

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended
31 December 2024
for
Stokesley with Seamer PCC**

Stokesley with Seamer PCC

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1131281

Principal address

The Rectory
Leven Close
Stokesley
Middlesbrough

Trustees

Ex-officio

Clergy: Rev Ben Gunter (Priest-in-Charge & Chair)

Churchwardens: Judith Turland; John Groom (Vice Chair); David Hand; Beverley Turner

Deanery Synod Member: Jenny James (Secretary)

Elected

Jane Atha (Safeguarding); Nadine Brown; Anne Bryant (Treasurer); Guy Davies; Jennifer Finel; Colin Hinton; Hilary Kerr; Beverley Turner; Sue Wardle; Heather Waring; Jean Webster; Michael Westgarth-Taylor (PCC Representative on the Standing Committee).

The PCC has also appointed an unremunerated office holder who is not a PCC member: Electoral Roll - Paula Davies

Independent examiner

Gillian Duffy & Co Ltd, Chartered Accountants

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2017) and a registered charity (number 1131281). It has the responsibility, with the Priest-in-Charge (its Chair), of promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. All who attend worship are encouraged to register on the Church Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC met 7 times during the year. The Standing Committee, comprising the churchwardens, treasurer and secretary plus one PCC representative met 6 times during the year. Our Annual Parish Meeting was held on 22 April 2024.

Risk Management and Safeguarding

PCC Members, as trustees, acknowledge their duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. PCC members have also taken due regard of House of Bishops' guidance on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults, and the PCC adopted the new 'Promoting a Safer Church' national policy in 2017 and reviewed policies in accordance with Diocesan guidelines annually. No reports have been received of any incidents of concern.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Purpose and Values

Our statement of purpose and values, adopted in 2011, continues to be:

Purpose:

Our purpose is to worship God, to follow Jesus, and to show his love to all.

Values:

1. We worship the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We aim to do this through prayer, praise and study that is faithful, varied and vibrant, offered throughout the week.
2. As a reflection of God's open and inclusive love, we welcome all people of all ages, so they may develop a relationship with him.
3. As the Body of Christ, our commitment to one another is one of friendship, encouragement and support, within and

beyond our organised activities.

4. We want everyone to explore their call to discipleship in daily life, and we encourage them to develop that calling in the offering of time, skills, and money within and beyond the church.
5. We ensure that the church's vision, values, activities and organisation are widely and accessibly publicised and understood.
6. We maintain and develop our buildings for worship and mission and as valued spiritual places and resources within the local community.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Membership, Worship, Study, Prayer, Mission, Evangelism, and Ecumenical Activity

The 2024 Electoral Roll contained 134 members (2023: 118) from 110 households, 10 being non-resident.

2024 has been a year of consolidation. We have enjoyed welcoming newer members of the church into more active roles in the life of our community.

At the end of the year, normal attendance at the main Sunday service was around sixty but with a wider age range than in previous years. There are 16 new names on the electoral roll.

Coffee and Cake and Children's Craft continue to thrive and new volunteers have been appreciated. Our concert programme is expanding and included performances from Saltburn Big Band, Bilsdale Brass Band and a Ukrainian opera singer. We were delighted to welcome the Ukrainian community into church for this. The Autumn Fair was once again well attended, raising significant funds and bringing the church community together. A gardening team look after our churchyard on a regular basis and also hosted a churchyard clear-up with support from local residents.

Our relationships with the wider community have also matured bearing fruit. Our good plans with other churches and the Town Council saw record numbers at Remembrance and Carols on the Green. Our Service of Lessons and Carols and our lent course was also well received with participation from other churches.

Links to the primary school have broadened and deepened, with regular classes visiting the church for RE and with the whole school celebrating Christmas, Easter and harvest with us. The school choir also sang at 'Coffee and Cake' bringing children and families into church. PTA mums run Kids' Craft in church. We were delighted to welcome Bishop Barry, the new Bishop of Whitby, into school.

We welcomed the secondary school into church at Christmas for a Service of Lessons and Carols for the first time. This was a new venture for the school and the Headmaster has expressed the desire to make it an annual event.

Lay ministry continues to grow. Our Revitalise team led an 'Hour at the Cross', Family Harvest and Blue Christmas services which were warmly received. The Families Team has expanded and a new worship band has been established. The Friendship Group offers valuable pastoral care and has encouraged many into our church with friendship and practical help. We are very grateful to Rev Jon Dean and latterly Rev Paul Peverell for their support and to our musical director Rev Michael Aisbitt.

We continue to invest in our building to reflect the needs of our worshiping and local community which is growing younger and more diverse.

Finance continues to be a considerable challenge with income lagging behind expenditure. However, regular giving has picked up a little following a Generous Giving campaign, and we continue to drive forward with new initiatives aimed at boosting expenditure and reducing outgoings.

A considerable amount of time and effort has gone into the work behind the scenes to enable all this to happen. We are immensely grateful to all who have contributed, and we give thanks to God for all He has done in our church and community this year.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard for our church community. The outstanding work of the churchwardens, John Groom, Judith Turland, David Hand and Bev Turner, along with many others, has been instrumental in sustaining and developing the church community and God's work in Stokesley.

Public benefit

The Parish of Stokesley with Seamer-in-Cleveland, in the Stokesley Deanery of the Diocese of York, comprises the market

town of Stokesley and the rural area immediately to its west and north, including Tame Bridge, Seamer, Tanton and Newby. The parish church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Stokesley and its churchyard (closed for burials, and now maintained by Hambleton DC) are on Stokesley High Street. The smaller parish church of St. Martin, Seamer and its churchyard (open for burials, maintained by the PCC) are on Hilton Road, Seamer. The Parish is also responsible for a large, detached churchyard (open for burials, maintained by the PCC) on Helmsley Road, Stokesley.

The PCC, mindful of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, is committed to: enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches (and in other places, when appropriate); encouraging different groups within the parish to explore aspects of Christian faith; enabling individuals to live out their faith in the communities in which they live and work; making our buildings, land and ministers available for religious, educational and artistic purposes by schools and other community groups; encouraging the support of various charities whose aims are consistent with the PCC's; providing pastoral care. This pastoral care includes ministry through baptisms and weddings, visiting the sick, and the conduct of funerals (and burials in our churchyards) and the care of the bereaved: it is exercised both by clergy and by lay members of the church.

Financial Review

In 2024 the General Fund decreased from £21,695 and, after a transfer of £7000 from the Riversdene fund, ended the year at £446 (see note 9). Whilst we hold other designated funds which are unrestricted, the PCC may well have to consider further transfers from these funds into the General Fund in 2025 in order to meet regular expenditure.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £81,260 (2023 £106,390)

Unrestricted planned voluntary donations were £37,370 (2023 £36,031), and a further £10,434 (2023 £11,738) was from gift aid.

Our fundraising total fell to £10,610 (2023 £12,577) largely due to no Grand Draw taking place.

Our stock market-based investments increased in value by £4585 (2023 £10,887).

£101,642 (2023 £100,363) was spent from unrestricted funds to provide Christian ministry, including the Freewill offer to the Diocese of York of £65,200 (2023 £70,200).

There was a deficit on unrestricted funds of £21,717 before a £7000 fund transfer from restricted funds (2023 surplus £2570).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £25,000. We ended the year with unrestricted funds of £59,711 (2023 £74,666) of which £446 is the general fund and the balance of £59,265 is designated, and we are budgeting a further deficit in 2025.

We hold our unrestricted funds in our HSBC current account and in an M&G Charity Bond. Restricted funds are held in the current account, CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and the CBF Church of England Investment Fund. See note 8.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard for our church community. The outstanding work of the churchwardens, John Groom, Judith Turland, David Hand and Bev Turner, along with many others, has been instrumental in sustaining and developing the church community and God's work in Stokesley.

Approved by the PCC on 3rd March 2025 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Ben Gunter (PCC Chairman)



Rev Ben Gunter

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Stokesley with Seamer PCC**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages seven to thirteen.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'), and you consider that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed.

I have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Gillian Duffy & Co Ltd

3rd March 2025

Stokesley with Seamer PCC
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

			2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income	2(a)	61,919	300	62,219
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	10,610		10,610
Investment income	2(c)	297	10,115	10,412
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Charitable Activities	2(d)	7,150		7,150
Other incoming resources	2(e)	1,285	645	1,930
Total incoming resources		81,260	11,060	92,320
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Costs of generating funds				
Church activities	3(a)	101,641	1,095	102,736
Raising funds		1,336		1,336
Total resources expended		102,977	1,095	104,072
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(21,717)	9,965	(11,752)
Gross transfers between funds		7,000	(7,000)	
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses		(14,717)	2,965	(11,752)
Other recognised gains/losses				
Gains/ (losses) on investment assets		(239)	4,824	4,585
Net movement in funds		(14,955)	7,789	(7,167)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward		74,666	304,121	378,787
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		59,711	311,909	371,620

Stokesley with Seamer PCC
Balance sheet
as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	6	306,903	292,204
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors		-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		64,717	87,826
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors	7	-	(1,243)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>64,717</u>	<u>86,583</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>371,620</u>	<u>378,787</u>
FUNDS			
	8		
Unrestricted funds		59,711	74,666
Restricted funds		311,909	304,121
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>371,620</u>	<u>378,787</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 3rd March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev B Gunter (PCC Chairman)



A Bryant (Treasurer)



The notes form part of these accounts.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs and the Regulations' 'true and fair view' provisions, and under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

FUNDS

Unrestricted funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for particular projects, which are therefore not included in 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report.

Restricted funds

These are income funds that must be spent on particular restricted purposes.

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

2	Income	2024	2023
		£	£
	INCOMING RESOURCES		
2(a)	Voluntary income		
	Donations	3,958	9,394
	Gift aid	10,434	11,738
	Legacies	-	28,000
	Grants	508	-
	Planned giving	37,370	36,031
	Collections and other giving	7,974	5,527
	Contactless giving	1,975	1,249
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		62,219	91,939
2(b)	Activities for generating funds		
	Autumn fair	3,011	2,956
	Grand draw	-	2,541
	Other fundraising events	7,599	7,080
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		10,610	12,577
2(c)	Investment income		
	Dividends and interest	10,412	6,160
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		10,412	6,160
2(d)	Incoming resources from charitable activities		
	Fees retained by the PCC	7,150	5,728
2(e)	Other incoming resources		
	Contribution to costs	1,930	1,609
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		1,930	1,609
	Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
		92,320	118,012

3	EXPENDITURE	2024	2023
3(a)	Church activities	£	£
	Freewill offer to Diocese	65,200	70,200
	Wages	2,760	2,324
	Insurance	5,900	5,377
	Light and heat	7,196	9,010
	Church admin costs	3,082	4,188
	Incumbent's expenses	234	218
	Organist fees	650	690
	Church cleaning	1,337	1,291
	Rectory expenses	660	280
	Mission and evangelism	5	125
	Church maintenance	2,545	1,498
	Upkeep of services	1,933	2,380
	Upkeep of churchyard	11,007	5,656
	Hall hire	78	523
	Other PCC property upkeep	-	-
	Major repairs to church	150	6,028
	Grants to institutions		
		<hr/> 102,736	<hr/> 109,788
3(b)	Raising funds		
	Traidcraft costs		
	Fundraising costs	<hr/> 1,336	<hr/> 1,375
		1,336	1,375
	Total resources expended	<hr/> 104,072	<hr/> 111,163
	Net (expenditure)/income before gains and losses	(11,752) -	6,849
	Realised recognised gains and losses		
	Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	4,585	10,887
	Net (expenditure)/income	<hr/> (7,167)	<hr/> 17,736

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

A parish administrator who is a PCC member provided services on a self-employed basis and was paid £2760 in 2024.

A small, immaterial proportion of the expenses paid to the incumbent may have related to his services as chairman of the PCC.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

Trustees are reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the PCC.

RELATED PARTIES

Unrestricted donations of £18,299 were received from related parties (PCC members).

5. STAFF COSTS

In 2024 there were no employees

6. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	£
MARKET VALUE	
Market value at 1 January 2024	292,204
Interest	10,115
Investment gain	<u>4,585</u>
Market value at 31 December 2024	<u>306,903</u>

The funds are held in the following investments:

CCLA (Church House)	99,690
CCLA (Riversdene)	200,675
M&G	<u>6,538</u>
	<u>306,903</u>

7. LIABILITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Retentions		880
Suppliers		
Collection on behalf of charities	<u>nil</u>	<u>363</u>
		<u>1,243</u>

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Investments	6,538	300,365	306,903	292,204
Current assets	53,173	11,544	64,718	86,583
	<u>59,711</u>	<u>311,909</u>	<u>371,620</u>	<u>378,787</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1 January 2024 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted (designated) funds				
General fund	15,141	(21,695)	7,000	446
Quinquennial fund	5,433	500		5,933
Bell repair fund	1,417	(761)		656
Legacies	52,675	-		52,675
	<u>74,666</u>	<u>(21,955)</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>59,711</u>
Restricted funds				
Church Redevelopment	3,458			3,458
Churchyard	0	-	-	0
Fabric	1,992			1,992
Flower Fund	20	-		20
Media project	3,609	(150)		3,459
Riversdene	198,984	10,115	(7,000)	202,099
Sanctuary	429			429
Seamer	1,080			1,080
Church House	94,549	4,824		99,372
	<u>304,121</u>	<u>14,789</u>	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>311,909</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>378,787</u>	<u>(7,167)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371,620</u>

The Restricted funds consist of:

Church redevelopment: specific donations for improvement projects at Stokesley Church

Churchyard: maintenance of Stokesley Churchyard

Fabric: specific legacies and grants for the upkeep of the fabric and fittings of the church

Flower Fund: specific donations for flowers at services

Heating: specific donations and grants for the heating systems at Stokesley Church

Media project: donations towards modernising church audio visual systems

Riversdene: a domestic property sold by the parish in 2020; the proceeds may only be used for to further the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish

Sanctuary furnishings: for the maintenance of the Lady Chapel at Stokesley church, for altar frontals etc

Seamer: specific legacies and donations for Seamer Church

Church House: a property sold by the parish in 1972; the proceeds may only be used for capital building projects.

The Unrestricted (designated) funds consist of:

Quinquennial: for the cost of the five-yearly architect's report and the repairs recommended

Bell repair: for bell repairs, replacement bell ropes etc.

Legacies: legacies given to further the general work of the church set aside until needed.