

St Clement's Church, Urmston

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

St Clement's Church is situated at the corner of Stretford Road and Manor Avenue,
Urmston.

The Benefice of Christ Church, Davyhulme and St Clement's, Urmston was formed in 2014.
It is part of the Deanery of Manchester South and Stretford, the Archdeaconry of
Manchester and the Diocese of Manchester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:

St. Clements Church
Manor Avenue
Urmston
Manchester
M41 9GH

Independent Examiners

Burton & Co
76C Davyhulme Road
Urmston
M41 7DN

Website:-

www.stclementsonline.co.uk
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15899/

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity.
The charity number is 1131185.

Safeguarding

The Parish Safeguarding coordinator is Mrs Rose Corke who can be contacted on 07954 489235

The Diocese of Manchester partners with thirtyone:eight in relation to Disclosure (i.e. DBS) services and
accessing their safeguarding Helpline when required.

For DBS related queries, please contact them on 0303 003 1111 option 1.

In the event of the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser being unavailable due to being on holiday or other absence,
you will be advised to contact thirtyone:eight for safeguarding advice on 0303 003 1111. This also includes
any emergency safeguarding queries outside of office hours on weekdays and weekends. An Information
Sharing Agreement between the two organisations will allow the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser to receive a
copy of the advice thirtyone:eight may offer the parish church/caller.

St Clement's has complied with the duty under section 5 of the safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure
2016 to adopt "A Safe Church Policy" and "A Vulnerable child and Adult Policy" these will be re-affirmed at the
A.P.C.M. in 2024. We also need to be aware of how quickly the media is changing people's perception of our
responsibilities and we need to be extremely careful what is put on social media in the church's name.

Objectives and Activities

St Clement's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating, during the interregnum, with the Archdeacon, Area Dean and other clergy in the parish in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, ecumenical and the diocesan and deanery mission action plans. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Church, Branch Church, Parish Hall and the Curacy house.

Review of the Year

We started 2023 still in interregnum, and ended it still in interregnum despite our hopes that this would be the year the vacancy would be filled. However our hopes had been confirmed as in November 2023 we were able to announce that Revd Matthew Carlisle had been appointed to the vacancies of St Clement, Urmston and St Mary, Davyhulme. He took up the post in April 2024. Legally we are still in a joint benefice with Christ Church, Davyhulme but this will now be undone and a new joint benefice created for St Clement, Urmston and St Mary, Davyhulme.

The major event of the year was the closure of the Branch Church building after over 80 years as a place of worship. The decision was made very reluctantly by the PCC and a very lively public meeting showed us that the local people also saw this building as an important part of the community. However the deteriorating fabric and increasing health and safety issues made the decision unavoidable. We are now in the process of disposing of the land and building. The Branch Church building has closed but the Branch Church goes on. The congregation at the monthly services has transferred to the Humphrey Park Community Centre, ensuring that we still have a presence in that part of our parish.

Being a presence in the community is one of the things that we're called to do – In 2023 after the Covid break St Clement's again joined the Whit walks in Manchester city centre – a demonstration that the church is very much a presence in the community. Whit walks were a regular event that we all looked forward to when many of us were growing up and it's good to see the tradition continuing.

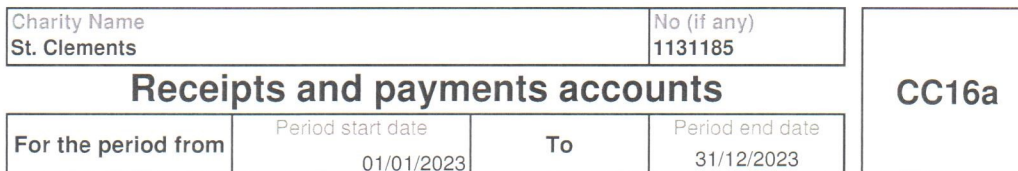
We're a presence in the Urmston community too. Open 3 mornings a week for anyone to call in for a cuppa or a chat; host to up to 100 walkers who use the church as their base before and after their walk on the meadows; venue for school carol services and for occasional concerts; a meeting place for Trafford Veterans where ex-service people can get together for support and friendship; and a warm hub last winter.

Financial Review 2023

Total receipts for 2023 were £82,023 – just a little higher than 2022's £79,210. And yet again, payments were even higher: £83,960 instead of £77,816 the previous year. We spent more than we earned and the gap had to be bridged, yet again, by a transfer of funds from our reserves. Unplanned expenditure included bills for just over £2000 to fell dead and diseased trees in the Parish Church grounds, and at the curacy house. It also included the cost of making the Branch Church safe when the condition of the roof forced closure – even an empty building has to be protected from weather and vandalism. And it is also more expensive to insure.

We managed to increase our contribution to the mission of the Diocese of Manchester – parish share – but were still unable to pay the amount requested in full. The shortfall has again been written off by the Diocesan Board of Finance. However, now that we have a stipendiary priest again, though only part-time, we have to do our utmost to pay in full. Through the diocesan Discussion and Agreement process we negotiated a small reduction in our share of the diocesan budget, from £35,343 to £31,00 this year, followed by larger payments of £33,500 in 2025 and £36,000 in 2026. Even these sums are challenging amounts, which come at a time when we are facing the very considerable cost of restoring the Rose Window at the east end of the Parish Church's north aisle.

Income from digital giving has increased, and a new, more effective broadband signal in the Parish Church is helping to increase the use of our digital donation box. The PCC is very grateful to all those faithful members of our congregations who already support us through regular giving of money or time or "in kind", providing goods for sale, raffle prizes, refreshments, and the flowers that adorn the Parish Church.



A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

CCXX R1 accounts (SS)

72,710

A3 Payments

[illegible]

	=
	=
	=

69,846

2,864
-
-
2,864

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Investment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	RBS Current Account	1,534	5,000	-
	Weddings and Funerals Account	356	-	-
	CCLA Repairs and Redevelopment Account	-	224	-
	CCLA Education Fund Account	-	10,441	-
	CCLA Grants Account	-	24,391	-
	Cash on Hand	2,253	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,143	40,056	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

	Details	Agreement Error Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Agreement Error Restricted funds to nearest £	OK Investment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Curate's House (157 Stretford Road, Urmston) - Currently let to tenants	Unrestricted	-	-
	CCLA Charities Investment Fund	Restricted - Education	-	21,834
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Church Furnishings (Included in inventory and vested in the Wardens on special trust)	Unrestricted		-
	Parish Hall	Unrestricted		-
				-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Burton and Company Accountants Ltd - examination and accounts fees	Unrestricted	360	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
C. A. Bailey	CHRISTINE ANN BAILEY	7/5/24
Neil J. Worthington	NEIL JAMES WORTHINGTON	07 MAY 24

Notes to the accounts

- a) The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, using the receipts and payments basis.

1 Church Running Expenses

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Telephone and Broadband	384	409
Water	1,077	1,128
Insurance	7,090	6,462
Trafford Council	0	784
	<u>8,552</u>	<u>8,783</u>

2 Church Maintenance

	<u>2,023</u>	<u>2,022</u>
Clock and Bells	352	335
General Repairs - Branch Church	344	0
General Repairs - Curacy House	405	0
General Repairs - Parish Church	3,013	0
Lightning Conductor Check	0	288
Organ Maintenance	1,500	0
Other - Parish Church	0	875
Parish Church - Sound system	3,096	0
Parish Church - Tree Felling	900	0
Restricted Repairs - Floor and carpet repairs	1,120	0
Restricted Repairs - Roof	2,034	0
Restricted Repairs - Rose Window survey	1,740	0
	<u>14,503</u>	<u>1,498</u>

3 Upkeep of Services and Wages

	<u>2,023</u>	<u>2,022</u>
Hire of new Branch Church venue	109	0
Weekly Giving Envelopes	110	0
Cleaning	8,169	7,052
Organist	1,380	270
	<u>9,768</u>	<u>7,322</u>

4 Gas and Electricity

	<u>2,023</u>	<u>2,022</u>
Parish Church - Gas	6,897	0
Parish Church - Electricity	1,179	0
Parish Hall - Gas	1,132	0
Parish Hall - Electricity	762	0
Branch Church - Gas	2,018	0
Branch Church - Electricity	1,086	0
	<u>13,073</u>	<u>0</u>

*Please note that no comparatives were made available for 2022 for Gas and Electricity

5 Restricted Funds

The restricted funds are listed here:

Building Works - For the major repairs required to the structure of the parish church

Repairs and Maintenance - For routine repairs to, and maintenance of, the church

Education - For promoting Christian learning

Rose Window - For repair of the Rose Window on the north side

The endowment fund consists of money received on the sale of the church school.

The capital of £10,000 cannot be spent and the income is to be spent for educational purposes.

Receipts to Restricted Funds

	R&M	Education	Grants	Rose Window
Legacies				
General Donations				
Grants for Roof Repairs				
VAT Recovered				
Raffles and Sales				
Other Fundraising Events				
CCLA Interest	9	438	1,208	
	9	438	1,208	0

Payments from Restricted Funds

	R&M	Education	Grants	Rose Window
Restricted Repairs			3,154	
	0	0	3,154	0

Fund Movements

	R&M	Education	Grants	Rose Window	School End
Balance at 1st January 2023					
RBS Current Account	399		(3,560)	4,554	
CCLA Deposit Account	215	10,003	28,183		19,403
	614	10,003	24,623	4,554	19,403
Incoming resources	9	438	1,208		
Resources expended			3,154	1,740	

Transfer to current account	5,000	
Investment Gains / (Losses)		2,431

Balance at 31st December 2023	623	10,441	17,677	2,814	21,834
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Closing balances:

RBS Current Account	399		(6,714)	2,814	
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CCLA Deposit Account	224	10,441	24,391		
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Total	623	10,441	17,677	2,814	21,834
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Account numbers:

CCLA Repairs and Maintenance	003690001C
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CCLA Education Fund	003690003C
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CCLA Building Work and Grants	003690005C
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Rose Window	Held in RBS Current Account
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School Endowment	003690001R
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Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
St. Clements Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

501351

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of all 310000 sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

As members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

B. Whitwood

Date:

8/5/24

Name:

Barrie Whitwood

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FMAAT

(if any):

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Address:

Burton and Company (Accountants) Ltd

76c Davyhulme Road

Davyhulme, Manchester. M41 7DN

Section B

Disclosure

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.