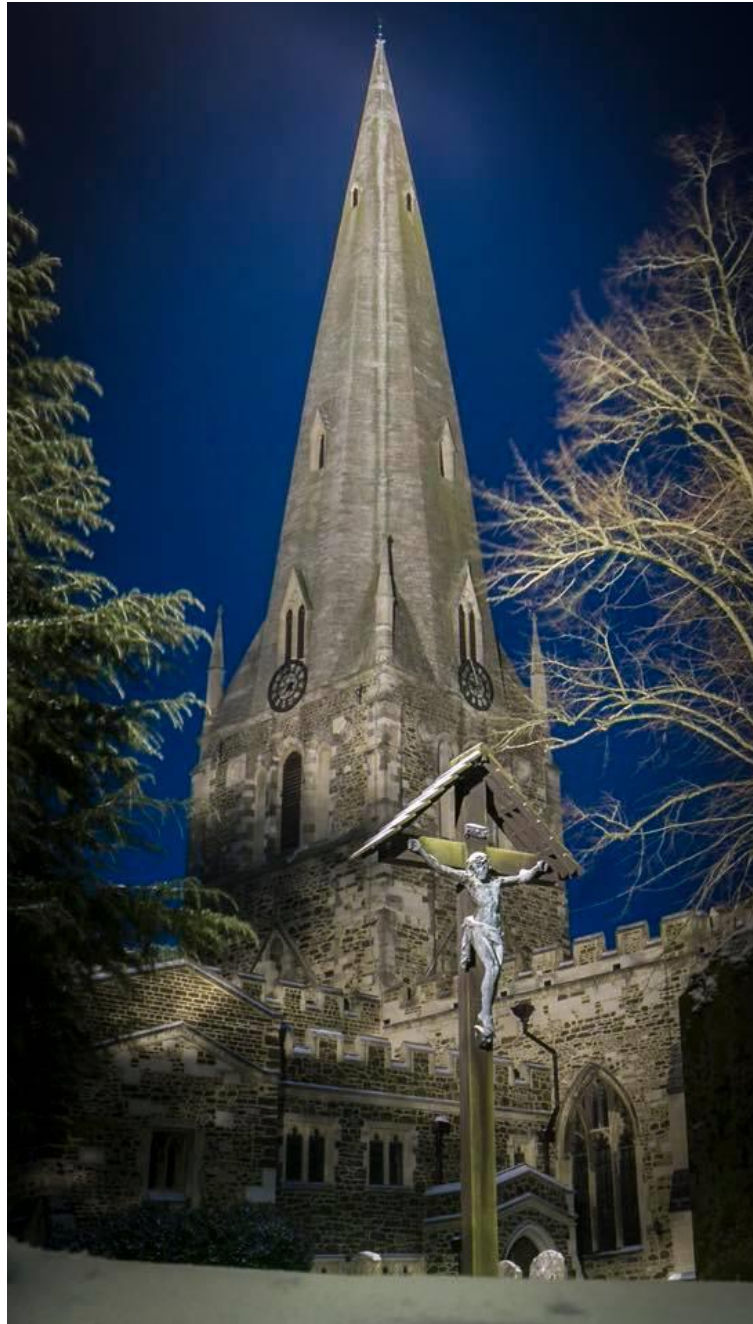


Diocese of St. Albans



Parish of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Saturday 17th May 2025 at 9.45am

DIOCESE OF ST. ALBANS
PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, LEIGHTON BUZZARD
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
SATURDAY 17th MAY 2025 at 9.45am

PRAYERS

Vestry Meeting:

Election of Churchwardens

Election of Sidesmen and Ladies

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting 28th April 2024
3. Presentation of Electoral Roll
4. Elections: Parochial Church Councillors: 3 members, Deanery Synod 1 member
5. Churchwardens' Report
6. P.C.C. Report
7. Other Reports
8. Presentation of Financial Accounts
9. Appointment of Auditor
10. To note the date of 22nd May P.C.C. meeting following 7.00pm Holy Communion
11. Date of next Annual Parochial Church Meeting
12. Any other business: An opportunity for members of the parish to raise any matter of common concern, and to make any suggestions for the P.C.C. agenda.
13. Vicar's Jottings

SIDESMEN AND LADIES:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Lindsay Bevis | Dianne Bradfield | Liz Corbett |
| Bev Crockett | Gemma Dolton | Julie Dolton |
| Terry Dolton | Anne Flynn | Dominic Flynn |
| Pauline Esmail-Scott | Jill Hargreaves | Rachael Horrocks |
| Jenny Huskisson | Zita Jeeves | Dot Jessup |
| Pauline Lyon | Audrey Mason | Steve Mayne |
| Maggie Moran | Dave Mowbray | Stephen Jury |
| Karen Nash | Jackie Rudom | Sam Smith |
| Amy Tingay | Philip Tingay | Sue Revis |
| Rosemary Warburton | Terry Warburton | David Williams |

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Ex-Officio on the P.C.C. are: - Churchwardens
Stipendiary Clergy
One representative Reader
Elected members of Deanery Synod

Already elected to serve for a further one year:

Jackie Rudom, Carol Yirrell, Stacey Major, Alan Perrott

Already elected to serve for a further two years:

Audrey Mason, Jaine Holford, Hannah Pearce, Andrea Cox, Dot Jessup, Christine Munford

Retiring members:

Janet Wenborn, Linda Kagunga

Eligible for Re-election:

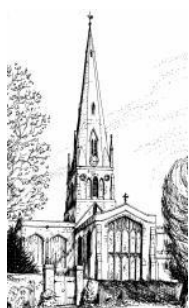
Amy Tingay

Vacancies:

3 vacancies for P.C.C

1 vacancy for Deanery Synod for 1 year

APCM MINUTES 2024



Diocese of St. Albans
Parish of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday 28 April 2024, 11:15am

The vestry meeting was opened in prayer by Mother Kirsty as Chair
The APCM meeting was chaired by John Sykes

VESTRY MEETING

1. ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS

Initially, Bill Webb announced that he was at the end of his Church Warden tenure and would be stepping down.

Mother Kirsty announced John Sykes and Sam Smith have agreed to stay as Church Wardens, with James Legg a new standing for Church Warden, this was proposed by John Sykes and seconded by Paul Dickens

This was unanimously approved at the meeting.

Mother Kirsty thanked John, Sam and Bill for their work throughout the year.

2. ELECTION OF SIDESPEOPLE

The motion to approve the list of sidesmen and ladies as recorded in the notice of APCM was proposed by Lindsay Bevis, seconded by Stacey Major and unanimously approved by all in attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This meeting was chaired by John Sykes

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A list of apologies was presented to, and noted by, the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual General Church Meeting were taken and read and accepted with no amendments. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Stacey Major, seconded by Geoff Marchant and unanimously approved by all at the meeting.

3. PRESENTATION OF ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

The Electoral Roll report was presented and it was noted that there had been 231 members in April 2024, a decrease of 13 since April 2023. This is part to members moving away or no longer attending church, but sadly there have also been 7 congregant deaths this year.

4. ELECTIONS

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The meeting was asked to approve the election of new PCC members:

| NOMINEE | PROPOSED | SECONDED | ELECTED? |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| Christine Munford | Alison Dobbie | Brian Bainbridge | Yes |
| Audrey Mason | Lindsay Bevis | James Legg | Yes |
| Jaine Holford | James Legg | John Wallace | Yes |
| Hannah Pearce | John Wallace | Laurelin Burge | Yes |
| Andrea Cox | Lindsay Bevis | John Wallace | Yes |
| Dot Jessup | Christine Stopford | Janet Wenborn | Yes |

No new Deanery Synod representatives came forward so there are still two places unfilled.

5. CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

The Church Wardens' Report was taken as read and unanimously adopted with no questions or comments being raised.

6. PCC REPORT

The PCC report was taken as read and unanimously adopted with no questions or comments raised.

7. **OTHER REPORTS**

The other reports set out in the APCM booklet were taken as read and unanimously adopted with no questions or comments being raised.

The PCC would like to thank Kerry Sykes from the flower team for all that she has done for Church.

8. **PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**

As he was away Mark Jeeves (Treasurer) provided a presentation of the financial report and overview of the final audited accounts for 2023, this was displayed for the meeting and read out by John.

Income year-on-year was up £7k primarily from the Coffee Shop.

Expenditure also increased unfortunately by £13.3k, due to inflation and the increased cost of running service. The Diocese quota was underpaid by £6k (£82k vs £88k). Had this have been paid in full, expenditure would have increased by £20k from 2022 and our overall loss would have been £12k for the year.

The acceptance of the financial was proposed by Alan Perrott, seconded by Bill Webb and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Stephen Jury asked, following a meeting with Kate Ford from the Diocese finance team, what had been implemented about fundraising, including Legacy Giving leaflets. He was advised that following this a card reader has been purchased and is being used for donations. The PCC have been discussing Legacy Giving and what is needed to set it up and produce a leaflet.

Mother Kirsty thanked everyone for their help, especially with the coffee shop.

9. **RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

Mark had previously advised that our current auditor is retiring so we will need to find someone new for next year. He is planning to speak to the Diocese & other local churches to see if they have any suitable auditors that could be recommended. It has been suggested that the sourcing of a new auditor is delegated to the finance committee then brought to the PCC once sorted, this has been proposed by James Legg and seconded by Stacey Major and unanimously approved.

10. **TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PCC MEETING**

It was noted that the next PCC meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd May 2024 at 7:30pm, preceded by a service of Holy Communion at 7:00pm.

11. **TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

It was noted that the next APCM would be held on Sunday 27th April 2025 at 11.15am.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

On behalf of the congregation. Judith Lakin thanked the PCC for all the hard work they do for running the church.

Bill Webb thanked Judith Lakin for the work she had done as PCC secretary in the last year.

Mother Kirsty thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed, with the Grace, at 11:40am

List of attendees:

Mother Kirsty, John Sykes, Lindsay Bevis, James Legg, Alan Perrott, Stacey Major, Geoff Marchant, Dot Jessop, Audrey Mason, Liz Corbett, Gill Hargreaves, June Ayres, Katrina Grant, Linda Kagunga, Sam Smith, Margaret & Brian Bainbridge, Judith Lakin, Steve Major, Marion Carter, Bill Webb, Sarah Webb, Dianne Bradfield, Hannah Pearce, Dorothy Carter, Adam Carter, Mary Payne-Cook, Stephen Jury, Hannah Holbrook, Andrea Cox, Philip Tingay

Apologies:

Marie & Ian Macpherson, Sheila Willett, George Lathwell, Kerry Sykes, Paul & Julia Dickens, Thelma Harris, Jenny & Geoff Huskisson, Amy Tingay, Mark Jeeves, Alison Dobbie, Christine Munford

PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

APRIL 2025

The Parochial Church Council was convened six times in the year to end Dec 2024, holding its meetings in the Church. PCC meetings generally take place bi-monthly as is usual, occurring in the months of February, April, May, July, September, November. The meetings were initially chaired by the church wardens until Preb David MacGeoch was appointed as vicar of All Saints, he took over chairing the meetings from September 2024. Minutes were taken by Phil Tingay as PCC Secretary.

Over the year a total of 24 people served on the PCC. The membership includes the Churchwardens, Stipendiary Clergy, a representative Reader and people elected to represent the Deanery Synod and the Diocesan Synod. Alongside these 'Ex-officio' members, are elected or co-opted members. Currently there are vacancies for the Deanery Synod and elected PCC members. Most elected members agree to serve for 3 years and can be re-elected to serve again, for a further 3 years. The maximum length of term is therefore 6 years, after which a person must take a break. Anyone interested in joining the PCC can approach myself as Secretary, Preb David MacGeoch, or anyone currently serving who would be delighted to explain the important work that is done. Names of all PCC members can be found on the PCC board in the North Transept.

All meetings follow a standard agenda. Points of discussion include a financial report that sets out how we are performing against the budget agreed for the year. The varied and excellent work that is undertaken by the various subcommittees is reported. Discussions on matters raised are frequently in depth and reflect the views and opinions of a diverse and passionate group of people.

There is also a Standing Committee, a subcommittee of the PCC, that meets bi-monthly around the months where there is no scheduled PCC meeting. The Committee is tasked with addressing matters that arise in between scheduled PCC meetings.

The major event for the PCC and church this year has been the appointment of Preb David MacGeoch as new church vicar. This has taken a lot of time and effort from many members of the church community. The wardens have done a fantastic job in running the church during this vacancy.

Phil Tingay, PCC Secretary
pccsecretary@allsaintslb.org.uk

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

In July, we said goodbye to our curate, Mtr Kirsty, who was appointed as chaplain to Christ Church College, Oxford. We are very grateful to her for stepping up to support us during the interregnum. We are similarly grateful to numerous clergy, readers, and other ministers both within and without the Ouzel Valley Team for ensuring that a full breadth of services continued to be offered up. In September and with relief, we welcomed our new team vicar, Prebendary David MacGeoch. We wish him and his family a very happy ministry with us.

John Sykes, Sam Smith, James Legg
Churchwardens

ALL SAINTS OFFICE REPORT

The church continues to be a place for worship, celebrations of baptisms and weddings and funeral services, a meeting place and concert venue. We hold a very popular weekly Toddler Time, and continue to work with Pulford and other schools to offer services, visits and the RE initiative Trails.

We manage the 'day to day' running of the church and we continue to be grateful to our churchwardens and band of 'ompa-loompa's', for their ongoing help and support.

Lindsay & Jo

SAFEGUARDING

All Saints continue to keep up to date with all the current guidelines set out by the Church of England and implement them in our policies.

The main change this year is that all children's workers are now required to undertake the domestic abuse training. Those involved have been informed and where necessary on a training course to give additional insight.

A new email has been created for safeguarding, this is safeguarding@allsaintslb.org.uk

The safeguarding lead has also changed Bill Webb has stepped down and Andrea Cox is now our safeguarding lead. Any issues should be reported to the Safeguarding officers.

Andrea Cox, Lindsay Bevis & Stacey Major
Safeguarding Officers

MUSIC REPORT

With the exception of a residential visit to Exeter cathedral, 2004 was a relatively quiet year for the choir.

The Exeter trip went very well indeed, although we were unlucky that our Head Chorister, Francesca Price, fell ill on the second day and was unable to sing on the last day. We sang Choral Evensong on Friday 23rd, Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th August, with a Sung Eucharist on the morning of the Sunday 25th. Most people stayed in the Exeter Choir School where the accommodation was rather basic, to say the least. But people put up with it and we enjoyed trips to a robotic dairy farm, the local ten-pin bowling alley and the Exeter Underground Passages. Some of the adults spent time exploring the city's hostelryes! We were pleased to welcome a number of parents and members of the All Saints congregation on the Sunday.

Francesca Price (Head Chorister) sadly left us after 11 years solid service to the choir. Her successor in the role of Head Chorister is Olivia Olleson and Elisha Ayra was appointed Deputy Head Chorister in September. I am hugely grateful to them for their support.

Our former Organ Scholar, Samuel Kemp, gained his F.R.C.O qualification, a remarkable achievement for someone so young and he also took up his role as Organ Scholar at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

Two of our choristers (Francesca Price and Harry Murgatroyd were awarded Choral Scholarships to Oxford colleges (Exeter and The Queens, respectively).

Leighton Young Singers has continued to thrive under Saff's leadership, assisted by Peter and Katrina. They performed brilliantly in church on a number of occasions in 2004. Towards the end of the year they started rehearsing the Ragazzi choir part in Carl Orff's Carmina Burana which they are due to perform in All Saints in May 2005 with Stewkley Singers.

My thanks to Claire, Isobel and Brian for their continued support of the band for the 11.30 service.

The Advent carol service was as magical as ever. It seems to be almost everyone's favourite service of the year.

We welcomed new members to the adult and treble sections of the choir during the year.

My thanks to everyone involved with music in the church, especially Lindsay, who plays a huge role in the life of the choir in her role as "mother of the trebles".

Paul Dickens

Director of Music

ALL SAINTS TODDLER TIME

All Saints Toddler Time is a group for parents and carers of pre-school children. We meet every Wednesday morning and afternoon in term time at 9.30 - 11.00 and 1.30 - 3.00 in the North Transept. The children have an opportunity to play and make new friends, learn new skills and generally have fun, and the adults can have a chat and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with a slice of homemade cake. There is squash and biscuits for the children. There is a small weekly charge of £1.50 per adult and child plus an extra 50p for each additional child.

Mothers Union continues to support us by doing the refreshments and we greatly appreciate their help. The homemade cakes and biscuits are always popular with both the adults and children. We also provide fruit which has proved popular.

Last autumn the children made carrots, apples, watermelon, grapes, bees and butterflies to decorate one of the church windows at harvest. During the year our fundraising included our annual 'Toddlers Toddle' round the churchyard one Sunday in June after Messy Mass, raising money for Mother's Union. In September we helped sell raffle tickets for Alzheimer's Research and in November we sold chocolate teddies for Children in Need. Christmas term ended with a party enjoyed by 23 families with 25 children. Father Dave joined us for the last part of the morning and we ended with the telling of the nativity story and a round of Hokey Cokey all enjoyed in our beautiful church.

We continue to be busy and are looking forward to welcoming new and returning families this year.

Julie & Terry Dolton
Toddler Time Leaders

SUNDAY SAINTS REPORT

Sunday school runs during the 9.30 service every Sunday for children of 3 and up. We focus on a story or theme from the Bible each week and have a story, craft and activities. Children are encouraged to make good choices following how Jesus wants us to live.

This year we have had a change in leadership and Andrea Cox has taken over this role and organising the rotas. Thank you to Alison Dobbie who has been the co-ordinator for many years. We have a great reliable team but are recruiting for additional helpers as covering holidays and sickness is challenging.

This year has seen an increase in numbers of children attending but it can fluctuate hugely from week to week.

If you would like further information or are able to volunteer as a leader contact Andrea.

Andrea Cox

COFFEE SHOP REPORT

During 2024 we unfortunately had to close the Saturday Coffee shop from the beginning of September. This was caused by lack of managers to organise that day. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have been able to reopen for drinks and cake on a morning basis. I know that this will be welcomed by many of our regulars who have made frequent enquiries. The Coffee shop not only provides much needed funds for the church, but also a welcoming and safe place for many people who although not church goers feel that they belong to All Saints.

The managers would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers for their support including our regular cake bakers. What would we do without you. Your friendliness is much appreciated by our customers.

If anyone reading this feels that they could offer help or bake a cake regularly for us, please speak to one of the managers or give your name and contact details in to the Parish office.

Jenny Huskisson

LUNCH CLUB REPORT

The Lunch Club continues to meet usually on the first Wednesday of each month at 1pm. The concept behind the Lunch Club was to provide a home-cooked meal for older people in a relaxed setting. We aim to cater for about 36 diners. Although many of those who attend are church members, we also welcome others, particularly those recently bereaved or who are isolated socially. We have a number of volunteers who make this happen. It starts with helping to clear the North Transept after the Toddler Group and we are very grateful to the leaders for clearing up and leaving so quickly so that we can get things ready. From approximately 1130am, 'setting up volunteers' arrive to clear the North Transept, set tables and get the heated trolleys and hotplates ready for the arrival of the food. From about 1230pm our cooks arrive with the home-cooked food ready to serve to our guests. We have continued our themed focus, usually focussing on a saint; some of these saints come with quite gruesome biographies. Geoff Huskisson who offers prayers and says Grace has started to source more humorous Graces and this is much appreciated. We try to provide meals that are seasonal and sometimes themed. We are grateful to members and volunteers alike for making this a very convivial club. And of course, we will always welcome new volunteers and can find jobs to fit their skills. Volunteers are particularly needed to help set up and clear away before and after lunch. Please see me if you can help either on a regular or occasional basis.

Margaret Wallace

Lunch Club Co-ordinator

VERGERS REPORT

This year has been an eventful year supporting the wardens during the interregnum. More eventful was welcoming the new incumbent, Prebendary David, with fifteen changes in his first two weeks!!

As usual, we had the civic services, including Remembrance and, of course, the licensing of Preb. David. With the church open daily, we are always welcoming visitors, schools, and groups, often explaining the building and Christian faith and providing a listening ear.

Unfortunately, we lost another long-serving verger in December, Ian Macpherson. We soldier on with a small band officiating at weddings and funerals; moving chairs and staging; and cleaning. We are always eager to recruit anyone who wishes to join us. Just ask any of the vergers for information.

We had a few outings during the year, including to the Abbey and to St Andrews, Bedford. We enjoyed our annual Alban Service and Supper, and the Christmas Lunch with the wider Guild. We also had a Lenten Devotion and a Corporate Communion at St. Saviours, with our Chaplain Father Andrew as usual.

Jenny Huskisson filled the post of secretary and treasurer for the guild as well as all her other duties here, for which I thank her very much.

We, the vergers, find it very fulfilling to care for the people and the building of All Saints and, as always, I am reminded that it is an honour and our duty to be the gate keepers in the house of our Lord.

Lindsay Bevis

Head Verger and Chairman of the St Albans Diocesan Guild of Vergers

BAPTISM GROUP REPORT

Our Baptism team currently consists of 4 Baptism visitors who welcome and prepare families for their child's baptism. We hold Baptism Preparation evenings monthly for All Saints families and those from St Barnabas and the villages. We have kept the booking system in place and this works well. During the evening we show a short presentation about baptism and families have chance to book a date for the service. We answer any question and there is opportunity to look around the church. Families are invited to two church services, one before baptism for a Thanksgiving for their child, and one after baptism when the newly baptised child is welcomed by the church congregation. Baptism services at All Saints are generally held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month in the morning.

During 2024 we had 41 enquiries and baptised 29 children. So far this year we have had 10 enquiries and baptised 3 children at All Saints. We have also received several enquiries about adult baptism and a Thanksgiving.

Julie Dolton

Baptism Co-Ordinator

BEREAVEMENT GROUP REPORT

The Bereavement Team meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month, which includes a short act of worship, and praying for the terminally ill and bereaved. We arrange members of the team to make contact with those recently bereaved, taking them a copy of the magazine, and updating the RIP list of names. Our thanks go to Jane Smith who is retiring as administrator, and we welcome Jill Sharman to the role. A bereavement café continues to meet on the first Sunday of each month, where friendship and support is available in a relaxed atmosphere. Our service of thanksgiving and remembrance in the spring was well attended and appreciated. Families stayed for tea and cake afterwards. Many thanks are due to June, who helps with set-up and refreshments. We had our usual tree of remembrance in the Lady Chapel at the Festive Fayre. The tree was full of stars hung by people in memory of their loved ones.

We welcome any interest from potential new members.

Bereavement Team

FLOWER GROUP

The Flower Group provides floral arrangements in church and coffee shop week by week and for special services and events such as weddings or funerals and in memory of loved ones. We are pleased to have welcomed 2 new members to the team this year.

In the past year we made a particular effort to use more garden flowers and are grateful to those who have kindly given flowers and foliage from their gardens to use in church. This helps reduce costs and is more environmentally friendly as garden flowers don't have air miles.

We are also being environmentally responsible by reducing our use of floral foam (Oasis) as it is made of plastics which don't biodegrade, and it contains some nasty chemicals, making it harmful to wildlife and aquatic creatures. We held a workshop to help us improve our skills in using eco-friendly alternatives and have researched a new type of floral foam which is not harmful to nature and can safely be composted.

In January we began planning the Flower Festival for June 2025.

We have enjoyed our year of flower arranging as our offering to God and welcome anyone who would like to join us or learn more about using flowers in church.

The Flower Group

DIOCESAN & DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Synod have met three times in the past year. As well as the business matters of the meetings we have welcomed speakers from The Mothers Union and the Children's Society. At the July 2024 meeting Judith James spoke in her role as the West Cluster Leader and Prayer Circle Friends Coordinator for the Diocese on the work of the Mother's Union, both locally and worldwide. At the recent meeting in March 2025, Phil Evans spoke about the current work of the Children Society in his capacity as the charity's Church Engagement and Fund-Raising Officer for the Home Counties. As there was no speaker at the November 2024 meeting there was an open discussion on the recent resignation of Archbishop Justin Welby, particularly in relation to safeguarding in the Church.

In July 2024 Revd. Noel McGeeney became our new Rural Dean following the end of Revd. Nicola Lenthall's term.

It is worth noting that as a Deanery we are under represented at Diocesan Synod. The Deanery is allocated five members to each of the 'Houses' of Clergy and Laity. Presently there are only two members of clergy and one member of laity from Deanery Synod elected to our Diocesan Synod (St. Albans). It is important that Dunstable Deanery is adequately represented so the views of the parishes are heard at Diocesan and General Synod level. Representatives are elected by Deanery Synod, but they do not need to be a member of that Synod – anyone on their parish electoral roll may put themselves forward. They automatically become ex-officio members of their PCC and attend Deanery Synod meetings. Diocesan Synod meets three times a year in March, June and the Autumn, at least once on Zoom. If anyone on the electoral roll is interested in this, they should speak to any of the Deanery Synod representatives below or one of the churchwardens.

The Diocesan Synod also has significant and interesting people to make presentations on topical issues as well as dealing with the budget and parish shares (Quotas). The presentation and approval of accounts explains how every pound has been raised and spent and shows just how well we have been served by financial experts. The Diocese of St Albans has not been subject to savage cuts in clergy numbers as some others have. One of us (SJ) found his two three-year terms a fascinating experience.

Deanery Synod Representatives from All Saints are: Preb. David (ex-officio), Stephen Jury, Geoff Marchant and Lindsay Bevis.

Stephen L. Jury

BELL RINGERS REPORT

Despite falling numbers of ringers, we have managed to ring the bells over the last year for Sunday services, weddings and other main events. We are very appreciative of the support from other towers that has enabled us to do this. Unfortunately, however, there have not been enough ringers available to allow us to run the regular the Monday evening practice in recent months.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Alan Knowles in May 2024 who was dedicated ringer in the 1980s and 1990s.

The church is fortunate in having one of the finest peals of bells in the country and we receive regular requests from visiting bands who wish to ring peals or practice on them. It is a real shame that we do not currently have a local band that can ring the bells as frequently as they have been in previous years.

The dwindling numbers of ringers and challenges in recruiting new people is nationwide issue and it will take a concerted effort to reverse the situation. We are looking at ways in which we can rebuild the local band with Prebend David. There is a lot of interest in the bells, which is demonstrated by the number of people who wish to visit the tower when we open it during fetes, we need to find a way of converting that interest into an active group of learners.

By necessity, the bell ringers are largely invisible because we are up in the tower. People do notice when the bells aren't ringing and, in the words of Jeremy Pratt, head bellringer at Westminster Abbey or, to give him his official title, conductor of the abbey company of ringers, church bells "are the loudest and most public, outward-facing voice of the Christian Church. When people hear them, they know something is happening." If we are to succeed in rebuilding the band, the support from the church will be essential.

Emma Birtles

ALL SAINTS SERVERS' GUILD REPORT

The past year has been busy for the small team of servers at All Saints with few Sundays off for the core members.

As ever, the highlight of the year was Holy Week, which was particularly rewarding.

We have been joined by some new servers, which is very welcome, and we are hopeful for more new adult servers to add to the rota; if you are interested in joining our happy team then please speak to me or Lindsay, thank you.

This was my first year as Head Server and I would like to thank my fellow servers for their valuable support.

Mike Sharman

ECO-CHURCH REPORT

The Eco Church group helps All Saints to show its commitment to care for God's creation and be environmentally responsible in line with the Church of England's 5th mark of mission.

In this past year the group's activities included:

- A successful event for Great Big Green Week in June, attended by over 70 people of all ages (including other churches and local community). Activities included: tree trail; making wild seed bombs; plant stall; helping with the national biodiversity audit of churchyards; nature bingo, and refreshments. The event raised £225 for All Saints Net Zero Carbon Fund.
- Promoting an environmental topic each month such as: food waste, recycling, Big Garden Birdwatch, eco-friendly Christmas.
- Promoting the Great Garden Birdwatch with a special birdwatch chart showing birds commonly found in the churchyard.
- A visit to Tring Baptist Church to learn from them. It is the only church in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire to have achieved the Eco Church Gold Award.
- A display in church during Creationtide about how the churchyard is managed to benefit biodiversity, and our Eco Church work.
- Held a Clothes Swap in September to raise awareness of the environmental damage caused by fast fashion and over-consumption of clothing. Over 75 items of clothing were swapped, the remainder going to charity and £190 was raised for All Saints Net Zero Carbon fund.
- Carried out research of case studies of churches which have installed eco-friendly heat and energy solutions and presented the findings to the PCC. We liaised with the Diocesan Net Zero Carbon team. The outcome was that All Saints accepted the offer of a free energy audit with additional funding to help with energy saving measures.

Katrina Grant

Eco Church Group

PARTNERS IN MISSION REPORT

Members of the Partners in Mission committee are:

Brenda Howard (Treasurer); Emma Birtles; Christine Munford; James Legg (Secretary); and Linda Kagunga (Chairman). The Committee met four times during 2024. Sadly, we said goodbye to our chair, Linda, who has moved away.

The church responds to many one-off appeals, but we have also formed long-term relationships with several groups. Leighton Linlade Helpers is one of these and we were glad to dedicate our Lent Appeal to them, which involved not only the Jars of Hope but also a food collection.

In the autumn, the bishop's harvest appeal was focused on the work of the Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka. Despite abundant wildlife and history, the recent economic crisis has hit the country hard with three in ten households without sufficient food. Leprosy thrives in these conditions, but the Leprosy Mission can help families grow their own food and develop a sustainable income.

As in the previous couple of years, we supported the Link to Hope Christmas shoebox appeal and, because of its popularity, this looks set to become a regular activity.

In previous years, we had been sponsoring Sam Ang in Cambodia via World Vision. This and the associated project have now come to a successful ending.

Donations during the year:

| | |
|--|----------|
| <u>Local</u> | <u>£</u> |
| Keech Hospice | 700 |
| Leighton Linlade Helpers | 500 |
| Willen Hospice | 500 |
| <u>National</u> | |
| Alzheimer's Society | 500 |
| Beyond Detention | 500 |
| Combat Stress | 500 |
| Coram | 500 |
| Crisis | 500 |
| Shelter | 700 |
| <u>International</u> | |
| Bishop's Harvest Appeal – Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka | 1,000 |
| British Red Cross (Overseas) | 500 |
| Christian Aid Week | 500 |
| Hope & Aid Direct | 500 |
| Médecins San Frontières | 500 |
| Mercy Ships | 700 |
| Save The Children – Gaza Appeal | 500 |

James Legg

SIDES PEOPLE REPORT

The job of sides person is a very important one. It involves welcoming everyone into the church (whether they are regular church goers or new visitors), the distribution of books and pew sheets and generally keeping a friendly eye on the congregation in case anyone needs help. After the service sides people are responsible for locking the doors, counting the collection and ensuring the building is left secure.

We have a dedicated small band of people who are willing to do this task each Sunday. We would very much like to encourage more people to join us, and if you feel that this is something you would like to do, please contact the Parish office. Sunday services are currently 8am, 9.30am and 6pm. Family services are at 11.30am on alternate weeks. You would be on a rota for which ever service you usually attend, and would be very much welcomed.

Jenny Huskisson

MOTHERS UNION REPORT

Members are meeting at least once a month at All Saints, diocesan meetings and Crafty Natter. Mothers' Union members at All Saints continue to support the Parish providing Baptism packs, sending cards to couples on their wedding day, providing a cross stitch cross in the pocket for bereavement visitors, and maintaining the books and bags for children to use during services. We raise funds for Make a Mother's Day, the MU main fundraising campaign enabling women to transform their lives by health care, education and empowerment. Some of us meet monthly with non-members at Crafty Natter where we make various items for diocesan projects (including Luton and Dunstable hospital NICU) plus items for local care homes and other charities.

In June we took part in the Toddle to raise money to support 4 refugees in the diocese. This raised over £100.

Usually twice a year we have a stall selling haberdashery items. These have raised about £200 last year and enabled items to be used. We have also enjoyed repurposing cards to sell for various projects.

As everything we do is underpinned by prayer. We are very pleased to have corporate communion on the third Thursday of the month when the work of Mothers' Union is remembered in prayer. In addition we usually celebrate Lady Day in March and participate in the MU wave of prayer in June (this involves all 4 million members around the world in praying for each other every hour of every day. In November we promote the UN campaign of 16 Days of Activism to end gender based violence, highlighting its many forms. Through the Rise Up campaign MU are keeping domestic violence in the spotlight throughout the year.

Mothers' Union is a worldwide organisation which campaigns for family life to be valued. This often begins with recognising the value of women in societies where they are neglected and abused.

Alison Dobbie

SOCIAL EVENTS TEAM REPORT

No report received.

ACTIVE YOUTH GROUP

No report as unable to run due to lack of leaders.

LITURGY AND WORSHIP REPORT

No report received.

SAINTS ALIVE MAGAZINE REPORT

No report received.

FABRIC REPORT

No report received.

CHURCHYARD GARDENING TEAM REPORT

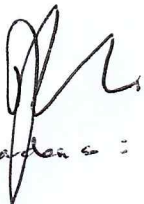


No report received.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17/5/25

Vicar :

Churchwardens :



Jennifer Hudson


ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| | Notes | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Incoming resources | 2 | | | | | | |
| Incoming resources from donors | | 107,336 | 11,273 | 43,113 | 0 | 161,722 | 152,350 |
| Other voluntary incoming resources | | 8,881 | | 0 | 0 | 8,881 | 10,894 |
| Charitable and ancillary trading | | 68,749 | | 1,930 | 0 | 70,679 | 67,097 |
| Income from investments | | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| Total incoming resources | | 185,669 | 11,273 | 45,048 | 11,845 | 253,835 | 233,258 |
| Resources used | 3 | | | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | 0 | | 9,350 | 0 | 9,350 | 10,130 |
| Direct Church related activities | | 156,370 | | 39,492 | 0 | 195,861 | 186,330 |
| Fund raising and publicity | | 1,031 | | 0 | 0 | 1,031 | 0 |
| Church management and administration | | 54,601 | | 72 | 0 | 54,673 | 43,077 |
| Total resources used | | 212,002 | 0 | 48,914 | 0 | 260,916 | 239,537 |
| Gains on revaluation of investments | | | | | 64,395 | 64,395 | |
| Proceeds of 1 Pulford road introduced | | | | | 266,269 | 266,269 | |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | | (26,332) | 11,273 | (3,866) | 342,509 | 323,584 | (6,279) |
| Transfers between funds | 10 | | | | | | |
| | | 11,845 | | | (11,845) | 0 | 0 |
| | | (6,000) | | 6,000 | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 18,804 | | | (18,804) | 0 | 0 |
| | | 41,343 | 17,436 | (58,779) | | 0 | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | 39,660 | 28,709 | (56,645) | 311,860 | 323,584 | (6,279) |
| Balances brought forward 1 January 2024 | | 134,013 | | 70,645 | 51,900 | 256,558 | 262,837 |
| Balances 31 December 2024 | | 173,673 | 28,709 | 14,000 | 363,760 | 580,142 | 256,558 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| | Notes | 2024 | | 2023 | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets - freehold property | 4 | 125,000 | | 125,000 | |
| | | | | 0 | |
| Investments | 5 | <u>360,187</u> | 485,187 | <u>33,096</u> | 158,096 |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors and prepayments | 7 | 7,588 | | 23,031 | |
| Bank deposits | | 44,233 | | 28,602 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | <u>62,684</u> | | <u>50,850</u> | |
| | | 114,505 | | 102,483 | |
| Current liabilities | | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 8 | <u>19,551</u> | | <u>4,021</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | 94,954 | | 98,462 |
| Net assets | | | <u>580,141</u> | | <u>256,558</u> |
| Funds | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | | 173,673 | | 134,013 |
| Designated | | | 28,709 | | |
| Restricted | | | 14,000 | | 70,645 |
| Endowment | | | <u>363,760</u> | | <u>51,900</u> |
| | | | <u>580,142</u> | | <u>256,558</u> |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, and follow the accounting and reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable (Charities SORP) and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those of informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts and endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, income is apportioned to the individual funds on an average basis.

Unrestrictive funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized only when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC becomes legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish share is accounted for when due to the extent that the PCC agree should be paid. All other expenditure is recognised when due.

Fixed assets

Consecrated property is not included in accordance with S10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on Special Trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory and no value for these is included in the accounts.

The property, 138 Brooklands Drive, Leighton Buzzard, is shown at valuation in 1997.

Investments are shown at market value.

Office and Church equipment has been fully depreciated so the value shown is nil.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| 2 | INCOMING RESOURCES | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2(a) | Income from donors | | | | | | |
| | Planned giving: | | | | | | |
| | Covenants and gift aid | 51,276 | | 37,000 | | 88,276 | 67,899 |
| | Income tax recovered | 15,591 | | | | 15,591 | 18,385 |
| | Uncovenanted | 21,064 | | | | 21,064 | 17,992 |
| | Collections at all services | 12,805 | | | | 12,805 | 11,905 |
| | Sundry donations and activities | 6,599 | 1,273 | 6,113 | | 13,985 | 36,169 |
| | Legacies | | 10,000 | | | 10,000 | 0 |
| | | 107,336 | 11,273 | 43,113 | 0 | 161,722 | 152,350 |
| 2(b) | Other voluntary income | | | | | | |
| | Fetes, bazaars and other fundraising events | 8,881 | | | | 8,881 | 10,894 |
| 2(C) | Charitable and ancillary trading income | | | | | | |
| | Bookstalls and cards | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Church and property lettings | 3,422 | | | | 3,422 | 360 |
| | Youth and holiday club | | | 1,930 | | 1,930 | 1,211 |
| | Magazines and printing | 2,242 | | | | 2,242 | 2,020 |
| | Fees, including bellringing | 14,114 | | | | 14,114 | 14,260 |
| | Coffee shop | 48,971 | | | | 48,971 | 49,246 |
| | Property rental | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 68,749 | | 1,930 | 0 | 70,678 | 67,097 |
| 2(d) | Income from Investments | | | | | | |
| | Dividends & Interest | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| | | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| | Total incoming resources | 185,669 | 11,273 | 45,048 | 11,845 | 253,834 | 233,258 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| 3 | RESOURCES USED | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 3(a) | Missionary and charitable giving | | | | | | |
| | The Church overseas: | | | | | | |
| | Missionary societies and relief and development agencies | | | 4,200 | | 4,200 | 6,274 |
| | Home missions and other Church societies | | | 750 | | 750 | 2,106 |
| | Secular charities | | | 4,400 | | 4,400 | 1,750 |
| | | 0 | | 9,350 | 0 | 9,350 | 10,130 |
| 3(b) | Activities directly relating to the work of the church | | | | | | |
| | The ministry: | | | | | | |
| | Diocesan quota | 69,399 | | | | 69,399 | 82,000 |
| | Incumbent's and clergy expenses | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Vicarage expenses | 1,380 | | | | 1,380 | 556 |
| | Curates house | 596 | | | | 596 | 2,407 |
| | Church - running expenses | 29,195 | | | | 29,195 | 23,869 |
| | Church maintenance | 7,375 | | 19,216 | | 26,591 | 15,450 |
| | Upkeep of services | 25,665 | | | | 25,665 | 34,936 |
| | Upkeep of churchyard | 3,257 | | 1,000 | | 4,257 | 969 |
| | Belfry costs | | | 3,687 | | 3,687 | |
| | Expenditure on church magazine and bookstall | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Expenditure on Coffee Shop | 13,794 | | | | 13,794 | 14,352 |
| | Choir costs | | | 13,784 | | 13,784 | 11,791 |
| | Youth and junior church | 1,930 | | 1,805 | | 3,735 | 0 |
| | Major works to buildings | 3,779 | | | | 3,779 | |
| | | 156,370 | | 39,492 | 0 | 195,861 | 186,330 |
| 3(C) | Fund raising and publicity | | | | | | |
| | Cost of fetes, bazaars and other fund raising | 1,031 | | | | 1,031 | 0 |
| 3(d) | Church management and administration | | | | | | |
| | Salaries and wages | 33,065 | | | | 33,065 | 30,633 |
| | Office and sundry expenses | 21,536 | | 72 | | 21,608 | 12,444 |
| | | 54,601 | | 72 | 0 | 54,673 | 43,077 |
| 3(e) | Extraordinary expenditure | | | | | | |
| | Major works to the church | 14,267 | | | | 14,267 | 33,557 |
| | Grants from The Preservation Trust | (10,488) | | | | (10,488) | (33,557) |
| | | 3,779 | | 0 | 0 | 3,779 | 0 |
| | Total resources used | 215,781 | | 48,914 | 0 | 264,695 | 239,537 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 FIXED ASSETS

| | Freehold land and buildings £ | Office Equipment £ | Church Equipment £ | Total £ |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Value at 31 December 1997 or later cost to December 2023 | 125,000 | 14,365 | 530 | 139,895 |
| Additions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Value at 31 December 1997 or later cost to December 2024 | 125,000 | 14,365 | 530 | 139,895 |
| Depreciation to 31 December 2023 | 0 | 14,365 | 530 | 14,895 |
| Charge for year | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 14,365 | 530 | 14,895 |
| Net Book Value at 31 December 2024 | 125,000 | 0 | 0 | 125,000 |
| at December 2023 | 125,000 | 0 | 0 | 125,000 |

The freehold property is a house, introduced at professional valuation as at 31 December 1997:

| | |
|--|---------|
| | £ |
| 138 Brooklands Drive, Leighton Buzzard | 125,000 |

This property was informally valued by McConville Bowden on 16 March 2005 in a price range of £215,000 to £230,000.

5 INVESTMENTS

Endowment funds

| | Market value | |
|--|--------------|---------|
| | 2024 | 2023 |
| Held by the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England | £ | £ |
| Leighton Buzzard Church House Fund 2029.04 CBF Investment fund. | 70,502 | 68,924 |
| Canon Scammell Bequest - 1998 907.23 CBF Investment fund | 20,977 | 20,508 |
| I Pulford Road Fund 11,620.99 CBF Investment fund | 268,708 | 262,696 |
| | 360,187 | 352,128 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed assets and investments | 125,000 | | | 360,187 | 485,187 | 158,096 |
| Current assets | 70,153 | 28,709 | 12,070 | 3,573 | 114,505 | 102,483 |
| Current liabilities | (19,551) | | | | (19,551) | (4,021) |
| Total net assets | 175,602 | 28,709 | 12,070 | 363,760 | 580,141 | 256,558 |

7 DEBTORS

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Sundry Debtors | 7,588 | 23,031 |

8 CURRENT LIABILITIES

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Creditors for goods and services | 19,551 | 4,021 |

9 FUNDS

Endowment funds

The Church House fund

The income from this fund can be used for the furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard.

The Canon Scammell Fund

The income from this fund is to be used towards the cost of communion bread & wine, incense and candles.

The 1 Pulford Road Fund

The 1 Pulford Road Fund arises from the sale of the property in 2023. The PCC have invested the proceeds and regard this as an endowment, the income is used for general unrestrictive purposes.

Restricted Funds

The mission fund receives regular contributions from the general account together with other collections and donations which are donated to various charities.

The Belfry fund receives donations and fees for weddings, the net income is used to maintain the tower.

The Youth Trails account receives donations which are used to provide activities and resources for youth work.

The Jane Hunt fund receives grants from the Jane Hunt Charity. The funds are to be used for Choir expenses and any excess can be used for Church upkeep and repairs and the maintenance of Church services.

The Choir fund was grants received for the Choir trip to Exeter

The Swire fund is used for churchyard maintenance

Designated Funds

These funds represent money the PCC is reserving for specific expenditure at a later date.

10 Transfers

Transfers have been made between funds to allow for the reclassification of amounts previously shown as in restricted funds.

Some of these are now shown as designated funds and some have been transferred to the general account

A transfer is also made on account of endowment income which is transferred to the general account.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 FUND MOVEMENTS

| | Balance b/fwd £ | Dividends & interest £ | Transfers £ | Gain on revaluation £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Endowment Funds | | | | | |
| Church House Fund | 23,096 | 1,913 | 1,913 | 47,406 | 70,502 |
| Canon Scammell Bequest | 10,000 | 569 | 569 | 10,977 | 20,977 |
| 1 Pulford Road Fund Introduced | 266,269 | 9,362 | 9,363 | 6,012 | 272,280 |
| | <u>299,365</u> | <u>11,844</u> | <u>11,845</u> | <u>64,395</u> | <u>363,759</u> |

The values shown for investments in previous years was based on the value in 1997 or cost.
The gain on revaluation therefore arose over a number of years.

| | Balance b/fwd £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfer to & from other funds £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Restricted Funds | | | | | |
| Mission Funds | 3,098 | 4,043 | 9,422 | 6,000 | 3,719 |
| Belfry Fund | 8,220 | 2,075 | 3,687 | | 6,608 |
| Youth trails | 548 | 3,000 | 1,805 | | 1,743 |
| The Jane Hunt Fund | | 25,000 | 25,000 | | - |
| The Swire fund grant | | 1,000 | 1,000 | | - |
| Choir grants | | 8,000 | 8,000 | | - |
| Designated funds Transferred | 58,779 | | | - 58,779 | - |
| | <u>70,645</u> | <u>43,118</u> | <u>48,914</u> | <u>- 52,779</u> | <u>12,070</u> |

| | Transferred from Restricted Funds £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Designated Funds | | | | |
| The Coffee Shop | 13,473 | | | 13,473 |
| Boiler Fund | 1,548 | | | 1,548 |
| Chancel Liability | 2,415 | 25 | | 2,440 |
| Legacies | | 11,248 | | 11,248 |
| | <u>17,436</u> | <u>11,273</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>28,709</u> |

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD**

Introduction

This report on the financial statement of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 is in respect on an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and Section 144(2) of the Act does 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 145(5)(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 an 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 in any material respect the requirements – to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 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 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.

David A Thompson
Chartered Accountant
30 High Street
Leighton Buzzard, Beds
LU7 1EA

Signed
Date

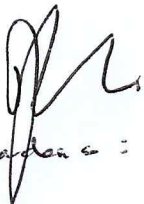



14/11/25

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17/5/25

Vicar :

Churchwardens :



Jennifer Hudson


ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| | Notes | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|--|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Incoming resources | 2 | | | | | | |
| Incoming resources from donors | | 107,336 | 11,273 | 43,113 | 0 | 161,722 | 152,350 |
| Other voluntary incoming resources | | 8,881 | | 0 | 0 | 8,881 | 10,894 |
| Charitable and ancillary trading | | 68,749 | | 1,930 | 0 | 70,679 | 67,097 |
| Income from investments | | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| Total incoming resources | | 185,669 | 11,273 | 45,048 | 11,845 | 253,835 | 233,258 |
| Resources used | 3 | | | | | | |
| Missionary and charitable giving | | 0 | | 9,350 | 0 | 9,350 | 10,130 |
| Direct Church related activities | | 156,370 | | 39,492 | 0 | 195,861 | 186,330 |
| Fund raising and publicity | | 1,031 | | 0 | 0 | 1,031 | 0 |
| Church management and administration | | 54,601 | | 72 | 0 | 54,673 | 43,077 |
| Total resources used | | 212,002 | 0 | 48,914 | 0 | 260,916 | 239,537 |
| Gains on revaluation of investments | | | | | 64,395 | 64,395 | |
| Proceeds of 1 Pulford road introduced | | | | | 266,269 | 266,269 | |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | | (26,332) | 11,273 | (3,866) | 342,509 | 323,584 | (6,279) |
| Transfers between funds | 10 | | | | | | |
| | | 11,845 | | | (11,845) | 0 | 0 |
| | | (6,000) | | 6,000 | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 18,804 | | | (18,804) | 0 | 0 |
| | | 41,343 | 17,436 | (58,779) | | 0 | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | 39,660 | 28,709 | (56,645) | 311,860 | 323,584 | (6,279) |
| Balances brought forward 1 January 2024 | | 134,013 | | 70,645 | 51,900 | 256,558 | 262,837 |
| Balances 31 December 2024 | | 173,673 | 28,709 | 14,000 | 363,760 | 580,142 | 256,558 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

| | Notes | 2024 | | 2023 | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets - freehold property | 4 | 125,000 | | 125,000 | |
| | | | | 0 | |
| Investments | 5 | <u>360,187</u> | 485,187 | <u>33,096</u> | 158,096 |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors and prepayments | 7 | 7,588 | | 23,031 | |
| Bank deposits | | 44,233 | | 28,602 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | <u>62,684</u> | | <u>50,850</u> | |
| | | 114,505 | | 102,483 | |
| Current liabilities | | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 8 | <u>19,551</u> | | <u>4,021</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | 94,954 | | 98,462 |
| Net assets | | | <u>580,141</u> | | <u>256,558</u> |
| Funds | | | | | |
| | 10 | | | | |
| Unrestricted | | | 173,673 | | 134,013 |
| Designated | | | 28,709 | | |
| Restricted | | | 14,000 | | 70,645 |
| Endowment | | | <u>363,760</u> | | <u>51,900</u> |
| | | | <u>580,142</u> | | <u>256,558</u> |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, and follow the accounting and reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable (Charities SORP) and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE) 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of Church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those of informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained: only income arising from the investment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts and endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, income is apportioned to the individual funds on an average basis.

Unrestrictive funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognized only when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC becomes legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognized when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The Diocesan Parish share is accounted for when due to the extent that the PCC agree should be paid. All other expenditure is recognised when due.

Fixed assets

Consecrated property is not included in accordance with S10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011. Moveable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on Special Trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory and no value for these is included in the accounts.

The property, 138 Brooklands Drive, Leighton Buzzard, is shown at valuation in 1997.

Investments are shown at market value.

Office and Church equipment has been fully depreciated so the value shown is nil.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| 2 | INCOMING RESOURCES | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2(a) | Income from donors | | | | | | |
| | Planned giving: | | | | | | |
| | Covenants and gift aid | 51,276 | | 37,000 | | 88,276 | 67,899 |
| | Income tax recovered | 15,591 | | | | 15,591 | 18,385 |
| | Uncovenanted | 21,064 | | | | 21,064 | 17,992 |
| | Collections at all services | 12,805 | | | | 12,805 | 11,905 |
| | Sundry donations and activities | 6,599 | 1,273 | 6,113 | | 13,985 | 36,169 |
| | Legacies | | 10,000 | | | 10,000 | 0 |
| | | 107,336 | 11,273 | 43,113 | 0 | 161,722 | 152,350 |
| 2(b) | Other voluntary income | | | | | | |
| | Fetes, bazaars and other fundraising events | 8,881 | | | | 8,881 | 10,894 |
| 2(C) | Charitable and ancillary trading income | | | | | | |
| | Bookstalls and cards | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Church and property lettings | 3,422 | | | | 3,422 | 360 |
| | Youth and holiday club | | | 1,930 | | 1,930 | 1,211 |
| | Magazines and printing | 2,242 | | | | 2,242 | 2,020 |
| | Fees, including bellringing | 14,114 | | | | 14,114 | 14,260 |
| | Coffee shop | 48,971 | | | | 48,971 | 49,246 |
| | Property rental | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 68,749 | | 1,930 | 0 | 70,678 | 67,097 |
| 2(d) | Income from Investments | | | | | | |
| | Dividends & Interest | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| | | 703 | | 5 | 11,845 | 12,553 | 2,917 |
| | Total incoming resources | 185,669 | 11,273 | 45,048 | 11,845 | 253,834 | 233,258 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

| 3 | RESOURCES USED | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 3(a) | Missionary and charitable giving | | | | | | |
| | The Church overseas: | | | | | | |
| | Missionary societies and relief and development agencies | | | 4,200 | | 4,200 | 6,274 |
| | Home missions and other Church societies | | | 750 | | 750 | 2,106 |
| | Secular charities | | | 4,400 | | 4,400 | 1,750 |
| | | 0 | | 9,350 | 0 | 9,350 | 10,130 |
| 3(b) | Activities directly relating to the work of the church | | | | | | |
| | The ministry: | | | | | | |
| | Diocesan quota | 69,399 | | | | 69,399 | 82,000 |
| | Incumbent's and clergy expenses | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Vicarage expenses | 1,380 | | | | 1,380 | 556 |
| | Curates house | 596 | | | | 596 | 2,407 |
| | Church - running expenses | 29,195 | | | | 29,195 | 23,869 |
| | Church maintenance | 7,375 | | 19,216 | | 26,591 | 15,450 |
| | Upkeep of services | 25,665 | | | | 25,665 | 34,936 |
| | Upkeep of churchyard | 3,257 | | 1,000 | | 4,257 | 969 |
| | Belfry costs | | | 3,687 | | 3,687 | |
| | Expenditure on church magazine and bookstall | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | Expenditure on Coffee Shop | 13,794 | | | | 13,794 | 14,352 |
| | Choir costs | | | 13,784 | | 13,784 | 11,791 |
| | Youth and junior church | 1,930 | | 1,805 | | 3,735 | 0 |
| | Major works to buildings | 3,779 | | | | 3,779 | |
| | | 156,370 | | 39,492 | 0 | 195,861 | 186,330 |
| 3(C) | Fund raising and publicity | | | | | | |
| | Cost of fetes, bazaars and other fund raising | 1,031 | | | | 1,031 | 0 |
| 3(d) | Church management and administration | | | | | | |
| | Salaries and wages | 33,065 | | | | 33,065 | 30,633 |
| | Office and sundry expenses | 21,536 | | 72 | | 21,608 | 12,444 |
| | | 54,601 | | 72 | 0 | 54,673 | 43,077 |
| 3(e) | Extraordinary expenditure | | | | | | |
| | Major works to the church | 14,267 | | | | 14,267 | 33,557 |
| | Grants from The Preservation Trust | (10,488) | | | | (10,488) | (33,557) |
| | | 3,779 | | 0 | 0 | 3,779 | 0 |
| | Total resources used | 215,781 | | 48,914 | 0 | 264,695 | 239,537 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 FIXED ASSETS

| | Freehold land and buildings £ | Office Equipment £ | Church Equipment £ | Total £ |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Value at 31 December 1997 or later cost to December 2023 | 125,000 | 14,365 | 530 | 139,895 |
| Additions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Value at 31 December 1997 or later cost to December 2024 | 125,000 | 14,365 | 530 | 139,895 |
| Depreciation to 31 December 2023 | 0 | 14,365 | 530 | 14,895 |
| Charge for year | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 14,365 | 530 | 14,895 |
| Net Book Value at 31 December 2024 | 125,000 | 0 | 0 | 125,000 |
| at December 2023 | 125,000 | 0 | 0 | 125,000 |

The freehold property is a house, introduced at professional valuation as at 31 December 1997:

| | |
|--|---------|
| | £ |
| 138 Brooklands Drive, Leighton Buzzard | 125,000 |

This property was informally valued by McConville Bowden on 16 March 2005 in a price range of £215,000 to £230,000.

5 INVESTMENTS

Endowment funds

| | Market value | |
|--|--------------|---------|
| | 2024 | 2023 |
| Held by the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England | £ | £ |
| Leighton Buzzard Church House Fund 2029.04 CBF Investment fund. | 70,502 | 68,924 |
| Canon Scammell Bequest - 1998 907.23 CBF Investment fund | 20,977 | 20,508 |
| I Pulford Road Fund 11,620.99 CBF Investment fund | 268,708 | 262,696 |
| | 360,187 | 352,128 |

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Designated Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | 2024 Total £ | 2023 Total £ |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed assets and investments | 125,000 | | | 360,187 | 485,187 | 158,096 |
| Current assets | 70,153 | 28,709 | 12,070 | 3,573 | 114,505 | 102,483 |
| Current liabilities | (19,551) | | | | (19,551) | (4,021) |
| Total net assets | 175,602 | 28,709 | 12,070 | 363,760 | 580,141 | 256,558 |

7 DEBTORS

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Sundry Debtors | 7,588 | 23,031 |

8 CURRENT LIABILITIES

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Creditors for goods and services | 19,551 | 4,021 |

9 FUNDS

Endowment funds

The Church House fund

The income from this fund can be used for the furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish of All Saints, Leighton Buzzard.

The Canon Scammell Fund

The income from this fund is to be used towards the cost of communion bread & wine, incense and candles.

The 1 Pulford Road Fund

The 1 Pulford Road Fund arises from the sale of the property in 2023. The PCC have invested the proceeds and regard this as an endowment, the income is used for general unrestrictive purposes.

Restricted Funds

The mission fund receives regular contributions from the general account together with other collections and donations which are donated to various charities.

The Belfry fund receives donations and fees for weddings, the net income is used to maintain the tower.

The Youth Trails account receives donations which are used to provide activities and resources for youth work.

The Jane Hunt fund receives grants from the Jane Hunt Charity. The funds are to be used for Choir expenses and any excess can be used for Church upkeep and repairs and the maintenance of Church services.

The Choir fund was grants received for the Choir trip to Exeter

The Swire fund is used for churchyard maintenance

Designated Funds

These funds represent money the PCC is reserving for specific expenditure at a later date.

10 Transfers

Transfers have been made between funds to allow for the reclassification of amounts previously shown as in restricted funds.

Some of these are now shown as designated funds and some have been transferred to the general account

A transfer is also made on account of endowment income which is transferred to the general account.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 FUND MOVEMENTS

| | Balance b/fwd £ | Dividends & interest £ | Transfers £ | Gain on revaluation £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Endowment Funds | | | | | |
| Church House Fund | 23,096 | 1,913 | 1,913 | 47,406 | 70,502 |
| Canon Scammell Bequest | 10,000 | 569 | 569 | 10,977 | 20,977 |
| 1 Pulford Road Fund Introduced | 266,269 | 9,362 | 9,363 | 6,012 | 272,280 |
| | <u>299,365</u> | <u>11,844</u> | <u>11,845</u> | <u>64,395</u> | <u>363,759</u> |

The values shown for investments in previous years was based on the value in 1997 or cost.
The gain on revaluation therefore arose over a number of years.

| | Balance b/fwd £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfer to & from other funds £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Restricted Funds | | | | | |
| Mission Funds | 3,098 | 4,043 | 9,422 | 6,000 | 3,719 |
| Belfry Fund | 8,220 | 2,075 | 3,687 | | 6,608 |
| Youth trails | 548 | 3,000 | 1,805 | | 1,743 |
| The Jane Hunt Fund | | 25,000 | 25,000 | | - |
| The Swire fund grant | | 1,000 | 1,000 | | - |
| Choir grants | | 8,000 | 8,000 | | - |
| Designated funds Transferred | 58,779 | | | - 58,779 | - |
| | <u>70,645</u> | <u>43,118</u> | <u>48,914</u> | <u>- 52,779</u> | <u>12,070</u> |

| | Transferred from Restricted Funds £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Balance c/fwd £ |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Designated Funds | | | | |
| The Coffee Shop | 13,473 | | | 13,473 |
| Boiler Fund | 1,548 | | | 1,548 |
| Chancel Liability | 2,415 | 25 | | 2,440 |
| Legacies | | 11,248 | | 11,248 |
| | <u>17,436</u> | <u>11,273</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>28,709</u> |

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE PCC OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, LEIGHTON BUZZARD**

Introduction

This report on the financial statement of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2024 is in respect on an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the regulations") and Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and Section 144(2) of the Act does 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 145(5)(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 an 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 in any material respect the requirements – to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 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 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.

David A Thompson
Chartered Accountant
30 High Street
Leighton Buzzard, Beds
LU7 1EA

Signed
Date


14/11/25