacies Totals	31,285	30	4,447	—	35,763	30,558
Income from charitable activities						
1101 - Fees retained by PCC	1,986	—	—	—	1,986	975
Income from charitable activities Totals	1,986	—	—	—	1,986	975
Other trading activities						
0901 - Fairs and events	2,714	—	—	—	2,714	3,107
0903 - Refreshments	774	—	—	—	774	866
0910 - Room hire and banner fees	390	—	—	—	390	205
0915 - Other sales	9	—	—	—	9	—
Other trading activities Totals	3,888	—	—	—	3,888	4,178
Investments						
1010 - Interest Received	—	—	452	—	452	280
Investments Totals	—	—	452	—	452	280
Income and endowments Grand totals	37,159	30	4,900	—	42,090	35,992
Expenditure						
Raising funds						
1701 - Costs of fundraising events	270	—	—	—	270	215
1703 - Costs of stewardship campaigns	30	—	2	—	32	21
Raising funds Totals	301	—	2	—	303	237
Expenditure on charitable activities						
1801 - Mission giving and donations	859	—	—	—	859	315
1901 - Diocesan Common Fund	14,750	—	—	—	14,750	11,000
2001 - Salaries wages and honoraria	652	—	—	—	652	1,004
2101 - Clergy expenses of office	—	—	—	—	—	85

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
2105 - PCC and visiting clergy	120	—	—	—	120	73
2110 - Vicarage expenses	—	—	—	—	—	842
2220 - Mission activity in parish	1,342	—	—	—	1,342	1,697
2301 - Insurance	5,751	—	—	—	5,751	5,418
2302 - Church telephone Wifi	500	—	—	—	500	448
2304 - Media -Website Noticeboards	276	—	—	—	276	860
2310 - Service supplies	746	—	2,504	—	3,251	596
2315 - Service music liturgy material	1,861	—	—	—	1,861	1,280
2320 - Admin print post stationery	15	—	—	—	15	178
2325 - Admin software & other	379	—	—	—	379	274
2350 - Church security health safety	1,759	—	—	—	1,759	2,044
2355 - Church maintenance interior	78	—	—	—	78	11,432
2360 - Church maintenance exterior	37	—	—	—	37	421
2401 - Utility gas	4,115	—	—	—	4,115	3,483
2405 - Utility electric	798	—	—	—	798	1,077
2410 - Utility water	174	—	—	—	174	48
2501 - Costs of Trading	117	—	—	—	117	8
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	34,337	—	2,504	—	36,842	42,591
Expenditure Grand totals	34,638	—	2,507	—	37,145	42,829

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the accounts 2024

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. The PCC does not consider that it has any fixed assets. Items purchased with grant funding and used to maintain the consecrated fabric of the church do not generate income and are used to provide activities to the community.

3. Funds. The PCC has no endowed funds. Restricted funds must be spent on the restricted purposes for which they were given or raised. The PCC tries to focus on one major ministry and one building project at a time, but has also introduced a fund for "Small projects" each less than £3k.

4. Restricted funds. As previous years' projects are completed, the funds associated with them are closed and new ones begun. In 2024 the Sound System fund was closed after permission to re-allocate the HMRC gift aid on donations to other funds was given by the original donors. The small project fund was used to repair the altar frontal during the year. It now holds donations to repair the clock motor. The Community Support fund holds the Nathaniel Waterhouse Trust grant of £2,000 to support families in need within our church school and the wider parish.

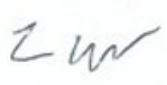
5. Reserves Policy. It is the PCC's policy to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure the church continues its activities, can smooth out fluctuations in cash flow to pay its suppliers on time, and can cover emergency situations which may arise. In the long term it is the PCC's hope to rebuild the total reserves to cover three months unrestricted payments (approx. £10,000) with £5,000 of this designated to maintaining the fabric of our listed building. Our Designated fund for the building fabric is reviewed annually as part of the reserves and for its ability to be match-funding towards grants needed for major works. These funds are accumulated transfers of unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future, to provide a reserve to draw upon should there be major repairs needed, and forms part of our continuity plan. They remain unrestricted and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

6. Arrears. The parish is ranked in the 17th percentile of most deprived parishes in England, and has a population of 6554, and very few of our congregation live within the parish. The 2024 calculation for parish share (£22,882) fell from previous years and this combined with more fundraising meant the percentage paid rose to 64%, whilst 2023 was only 37%. The amount added to existing arrears reduced considerably to £8,132. We are grateful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full, and this notional backlog is now £107,986, built up over 11 years. PCC hold an annual stewardship review . This year we will again be making payment of the parish share our priority and budgeting to raise the percentage paid even further, until we can pay it in full each year.

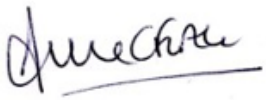
7. Commitments. The PCC has now completed its long term commitment, ending 24 March 2025.

Approved by the PCC on March 2nd 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Chair of PCC — Rev Tommy Daglish



Independent Examiner — Anne Firth,
51 The Maltings, Mirfield, WF14 9PU



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended December 31st 2024, which are set out on the previous pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and Examiner
As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this Report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 Edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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 I do not express and audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s41 of the Act: and to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations

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

Anne Firth, 51 The Maltings, Mirfield, WF14 9PU

March 5th 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWER

England & Wales - Charity number 1131180

Accounts

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2023

Christ Church

Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1821

Registered Charity Number 1131180

2023 Annual Report

Aim and Purposes

The PCC of Christ Church has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Sowerby Bridge. This includes pastoral care, social engagement with the community, and ecumenical working with Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge. We work closely with and provide foundation governors to Christ Church VA Junior School on Park Road, Sowerby Bridge. Pupils receive an education promoting Christian values, based on Christian principles and on the Anglican foundation of the school.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission promotes living out our faith as part of our parish community. We are:

Ordinary people sharing God's love in our world.

Growing in faith; Living by prayer; Loving God's word.

Our values are: **To be Living, Loving, Learning and Confident, Growing, Changing**

To facilitate this work it is important that the PCC maintain the fabric of Christ Church, our Grade 2 listed building for which we are responsible. This has historic significance and is a prominent feature in the conservation area, at the centre of Sowerby Bridge. We co-operate with Calderdale Council to maintain our closed graveyard, contributing a regular Gardening Group of volunteers from both church and community to make a green oasis for the community to enjoy.

In September 2023 we were delighted to welcome Revd Tommy Daglish and his family to Christ Church Sowerby Bridge, on the busiest weekend for our community: the 2 day Rushbearing Festival. They were welcomed by representatives of church, other churches, local schools, community groups and civic leaders.

Vicar's Report

This report only covers the period from September, but it was clear from the moment we arrived how much work had been done throughout the year. I want to start by saying "Thank you" to everyone who helped out during interregnum and who made my transition here so easy. Our family has been made to feel so welcome. I mentioned this to a few people but the day we moved here was difficult as we were leaving behind many friends, our Church and schools. The next day we went to Church (unannounced) and felt at home. People feel that sense of belonging when they come here, we must never take that for granted. I was going to thank individuals but worried I will miss someone out. We need to

keep that good working going as we move past interregnum and transition. Churches everywhere are faced with the choice of a vicious circle of decline or a virtuous cycle of growth. As we grow the work should become easier as the number of volunteers increase. I don't want going to Church to be a chore however, in fact quite the opposite: I want it to be a place where people feel alive. Jesus said I came so you may have life and have it more abundantly and that is what we want people to feel in Church.

It is important to know that we all have a calling. God has given us gifts and did not give us them for us to hide them. When I ask people about volunteering or leading I sometimes get the response – "it's not my place". But Church is your place! It is the place where the you that God made, should flourish. To do that, we need to be bold. Boldness and Church growth go together. I have many books littering my shelves about the secrets to Church growth but I think it's simple – tell people. Tell people you're going to Church, what we have on and more importantly about Jesus. When we came to Sowerby Bridge people recommended good places to eat (and even places to avoid). This was the best guide for us. The same is true for Church so here is the challenge. Tell one person a week about Church and/or Jesus and invite at least one person a month to come with you to a service. People are aware of the struggle and pain of life – a crucifixion mind-set. What we offer is a resurrection mind-set. We have something everyone needs and it's hard to find anywhere else but through faith – HOPE. So let people know that they are God's beloved, but also know it yourself.

There have been various groups started throughout the year. It has been impressive to see the "knit and natter" start so quickly and run so well, and seeing the Gardening club is great. The Bible study has brought out lots of interesting conversations and insight, and the growth of Movie Night has been amazing. I remember sitting in December watching Nativity with about 12 others thinking – this isn't going to work. All age has been really rewarding and is an easy service to invite people to. In February we had 41 adults and 16 children in Church. I hoped this was a glimpse in to the future but numbers continue to fluctuate. Numbers aren't the be all and end all, but it is so amazing to see the Church full.

We have welcomed new family into Church and followed them on their journey to Confirmation. New family is such a blessing to us and it is great to see people become a part of Church so quickly. Looking forward we are starting Messy Church in May and I am hoping to arrange a holiday club during the summer. I am also working with Trinity Academy Grammar to try and provide something for older children to attend. I want to increase visits to our congregation members who can't attend services and make sure people in hospital get regular visits. To do this we will need a team of people as my diary can get full some months more than others. It has been a real joy to visit the local primary schools and get to know the staff there. Everyone in the schools is working so hard and the Head Teachers at Christ Church and Bolton Brow are fantastic. I started weekly assemblies at Christ Church. The children really engage with the service and there is a genuine interest in the faith. I'm also a governor.

Financially I feel that things are going well and through a lot of hard work by you we have been able to pay off our sound system. We now need to find a way to make that investment make money for us. Money is an awkward thing to talk about but if we are to do God's work we need resources. Like the workload, we need the financial burden spread out otherwise it is the same people paying every time. To do this we need to seek help from our community. I want everyone in Sowerby Bridge to come to Church and be transformed, but I know realistically that is unlikely. However, I still want to serve everyone in our community. If we are asking people for donations, we need to make sure we are giving them their monies worth so movie night, kids club, knit and natter etc. all help. We are commanded to love our neighbour, and this is not meant to be a long distance relationship, but rather we are to journey alongside them and understand their needs.

Going forward I want us to think about Mary and Martha. I mentioned in the beginning about work, but we can never let that distract us from taking time to stop and listen. I will be starting a prayer group soon and there will be long periods of silence for you to stop, think and hear what God has put on your heart. It has been such a blessing as we have gotten to know each other that people have started telling me their stories. This is my favourite part of ministry and I hope this continues throughout the next year.

Revd Tommy Daglish

Achievements and Performance 2023

Growing in Faith – through worship and prayer

At the annual meeting in 2023 our Electoral Roll fell to 51: 8 new people were added and 5 were removed. The percentage of members living within the parish is unchanged and stands at 39%, and we continue to provide our "Live Streaming" service to housebound members to view via our You Tube channel. Our WhatsApp Prayer and Support group continues to be a way of sharing news and keeping in touch.

In November we launched our first "All age service" on the 1st Sunday in the month, for families and anyone new to church, which is now attracting more people including some from our local schools. As a result our Junior Church has grown to 13 regular attenders who teaching us new songs with actions. They work in two age groups to discuss the 3 'big' questions related to the reading, and share their artwork. They also set a weekly challenge for the whole congregation to follow.

During 2023 for the community, we have:

- Baptised 4 children welcoming them into our church;
- Married 2 couples;
- Held 3 funeral services in church. Other funerals at the crematorium were conducted by local clergy.

Our Mothers Union met 8 times for interesting discussions and during the year supported the local hospital with emergency toiletry bags, and knitted garments and blankets for the premature baby unit.

Sharing God's love in our world, our parish and our community

Deanery Synod representatives have reported back on their 3 meetings with news from the Diocese and Deanery. One of the major issues was the acceptance of "Prayers of Blessing" for people of same sex civil marriages. Also discussed was the cost of living crisis, with the feeling that the General Synod, by debating this and other subjects and by putting our voice to it, could send a message to the Government about major issues and encourage that the best possible action be taken. A session from Christians in Calderdale schools (CICS) was followed by the new chaplain at Trinity Academy Halifax. She outlined her future plans for pastoral work across the school staff and its 1600 children with staff prayers, church visits, closer ties with local charities, bible class, and student church within the school day. They also welcomed Bishop Smitha to address the meeting. At Christ Church we once again provided all our year 6 leavers from Christ Church CE VA Junior School, with a gift of a cross together with the "Moving On" booklet from Scripture Union to help their transition to secondary education. PCC continue to donate monthly to the work of CICS, contributing towards a schools worker's salary to reach the 95% of children not in contact with a church.

a) Children's events. We continue to host our local schools for their special services at Christmas, Easter and for Summer leavers service. In September we helped CICS by supplying one person to join a "faith panel" where students could question how they lived out their faith. The pupils then visited church to ask Revd Tommy about his role as a vicar.

Our Rainbow and Brownie groups continued to thrive and it was with great joy that on 17th April 2023 our Guiding group re-formed with four girls. Initially they met at the same time as Brownies working together whilst Captain got back up to speed with the programme and in September numbers grew to six. The joint Guides/ Brownies pack holiday at Waddow was a success and the girls enjoyed zip wire, giant inflatables and sang along at the campfire. It was also fully catered so no cooking and cleaning for leaders.
In the autumn Guides started work on the Natural Remedies badge learning about ingredients in cosmetics and toiletries. They also visited the local library, getting their first library card to check out a book and ended the year with Christmas crafts and a party.

b) Adults' support for those lonely, isolated or visiting the town. Our Digital Café continues to be popular each Tuesday and we believe it is now the only free "drop in" session available locally. We open for community coffee mornings every Saturday, and before Christmas expanded opportunities to meet with a fortnightly Knit and Natter group on Tuesday afternoons for those enjoying crafting. Many Christmas angels were created as gifts.

c) Support for those in food or fuel poverty In January we extended the hours of our two coffee mornings to become a "Warm Space". With the help of a grant from Community Foundation Calderdale we made the church warmer, draught free and welcoming with extra things to do and more hot drinks and snacks options. The most appreciated support came from families in need at the 3 primary schools in our parish. Requests for warm coats, shoes, laundry costs and emergency food used more than 50% of the total. We also signposted people to the weekly "Winter Warmer" free Sunday lunch, which even now is continuing all year round as the "Sunday Get Together". To help families with stretched budgets we launched our first "Family Film Night" completely free, with hotdogs and drinks for a full cinema experience.

d) Seasonal services We "Lit up Christ Church with Love" for Mothering Sunday, and held a pancake party before the solemnity of Ash Wednesday. Revd Tommy's installation took place the evening before Rushbearing and he received the rushes alongside Bishop Smitha who later returned to celebrate Harvest Festival with us breaking bread as a family with a home baked loaf. We also celebrated Creationtide, and God's generosity to us during Generosity Week and again giving donations of money and school materials to CART. In December we welcomed Mr Christingle who was very deflated upon arrival but after being filled with "balloons of joy" by all the people present, he left with his light shining to share to love of Jesus. All donations went towards the work of the Children's Society.

e) Community events We held several fun and fundraising events: Quiz night, History talk and repeating our "virtual" eco-friendly balloon race. For Rushbearing we hosted a "Craft Fair" with a variety of local "makers" and raised almost £1,200 towards the final Sound System

payment. A similar figure was raised at the Christmas Fair. Local traders on the main street asked for carol singing on the Saturday before Christmas and our song group handed out knitted Christmas angels to families passing and also received cash donations.

The Heritage Action Zone project is complete: Sowerby Bridge Fire and Water now provide creative activities from their renovated building and we still collaborate with them. For Heritage Open Day a local artist helped us mount an exhibition: "Creativity Unwrapped". She led a family junk modelling workshop, using domestic plastic waste to sculpt "sea creatures" and print greetings cards from bubble-wrap, highlighting the growing problem of plastic waste in our seas.

Improving our environment/appearance

Since 2017 we have been working through the Arocha Eco Church model. Having made improvements in the building in 2023 we focussed on community engagement and bio-diversity in the graveyard. We participated in Plantlife's "No Mow May", and entered the Great Yorkshire Churchyard Creature Count. This led to winning a Wildlife Gardening Award from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and we were finally awarded an Eco Church Silver Award in July 2023.

The gardening group have also worked hard to cut back encroaching turf and completely clear the path to the East Gate. This has removed much moss and also made it less uneven.

Our church's carbon emissions are shown in the table below. We remain in the lowest 10% of churches in the country for our annual total impact.

	2023	2022
Gross CO2 emissions (Tonnes)	13.6	13.7
Net CO2 emissions & percentile rank	1.8	1.8
No. of hours church is open each week (averaged across the whole year)	9	8

Maintaining Christ Church -a grade II listed building

The church wardens consulted our inspecting architect for advice on maintenance of the community room flooring and potential modification to the front of church during 2023. The two vestries were re-organised and flooring has been repainted. Minor repairs were made to the community room boiler and toilets. A full clean and declutter of the church was carried out in August 2023, when old inventories, service registers and PCC minutes were deposited within the West Yorkshire Archives at Wakefield. Risk assessments have been

carried out in the church and churchyard and regular testing and servicing or maintenance done on equipment.

Calderdale Council have responsibility for the Churchyard and have maintained it during the year with the help of the monthly gardening team. The wardens ensure fall pipes and soakaways are cleared to ensure rainwater does not incur any damage. Together Housing have removed and disposed of all brambles, self set trees and waste.

The terrier and inventory of assets has been updated so that it is an accurate and up-to-date assessment of Christ Church and the churchyard. The Wardens would like to record their thanks to everyone who has given of their time freely, those in unseen roles which are, nevertheless, vital to the smooth running of the Church. All this forms part of our work and witness to our community and beyond.

Communication

As more people use digital media, old ways of communicating are being updated so that we engage more effectively with our community. A full overhaul of our subscriptions and digital providers, including migrating to a network, was made possible by a Ward Forum grant and the IT skills of one of our members. This is largely unseen but saves us money, improves resilience, gives us clearer projection and has made it easier for the organist, vicar and other presenters to interact with the congregation. Our YouTube subscribers continue to increase with 2.3k views. Our Facebook "reach" was down on 2022, but "follows" have doubled, and "visits" during the year rocketed to over 6000.

Structure, governance and management

PCC have met 9 times during 2023 with a mixture of topics to discuss. These have included finances, Parish Share payments, sound system instalments, utility contracts, fund raising, and Eco Church. We thank Paul and Helen for their expertise in the financial field.

There have been two safeguarding concerns this year. Both have been correctly reported, contact was made with the diocese, advice was followed, and successfully concluded.

During the interregnum we held an away day where we worked together to produce a Parish Profile for a new Vicar. The day went really well and we were pleased with the final advertisement. Many members took on extra responsibilities during the interregnum and we thank them most sincerely for keeping the Church open and our congregation together. We all gave a sigh of relief mixed with excitement upon the appointment of Revd Tommy and his family. Under his leadership we continue to share God's love in our community.

Administrative information

Christ Church is situated on Wharf Street, Sowerby Bridge postcode HX6 2LW. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ, or via the website at www.christchurchsb.org.uk or info@christchurchsb.org.uk

Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/Christchurchsb

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and the method of appointment of its members is set out under these rules. We encourage everyone in Christ Church to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. At PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There are no paid employees but training costs and travel have been reimbursed and occasional office fees are paid at the Church of England annual rates e.g. at funerals, to church members, including members of PCC.

The PCC is also a charity registered with the Charities Commission, Registration number 1131180. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent	**Revd Tommy Daglish (installed 1 Sept 2023)**	**Chairman**
Wardens	**Peter Henry (re-elected 14 April 2024)**	
	David Gill (re-elected 14 April 2024)	
Elected Members		
	Paul Healey	**Treasurer**
	Helen Pedley (Acting Chair to 31 August 2023)	**Vice chair, Data protection lead**
	Anthea Gee	**Secretary & Deanery Synod Rep**
	Angela Wilkins	**Deanery Synod Rep**
	Graham Lamb	
	Kevin Henry	
	Ian Ross	
	Sarah Towler	
	Janet Turner (re-elected 14 April 2024)	
	Susan Sanderson (retired 14 April 2024)	

This summary review of the year's activities given to members at the APCM was approved by the PCC on the 17th June 2024.

It is to be read in conjunction with the attached financial review, notes and examined financial statements for 2023, approved on 27th March 2024.

Signed on their behalf by:

PCC Chairman

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2023

Christ Church

Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1821

Financial Review 2023

Income, Activities and Growth

2023 saw a new chapter in church history opening in January with a PCC away day to prayerfully prepare our Parish Profile and job advertisement for a new priest. With the help of our patron Hilary and Archdeacon Bill we were successful in attracting Rev Tommy Daglish and his family to the parish. Tommy was installed by Bishop Nick Baines as priest in charge on 1st September. We are extremely grateful to local and retired clergy and lay ministers who helped us continue our regular services during the 8 months of interregnum, particularly ministers officiating for services at the crematorium. At Christ Church this year we celebrated 4 baptisms, 2 weddings and 3 church family funerals.

From January the £1,900 cost of living grant awarded in 2023 helped us extend our opening hours for Digital Café and Coffee morning to be a designated "Warm Space" for anyone to use. The grant also funded meeting emergency needs for families in our local schools and this proved to be the main source of help requested. We had several requests to launder or buy new items of school uniform, travel costs and food because there was nothing left after paying for heating. From April, this pressure eased and we resumed our usual activities. We continue to connect with the parish through social media signposting information from other charities to highlight what help is available, and working with other churches and charities to benefit everyone in Sowerby Bridge.

Since Rev Tommy's arrival we have begun making new connections, particularly with our schools, and in meeting more school families. We now offer an All Age Service on the 1st Sunday in the month suitable for anyone new to church, and have just experimented with offering a free Family Film Night showing classic children's movies e.g. Paddington.

We remain reliant on and very grateful to all our regular stewardship givers: having a reliable £1,400 per month enables us to budget and plan. We are grateful to everyone who supports us with donations through our card reader, website or in cash at our services and activities. Our unrestricted giving held steady despite interregnum which was encouraging, and we raised over £3,000 through Rushbearing, Christmas fairs and refreshment donations to almost match last year's trading activities.

In February we will be launching a new stewardship review for church members with a strong focus on paying as much as we can towards the 2024 Parish share. We'll also introduce community activities to attract more people to visit and support church e.g. through a Knit and Natter group, quiz nights and special events.

Expenditure

The 2023 Diocesan Parish share request rose once again, this time to £29,349: an increase of 5.4%. We had thought we would not be able to match the amount we sent in 2022 towards the request. However, after paying the final instalment towards the Sound system £8,683, we concentrated on increasing our giving towards the parish share. In 2023 we sent £11,000 to the Diocese which was more in actual terms than 2022's payments but the percentage paid fell to 37%. At our APCM after waiting for previous regular members to return to church we removed those who no longer attend from our electoral roll and worshipping community. This fall in numbers and the application of the deprivation index has resulted in a lower request for 2024 to £22,882 (a fall of 22%) This is still stretching but a welcome re-setting of expectations. Our major expenditure is always insurance (over £5,400 for our grade II listed building) and utility bills. Despite fixing our rates in early 2022 we spent £4,560 on power, 75% being on gas in the winter months. These high

overheads hamper our efforts to increase the amount of share we can pay and we are seeking grant funding more often to help with maintenance, and pruning our budgets or seeking donations for activities. We have still not reinstated our regular monthly giving except for the usual £300 p.a. to Christians in Calderdale Schools, which helps fund their activities and pay their staff. We continue to host two special services to assist our individual members to generously donate. These are for CART at Harvest Festival and The Children's Society at Christingle.

Summary

The arrival of our new priest has given us confidence to try different activities and events, to lead our church into growth, and deeper engagement with the schools and organisations in the parish. It remains our strategy that our church members' donations will primarily pay our Parish Share whilst we will hold fundraising events and put on community activities to generate funds to meet the building's running costs. We remain thankful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. The PCC aim to increase the percentage paid year on year until we can meet the full total requested every year.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHRIST CHURCH SOWERBY BRIDGE, PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 10

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the Parochial Church Council are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The members 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 needed.

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 Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect,

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records

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

Signed:

Martin Macdonald FCA
Broad Head End
Cragg Vale
Hebden Bridge

Date 28 March 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:	£	£	£		£	£
Donations and legacies	27,386	78	3,093	—	30,558	60,233
Income from charitable activities	975	—	—	—	975	1,393
Other trading activities	2,112	—	2,066	—	4,178	4,949
Investments	—	—	280	—	280	5
Total income	**30,473**	**78**	**5,440**	**—**	**35,992**	**66,581**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	143	—	94	—	237	2,349
Expenditure on charitable activities	31,778	650	10,163	—	42,591	36,956
Total expenditure	**31,921**	**650**	**10,257**	**—**	**42,829**	**39,305**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**(1,447)**	**(571)**	**(4,817)**	**—**	**(6,836)**	**27,275**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	701	—	—	—	701	42,973
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	(701)	—	(701)	(42,973)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	**(746)**	**(571)**	**(5,518)**	**—**	**(6,836)**	**27,275**
Total funds brought forward	**3,810**	**4,297**	**31,246**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**
Total funds carried forward	**3,064**	**3,725**	**25,727**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	3,064	—	—	—	3,064	3,810
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	3,725	—	—	3,725	4,297
Restricted						
Building Grants -	—	—	2,655	—	2,655	4,655
Community Support grants	—	—	—	—	—	1,900
Flower Fund	—	—	241	—	241	175
Organ Repair Fund	—	—	20,280	—	20,280	20,000
Res Access	—	—	1,152	—	1,152	1,102
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	1,252	—	1,252	1,267
Small project fund £3k	—	—	142	—	142	651
Sound System	—	—	2	—	2	1,495

Balance sheet

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
	£	£	£		£	£
Current assets						
Cash at bank and in hand	3,066	3,725	25,725	—	32,518	39,572
	3,066	**3,725**	**25,725**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,572**
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	0	—	0	—	—	218
	0	**—**	**0**	**—**	**—**	**218**
Net current assets less current liabilities	**3,065**	**3,725**	**25,726**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**
Total assets less current liabilities	**3,065**	**3,725**	**25,726**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**
Total net assets less liabilities	**3,065**	**3,725**	**25,726**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	3,064	—	—	—	3,064	3,810
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	3,725	—	—	3,725	4,297
Restricted						
Res Access	—	—	1,152	—	1,152	1,102
Flower Fund	—	—	241	—	241	175
Organ Repair Fund	—	—	20,280	—	20,280	20,000
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	1,252	—	1,252	1,267
Small project fund £3k	—	—	142	—	142	651
Sound System	—	—	2	—	2	1,495
Building Grants -	—	—	2,655	—	2,655	4,655
Community Support grants	—	—	—	—	—	1,900
Funds of the church	**3,064**	**3,725**	**25,727**	**—**	**32,518**	**39,354**

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Journals	Closing
Access - Res Access							
Restricted	1,102	50	—	—	—	—	1,152
Sub-total for Access	**1,102**	**50**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,152**
Flowers - Flower Fund							
Restricted	175	265	198	—	—	—	241
Sub-total for Flowers	**175**	**265**	**198**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**241**
Rep-organ - Organ Repair Fund							
Restricted	20,000	280	—	—	—	—	20,280
Sub-total for Rep-organ	**20,000**	**280**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**20,280**
ResMinry - Resourcing Ministry							
Restricted	1,267	415	430	—	—	—	1,252
Sub-total for ResMinry	**1,267**	**415**	**430**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,252**
Small - Small project fund £							
Restricted	651	41	550	—	—	—	142
Sub-total for Small	**651**	**41**	**550**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**142**
Sound - Sound System							
Restricted	1,495	4,387	5,880	—	—	—	2
Sub-total for Sound	**1,495**	**4,387**	**5,880**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**2**
General - General fund							
Unrestricted	3,810	30,473	31,921	701	—	—	3,064
Sub-total for General	**3,810**	**30,473**	**31,921**	**701**	**—**	**—**	**3,064**
Resbuild - Building Grants -							
Restricted	4,655	—	2,000	—	—	—	2,655
Sub-total for Resbuild	**4,655**	**—**	**2,000**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**2,655**
BDF - Bishop Development F							
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for BDF	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**
CSH - Community Support gr							
Restricted	1,900	—	1,198	(701)	—	—	—
Sub-total for CSH	**1,900**	**—**	**1,198**	**(701)**	**—**	**—**	**—**
Fabric - Building Reserves							
Designated	4,297	78	650	—	—	—	3,725
Sub-total for Fabric	**4,297**	**78**	**650**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**3,725**
Grand total	**39,354**	**35,992**	**42,829**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**32,518**

Analysis of income and expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies						
Gift Aid Bank	15,398	—	471	—	15,869	17,037
Gift Aid Envelopes	258	—	—	—	258	1,980
Other Planned giving	3,590	—	—	—	3,590	2,455
Sunday collections	1,151	—	—	—	1,151	2,229
Collections at special services	186	—	43	—	230	1,458
Special appeals	—	66	626	—	692	20,426
Donations by public	1,534	5	768	—	2,307	2,356
Voluntary Contributions to gen. costs	432	—	24	—	456	216
Gift aid income tax recovered	4,836	7	959	—	5,802	5,405
Grants one off	—	—	200	—	200	6,668
Total	27,386	78	3,093	—	30,558	60,233
Income from charitable activities						
Fees retained by PCC	975	—	—	—	975	1,393
Total	975	—	—	—	975	1,393
Other trading activities						
Fairs and events	1,041	—	2,066	—	3,107	3,678
Refreshments	866	—	—	—	866	666
Room hire and banner fees	205	—	—	—	205	295
Other sales	—	—	—	—	—	309
Total	2,112	—	2,066	—	4,178	4,949
Investments						
Interest Received	—	—	280	—	280	5
Total	—	—	280	—	280	5
INCOME TOTAL	30,473	78	5,440	—	35,992	66,581
EXPENDITURE						
Raising funds						
Costs of fundraising events	121	—	94	—	215	2,319
Costs of stewardship campaigns	21	—	0	—	21	29
Total	143	—	94	—	237	2,349
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Mission giving and donations	315	—	—	—	315	300
Diocesan Common Fund	11,000	—	—	—	11,000	10,836
Salaries wages and honoraria	1,004	—	—	—	1,004	372
Clergy expenses of office	85	—	—	—	85	414
PCC and visiting clergy	73	—	—	—	73	275
Vicarage expenses	842	—	—	—	842	154
Mission activity in parish	483	—	1,214	—	1,697	703
Insurance	5,418	—	—	—	5,418	5,086
Church telephone Wifi	448	—	—	—	448	402
Media -Website Noticeboards	330	—	530	—	860	926
Service supplies	282	—	313	—	596	768
Service music liturgy material	1,030	—	250	—	1,280	1,664
Admin print post stationery	178	—	—	—	178	52
Admin software & other	274	—	—	—	274	427
Church security health safety	2,044	—	—	—	2,044	1,328
Church maintenance interior	2,976	650	7,806	—	11,432	9,671
Church maintenance exterior	421	—	—	—	421	80
Utility gas	3,435	—	48	—	3,483	2,474
Utility electric	1,077	—	—	—	1,077	842
Utility water	48	—	—	—	48	64
Costs of Trading	8	—	—	—	8	108
Total	31,778	650	10,163	—	42,591	36,956
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	31,921	650	10,257	—	42,829	39,305
GRAND TOTAL	(1,447)	(571)	(4,817)	—	(6,836)	27,275

Notes to the accounts 2023

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. The PCC does not consider that it has any fixed assets. Items purchased with grant funding and used to maintain the consecrated fabric of the church do not generate income and are used to provide activities to the community.

3. Funds -The PCC has no endowed funds. Restricted funds must be spent on the restricted purposes for which they were given or raised. The PCC tries to focus on one major ministry and one building project at a time, but has also introduced a fund for "Small projects" each less than £3k.

- As previous years' projects are completed, the restricted funds associated with them are closed and new ones begun. In 2023 the Community Foundation for Calderdale (CFFC) Fund for the 2022/23 Winter Support project was closed. The Sound System fund remains open after the final bill was paid as gift aid on donations to it had not yet been received from HMRC. Once the gift aid is received, we will contact the individuals involved as to their wishes for its use.

- Designated funds are accumulated transfers of unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. The designated building fund represents accumulated transfer of unrestricted funds to provide a reserve to draw upon should there be major repairs needed, and forms part of our continuity plan. They remain unrestricted and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

4. Arrears –The 2023 request for parish share (£29,349) could not be met in full, and £18,349 was added to our arrears. We had alerted the Diocese that we were unlikely to exceed last year's payment due to meeting the final payments for the Sound System. In the event we did match it, but the percentage paid fell to only 37%, (last year 39%). We are grateful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. The notional backlog is now £99,854 built up over 11 years.

- The Diocese of Leeds Parish Share formula is based on the allocation of cost for clergy, and then adjusted for church attendance and social deprivation in the parish. Our parish share varies each year depending on significant changes in these three drivers. For 2024 the new share calculation has fallen by 22% to a far more manageable request of £22,882. PCC are launching a stewardship review and funding campaign in Lent 2024, with increased priority and new vigour. It is our long term intention that we are able to pay our annual Parish Share each year in full.

5. Analysis of Income and expenditure -Clergy expenses may include a small proportion relating to their function as a PCC member.

6. Commitments – The PCC has now completed the payment schedule for the sound system in full, and now has only one remaining commitment extending beyond a 12 month period.

   On 24 March 2022 PCC entered into a new "Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement", with its insurers Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC, giving a discount of 10% and expiring on 24 March 2025. The current basic annual payment including discount & insurance premium tax for the 12 months until 25 March 2025 is £5,713, an increase of 4% over 2022's cost.

7. **Reserves Policy** - It is the PCC's policy to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure the church continues its activities, can smooth out fluctuations in cash flow to pay its suppliers on time, and can cover emergency situations which may arise. In the long term it is the PCC's hope to rebuild the total reserves to cover three months unrestricted payments (approx. £10,000) with £5,000 of this designated to maintaining the fabric of our listed building. This designated fund is reviewed annually as part of the reserves and for its ability to be match-funding towards grants needed for major works.

Approved by the PCC on 28th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Chair of PCC Revd Tommy Daglish .....

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHRIST CHURCH SOWERBY BRIDGE, PAROCIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 10

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the Parochial Church Council are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The members 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 needed.

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 Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect,

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records

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

Signed:

Martin Macdonald FCA
Broad Head End
Cragg Vale
Hebden Bridge

Date 28 March 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWER

England & Wales - Charity number 1131180

Accounts

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2022

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee –Artwork from our Junior School

Christ Church

Serving Sowerby Bridge since 1821

Registered Charity Number 1131180

2022 Annual Report

Aim and Purposes
The PCC of Christ Church has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Sowerby Bridge. This includes pastoral care, social engagement with the community, and ecumenical working with Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge. We work closely with and provide foundation governors to Christ Church VA Junior School on Park Road, Sowerby Bridge. Pupils receive an education promoting Christian values, based on Christian principles and on the Anglican foundation of the school.

In September 2022 our vicar Rev Canon Angela Dick retired and we are now in Interregnum. During this time the PCC have decided to retain the same mission and values for the coming months. Meanwhile we are reflecting on the needs of the parish to prepare our parish profile and brochure in early 2023, ready for a new appointment to be made.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission promotes living out our faith as part of our parish community. We are:

Ordinary people sharing God's love in our world.

Growing in faith; Living by prayer; Loving God's word.

Our values are: **To be Living, Loving, Learning and Confident, Growing, Changing**

To facilitate this work it is important that the PCC maintain the fabric of Christ Church, our Grade 2 listed building for which we are responsible. This has historic significance and is a prominent feature in the conservation area, at the centre of Sowerby Bridge. We co-operate with Calderdale Council to maintain our closed graveyard, contributing a regular Gardening Group of volunteers from both church and community to make a green oasis for the community to enjoy.

Acting Chair of PCC's Remarks (April 2023)

Rev Canon Angela, like all vicars, try to leave their parish in a better state than when they came, and I'm sure we all agree that Angela did a great job. We need to say a huge "Thank you" for her 12 year ministry amongst us. Now it's the PCC who are left holding the fort… or rather "the church" together.

We now know how the apostles felt immediately after the Ascension, when Jesus was no longer there and they were told to wait for someone called "the Paraclete" or "Advocate." Whilst we wait, we are relying on our Archdeacon, Bill, who is advocating for us in the appointment process, and Rev Hilary at the Minster who is encouraging us, and praying for us daily until a new appointment is made.

We will not find another Angela: nor should we try, but one thing I'd like to continue is her "word of the year". I think whilst we are in Interregnum we should choose the word **"Together"** and copy the pattern of discipleship reaching down through the ages. Today, we are going to elect or re-elect people to our church's various roles: our PCC members, Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Reps and those folk willing to be sidespeople. Then there are the many volunteers who play such a huge part in welcome, hospitality and events. Let's not forget all those who tackle the less visible jobs of cleaning, maintenance and administration. Thank you all so much for giving your time and talents. We really do appreciate everything you do.

There was a saying a while back that "the family that prays together … stays together." So let's do that as a church family, but let's also worship, socialise and have fun together too…. while we wait, along with the whole parish for a new leader to join us.

Helen Pedley, Acting Chair of PCC 23rd April 2023

Achievements and Performance 2022

Growing in Faith – through worship and prayer

At the annual meeting in 2022 our Electoral Roll had risen to 53, but our regular worshipping community has fallen by 6 to 55. This fell, as we have no longer included those who we've not seen since pre COVID times, most of which travelled to church. This has increased the percentage of our members living within the actual parish of Sowerby Bridge, by 6% and it now stands at 39%.

We continue to provide our "Live Streaming" service to housebound members and for anyone else who wishes to view via our You Tube channel. We feel that people appreciate the option to worship either physically or join digitally e.g. if they are away on holiday. It also allows occasional viewers to attend special services if they want to keep in touch.

Our WhatsApp Prayer and Support group has continued and we send weekly newsletters and seasonal materials to our housebound members. Our Mothers Union have resumed their regular monthly meeting schedules.

In 2022 we have:

- Baptised 19 children welcoming them into our church;
- Married 3 couples;
- Conducted 9 funeral services, of which 6 were at the local crematorium and 3 funerals were held in church.

Once again we have provided all our year 6 leavers from Christ Church CE VA Junior School, with a gift of a cross together with the "Moving On" booklet from Scripture Union to help their transition to secondary education. PCC continue to donate monthly to the work of Christians in Calderdale Schools, contributing to a schools worker's salary, to reach the 95% of children not in contact with a church.

Sharing God's love in our world, our parish and our community

Calderdale council now sends out regular newsletters of progress so Ward Forum meetings are less important, but we have facilitated people to express their views on a local planning issue. Deanery Synod representatives have reported back on their 3 meetings with news from the Diocese and Deanery. Topics included: the Diocese mission to achieve Carbon Net Zero, which we are already working towards; the aims of our new Archdeacon "to be a catalyst working for Mission and Growth", and our Diocesan Director of Church Growth and Revitalisation on support available to nurture churches and transform communities.

a) Children's events. It was wonderful to once again welcome all four schools in the parish into church for their Christmas services, and our own church school Christ Church for their termly services. For the Queen's Platinum Jubilee they produced colourful "stamps" in the Queen's image, and we also worked for the first time with Ryburn High School. Their Head of Art organized a competition themed on "Flowers of hope" for 7 local schools, and also led secondary pupils to produce bunting, junk art flowers, and hundreds of tiny clay Queens for our 4 day Flower Festival and art exhibition.

Our 1st Sowerby Bridge Girl Guiding groups resumed after COVID but our Guides group struggled: only 6 girls returned and there were no Brownies flying up as a result of the lock down. They completed the 50th birthday badge, and network skills builder before looking at the Human Rights Badge. 4 girls had left by summer 2022, leaving only 2, so a decision was made to move them to another unit and restart after Easter 2023 when there are a few Brownies ready to move up.
Our Brownies and Rainbow groups have thrived with Rainbows numbers staying stable around 15. With 3 adult helpers and young leaders in support, girls are now able to start the Unit Meeting Activities as they begin school. This year for the first time, 5 girls achieved their Bronze award by the summer. Brownie numbers have actually increased to 19 with Rainbows moving up, and with a 3rd adult leader and young leaders there is now room for more. The Brownie programme is varied and easy to deliver, or can be adapted to make them suitable. A few keen girls do some work at home to earn the interest badges.
Brownies had their first pack holiday for 7 years with 11 staying overnight and another 7 joining in activities the following day. Another holiday is planned for next summer to include some who by then will become Guides. This is a great spur to keep them in the Guiding movement as they turn 10 and will be entering Year 6.

All sections joined together to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee with an evening of fun along with our Guides and Brownies at Christ Church, crafts, campfire, food, singing and physical activity.

b) Adult support for those lonely, isolated or visiting the town. We resumed our Digital Café every Tuesday in person, and now have a small group of regulars with new referrals coming from Age UK, local libraries and via our links with Memory Lane. The cost of living crisis hit many in our community hard and we re-connected with our local food bank: hosting a collection point in the porch. Our new connection with Pennine Cropshare led to Xmas vegetables being collected from our building for around 100 families attending Calderdale's "Healthy Holiday" programme. We continue to promote other projects run by Sowerby Bridge Together, including a Secret Santa for families unable to afford gifts for their children.

c) Seasonal services After two disrupted years, we celebrated Mothering Sunday's "Light up with love" service in person. We completed our bi-centenary celebration with visits by Stephen Cottrell the Archbishop of York on 20th March; and our own Diocesan Bishop Nick Baines, on 15th of May. Rev Angela's final service on 31st of July was very well attended with a full church and many happy memories and tears as we celebrated her 12 years in the parish. On October 2nd we celebrated "Climate Sunday," reflecting the human impact on our planet and the following week Harvest Festival remembering God made all things good, and collecting money to support CART. We'd like to thank the visiting clergy who've helped with our services, exploring different arrangements: some jointly with Ryburn benefice.

d) Community events. For the Platinum Jubilee we celebrated with a 4 day Flower Festival. Our own flower arranging team was joined by two ladies from St Augustine's Centre using more exotic flowers and representing the Commonwealth. The whole event was funded by a Jubilee grant from the National Lottery whilst sales of cream teas raised money towards the Sound System. Other fundraising events were concerts by the Gilbert & Sullivan Society and later in the year Steeton Male Voice Choir. Rushbearing 2022 resumed its normal activity but the demolition of the market meant that the Rush Cart stopped short at the Wharf. Fewer visitors came into church to see the rushes presented, but the launch of our "virtual" Duck race was a great funding success with the winner being announced at Harvest Festival.

Heritage Open Day's theme of "Astounding Inventions" allowed us to celebrate the Victorian inventors we already knew of, and new discoveries such as Frederick Walton who invented linoleum flooring. Sadly this event was overshadowed by the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II on 8th September. Christ Church opened as a space for reflection and the opportunity to sign a book of remembrance each morning, until the day of the funeral itself. The Sowerby Bridge Heritage Action Zone project is now in its second year, and we continue to publicise their community events e.g. summer "Splash" and winter "Glow".

- **Communication**

We continue to receive many favourable comments about the methods we have adopted, and different media we use to reach both church members and the wider community. Our Facebook page now has 868 followers and over the year its reach was almost 50,000, with many interactions about the Flower Festival and Rev Canon Angela's retirement. We also have 228 Instagram followers. Over 1000 people used our website with another 112 finding us via "A church near you". In particular visitors have been surprised that we offer a live You Tube service, which made one of our weddings so special for family members watching from overseas.

- **Improving our environment/appearance**

The Gardening Group have met monthly excluding the winter dormant months, keeping the graveyard tidy. We are growing more environmentally aware of the value the community places on the “green space” it provides on the main street. We have now built a large bug hotel using recycled pallets and natural materials to provide a habitat for insects.

We continue to work towards an Eco Church award, and are monitoring our carbon emissions. In the winter PCC minimise non worship events which require us to heat up the whole church, and just keep the community room heating on timers for small events. Now that the Diocese adjusts our energy usage for the hours we open, we rank in the lowest 10% of churches in the country. Our net carbon emissions are 3.0 and are offset using green tariffs.

- **Access**

Whilst we continue to fund raise for the Sound System instalment plan as a priority, our gardening group have worked hard to cut back encroaching turf and completely clear the path to the East Gate. This has removed much moss and also made it less uneven.

Maintaining Christ Church -a grade 2 listed building

We have begun addressing issues identified in last year’s Quinquennial report and are pleased to report that Together Housing have removed and disposed of all the brambles and self-seeded trees on the north side of Church. Also, regular clearing of fall pipes and soakaways by our volunteers is reducing risk of damp and damage to stonework.

Sadly, our QI architect died unexpectedly during the year but his family practice continues and having met Richard’s son Tom, PCC readily confirmed his appointment to the role. We have consulted the architect this year on the following areas particularly relating to safety moving around the church and churchyard

- The community room plywood floor covering over the old heating grates
- Modification to the dais to remove internal steps and create level access in the nave (in preparation for applying for faculty in 2023):
- Potential outdoor lighting options

Risk assessments have been carried out in the church and churchyard and regular testing and servicing or maintenance done on equipment. The terrier and inventory of assets has been updated.

Structure, governance and management

The PCC have held 9 meetings over 2022, initially via ‘zoom’, then face to face towards the end of the year. We have discussed a variety of items

including finances, Parish Share payments, sound system instalments, Fabric of the Church, Seasonal services, COVID (‘back to normal’), energy contracts and fundraising. We thank Paul and Helen for their expertise in the financial field and helping us to understand the various funds we hold. PCC members have attended regularly and their input has been extremely helpful and supportive.

We have reviewed our Health & Safety/ Safeguarding policies and our Safeguarding team confirmed there have been no incidents to report during the year.

After Rev. Angela retired in September, we may have been excused if we felt uncertain at first, but thanks to our faithful team we have stayed strong and continue to work together for our Lord, church and community.

Administrative information

Christ Church is situated on Wharf Street, Sowerby Bridge postcode HX6 2LW. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ, or via the website at www.christchurchsb.org.uk or info@christchurchsb.org.uk

Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/Christchurchsb

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and the method of appointment of its members is set out under these rules. We encourage everyone in Christ Church to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. At PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There are no paid employees but training costs and travel have been reimbursed and occasional office fees are paid at the Church of England annual rates e.g. at funerals, to church members, including members of PCC.

The PCC is also a charity registered with the Charities Commission, Registration number 1131180. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent	**Rev. Canon Angela Dick (retired 30 Sept 2022)**	**Chairman**
Wardens	**Peter Henry (re-elected 23 April 2023)**	
	David Gill (re-elected 23 April 2023)	

Elected Member

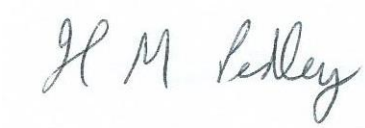
s

Paul Healey		**Treasurer**
Helen Pedley	**(re-elected**	**Vice Chair/ now Acting**
23 April 2023)		**Chair, & Data protection lead**
Anthea Gee	**(re-elected**	**Secretary & Deanery**
23 April 2023)		**Synod Rep**
Graham Lamb	**(re-elected**	
23 April 2023)		
Kevin Henry		**Deanery Synod Rep**
Angela Wilkins	**(re-elected**	
23 April 2023)		
Susan Sanderson		
Janet Turner		
Ian Ross	**(elected**	
23 April 2023)		
Sarah Towler	**(elected**	
23 April 2023)		

This summary review of the year's activities given to members at the APCM was approved by the PCC on the 3rd July 2023.

It is to be read in conjunction with the attached financial review, notes and examined financial statements for 2022, approved on 27th March 2023.

Signed on their behalf by:



PCC Acting Chairman

The PCC of Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

Financial Statements for year ending

31 December 2022

Financial Review

Income, Activities and Growth

Our bicentenary year continued into 2022 with various celebration events and fundraising opportunities. Firstly, the Archbishop of York visited on 29th March and reminded us that whilst the church is the people, our building also stands as a visible presence of God in our community. The 200th anniversary closed with the Bishop of Leeds visiting the church on 15th May 2022 to re-dedicate the building itself and the way in which we are trying to make it better fit for purpose in the 21st century. This year we celebrated 19 baptisms, 3 weddings and supported 9 family funerals, 3 of which were held in church. Other sad events were the death of her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and also when Rev Angela announced her retirement with her last service in church being held on 31st July 2022. This was a celebration of her 26 years of ministry in Calderdale, with the last 12 here at Christ Church.

We are now in the process of interregnum and are grateful to all the local clergy and lay ministers who are helping us continue services.

During the year we held several large fundraising events towards the sound system. These included three community events all free to enter: Rushbearing £725, Christmas Fair £800 and for the Platinum Jubilee a 4 day Flower Festival raising almost £1,950 which included a schools' art exhibition and sales of cream teas. Smaller events included ticketed concerts by the Halifax Gilbert & Sullivan Society & Steeton Male Voice and a virtual balloon race raising another £350 in total. Other funding came from gift aid recovered and donations: including from Nestlé's community giving scheme. We are also grateful to the Calderdale Ward Forum for a £500 grant towards the small project fund towards a replacement motor for the church clock.

During December we received two unexpected large amounts. The first from a long standing church family of £20,000 primarily restricted to the repair of the church organ. Secondly the Diocese sent funding of £2,250 to help with winter fuel bills due in 2023. This is held in our designated funds as it will be used as necessary to maintain the church fabric. Finally we applied for a new Community Foundation Support grant of £1,900 which will be used in 2023 to answer urgent cost of living needs arising from within our parish.

We remain reliant on and very grateful to all our regular stewardship givers, especially in the current situation. However, our unrestricted giving, excluding grants, fell from £29k, to £26.4k. During 2022 we have continued our Tuesday Digital Café (which has attracted regular visitors) and Saturday coffee mornings where our community and increasingly tourist visitors can drop in for information etc. We continue to connect with the parish through social media, signposting information from other charities to highlight what help is available, and have received many positive comments from those who access our You Tube channel to view our Sunday services at home.

Expenditure

The 2022 Diocesan Parish share request rose once again, this time to £27,836: an increase of 10%. This continually increasing cost, set against falling membership and increased energy bills, has coincided with the most costly instalments for the Sound System £9,313, which we had to meet in full. Consequently we were only able to send £10,836 to the Diocese which despite continuing to be the largest single element of our expenditure in the year meant the percentage paid fell back from 62% last year to only 39% of the 2022 request.

For 2023 the parish share has risen again to £29,349 another 5.4% increase, and although the final committed payments for the sound system in 2023 are slightly smaller £8,683, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to meet even 50% of the 2023 share requested.

Other major expenses are:

- Utilities: our brave decision to fix the cost of our gas bills some 9 months before the contract expired in January 2022, prior to the war in Ukraine, has proved wise. Our gas and electricity payments increased by only 13% and 18% respectively for this year, but this will increase again when we begin to pay a full year at the higher rate.
- Cost of fundraising: includes the whole amount of a £1,668 grant restricted towards our Flower Festival for the Platinum Jubilee. This covered not only the cost of flowers but also exhibition boards which can be used for display purposes for future events such as Heritage Open Day.
- Clergy related: This year has seen our Archdeacon, Bishop and Vicar all leave post and costs of honoraria and visiting clergy have increased whilst Vicar's expenses of office have fallen.

We have still not reinstated our regular monthly giving except for the usual £300 p.a. to Christians in Calderdale Schools, which helps fund their activities and pay their staff. We continue to host two special services to assist our individual members to generously donate. These are for CART at Harvest Festival and The Children's Society at Christingle.

Summary

Our reliable donations from members (through standing orders or regular direct credits), has fallen slightly, to £1,100 per month. This is not surprising given the cost of living crisis has hit many of our members, who are solely reliant on their pensions, hard. We continue to run an annual stewardship campaign asking people to prayerfully review their giving which goes towards paying the Diocesan parish share. We remain thankful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full.

Our fundraising plan to pay the final two instalments of the Sound System is in place and we fully expect that it will be paid in full by the end of the year. This improvement in our ability to host community events will then help us generate funds in order to meet the building's running costs, leaving our members donations primarily for the Parish Share.

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Donations and legacies	26,299	2,315	31,618	—	60,233	36,077
Income from charitable activities	1,393	—	—	—	1,393	988
Other trading activities	843	—	4,105	—	4,949	1,243
Investments	0	—	5	—	5	1
Total income	**28,536**	**2,315**	**35,728**	**—**	**66,581**	**38,310**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	147	1	2,200	—	2,349	101
Expenditure on charitable activities	27,216	—	9,739	—	36,956	41,107
Total expenditure	**27,364**	**1**	**11,940**	**—**	**39,305**	**41,209**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**1,172**	**2,314**	**23,788**	**—**	**27,275**	**(2,899)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	2,973	—	2,973	171
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	(2,973)	—	(2,973)	(171)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	**1,172**	**2,314**	**23,788**	**—**	**27,275**	**(2,899)**
Total funds brought forward	**2,637**	**1,983**	**7,458**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**
Total funds carried forward	**3,810**	**4,297**	**31,246**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	3,810	—	—	—	3,810	2,637
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	4,297	—	—	4,297	1,983
Restricted						
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	—	—	—	173
Building Grants -	—	—	4,655	—	4,655	4,650
Community Support grants	—	—	1,900	—	1,900	133
Flower Fund	—	—	175	—	175	88
Organ Repair Fund	—	—	20,000	—	20,000	—
Res Access	—	—	1,102	—	1,102	1,012
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	1,267	—	1,267	494
Small project fund £3k	—	—	651	—	651	—
Sound System	—	—	1,495	—	1,495	904

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

Balance sheet

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Current assets						
Cash at bank and in hand	3,812	4,297	31,462	—	39,572	12,133
	3,812	**4,297**	**31,462**	**—**	**39,572**	**12,133**
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	0	—	217	—	218	55
	0	**—**	**217**	**—**	**218**	**55**
Net current assets less current liabilities	**3,812**	**4,297**	**31,245**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**
Total assets less current liabilities	**3,812**	**4,297**	**31,245**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**
Total net assets less liabilities	**3,812**	**4,297**	**31,245**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	3,810	—	—	—	3,810	2,637
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	4,297	—	—	4,297	1,983
Restricted						
Res Access	—	—	1,102	—	1,102	1,012
Flower Fund	—	—	175	—	175	88
Organ Repair Fund	—	—	20,000	—	20,000	—
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	1,267	—	1,267	494
Small project fund £3k	—	—	651	—	651	—
Sound System	—	—	1,495	—	1,495	904
Building Grants -	—	—	4,655	—	4,655	4,650
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	—	—	—	173
Community Support grants	—	—	1,900	—	1,900	133
Funds of the church	**3,810**	**4,297**	**31,246**	**—**	**39,354**	**12,078**

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

Statement of assets and liabilities

	This year	Last year
Cash at bank and in hand	**£**	**£**
Cash on hand		
Flower Fund (Restricted) -	(6)	—
Sound System (Restricted) -	—	19
General fund (Unrestricted) -	26	72
Agency collection (Restricted) -	(20)	—
	—	**91**
Barclays Current		
Flower Fund (Restricted) -	181	88
Res Access (Restricted) -	702	612
Resourcing Ministry (Restricted) -	1,267	494
Small project fund £3k (Restricted) -	651	—
Sound System (Restricted) -	5,901	885
General fund (Unrestricted) -	4,316	2,096
Building Grants - (Restricted) -	(2,851)	(2,851)
Bishop Development Fund (Restricted) -	—	173
Community Support grants (Restricted) -	—	133
Building Reserves (Designated) -	192	128
Agency collection (Restricted) -	(364)	(545)
	9,997	**1,216**
Barclays Bus Saver		
Organ Repair Fund (Restricted) -	20,000	—
Res Access (Restricted) -	400	400
Sound System (Restricted) -	(4,406)	—
General fund (Unrestricted) -	(529)	470
Building Grants - (Restricted) -	7,506	7,501
Community Support grants (Restricted) -	1,900	—
Building Reserves (Designated) -	4,104	1,854
Agency collection (Restricted) -	600	600
	29,574	**10,825**
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	**39,572**	**12,133**
Agency accounts		
Agency collections		
General fund (Unrestricted) -	0	—
Agency collection (Restricted) -	(217)	(55)
Total for Agency accounts	**(218)**	**(55)**
Grand total	**39,354**	**12,078**

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains / losses	Closing
Access - Res Access	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Restricted	1,012	90	—	—	—	1,102
Sub-total for Access	**1,012**	**90**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,102**
Flowers - Flower Fund						
Restricted	88	305	218	—	—	175
Sub-total for Flowers	**88**	**305**	**218**	**—**	**—**	**175**
Rep-organ - Organ Repair Fund						
Restricted	—	20,000	—	—	—	20,000
Sub-total for Rep-organ	**—**	**20,000**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**20,000**
ResMinry - Resourcing Ministry						
Restricted	494	806	34	—	—	1,267
Sub-total for ResMinry	**494**	**806**	**34**	**—**	**—**	**1,267**
Small - Small project fund £						
Restricted	—	651	—	—	—	651
Sub-total for Small	**—**	**651**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**651**
Sound - Sound System						
Restricted	904	11,970	11,513	133	—	1,495
Sub-total for Sound	**904**	**11,970**	**11,513**	**133**	**—**	**1,495**
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	2,637	28,536	27,364	—	—	3,810
Sub-total for General	**2,637**	**28,536**	**27,364**	**—**	**—**	**3,810**
Resbuild - Building Grants -						
Restricted	4,650	5	—	—	—	4,655
Sub-total for Resbuild	**4,650**	**5**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**4,655**
BDF - Bishop Development Fund						
Restricted	173	—	173	—	—	—
Sub-total for BDF	**173**	**—**	**173**	**—**	**—**	**—**
CSH - Community Support grants						
Restricted	133	1,900	—	(133)	—	1,900
Sub-total for CSH	**133**	**1,900**	**—**	**(133)**	**—**	**1,900**
Fabric - Building Reserves						
Designated	1,983	2,315	1	—	—	4,297
Sub-total for Fabric	**1,983**	**2,315**	**1**	**—**	**—**	**4,297**
Grand total	**12,078**	**66,581**	**39,305**	**—**	**—**	**39,354**

In May the PCC faced a cash flow issue due to the dates of our fundraising activities. They approved the temporary use of funds from the Restricted Building Grants of £1,420 to be transferred to fund the Restricted Sound System instalment due at the end of the month. These were replaced in full and the transfer reversed to restore the previous balance back to £4,650, once the proceeds of the Flower Festival held especially for the Platinum Jubilee in early June were banked.

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

Analysis of income and expenditure

INCOME

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This yr	Last yr
Donations and legacies						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gift Aid Bank	13,918	—	3,119	—	17,037	12,987
Gift Aid Envelopes	1,910	—	70	—	1,980	3,250
Other Planned giving	2,455	—	—	—	2,455	4,610
Sunday collections	2,209	20	—	—	2,229	1,350
Collections at special services	416	—	1,041	—	1,458	136
Special appeals	—	11	20,415	—	20,426	6,538
Donations by public	1,389	16	951	—	2,356	2,315
Voluntary Contributions to general expenditure	41	—	175	—	216	43
Gift aid income tax recovered	3,959	18	1,427	—	5,405	4,845
Grants one off	—	2,250	4,418	—	6,668	—
Total	26,299	2,315	31,618	—	60,233	36,077
Income from charitable activities						
Fees retained by PCC	1,393	—	—	—	1,393	988
Total	1,393	—	—	—	1,393	988
Other trading activities						
Fairs and events	16	—	3,661	—	3,678	1,183
Refreshments	531	—	135	—	666	—
Room hire and banner fees	295	—	—	—	295	60
Other sales	—	—	309	—	309	—
Total	843	—	4,105	—	4,949	1,243
Investments						
Interest Received	0	—	5	—	5	1
Total	0	—	5	—	5	1
INCOME TOTAL	28,536	2,315	35,728	—	66,581	38,310

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This yr	Total Last yr
Raising funds						
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Costs of fundraising events	129	—	2,190	—	2,319	75
Costs of stewardship campaigns	18	1	10	—	29	26
Total	147	1	2,200	—	2,349	101
Expenditure on charitable activities						
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Mission giving and donations	300	—	—	—	300	350
Diocesan Common Fund	10,836	—	—	—	10,836	15,600
Salaries wages and honoraria	372	—	—	—	372	99
Clergy expenses of office	414	—	—	—	414	1,722
PCC and visiting clergy	275	—	—	—	275	184
Vicarage expenses	154	—	—	—	154	—
Education Training	—	—	—	—	—	25
Mission activity in parish	496	—	207	—	703	1,079
Insurance	5,086	—	—	—	5,086	4,882
Church telephone Wi-Fi	402	—	—	—	402	400
Media -Website Noticeboards	926	—	—	—	926	475
Service supplies	549	—	218	—	768	175
Service music liturgy material	1,664	—	—	—	1,664	805
Admin print post stationery	52	—	—	—	52	40
Admin software & other	427	—	—	—	427	403
Church security health safety	1,328	—	—	—	1,328	2,253
Church maintenance interior	357	—	9,313	—	9,671	636
Church maintenance exterior	80	—	—	—	80	2,084
Utility gas	2,474	—	—	—	2,474	2,186
Utility electric	842	—	—	—	842	617
Utility water	64	—	—	—	64	58
Costs of Trading	108	—	—	—	108	34
Governance costs	—	—	—	—	—	13
Major Repairs	—	—	—	—	—	6,977
Total	27,216	—	9,739	—	36,956	41,107
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	27,364	1	11,940	—	39,305	41,209
GRAND TOTAL	1,172	2,314	23,788	—	27,275	(2,899)

There may be minor discrepancies in totals if pence are not being shown

Notes to the accounts 2022

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. The PCC does not consider that it has any fixed assets. Items purchased with grant funding and used to maintain the consecrated fabric of the church do not generate income and are used to provide activities to the community.

- Funds -The PCC has no endowed funds. Restricted funds must be spent on the restricted purposes for which they were given or raised. The PCC tries to focus on one ministry project per year and just one active building project at a time, however with some of our projects being lengthy we have now introduced a "Small project" building fund. As previous years' projects are completed, the restricted funds associated with them are closed and new ones begun. In 2022 the Bishop's Development Fund 2019 was closed. The Community Foundation For Calderdale (CFFC) Fund 2020, (for digital support) was completed. It now holds the CFFC 2022/23 Winter Support project grant.

- Designated funds are accumulated transfers of unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. The designated building fund represents accumulated transfer of unrestricted funds to provide a reserve to draw upon should there be major repairs needed, and forms part of our continuity plan. They remain unrestricted and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

3. Arrears – The Diocese of Leeds Parish Share formula is based on the allocation of cost for clergy, and then adjusted for church attendance and social deprivation in the parish. Our parish share varies each year depending on significant changes in these three drivers. The 2022 request for parish share (£27,836) could not be met in full, and £17,000 was added to our arrears. This year due to our commitment to pay for the sound system we only managed to pay 39%, (last year 62%) and we expect next year to be a similar percentage due to the third and final year of this agreement. The Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. The notional backlog is now £81,505 built up over 10 years. Our long term goal is to be able to pay our annual Parish Share each year in full.

4. Analysis of Income and expenditure -Clergy expenses may include a small proportion relating to their function as a PCC member. At 31 December 2022 the PCC bank account included card reader receipts relating to wedding fees £218, which were due to the Diocese of Leeds. These are shown as a creditor.

5. Commitments – The PCC has entered into two new financial commitments extending beyond a 12 month period, and for information shows the final year of two other commitments with material significance.

- On 24 March 2022 PCC entered into a new "Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement", with its insurers Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC, giving a discount of 10% and expiring on 24 March 2025. The current basic annual fees payment including discount & insurance premium tax for the 12 months until 25 March 2024 is £5,476.

- On 11 January 2022, PCC secured a fixed price rate for carbon off set gas with Smartest Energy, for a two year period commencing 1 October 2022 and continuing until 30 September August 2024.

- On 19 May 2021, following the introduction of a digital streaming system the PCC entered into a commitment to a schedule of 6 x6 monthly instalments beginning in May 2021 and ending in November 2023 with its supplier Keystone Sound Systems Ltd. Four instalments were met through a fundraising plan with varied events and PCC is confident that the two remaining, totalling £8,683 for 2023, will be met in full.

- Our contract with English Heritage for funding repairs to the roof ends during 2023 and requires the PCC to open weekly for the agreed hours for public access and to adhere to the maintenance plan.

6. **Reserves Policy -** It is the PCC's policy to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure the church continues its activities, can smooth out fluctuations in cash flow to pay its suppliers on time, and can cover emergency situations which may arise. In the long term it is the PCC's hope to rebuild the total reserves to cover three months unrestricted payments (approx. £10,000) with £5,000 of this designated to maintaining the fabric of our listed building. This designated fund is reviewed annually as part of the reserves and for its ability to be match-funding towards grants needed for major works.

   This year the Diocese of Leeds provided the Benefice of Sowerby Bridge with a generous grant of £2,250 from the Church Commissioners towards our winter fuel bills. This is held in our designated reserve as at 31 December increasing the balance to £4,297 and will help us maintain the minimum temperature to protect the fabric of the church.

Approved by the PCC on 27th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

H M Pedley

Helen Pedley, Acting PCC Chairman

Independent Examiner

Pigsty services

The Pigsty Lydgate Farm
Jim Allen Lane
Midgley
Halifax
HX2 6DQ

Mob: 07793728525
Tel: 01422 881534

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report:

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge 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 in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: R M Strickland

Name: Ruth Strickland

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies:

Member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Date: 27th March 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWER

England & Wales - Charity number 1131180

Accounts

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2021

Registered Charity Number 1131180

2021 Annual Report

Aim and Purposes

The PCC of Christ Church has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Sowerby Bridge. This includes pastoral care, social engagement with the community, and ecumenical working with Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge. We work closely with and provide foundation governors to Christ Church VA Junior School on Park Road, Sowerby Bridge. Pupils receive an education promoting Christian values, based on Christian principles and on the Anglican foundation of the school.

To facilitate this work it is important that the PCC maintain the fabric of Christ Church, our Grade 2 listed building for which we are responsible. This has historic significance and is a prominent feature in the conservation area, at the centre of Sowerby Bridge. We co-operate with Calderdale Council who maintain our closed graveyard.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission promotes living out our faith as part of our parish community and is summed up as: **Ordinary people sharing God's love in our world.**

Growing in faith; Living by prayer; Loving God's word.

Our values are: **To be Living, Loving, Learning and Confident, Growing, Changing**
As we emerge from lock down we consider it important that the church retains both the same mission and values for the coming months. They are particularly relevant to regain our confidence, and remind us of what may need to change for individual and church growth.

Vicar's Remarks (April 2022)

I want to say thank you to everyone for another tremendous year of working together and achieving things against the odds as we still navigate our way out of a pandemic. As I was sorting through some papers recently I came across some notes from my first APCM here at Christ Church. We were pondering back then as to what our focus should be moving forward: buildings, worship, discipleship or God's word. I think we've managed to navigate all those areas so far in our journey together. These things have remained central to the way we do ministry here at Christ Church. I read from Matthew 7:24-27 back then - the wise and foolish men building their houses on rock and sand respectively. That little parable is about building on a solid foundation and, of course, that foundation is Jesus.

Verse 24 sums it up: Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. (New living Translation).

When we build our faith and, our reason for being, on Jesus then nothing can cause it to be knocked down. When storms come we will stand firm. I think God has proved that to us again and again and particularly the last two years. God's people are called to be 'church' in every sense of the word.

And church is

- The people – who engage in worship, prayer and fellowship.
- The Mission – sharing the love of Christ with others in our community and town.
- The building – seeking to make it accessible to all outside and in.:

I wonder how do you think **we are doing?**

We are called to tap into God's vision for every Christian

- To grow deep in the Scriptures.
- Grow closer to God.
- To be God's light and love in the community.

I wonder, how do you think **you are doing**?

Now, more so than ever, these are not easy tasks but I pray that together we can continue the journey and achieve more than we ever thought imaginable through the wonderful, abundant, amazing grace of God.

He has not failed us in all these years he will not fail us going forward.

Canon Angela Dick

24th April 2022

Achievements and Performance 2020

Growing in Faith – through worship and prayer

At the annual meeting in 2021 our Electoral Roll had risen to 53, and our Worshipping Community fallen by one member, who left the area, to 61. This masked one family and 2 individuals leaving but welcomed the same number of adults and children joining us. Of this only 22% live within the parish of Sowerby Bridge. Since 2020 there has been an increase of 8% who live outside the parish but habitually attend public worship here now 78% of our worshipping community.

Our "Live Streaming" service has been gratefully received by everyone as they could watch in person from home until they personally felt comfortable to resume attending in person. This will continue to be available for our housebound members to watch and anyone else who wishes to view via our You Tube channel. We feel that people appreciate the option to worship physically or join digitally e.g. if they are away on holiday. It also allows extended family members to attend special services if they cannot attend.

After the Lockdown imposed in January 2021 we began opening for private prayer on Tuesday 2nd March but continued streaming worship up to and including Mothering Sunday. Our first service in church was Sunday 21st March 2021 and initially we sang one hymn at the end of the service outside in the Churchyard. Hymn singing was gradually introduced over the early summer, but for the whole of the year communion has been only of one kind. Our WhatsApp Prayer and Support group has continued and flourished as a way to request prayer support and practical help, as well as the vicar's daily Bible reading and reflection. Again for those not on-line or housebound, we have telephoned or sent weekly newsletter and seasonal materials to them.

As soon as restrictions permitted we offered everyone in our community the opportunity to celebrate and thank God at special milestones in their life. In 2021 we have:

- Baptised 5 children welcoming them into our church;
- Married 1 couple;
- Conducted funeral services for friends and families to express their grief and give thanks for the life of their loved one who is commended into God's keeping. Of these, 9 were at the local crematorium and 4 funerals were in church.

We have continued support for Christ Church CE VA Junior School, again providing all year 6 leavers with a gift of a cross together with the "Moving On" booklet from Scripture Union to help their move into secondary education. PCC continue to donate monthly to the work of Christians in Calderdale Schools, contributing to a schools worker's salary, to reach the 95% of children not in contact with a church. Our Mothers Union resumed meeting in person in October 2021.

Sharing God's love in our world, our parish and our community

We continue to attend the Council's Ward Forum meetings held on line throughout the year to keep abreast of what is happening in the local area, and our Deanery Synod

representatives have reported back on the three meetings with news from the Diocese and Deanery. Most importantly these included tips on how to emerge from Lockdown, the resources available on line, and also the introduction of the Living in Love and Faith course. This is to help us all think more deeply about living in love and faith, in the context of faith and understanding of human identity, changing patterns of relationship in families, changing attitudes to sexuality and what it means to us as Christians.

a) Children's events. Pressure on schools meant that little happened until after the summer holidays and our involvement has largely been confined to the support given by members of church either in their role as Junior church leaders, or as governors to our linked CE VA school, Christ Church Juniors.
Our 1st Sowerby Bridge Girl Guiding groups met on zoom with very low numbers until after Easter when outdoor activities were able to restart, and meetings indoors resumed after summer holidays. Some girls were unable to come in person but others continued and numbers grew across all three age ranges reaching 12 in Rainbows; and 6-8 in Brownies and 6 Guides by the end of the year. All the groups felt many of the traditional Guiding features needed to be re-introduced and went back to basics with the Promise and some badge work before various fun Christmas events.

b) Adults' support for those lonely, isolated or visiting the town. We resumed our Digital Café on a 1-1 appointments basis in June with referrals from Memory Lane and Age UK, held before opening for private prayer. In the autumn this expanded to a small group of regular attendees meeting alongside our usual coffee mornings whilst the church was also open to visitors. Since the pandemic we seem to be the only local provider of this type of help where people can learn how to use smartphones, go "On-line" or use features like the NHS App. The COVID 19 group formed in 2020, is now a formally constituted group for Sowerby Bridge and Ryburn wards and includes one of our members. Using church's links to schools in the parish and Noah's Ark debt advice services, we have promoted their first two projects:
   - Distributing a recipe book to each family with tips for healthy food and healthy finances, leading to opportunities to attend a budgeting course
   - Publicizing a Secret Santa for families unable to afford gifts for their children.

c) Seasonal services This year we celebrated "Climate Sunday" on 5th September, pledging support for action at COP26. This began our "Season of Creation" covering five Sunday reflections in the service and concluding with Harvest Festival where donations were sent to CART. To visibly mark our pledge we created a new banner: "Praying for Creation" hand decorated using up-cycled materials. This was a way of bringing our congregation together in prayer and committing to personal action on Climate Change, as part of our journey to becoming an Eco church. Remembrance Sunday was commemorated at both the park gates and in church and Bishop Jonathan Gibbs visited church in December to mark our 200th year and dedicate the recent refurbishment of our lighting and sound systems. The Candlelit Carol Service went ahead as normal and we modified the Christingle Service,

making and lighting our own Christingles using a paper bag of "components" as a safety precaution.

d) Community events. Rushbearing 2021 was held, but on a smaller scale with rushes presented at the door. We had a stall in the churchyard selling home-made produce and the annual badge, which in our bicentenary year featured an image of Christ Church. Two weeks later, for Heritage Open Day we took up the theme "Edible England" on issues such as Fairtrade and social justice, food miles, and local food specialities with displays in church and also online. We have also been an active member of the Cultural Network supporting Sowerby Bridge Heritage Action Zone. Our role has been to support and publicize events e.g. hosting the video launch on our website, and promoting both the Archaeology and "Glow" festivals.

- **Communication**

After the major changes to communicate with people digitally during the pandemic we have continued to use all our digital channels fully. Despite fewer events in church to promote or report, we have grown our "on line" audience as more people are using mobile devices like smart phones and tablets. We have received many favourable comments about the methods we have adopted for the different media we use to reach both church members and the wider community. Our Facebook page likes have risen from 770 to over 800 as we have continued to post on Facebook, particularly including links to services filmed for our "You Tube" channel which are available to all.

- I**mproving our environment/appearance**

The Gardening Group was first to resume activities, keeping the graveyard tidy, and we also had a visit from the Senior Forester to advise on caring for our trees. We are grateful to the Bereavement Services & "Green" teams at Calderdale Council who have helped remove grass and prunings from site. We are growing more environmentally aware of the value of our local green spaces, the need to provide more natural habitat, and how we can as individuals and a church reduce our carbon footprint.

This year the Diocesan Environmental team have introduced a rank showing how we compare to all other churches in the diocese. We are in the 30%-40% band: our carbon emissions are 7.6 per square metre which ranks us just behind the top 33% of the churches, and well below the 50% highest emitting churches.

- **Access**

This year the installation of the new Streaming service and digital hearing loop has been welcome, to widen inclusion of those who use hearing aids and improve sound quality for all. We continue to fund raise for the Sound System instalment plan, and towards the next level access project: path to East Gate.

Maintaining Christ Church -a grade 2 listed building

The Quinquennial Inspection was delayed a little but undertaken in March 2021. Nothing from the report was indicated as urgent, but there were various maintenance issues

identified with broad budget costs between £15K-£20k: to be carried out over the next 5 years. We have consulted our inspecting architect this year on the following areas:

- The retaining wall at the north side of Church regarding possible root damage from self-seeded trees on Together Housing land. This is ongoing but being addressed.
- Archaeological dig to investigate if the south side of the graveyard is a viable project for a disabled access pathway. This was successful in that no problems were found along the proposed route but will need to wait until funding is found to progress.
- We were granted a faculty to retain the chairs from St Andrew's Church Holmfield for use on the balcony at Christ Church to restore the seating capacity on the balcony.
- Risk assessments have been carried out in the church and churchyard and regular testing and servicing or maintenance done on equipment. The terrier and inventory of assets has been updated and we were granted a faculty to re-purpose some items from a local church which has now closed.

Structure, governance and management

Over the year of 2021 PCC have met via Zoom 11 times. Minutes are uploaded to the website and can be viewed by members. Every meeting sees a detailed treasurer and fabric report which informs us about our present finances, work required to keep our Grade 2 listed building safe.

As a priority we continued to review our risk assessments using the Diocese and Government guidelines as things gradually began to ease over the year. We have reviewed our Health & Safety/ Safeguarding policies and our Safeguarding team confirmed there have been no incidents to report during the year.

Financially we have monitored our income and expenditure tightly, keeping a careful eye on cash flow and encouraging our congregation to continue giving regularly and wherever possible through methods which allow us to claim gift aid from individuals or from the Gift Aid small donations scheme.

Administrative information

Christ Church is situated on Wharf Street, Sowerby Bridge postcode HX6 2LW. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ, or via the website at www.christchurchsb.org.uk. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/Christchurchsb

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and the method of appointment of its members is set out under these rules. We encourage everyone in Christ Church to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. Due to COVID-19 the APCM for 2019 did not take place until 18th October 2020 and the Diocese confirmed that all PCC members previously elected had their terms extended until

such time as it took place. In PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There are no paid employees but training costs and travel have been reimbursed and occasional office fees are paid at the Church of England annual rates e.g. at funerals, to church members, including members of PCC.

The PCC is also a charity registered with the Charities Commission, Registration number 1131180. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent	**Rev. Canon Angela Dick**		**Chairman**
Wardens	**Peter Henry**	**(re-elected 24 April 2022)**	
	David Gill	**(re-elected 24 April 2022)**	
Elected Members			
	Paul Healey	**(re-elected 24 April 2022)**	**Treasurer**
	Helen Pedley		**Vice Chair, Data protection lead**
	Anthea Gee		**Secretary & Deanery Synod Rep**
	Graham Lamb		
	Kevin Henry	**(re-elected 24 April 2022)**	
	Angela Wilkins	**(re-elected 24 April 2022)**	
	Susan Sanderson		
	Janet Turner		

This summary review of the year's activities given to members at the APCM was approved by the PCC on the 20th June 2022.

It is to be read in conjunction with the attached financial review, notes and examined financial statements for 2021, approved on 28th March 2022.

Signed on their behalf by:

Rev. Canon Angela Dick,
PCC Chairman

The PCC of Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

Financial Statements for year ending

31 December 2021

Financial Review

Income, Activities and Growth

This year has seen us cautiously resume "in person" activities in a COVID safe way according to the national restrictions and with the help of Diocesan guidelines. Our first service in 2021 was on 21st March with full social distancing, no singing and no social interaction afterwards. This progressed to singing one final hymn outside in the churchyard after the service, to singing hymns through our masks and resuming some hospitality at our events e.g. Tuesday coffee mornings and Christmas Fair. As the vaccination programme has proceeded, we have gradually welcomed back most of our worshipping community and seen some new faces too, although the number of casual visitors has been very few. For those vulnerable or anxious we continue to livestream/record our services each week to view at home. During the Season of Creation we held a series of 6 consecutive Sundays focused on the environmental crisis and the COP26 conference. This began with Climate Sunday, included Edible England our Heritage Open Day event, and ended with Harvest Festival during which time our members created a new banner showing our commitment to "Praying for Creation." We have celebrated the wedding postponed from 2020, enjoyed a series of delayed infant baptisms, and supported 13 family funerals, 4 of which were held in church. Rushbearing did take place but on a smaller scale and with no formal refreshments or stalls except a stall in the churchyard selling home- made produce and cakes.

In this our bicentenary year of the current Christ Church building (opened in May 1821) we have been able to celebrate on a small scale. Our Area Bishop, Jonathan, came to dedicate the lighting system, and the new digital streaming system in which PCC decided to fully invest, following the free trial of the camera in 2020. This became a much bigger project when the old sound system began to fail, and its full replacement has brought much improved sound quality and incorporates a new digital hearing loop to improve access to those using all types of hearing aids. We negotiated a payment plan beginning in May 2021 and extending to November 2023. We have set up a special appeal restricted to "The Sound System" which launched in April and we were delighted to receive a generous family donation "in memoriam", and two donations from Nestlé's Community Giving stream (£500) and their branch of Unite the Union (£100). We are planning to supplement donations with a series of fundraising activities, including two choral events originally planned for 2019 which are now rescheduled for April and September, and extending until 2023 with other fairs and festivals.

We are grateful to all our regular stewardship givers and are pleased to say that our unrestricted giving has almost matched that in 2020, around £29k, but is still below pre-COVID levels. We continued to connect with the parish through social media, communicating important health messages for Calderdale Council and signposting to other charities to highlight what help is available. At the end of 2021 our "digital exclusion"

project funded by CFFC remains open in the form of a Digital Café and/or 1-1 appointments. It has been widely publicised in the 2022 “Home instead” activities booklet distributed amongst the isolated and elderly. We are hoping to use the small remaining balance to continue this work and are working with people identified by our local Memory Lane Café co-ordinators.

Expenditure

Our largest expenditure item is always payment towards the Diocesan Parish share which for 2021 was unchanged at £25,305. We are delighted that the generosity of our members has meant in 2021 we have paid £15,600 towards the Parish share (up by 39% from last year of only £11, 241). This has increased the percentage paid back to 62% from last year’s low of only 45% of the request. The next largest expenditure this year has been towards the two instalments due in 2021 for the major repairs to the Sound System, £6179, and representing 28% of the total due. We also paid our architect for the Quinquennial Inspection report on the building’s condition and are relieved that no urgent repairs are necessary. After paying for this report and inspections of both the condition of the roof, and test digging in the graveyard along the route of potential ramped access route we still retain £4650 of the Nayler Award which is restricted for smaller necessary repairs.

With church closed from late December 2020 to March 2021 we saw some fall in our utility bills (£300), but they remain one of our highest expenses as we need ensure the building does not suffer from damp. We are concerned that when our current 3 year contract ends in August 2022 this will inevitably increase steeply and are seeking new prices for carbon neutral energy. We have had to spend more on Health & Safety this year to service & clean the water boilers, and provide a continuous supply of face masks hand sanitizer dispensers and cleaning materials. Our decision to invest in “on line” and card reader payment options has been fully justified with fewer people carrying cash but this does mean costs of stewardship have also risen. Last year we cut all charitable donations except those to Christians in Calderdale Schools, who rely on donations to fund their activities and pay their staff. This year we have re-instated one PCC donation of £50 to Christian Aid. We were glad to host two special services to assist our individual members generously donate: to CART at harvest festival and The Children’s Society at Christingle.

Summary

Our reliable donations from members (through standing orders or regular direct credits), has risen and is now around £1300 per month. This added to the resumption of income generating activities means that our arrears added at the end of 2021 fell back to £9705. We continue to be thankful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. We are confident that the improvements in our building’s lighting and sound quality can help it play a fuller part in the life of Sowerby Bridge, particularly as it is now a designated Heritage Action Zone to improve the vibrancy of our high street. We expect that our remaining commitments to the sound system will be met by fundraising events for the wider community to enjoy and contribute to, and in time restore our ability to fully meet our Parish share requests.

CHRIST CHURCH SOWERBY BRIDGE

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	£ Total funds	£ Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	29,022	104	6,950	—	36,077	48,221
Income from charitable activities	988	—	—	—	988	212
Other trading activities	374	—	869	—	1,243	170
Investments	—	—	1	—	1	2
Total income	**30,385**	**104**	**7,821**	**—**	**38,310**	**48,606**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	94	7	0	—	101	262
Expenditure on charitable activities	31,751	—	9,356	—	41,107	39,659
Total expenditure	**31,845**	**7**	**9,356**	**—**	**41,209**	**39,921**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**(1,460)**	**96**	**(1,535)**	**—**	**(2,899)**	**8,684**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	171	—	171	1,158
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	(171)	—	(171)	(1,158)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	**(1,460)**	**96**	**(1,535)**	**—**	**(2,899)**	**8,684**
Total funds brought forward	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**
Total funds carried forward	**2,637**	**1,983**	**7,458**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	2,637	—	—	—	2,637	4,098
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	1,983	—	—	1,983	1,886
Restricted						
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	173	—	173	278
Building Grants -	—	—	4,650	—	4,650	7,500
Community Support grants	—	—	133	—	133	133
Flower Fund	—	—	88	—	88	—
Res Access	—	—	1,012	—	1,012	400
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	494	—	494	681
Sound System	—	—	904	—	904	—

Balance sheet

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	£ This year	£ Last year
Current assets						
Cash at bank and in hand	2,638	1,983	7,512	—	12,133	15,623
	2,638	**1,983**	**7,512**	**—**	**12,133**	**15,623**
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	—	—	55	—	55	645
	—	**—**	**55**	**—**	**55**	**645**
Net current assets less current liabilities	**2,638**	**1,983**	**7,457**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**
Total assets less current liabilities	**2,638**	**1,983**	**7,457**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**
Total net assets less liabilities	**2,638**	**1,983**	**7,457**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	2,637	—	—	—	2,637	4,098
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	1,983	—	—	1,983	1,886
Restricted						
Res Access	—	—	1,012	—	1,012	400
Flower Fund	—	—	88	—	88	—
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	494	—	494	681
Sound System	—	—	904	—	904	—
Building Grants -	—	—	4,650	—	4,650	7,500
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	173	—	173	278
Community Support grants	—	—	133	—	133	133
Funds of the church	**2,637**	**1,983**	**7,458**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**

Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	£ This year	£ Last year
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Cash on hand -	72	—	19	—	91	—
Barclays Current -	2,096	128	(1,007)	—	1,216	4,798
Barclays Bus Saver -	470	1,854	8,501	—	10,825	10,824
Totals	**2,638**	**1,983**	**7,512**	**—**	**12,133**	**15,623**
Liabilities - Agency accounts						
Agency collections -	—	—	55	—	55	645
Totals	**—**	**—**	**55**	**—**	**55**	**645**
Grand total	**2,638**	**1,983**	**7,457**	**—**	**12,078**	**14,978**

Fund movement by type

	£ Opening	£ Incoming	£ Outgoing	£ Transfers	£ Gains/losses	£ Closing
Access - Res Access						
Restricted	400	612	—	—	—	1,012
Sub-total for Access	**400**	**612**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**1,012**
Flowers - Flower Fund						
Restricted	—	—	82	171	—	88
Sub-total for Flowers	**—**	**—**	**82**	**171**	**—**	**88**
ResMinry - Resourcing Ministry						
Restricted	681	123	138	(171)	—	494
Sub-total for ResMinry	**681**	**123**	**138**	**(171)**	**—**	**494**
Sound - Sound System						
Restricted	—	7,084	6,180	—	—	904
Sub-total for Sound	**—**	**7,084**	**6,180**	**—**	**—**	**904**
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	4,098	30,385	31,845	—	—	2,637
Sub-total for General	**4,098**	**30,385**	**31,845**	**—**	**—**	**2,637**
Resbuild - Building Grants -						
Restricted	7,500	1	2,851	—	—	4,650
Sub-total for Resbuild	**7,500**	**1**	**2,851**	**—**	**—**	**4,650**
BDF - Bishop Development F						
Restricted	278	—	105	—	—	173
Sub-total for BDF	**278**	**—**	**105**	**—**	**—**	**173**
CSH - Community Support gr						
Restricted	133	—	—	—	—	133
Sub-total for CSH	**133**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**—**	**133**
Fabric - Building Reserves						
Designated	1,886	104	7	—	—	1,983
Sub-total for Fabric	**1,886**	**104**	**7**	**—**	**—**	**1,983**
Grand total	**14,978**	**38,310**	**41,209**	**—**	**—**	**12,078**

Analysis of income and expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total £ This year	Total £ Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Donations and legacies						
Gift Aid Bank	12,937	—	50	—	12,987	14,644
Gift Aid Envelopes	3,250	—	—	—	3,250	3,959
Other Planned giving	4,610	—	—	—	4,610	4,015
Sunday collections	1,350	—	—	—	1,350	1,518
Collections at special services	136	—	—	—	136	82
Special appeals	83	16	6,439	—	6,538	767
Donations by public	2,191	88	35	—	2,315	1,843
Voluntary Contributions to general expenditure	—	—	43	—	43	69
Gift aid income tax recovered	4,463	—	382	—	4,845	5,128
Grants one off	—	—	—	—	—	16,193
Total	29,022	104	6,950	—	36,077	48,221
Income from charitable activities						
Fees retained by PCC	988	—	—	—	988	212
Total	988	—	—	—	988	212
Other trading activities						
Fairs and events	314	—	869	—	1,183	—
Refreshments	—	—	—	—	—	126
Room hire and banner fees	60	—	—	—	60	40
Other sales	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	374	—	869	—	1,243	170
Investments						
Interest Received	—	—	1	—	1	2
Total	—	—	1	—	1	2
INCOME TOTAL	30,385	104	7,821	—	38,310	48,606

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total £ This year	Total £ Last year
EXPENDITURE					**£**	**£**
Raising funds						
Costs of fundraising events	75	—	—	—	75	33
Costs of stewardship campaigns	18	7	0	—	26	208
Costs incurred in respect of grants	—	—	—	—	—	20
Total	94	7	0	—	101	262
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Mission giving and donations	350	—	—	—	350	459
Diocesan Common Fund	15,600	—	—	—	15,600	11,241
Salaries wages and honoraria	99	—	—	—	99	264
Clergy expenses of office	1,722	—	—	—	1,722	1,427
PCC and visiting clergy	184	—	—	—	184	41
Vicarage expenses	—	—	—	—	—	75
Education Training	—	—	25	—	25	87
Mission activity in parish	861	—	217	—	1,079	7,263
Insurance	4,882	—	—	—	4,882	4,864
Church telephone Wi-Fi	400	—	—	—	400	533
Media -Website Noticeboards	475	—	—	—	475	223
Service supplies	93	—	82	—	175	316
Service music liturgy material	805	—	—	—	805	720
Admin print post stationery	40	—	—	—	40	360
Admin software & other	403	—	—	—	403	317
Church security health safety	1,223	—	1,029	—	2,253	1,907
Church maintenance interior	636	—	—	—	636	820
Church maintenance exterior	263	—	1,821	—	2,084	4,148
Utility gas	2,186	—	—	—	2,186	2,378
Utility electric	617	—	—	—	617	660
Utility water	58	—	—	—	58	127
Costs of Trading	34	—	—	—	34	—
Governance costs	13	—	—	—	13	27
Major Repairs	797	—	6,179	—	6,977	1,393
Total	31,751	—	9,356	—	41,107	39,659
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	31,845	7	9,356	—	41,209	39,921
GRAND TOTAL	(1,460)	96	(1,535)	—	(2,899)	8,684

Notes to the accounts 2021

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. The PCC does not consider that it has any fixed assets. Items purchased with grant funding do not generate income and are used to provide activities to the community free of charge.

3. **Funds -**The PCC has no endowed funds.

- Restricted funds must be spent on the restricted purposes for which they were given or raised. The PCC tries to focus on one ministry project per year and just one active building project at a time. As previous years' projects are completed, the restricted funds associated with them are closed and new ones begun. In 2021 following the introduction of a digital streaming system a new Sound System fund was created for donations restricted to meet the instalment payment plan.

- Designated funds are accumulated transfers of unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. The designated building fund represents accumulated transfer of unrestricted funds to provide a reserve to draw upon should there be major repairs needed, and forms part of our continuity plan. They remain unrestricted and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

4. **Arrears** – The Diocese of Leeds Parish Share formula is based on the allocation of cost for clergy, and then adjusted for church attendance and social deprivation in the parish. Our parish share varies each year depending on significant changes in these three drivers. The 2021 request for parish share (£25,305) could not be met in full, and £9,705 was added to our arrears. This year we managed to pay 62% an improvement on last year (only 44%) and we are working hard to increase our income from donations, events and hire of the building. The Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. They maintain a record of the backlog which now amounts to £64,505 built up over 9 years. Our long term goal is to pay our annual Parish Share in full.

5. **Analysis of Income and expenditure** -Clergy expenses may include a small proportion relating to their function as a PCC member. At 31 December 2021 the PCC bank account included card reader receipts from the Christingle service which were restricted to the work of The Children's Society and not part of PCC Income. These are shown as a creditor in our "agency" account.

6. **Commitments –** The PCC has entered into three financial commitments extending beyond a 12 month period, and one in relation to our opening hours for public visits.

- Since 2019, the PCC had entered into a 3 year commitment with its insurers Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC which gave improved discount terms, and expired on 24 March 2022. The demands of a Grade II listed building are complicated and the added value and responsiveness provided by our existing supplier during the term has been very good. PCC have agreed to enter into a new "Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement", giving a similar discount of 10% and expiring on 24 March 2025. The current basic annual fees payment including discount & insurance premium tax for the 12 months until 25 March 2023 is £5,128.
- On 19 May 2021, following the introduction of a digital streaming system the PCC entered into a commitment to a schedule of 6 x6 monthly instalments beginning in May 2021 and ending in November 2023 with its supplier Keystone Sound Systems Ltd. Four instalments remain totalling £9313 for 2022, and £8683 for 2023. In order to meet this commitment, the PCC has developed a fundraising plan with additional and varied events for the whole community and is confident payments will be met on time.

- In 2021 we secured a "green electricity" supply with SSE Business Energy, at fixed rates for a two year period commencing 1 September 2021 and continuing until 31 August 2023.

- Our contract with English Heritage for funding repairs to the roof continues until 2023 and requires the PCC to open weekly for the agreed hours for public access and to adhere to the maintenance plan. Once lockdowns eased, we introduced pre registering through a "ticketing" system for visitors and QR check in to enable us to "track and trace. Whilst social distancing remained recommended, visits could be booked through our website and remain free of charge. Since restrictions have been lifted we have re-instated public access on Tuesday and Saturday mornings.

7. **Reserves Policy** - It is the PCC's policy to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure the church continues its activities, can smooth out fluctuations in cash flow to pay its suppliers on time, and can cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. In the long term it is the PCC's hope to rebuild the total reserves to cover three months unrestricted payments (approx. £10,000) with £5000 of this designated to maintaining the fabric of our listed building. This designated fund is reviewed annually as part of the reserves and for its ability to be match-funding towards grants needed for major works.

8. This year the balance of the designated reserve at 31 December rose slightly to £1,983 whilst we also retain additional restricted funds in the Buildings reserve of £4650. The Quinquennial inspection completed in 2021 did not require any urgent work needed and PCC have not thought it necessary to designate additional amounts this year, given we have brought forward the replacement hearing loop within the sound system programme.

9. **Post Balance sheet events** - Whilst still within our existing gas contract, on 11 January 2022 the PCC entered into a future contract for our gas supply with Smartest Energy. This has secured a fixed price rate for carbon off set gas for a 24 month period from 1 October 2022 until 30 September 2024.

   The PCC remains vigilant to the risks involved to our members and visitors, and although restrictions have now been lifted, will continue to review the situation and follow the Diocesan guidance and any government announcements concerning the COVID pandemic.

Approved by the PCC on the 28 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev. Canon Angela Dick, PCC Chairman .....

Independent Examiner .....

The Pigsty Lydgate Farm
Jim Allen Lane
Midgley
Halifax
HX2 6DQ

Mob: 07793728525
Tel: 01422 881534

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report:

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge 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 in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: Ruth Strickland .

Name: Ruth Strickland

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies:

Member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Date: 28th March 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH,SOWER

England & Wales - Charity number 1131180

Accounts

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2020

Registered Charity Number 1131180

2020 Annual Report

Aim and Purposes

The PCC of Christ Church has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish of Sowerby Bridge. This includes pastoral care, social engagement with the community, and ecumenical working with Christians Together in Sowerby Bridge. We work closely with and provide foundation governors to Christ Church VA Junior School on Park Road, Sowerby Bridge. Pupils receive an education promoting Christian values, based on Christian principles and on the Anglican foundation of the school.

To facilitate this work it is important that the PCC maintain the fabric of Christ Church, our Grade 2 listed building for which we are responsible. This has historic significance and is a prominent feature in the conservation area, at the centre of Sowerby Bridge. We co-operate with Calderdale Council who maintain our closed graveyard.

Objectives and Activities

Our mission promotes living out our faith as part of our parish community and is summed up as: **Ordinary people sharing God's love in our world.**

Growing in faith; Living by prayer; Loving God's word.

Our values are: **To be Living, Loving, Learning and Confident, Growing, Changing**

During Lockdown Bishop Nick invited all churches to carefully consider how we emerge from lockdown safely and in particular what changes might be needed in our culture. Whilst we consider our existing strategy is sound, we will be looking at our various activities and habits, seeing if they are still fit for purpose as society enters a "new normal."

Vicar's Remarks (April 2021)

As I reflect back on 2020 I remember my verse of the year (Psalm 28v7). My word of the year was trust and how relevant it was as the full force of the Pandemic hit us. Trusting in God became a daily action as we navigated these unchartered waters. He did not fail us. God has been faithful to us as individuals and as a church. We still struggle financially but we are still here by the Grace of God.

This is because many of you have responded to the call of God in your lives and done what you could to support our church and one another through prayer, keeping in touch and sharing your gifts, skills and resources. Though we have been a scattered community God has kept us together and we have found ways of working together through these difficult months. As we look ahead in our church life in this 200th Anniversary of this building we are doing what we can to remember and give thanks for all those years. We hope to be able to celebrate in more 'gathered 'terms once we come through lockdown – a good excuse to keep the celebrations and thanksgivings going for a period of time and not just one event. With a view to future celebrations and concerts we have taken a huge step of faith as a PCC to agree to install a new sound system not quite knowing how we will be able to meet the

last couple of payments of the instalment plan which extends until 2024. Please pray that the Lord would provide what is needed. We have seen this so many times during my time here that God has blessed us with giving hearts and we have achieved in the last few years more than we could have imagined.

So what now for the future? My verse for 2021 Psalm 112 v8 which was written about those who fear/revere/and are in awe of the Lord: 'They are confident and fearless and can face their foes triumphantly'. My word for the year is Fearless because I am prone to feeling fearful and anxious particularly around my family as well as leading a church. And once again God is working his purpose out. As Christians, God's children we don't have to live in fear. He is with us. He is for us. He will go with us. Hallelujah! And just to illustrate how we walk together as the family of God here's some of your words for 2021 that you have shared with me: Tenacity/Persevere; Patience; Joy; Hope; Guide/Guidance; Peace; Kept- by the power of God; Love; Steadfast; Courage;

Wow! Imagine all of that pooled together in the people of God. What power we have at our disposal. Thanks be to God. So armed with all of that and, hopefully emerging from this pandemic, as a PCC and as a church let us seek to rebuild our worshipping community and as Bishop Nick has said to his clergy so many times this year: What should we lay down?

- What should we take up again?

- What should we continue that was started?

- What do we need to do moving forward?

I want to thank everyone again for being an amazing family of God and for continuing to support one another in these very strange times. God has blessed us even in the midst of the tough times we have all faced for there has been loss and disappointment and hurt this past year but God has not abandoned us.

So let us continue on and persevere with patience, filled with joy and hope. May we fearlessly seek guidance from the Lord, living in peace, holding on with tenacity knowing that we are kept by the power of God. For God's love is steadfast and sure. Take courage for He journeys with us. Amen.

Canon Angela Dick, 25th April 2021

Achievements and Performance 2020

Growing in Faith – through worship and prayer

At the annual meeting in 2020 our Electoral Roll rose to 53, and our Worshipping Community fell to 64. This masked the fact that 3 adults and a child joined, with 2 adults leaving and one death. During Lockdown we have moved worship "on-line" initially with recorded services from the vicar's study, and more recently since December, "Live Streaming" the service in church directly into people's homes by installing a streaming camera. This also gives us the ability to pre-record services and/or events.

Numbers attending in person were restricted due to social distancing measures meaning only 1 in every 3 pews was available and during the autumn when church was permitted to open our usual Sunday attendance was by pre-booked place only, and ranged from 25-30 which was our maximum capacity. Junior church ceased although activities were made available, and their Christmas books were sent through the post. Whilst Tuesday Communion did not take place, instead we opened for private prayer attracting around 6 people per week. Our WhatsApp Prayer and Support group became the main way of keeping in touch with daily Bible reading and reflection and was used to request practical help and wellbeing support. We changed our church membership software to a new host, Church Edit who also provided us with our Administration software IKnow. This allows us to send messages to individuals, groups and the whole church based on role, interest and need. Each week we have sent out reminders about the digital services, including the Sunday service sheets together with children's activity sheet and other messages as required. Those who were not "on-line" were telephoned and/or the weekly newsletter and seasonal materials were hand delivered or posted to them.

PCC continued to donate monthly to the work of Christians in Calderdale Schools as this goes to pay a schools worker's salary, and once again provided all year 6 leavers at our own Christ Church CE VA Junior School with the "Moving On" booklet published by Scripture Union, and gave each leaver a gift of a cross.

Sharing God's love in our world, our parish and our community

With the onset of the pandemic and in March, national lockdown, Ward Forum meetings were cancelled as the council focussed on supporting those isolating at home during the pandemic from 4 local "hubs". We promoted the Calderdale public health messages on our website, and physically as posters on our noticeboard at the centre of town. PCC sent a representative to the Sowerby Bridge COVID-19 hub meetings (as did other charity and community groups), where we heard the latest updates from our local councillor, council staff and helped organise volunteers to deliver emergency parcels. Working together each group has shared news of needs, publicised how to get help, encouraged and supported their local members, and provided what help they could. The group has continued to meet throughout the year with a view to forming a permanent community group to support our town and give it a stronger voice within Calderdale.

Earlier in the year, on 9th February 2020 properties in Sowerby Bridge were flooded once again as rain from Storm Ciara overwhelmed the River Calder causing a 10 mile swathe of

damage. More than a third of the homes and over half of the businesses that flooded in England last winter were in the Calder Valley. Christ Church opened as the Community Support Hub for Sowerby Bridge for a week. This time damage was not as extensive and well - rehearsed plans swung into place, in particular the loaning of de-humidifiers to those households worst affected.

In November we were made aware that Calderdale Council had been successful in a bid to revitalize the High Street in Sowerby Bridge. We were invited to become part of the Cultural Consortium connected to the project, and PCC provided a representative. In December members of the church were invited to contribute their memories of life in Sowerby Bridge for an initial launch video to air in Spring 2021.

a) Children's events. Our school activities ceased during Lockdown but we have kept in touch with our own school where two members of Christ Church are foundation governors together with the vicar who is Chair. The links between church and other primary schools in the parish continue, and hopefully will resume as schooling returns to normal.

Similarly, our 1st Sowerby Bridge Girl Guiding groups were unable to meet in person for most of the year. Our Guides began the year with 13 girls and stayed stable with three new joiners as two girls moved up to the older age groups. They particularly enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year, learning about food and customs before Lockdown. In September meetings resumed by Zoom, fortnightly for an hour, with activities to do remotely at home, but attracted just 4 girls in the autumn.

b) Adults' support for those lonely, isolated or visiting the town. Our twice weekly coffee mornings when church is open for public visitors ceased after 17th March. However, we moved to Zoom meetings each Saturday morning for our regular attenders. Conscious of the risk of "digital exclusion", in late September we successfully applied for a grant to the Community Foundation for Calderdale to offer use of equipment and provide 1-1 training by pre-booked appointment. Unfortunately on October 14th Calderdale moved into Tier 2 where meeting other people indoors was not permitted but we hope to start the project as soon as possible once restrictions are lifted. We hope to extend our first sessions to members of the Memory Lane Café for those with/ at risk of Dementia and their family carers.

c) Seasonal services and community events. The UK was in Lockdown for Mothering Sunday, Easter and Pentecost but we created videos to show on Facebook : Our Mothering Sunday service to "Light up Christ Church with Love"; "Pass the Cross" to celebrate Easter Sunday ; and artwork to illustrate the UK blessing for Pentecost. Rushbearing was cancelled but rushes were presented at church in a socially distanced way. We re-opened church for services on 13 September, and were able to hold our Harvest Festival but accepting only money offerings rather than physical items. Remembrance Sunday was commemorated with a video of community representatives rather than a physical parade, and all Christmas Services, including a virtual "Christingle" were held on line as cases began to rise at the end of the year. This year was also the 10th anniversary of Rev Angela's ministry at Christ Church and we surprised her with a delivery of afternoon tea and montage of messages

and song. Our Heritage Open Day "Hidden Nature" event in September included a self-guided tour of the graveyard with a botanical survey of plants to see. We also added an online event celebrating "Hidden nature" inside churches within architecture and in the Bible stories. The Christmas tree from the Sowerby Bridge Development Board was decorated and provided some cheer in the town despite being in Tier 3 Lockdown.

- **Communication**

On May 3rd 2020 we switched our main website provider and since then to December 31st, www.christchurchsb.org.uk has seen 1,194 visitors with 5,176 page views. From the overview page, the top 3 pages people have viewed are our videos, details on our COVID section, and our news page. Church members and visitors have been able to use the ticketing function to pre-book places for service and also act as our "Track and Trace" system, alongside QR code check in.

We now link into the Church of England "Life events" diary and have introduced a "Contact form" for people to request information more easily e.g. for Funerals. We have also created a "Giving Page" to accept tithes and donations safely and securely on-line. Our page on the 'A Church Near You' platform has received 6000 visitors during the year and links through to our own website. Despite fewer events in church to promote or report, we have grown our "on line" audience as more people are using mobile devices like smart phones and tablets. Our Facebook page likes have risen from 732 to 770, we have posted onto Facebook 178 times throughout the year and in total we have reached 22,984 people. These posts included links to services filmed for our "You Tube" channel which currently has 24 subscribers. We produced all our content using iMovie, and over the course of 2020, have created 64 videos in total, leading to 3874 views. These include over 20 church members making a 'pass the cross' video on Palm Sunday to be included in the Diocese wide video, as well as producing an art work montage video of the UK blessing (see cover page). We also "sang" by Zoom for Angela's 10th anniversary of installation at Christ Church. Calderdale was in Tier 3 Lockdown when we produced 2 actual community services the first being the Act of Remembrance which 266 people watched and our community service of 9 Lessons and Carols, which was watched by 84 people. The most watched videos were of services: 131 watched our 1st video on Mothering Sunday, and on Easter Sunday, 171 views.

For our Instagram account we have produced 70 posts and reached 420 people. The number of followers on this account has also risen from 160 at the end of 2019 to 191. With so much other and new activity (particularly on You tube), Twitter has been used less this year.

- I**mproving our environment/appearance**

When restrictions allowed, people "booked tickets" to attend a socially distanced Gardening Club to get the churchyard looking tidy and pleasant. In particular this was for our "on site" Heritage Open Day event. We are grateful to Calderdale Council team who removed all the weeds and prunings for us. Similarly YWT volunteering recommenced in the three nature reserves in the parish with groups of up to 6 people, including one of our members who

regularly volunteers. As a church we have joined the Eco Church scheme and during March sent out a questionnaire to members on their lifestyles, and knowledge of action PCC had taken, which will guide us as we work towards our Bronze award.

- **Access**

The need to introduce a COVID secure "one way flow" through the church building was critical to our re-opening in the autumn. We raised donations and grants to level and repoint the cracked and weed infested path along the base of the tower to the West door so it could become a fully functioning exit in all weathers. We continue raising funds to improve the condition of other paths so that access across the churchyard is easier for those with reduced mobility.

Maintaining Christ Church -a grade 2 listed building

It's now four years since our Quinquennial Inspection, and we have completed all remedial work which our architect recommended to be completed within 12 months. The final architect's completion certificate for the lighting project was issued in May 2019 after final adjustments were made. This year we consulted our architect over water leaking in from the SW porch roof and in the NW toilets area, and were granted List B permission to re-clip the roofing material and refurbish, address damp and re-decorate the toilets. We are grateful to local tradesmen who completed the repairs and our congregation who donated towards the work, together with grants from the Rushbearing Association, and Nestlé Community Fund.

Risk assessments have been carried out in the church and churchyard and regular testing and servicing or maintenance done on equipment. The terrier and inventory of assets has been updated and we are exploring an opportunity to re-purpose some items from a local church which has now closed.

Structure, governance and management

Over the year of 2020 PCC have met twice in person in Church and via Zoom 7 times. Minutes are uploaded to the website and can be viewed by members. Every meeting sees a detailed treasurer and fabric report which informs us about our present finances, work required to keep our Grade 2 listed building safe. As a priority above all other items from the first days of the pandemic, we kept informed of latest news and created/reviewed our risk assessments using the Diocese and Government guidelines.

We completed COVID risk assessments, reviewing regularly against all our Health & Safety/ Safeguarding policies and our Safeguarding team confirmed there have been no incidents to report during the year.

This year in particular, many vital tasks were undertaken 'behind the scenes' particularly in planning to maintain hygiene/ safety and by many different members of our congregation for which we are very, very appreciative.

Administrative information

Christ Church is situated on Wharf Street, Sowerby Bridge postcode HX6 2LW. It is part of the Diocese of Leeds, within the Church of England. The correspondence address is:

The Vicarage, 62 Park Road, Sowerby Bridge, HX6 2BJ, or via the website at www.christchurchsb.org.uk. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/Christchurchsb

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and the method of appointment of its members is set out under these rules. We encourage everyone in Christ Church to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC. Due to COVID-19 the APCM for 2019 did not take place until 18th October 2020 and the Diocese confirmed that all PCC members previously elected had their terms extended until such time as it took place. In PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. There are no paid employees but training costs and travel have been reimbursed and occasional office fees are paid at the Church of England annual rates e.g. at funerals, to church members, including members of PCC.

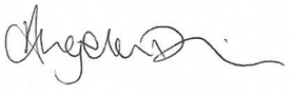
The PCC is also a charity registered with the Charities Commission, Registration number 1131180. PCC members who have served from 1 January 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent	**Rev. Canon Angela Dick**	**Chairman**
Wardens	**Peter Henry (re-elected 25 April 2021)**	
	David Gill (re-elected 25 April 2021)	
Elected Members		
	Paul Healey	**Treasurer**
	Helen Pedley (from 18 Oct 2020)	**Vice Chair, Data protection lead**
	Anthea Gee (re-elected 18 Oct 2020)	**Secretary & Deanery Synod Rep**
	Graham Lamb	
	Kevin Henry	
	Angela Wilkins	
	Susan Sanderson (re-elected25 April 2021)	
	Janet Turner (re-elected25 April 2021)	

This summary review of the year's activities was approved by the PCC on the 16 June 2021. It is to be read in conjunction with the attached financial review, notes and examined financial statements for 2020, approved on 30th March 2021.

Signed on their behalf by:



Rev. Canon Angela Dick,
PCC Chairman

Christ Church Sowerby Bridge

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2020

Financial Review

Income and Growth

This year has been unprecedented due to the impact of COVID-19. We had originally planned to increase the income generated through trading activities using our building with a series of performance events growing in size as we gained experience. Once the pandemic struck not only did these opportunities vanish, but even our regular coffee mornings and refreshments after Sunday worship disappeared. Receipts from charitable activities and trading were decimated – falling by 92% from 2019 levels. Only 1 funeral was held at church, and all weddings were postponed. The Rushbearing festival was cancelled as were our summer and advent fairs.

We have continued to reach out to the parish through social media, communicating important health messages for Calderdale Council and highlighting what help is available. To help overcome digital exclusion we were awarded a grant of £6333 by the Community Foundation for Calderdale, restricted to the purchase of equipment and provide basic training / support to support more people in the parish to go "on-line".

Sunday services moved on line from March until mid-September and even when church was open this was restricted to a maximum congregation of 30 (including at family baptisms). We are thankful that our regular members have continued to give generously with more of them switching to use on-line banking direct to our account or via our website. We installed a card reader to minimise cash handling but with smaller congregations cash donations plummeted. We are hoping that this investment in new technology will be worthwhile in future by making it easier for occasional visitors to donate by card as fewer people seem to carry cash. General donations and legacies at £29,187 is down from £32,253 in 2019: a fall of only 9.5%, which is remarkable considering the financial impact of the crisis. Our members also gave £2.4k specifically to our existing Access fund and together with grants of £1000 from the Diocese of Leeds BDF and £500 from the Calderdale Ward Forum fund we were able to level the path from the West door. This created a "one way flow" through the church building, and was a key step to re-open for services in a "COVID Secure" way. We also received the outstanding maintenance grant for work completed in 2019, and a new award of £7500 for excellence in church maintenance from the National Churches Trust. This forms a new "Restricted" reserve and will be used to address any issues found in the next Quinquennial Inspection report due in early 2021.

Expenditure

With church closed for so many weeks during the year we saved £800 on utility costs and on the cost of service materials, but these were offset by more spend on Health & Safety such as hand sanitizer dispensers and cleaning. The cost of levelling the path was met by restricted donations and we have also benefitted from the installation of a camera allowing us to professionally record and stream services. This is on a "free trial period" which does not end until Spring 2021when PCC will decide if it will continue. We have incurred extra necessary costs on Admin software for PCC meetings, but this also allows us to continue free social events such as coffee mornings via Zoom. Our costs of stewardship have gone up due to fees deducted by the companies providing our "on line" and card reader donations.
Given the uncertainty of our own income, from April PCC only continued to make charitable donations to Christians in Calderdale Schools, who rely on donations to fund their activities and pay their staff. We also cancelled the standing order to the Diocese, and instead, reviewed the amount we could pay towards the share at each monthly meeting. At the last PCC, with the rising concern over the rate of infection and onset of winter weather, we decided to retain around £4000 in our general reserve at the year-end in case Lockdown was reinstated. This meant in 2020 we only paid

£11, 241 towards the Parish share which was a creditable 66% of the amount paid in 2019 but the proportion of what was due fell to only 45%. The implementation of the new Parish Share formulae is now complete and our share for 2021 has not increased.

Summary

Our reliable donations from members through standing orders or regular direct credits is now around £1100 per month, which barely covers our essential utility and insurance costs in the colder months. With little other income, reluctantly we had to reduce our contribution towards the Parish Share, and a balance of £14,064 was added to our arrears account giving a total of £54,800. Despite the setbacks this year we are confident that plans to improve our building to generate income from more community use, will as we recover from the pandemic, enable us to meet our annual share.. We are thankful that the Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full.

Post balance sheet events

As feared the re-imposition of Lockdown on 5 January 2021 resulted in PCC deciding that in the best interests of our members, (where over 50% are in the first 4 categories of vulnerable groups) church services reverted to "on- line" only. The building will remain closed until the vaccination programme has rolled out sufficiently for government guidance to permit some local travel e.g. to allow those living outside the parish to also attend to assist with opening in a socially distanced way within the guidelines. Standing Committee will continue to review the reintroduction of activities regularly as and when announcements are made, and the financial position at each monthly PCC meeting.

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	29,187	282	18,750	—	48,221	41,217
Income from charitable activities	212	—	—	—	212	1,638
Other trading activities	170	—	—	—	170	2,798
Investments	—	2	—	—	2	13
Total income	**29,570**	**284**	**18,750**	**—**	**48,606**	**45,666**
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	239	—	22	—	262	195
Expenditure on charitable activities	27,768	576	11,315	—	39,659	53,910
Total expenditure	**28,008**	**576**	**11,337**	**—**	**39,921**	**54,106**
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	**1,562**	**(291)**	**7,413**	**—**	**8,684**	**(8,439)**
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds – in	—	612	546	—	1,158	22,051
Gross transfers between funds – out	—	(345)	(813)	—	(1,158)	(22,051)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	**1,562**	**(24)**	**7,146**	**—**	**8,684**	**(8,439)**
Total funds brought forward	**2,535**	**1,910**	**1,847**	**—**	**6,293**	**14,733**
Total funds carried forward	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	4,098	—	—	—	4,098	2,535
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	1,886	—	—	1,886	1,910
Restricted						
2019 Toilets	—	—	—	—	—	95
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	278	—	278	420
Building Grants -	—	—	7,500	—	7,500	339
Community Support grants	—	—	133	—	133	—
Res Access	—	—	400	—	400	600
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	681	—	681	391

Balance sheet

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Current assets						
Cash at bank and in hand	4,098	1,886	9,638	—	15,623	6,293
	4,098	**1,886**	**9,638**	**—**	**15,623**	**6,293**
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	—	—	645	—	645	—
	—	**—**	**645**	**—**	**645**	**—**
Net current assets less current liabilities	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**
Total assets less current liabilities	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**
Total net assets less liabilities	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	4,098	—	—	—	4,098	2,535
Designated						
Building Reserves	—	1,886	—	—	1,886	1,910
Restricted						

Res Access	—	—	400	—	400	600
Resourcing Ministry	—	—	681	—	681	391
2019 Toilets	—	—	—	—	—	95
Building Grants -	—	—	7,500	—	7,500	339
Bishop Development Fund	—	—	278	—	278	420
Community Support grants	—	—	133	—	133	—
Funds of the church	**4,098**	**1,886**	**8,993**	**—**	**14,978**	**6,293**

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Statement of assets and liabilities

	This year	Last year
Cash at bank and in hand		
Barclays Current		
2019 Toilets (Restricted) -	—	95
Res Access (Restricted) -	—	200
Resourcing Ministry (Restricted) -	681	391
General fund (Unrestricted) -	3,628	2,065
Building Grants - (Restricted) -	—	397
Bishop Development Fund (Restricted) -	278	420
Community Support grants (Restricted) -	133	—
Building Reserves (Designated) -	31	0
Agency collection (Restricted) -	45	—
	4,798	**3,571**
Barclays Bus Saver		
Res Access (Restricted) -	400	400
General fund (Unrestricted) -	470	470
Building Grants - (Restricted) -	7,500	(57)
Building Reserves (Designated) -	1,854	1,910
Agency collection (Restricted) -	600	—
	10,824	**2,722**
Total for Cash at bank and in hand	**15,623**	**6,293**
Agency accounts		
Agency collections		
Agency collection (Restricted) -	(645)	—
Total for Agency accounts	**(645)**	**—**
Grand total	**14,978**	**6,293**

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
Access - Res Access						
Restricted	600	3,660	4,148	288	—	400
Sub-total for Access	**600**	**3,660**	**4,148**	**288**	**—**	**400**
ResMinry - Resourcing Ministry						
Restricted	391	319	30	—	—	681
Sub-total for ResMinry	**391**	**319**	**30**	**—**	**—**	**681**
Toilets - 2019 Toilets						
Restricted	95	105	—	(200)	—	—
Sub-total for Toilets	**95**	**105**	**—**	**(200)**	**—**	**—**
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	2,535	29,570	28,008	—	—	4,098
Sub-total for General	**2,535**	**29,570**	**28,008**	**—**	**—**	**4,098**
Resbuild - Building Grants -						
Restricted	339	7,719	817	257	—	7,500
Sub-total for Resbuild	**339**	**7,719**	**817**	**257**	**—**	**7,500**
BDF - Bishop Development F						
Restricted	420	—	142	—	—	278
Sub-total for BDF	**420**	**—**	**142**	**—**	**—**	**278**
CSH - Community Support gr						
Restricted	—	6,945	6,199	(612)	—	133
Sub-total for CSH	**—**	**6,945**	**6,199**	**(612)**	**—**	**133**
Fabric - Building Reserves						
Designated	1,910	284	576	266	—	1,886
Sub-total for Fabric	**1,910**	**284**	**576**	**266**	**—**	**1,886**
Grand total	**6,293**	**48,606**	**39,921**	**—**	**—**	**14,978**

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Analysis of income and expenditure

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Donations and legacies						
Gift Aid Bank	13,294	—	1,350	—	14,644	9,707
Gift Aid Envelopes	3,729	—	230	—	3,959	3,686
Other Planned giving	4,015	—	—	—	4,015	5,124
Sunday collections	1,518	—	—	—	1,518	3,302
Collections at special services	82	—	—	—	82	921
Special appeals	—	17	750	—	767	477
Donations by public	1,525	18	299	—	1,843	5,403
Voluntary Contributions to general expen	—	—	69	—	69	187
Gift aid income tax recovered	5,023	—	105	—	5,128	4,752
Grants one off	—	247	15,945	—	16,193	7,653
Total	29,187	282	18,750	—	48,221	41,217
Income from charitable activities						
Fees retained by PCC	212	—	—	—	212	1,638
Total	212	—	—	—	212	1,638
Other trading activities						
Fairs and events	—	—	—	—	—	1,788
Refreshments	126	—	—	—	126	539
Room hire and banner fees	40	—	—	—	40	470
Other sales	4	—	—	—	4	—
Total	170	—	—	—	170	2,798
Investments						
Interest Received	—	2	—	—	2	13
Total	—	2	—	—	2	13
INCOME TOTAL	29,570	284	18,750	—	48,606	45,666
EXPENDITURE						
Raising funds						
Costs of fundraising events	33	—	—	—	33	139
Costs of stewardship campaigns	206	—	1	—	208	56
Costs incurred iro grants	—	—	20	—	20	—
Total	239	—	22	—	262	195
Expenditure on charitable activities						
Mission giving and donations	459	—	—	—	459	850
Diocesan Common Fund	11,241	—	—	—	11,241	16,860
Salaries wages and honoraria	264	—	—	—	264	297
Clergy expenses of office	1,427	—	—	—	1,427	1,695
PCC and visiting clergy	41	—	—	—	41	204
Vicarage expenses	75	—	—	—	75	29
Education Training	87	—	—	—	87	55
Mission activity in parish	942	—	6,320	—	7,263	1,734
Insurance	4,864	—	—	—	4,864	3,996
Church telephone Wifi	533	—	—	—	533	584
Media -Website Noticeboards	223	—	—	—	223	162
Service supplies	287	—	28	—	316	525
Service music liturgy material	720	—	—	—	720	1,303

Admin print post stationery	360	—	—	—	360	101
Admin software & other	317	—	—	—	317	364
Church security health safety	1,907	—	—	—	1,907	1,521
Church maintenance interior	820	—	—	—	820	3,238
Church maintenance exterior	—	—	4,148	—	4,148	1,427
Utility gas	2,378	—	—	—	2,378	2,981
Utility electric	660	—	—	—	660	907
Utility water	127	—	—	—	127	81
Costs of Trading	—	—	—	—	—	60
Governance costs	27	—	—	—	27	47
Major Repairs	—	576	817	—	1,393	14,879
Total	27,768	576	11,315	—	39,659	53,910
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	28,008	576	11,337	—	39,921	54,106
GRAND TOTAL	1,562	(291)	7,413	—	8,684	(8,439)

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Notes to the accounts 2020

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2. The PCC does not consider that it has any fixed assets. Items purchased with grant funding do not generate income and are used to provide activities to the community free of charge.

3. **Funds** -The PCC has no endowed funds. Restricted funds must be spent on the restricted purposes for which they were given or raised. The PCC tries to focus on one ministry project per year and just one active building project at a time. As previous years' projects are completed, the restricted funds associated with them are closed and new ones begun.

- Designated funds are accumulated transfers of unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for use in the future. The designated building fund represents accumulated transfer of unrestricted funds to provide a reserve to draw upon should there be major repairs needed, and forms part of our continuity plan. They remain unrestricted and the PCC may move any surplus to other general funds.

- In 2020 the final retention payment for the electrical wiring system was paid with the balance reduced to zero. The account is now re-purposed for the next major project and currently holds a restricted grant of £7500 received in December 2020 for major maintenance work.

4. **Arrears** – 2020 was the first year after the staged implementation of the Diocese of Leeds Parish Share formulae based on the allocation of cost for clergy, and then adjusted for church attendance and social deprivation in the parish. Our parish share will now be stable except for significant changes in these three drivers. Due to the drastic fall in our income due to the COVID-19 pandemic £14,064 was added to our arrears account giving a total of £54,800 built up over 8 years. The Diocese does not request payment of arrears from previous years until the current year can be paid in full. Our long term goal is to pay our annual Parish Share in full.

5. **Analysis of Income and expenditure** -Clergy expenses may include a small proportion relating to their function as a PCC member. At 31 December the PCC held receipts for wedding fees for which the various services have not yet been able to be held due to COVID -19 restrictions. As these fees are returnable on request they are shown as a creditor in our "agency" account and neither the PCC nor Diocese elements are included in income.

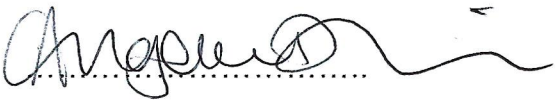
6. **Commitments** - On 27 February 2019, following the introduction of a new insurance product "Parish Plus", the PCC entered into a commitment with its insurers Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC to a 3 year Long Term Undertaking and Rate Stability Agreement and improved discount terms, expiring on 24 March 2022. The current basic annual fees payment including discount & insurance premium tax is £4878.

   The contract with English Heritage for funding repairs to the roof continues until 2023 and requires the PCC to open weekly for the agreed hours for public access and to adhere to the maintenance plan. During the pandemic when social distancing permits visits can be booked through our website and remain free of charge. The church has introduced pre registering through a "ticketing" system for visitors and QR check in to enable us to "track and trace.

7. **Reserves Policy** - It is PCC's policy to maintain sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure the church continues its activities, can smooth out fluctuations in cash flow to pay its suppliers on time, and can cover emergency situations which may arise from time to time. It is the PCC's hope to rebuild the total reserves to cover three months unrestricted payments (approx. £10,000) with £5000 of this designated to maintaining the fabric of our listed building. This designated fund is reviewed annually as part of the reserves and for its ability to be match-funding towards grants needed for major works. This year the balance of the designated reserve at 31 December fell slightly to £1,886 but given an award towards maintenance was received in restricted funds the PCC have not designated additional amounts this year.

8. **Post Balance sheet events** - The third national lockdown was introduced on 5 January 2021. The capacity of the church has been severely reduced in order to meet the UK Government guidance: **Staying at home and away from others (social distancing)** and given the age profile and geographic spread of our members the PCC took the decision to move all services "on line" until the government advice changes. The PCC will be regularly reviewing the situation for the building to re-open when deemed safe to do so.

Approved by the PCC on the 30th. March 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev. Canon Angela Dick, PCC Chairman 

Independent Examiner, Ruth Strickland

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Jim Allen Lane
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Halifax
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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report:

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge 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 in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:

Name: Ruth Strickland

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies:

Member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Date: 30th March 2021