

St Peter's Church, Monkseaton

Annual Report

for the year ended 31 December 2023

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St Peter's Church - Annual Report for 2023

Administrative information

St Peter's Church is situated on the corner of Woodleigh Road and Elmwood Road, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay. The correspondence address is St Peter's Vicarage, 6 Elmwood Road, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay, NE25 8EX.

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC.

<i>Incumbent:</i>	Revd Dr H F Cleugh	
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mrs J M Coulson Ms H McDermott	
<i>Readers:</i>	Mrs J V Porter	Term ended as Member of Deanery Synod 30.03.23
<i>Representative on the Diocesan Synod:</i>	Mrs E J Doran	Resigned from PCC 11.10.23
<i>Representative on the Deanery Synod:</i>	Mrs P A Hood	Term ended 30.04.23
<i>Elected members:</i>	D J L Doran Mrs D Elliott Mrs P A Hood Mrs S Horn Mrs A McKeith Mrs A Matthews Mrs E G Mitchell A Sneddon Mrs M Wilcox	(Resigned as Secretary 23.04.23 (Reappointed to PCC 23.04.23 Appointed 23.04.23 Appointed 23.04.23 Retired 23.04.23 Treasurer

Committees and Groups

In 2023 the only committee to meet has been :-

Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and activities

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in promoting the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church and the Crosskeys Community Hall.

St Peter's Church - Annual Report for 2023 (Continued)

Safeguarding

As a church we are committed to caring for all people safely. The Parochial Church Council adopts the House of Bishops' policy statement Promoting a Safer Church. Our safeguarding policy is reviewed by the PCC and re-affirmed at the APCM. At the APCM in 2023, Elisabeth Bryant was appointed as Parish Safeguarding Officer, Elisabeth Mitchell as DBS Administrator, and Barbara Packer as Children and Vulnerable Adults Advocate. In line with Newcastle diocesan policy, safeguarding policies and administration are managed through the use of the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard.

Church attendance

There were 164 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll in 2023 (177 in 2022), 66 (72 in 2022) of whom are not resident within the parish. Usual Sunday attendance has increased slightly since 2022 with a significant increase in attendance at Christmas services.

During the year there was 1 marriage in Church (1 in 2022) and 10 funerals took place (24 in 2022) of which 5 were held in Church (9 in 2022). 10 baptisms took place in 2023 (16 in 2022).

Review of the year

The hope and expectation had been that 2023 would be a year of stability and consolidation in the life of the parish. However, in the event the incumbent was on maternity leave for much of the year, meaning that there was not the ministerial capacity that had been envisaged. Grateful thanks are noted to those clergy and lay ministers who covered services during the leave, and to all who undertook additional responsibilities. Behind the summary of activities listed below lies an incredible amount of time, commitment, and skill as we continue 'Gathering in Love, Growing in Faith, Giving Hope to All.'

We note with particular sadness the death in August of Mrs Sheila Horn, who had served as a member of the PCC, most recently as Electoral Roll Officer, previously as churchwarden, and as Leader of the St Peter's branch of the Mothers' Union.

1. Worship

Throughout the year the parish has continued to offer three services (two eucharists and usually evening prayer) each Sunday. There is a weekly eucharist on a Wednesday morning, the fortnightly OASIS contemplative service on a Wednesday evening and a monthly afternoon communion service. The principal feasts of the church are observed. Church parades took place on Mothering Sunday, for St George's Day, harvest, and Remembrance Sunday. As previously, families of those who had been bereaved were invited for a service of remembrance and reflection for All Souls' Day. Christmas services followed the previous pattern, with the addition of an outdoor 'Carols round the Campfire'. As in 2022 a joint Christmas celebration was held for KS2 of Appletree Gardens and Monkseaton Middle School, and we again welcomed Whitley Bay High School for their carol service.

Our patronal festival in June marked the eighty-fifth anniversary of the consecration of the church building. The Bishop of Berwick presided and preached at the eucharist.

2. Christian nurture

A Lent group led by Jan Porter met to study Stephen Cottrell's book 'Godforsaken'. A quiet morning was held in Advent. In addition, seasonal reading and study material continued to be offered, and a number of people have made use of the material. OASIS has reflected during the year on passages from Matthew's gospel, northern saints, and Paul's letters to the Corinthians.

3. Social, fundraising, and charitable giving

During the year, church groups which met to further their several objectives were the Mothers' Union, the Women's Fellowship, St Peter's Players, and the Panto Society. Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group met weekly during termtime and remains very popular; additionally, well attended activity days for Easter and Halloween took place in that slot during school holidays.

St Peter's Church - Annual Report for 2022 (Continued)

3. Social, fundraising, and charitable giving (continued)

In May, the Coronation of HM The King was celebrated with a community tea-party, which was very well attended despite terrible weather. In line with The King's Big Help-Out request, donations were asked for the BAY Foodbank and the collection was extremely generous. The parish also supported the Foodbank throughout the year, notably at Harvest and before Christmas. Members of the congregation joined with the Mothers' Union in providing items for Christmas backpacks for the People's Kitchen, and in the course of the year the parish also supported the Fairtrade Foundation, Christian Aid, USPG, and the Children's Society.

A successful autumn fayre and various coffee mornings raised funds for church.

4. Fabric

The parish has appointed a new architect (Mr Peter Nugent of Ainsworth Spark), and plans have been drawn up for the development of the south porch to increase accessibility and welcome. These plans have been approved by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the project is ongoing.

Work was undertaken to make good damage to one of the windows in the north aisle.

Finance

The responsibility for our financial wellbeing as a church falls upon the PCC and later in these reports you will find details of our financial statements for the last financial year. Grateful thanks to our treasurer, Alex Sneddon, for maintaining the financial records during the year and for producing these statements.

Planned Giving continues to be the main source of income for the day to day needs of the parish.

Membership of the Planned Giving Scheme was maintained although pledged giving reduced marginally to £54,172, (2022 - £56,362). Donations amounting to £50,715 have been able to attract Gift-Aid (£51,591 in 2022) which has enabled the Church to claim from the Inland Revenue £12,679 (£12,898 in 2022). A full planned giving review was undertaken in the Autumn to coincide with Generosity Week. It is our intention to revert to earlier practice and hold such a review on an annual basis.

Further claims have been made to the Inland Revenue under the Small Donations Scheme. £979 was receivable over the course of 2023 (£1,514 in 2022).

The total income amounted to £97,465 (2022 - £148,733) with expenditure totalling £112,626 (2022 - £113,009). This increase in income in 2022 was largely due to the receipt of a legacy amounting to £40,782.

The major expenditure in the year (as ever) was our parish share contribution of £72,000, which was the amount to which we had committed. At the time of asking for commitments for 2024 (in October), lack of certainty concerning energy costs and the likely costs of the south porch project, and the need to consolidate our finances, led the PCC to reduce the commitment for 2024 to £54,000. The PCC undertook to keep this under review, in the hope that a greater parish share contribution be made if circumstances allow.

On behalf of the PCC

Rev Dr Hannah F Cleugh

12th March 2024

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter's, Monkseaton

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 4 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations) and the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

(signed)

Trevor Hogg ACA

31st March 2024

Parochial Church Council of St Peter's, Monkseaton

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ending 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	TOTAL FUNDS	
		Funds	Funds	2023	2022
Note		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
	2(a)	73,025	2,279	75,304	82,694
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>					
	2(b)	1,894	0	1,894	43,595
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>					
<i>Incoming resources from operating activities</i>					
- to further the Council's objects	2(c)	11,518	0	11,518	11,162
- to generate funds	2(d)	5,991	0	5,991	9,919
<i>Income from investment</i>	2(e)	1,233	0	1,233	0
<i>Other incoming resources</i>	2(f)	476	1,049	1,525	1,363
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		94,137	3,328	97,465	148,733
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
<i>Grants</i>	3(a)	574	2,279	2,853	4,944
<i>Activities directly relating to the work of the church</i>	3(b)	106,373	1,132	107,505	105,781
<i>Church management and administration</i>	3(c)	1,169	0	1,169	1,361
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>	3(d)	1,099	0	1,099	923
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		109,215	3,411	112,626	113,009
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		(15,078)	(83)	(15,161)	35,724
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD					
AT 1 JANUARY 2023		174,274	8,475	182,749	147,025
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD					
AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		159,196	8,392	167,588	182,749

Parochial Church Council of St Peter's, Monkseaton

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

4 FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

	Freehold land and buildings £	Plant & equipment £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets			
COST			
At 1 January 2023	125,601	43,438	169,039
Additions		460	460
At 31 December 2023	125,601	43,898	169,499
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2023	40,450	41,674	82,124
Charge for the year	2,500	317	2,817
At 31 December 2023	42,950	41,991	84,941
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2023	82,651	1,907	84,558
At 1 January 2023	85,151	1,764	86,915

	2023	2022
5 STOCK		
Bookstall stock at cost	105	105
6 DEBTORS		
Income tax recoverable	1,105	1,294
Prepayments	3,968	3,638
Other debtors	1,258	345
	6,331	5,277
7 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Creditors and accruals	3,081	2,669
	3,081	2,669

8 SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2023 £	2022 £
General fund	13,413		13,413	23,742
Flower fund		853	853	936
Legacies and gifts fund	52,018	3,750	55,768	58,206
Crosskeys Community Hall fund	93,585		93,585	95,896
200 club	180		180	180
Crosskeys Project fund		3,789	3,789	3,789
	159,196	8,392	167,588	182,749

9 One legacy was received during the year amounting to £250 (2022 - £40,782)

10 It is the PCC's current policy to retain all reserves with a view to meeting the continued costs of the further

proposed restructuring within the Church and the Crosskeys Community Hall.