

St Mary's for the ordination in June 2023 and was a great friend and ally of St Mary's. We will miss his leadership and friendship very much.

We are always looking forward at St Mary's and at the moment are working on our vision for the next 5 years. Climate change and its effects are dear to us as is continuing to be at the heart of our community. Our desire to care for each other and others is important as are the lives of our young people and their families. Prayer and our individual relationships with Jesus are key to all that happens as Christian people and we long to develop that too. How we welcome and share hospitality is so important- something we each have a part to play in and which must express our love of God as well as our love for our neighbour. Please pray for the life of our church and its growth and authenticity.

Sally Moring

April 2023

Annual Report was reviewed and approved by the PCC at their meeting on 11th April 2024



The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Wendover Buckinghamshire

Annual Report May 2023 to March 2024

Vicar: Rev Sally Moring

**Bank: NatWest
22 Market Square
Aylesbury
HP2 01T**

**CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Ave
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ**

**Independent Examiner: Gavin Styles FCCA, Chapel Lane, High Wycombe,
HP12 4BJ**

**The church of St Mary the Virgin is situated on the outskirts of Wendover.
It is part of the Diocese of Oxford within the Church of England.
The correspondence address is
Parish Office, 11 High Street, Wendover, Buckinghamshire, HP22 6DU.**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) became a registered charity in August 2009. Its registration number is 1131299.

PCC members who have served from May23 to the date of approval of this report are:

Incumbent: Rev Sally Moring
Associate Priest: Rev Nadine Rose
Curate: Rev Matthew Routledge

LLMs: David Blackmore
Ian Sansbury

Churchwardens: Peter Dean

Deanery Synod Representatives:
Sian Chattle
Paul Dean
Edward Blakeman
Peter Dean

Elected Members: Paul Dean (Secretary)
Matt Ryan (Treasurer)
Sarah Frost
Monica Tompsett
Peter Lockett
Jennifer Ballantine
Johanna Free
Catherine Taylor
Anne-Marie Foster
Sharon Wilson
Jacqueline Smith
Michael Crockett

Ex Officio Alison Kirk (Diocesan Synod)

church and to pray where prayers have been said for centuries. I am very grateful to the Ministry team who contribute to so much as well the work of Pete, Paul, Matt and the whole PCC. None of it could happen without the work of Julie, our parish administrator who co-ordinates so much in the background.

Our work with children, young people and families looks very different at the moment than it has done in previous years – the numbers of children attending on a Sunday has decreased but Sparklers, our toddler group on a Monday is thriving and one – off events such as the Christmas eve outdoor service, the light party and Pancake party show things one -off events are very popular. We are hoping to appoint a Pioneer children, young people and families worker later this year with support from the Diocesan development fund. Our relationship with the local schools and nurseries has developed; both Matthew and Sally are governors at the Junior school and Nadine has a good relationship with the Children’s room nursery as well as serving as a Trustee of Wendover Youth Centre. Regularly leading Collective Worship allows us to build up relationships with both children and staff and we hope to support the wellbeing of staff in the next term.

At St Marys we are very lucky to have so many volunteers and in February we gave thanks for all those who do give of their time at the ‘Thank you volunteers’ celebration. Individual invitations were issued to which many responded ... but we still need new people to come forward and help with many activities...live streamers, cleaners, readers, intercessors, coffee makers to list but a few roles. Getting involved deepens relationships and enables us to be more pro-active in our community. Please do consider how you can help.

Sadly, a number of prominent members of the church family died during 2023 and into 2024- these included Dr Colin Riley, Robert Phipps, Tony Farmer, Doris Jones, Mary Paice, John Bussien, Ron Smith and Derek Roxberry, Beryl Pearn, Ray England. They all contributed much to the life of our church, and we miss them. We were all very shocked and saddened when, on February 17th, the news came of the very sudden and unexpected death of our bishop, the Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt Rev’d Alan Wilson. Bishop Alan was last at

H: Vicars Report

It's been another busy year since the last APCM with much to celebrate but also some sadness.

We were very privileged to host the Buckingham Area ordination of priests on Saturday June 24th by the Bishop of Buckingham and amongst those being ordained was Matthew Routledge, our curate. The ordination was a real celebration as was the following morning when Matthew presided at communion for the first time surrounded by his family, friends and the church family.

Thanks to a huge amount of work by a group from church we staged a 'Celebration of wedding dresses' in July. A collection of dresses across the decades, the earliest from 1906, was assembled and complimented with flower arrangements and memorabilia. The church was busy with appreciative visitors all weekend and we ended with a songs of praise service.

I was very privileged to have a sabbatical from 1st September to 30th November 2023. Thanks to Nadine. Matthew and Julie as well as Pete Dean I was able to leave behind parish life for 3 months to rest, renew and refresh. Paul and I did this by spending time with our family, going to Morocco and Northumberland and resting; I also went on retreat and on a sewing course. 17 years in ordained ministry had taken its toll and it was good to set back.

Finishing sabbatical on Nov 30th meant returning for Advent and Christmas which once again were busy but also great fun! Thanks to our musicians we once again had a beautiful carol service. During the week between the carol service and Christmas Day we estimate 1500 came into our church churchyard. Wendover CE junior school Christmas services brought large numbers as did the carol service, services on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. This included the successful Christmas Eve outdoor service for the local community.

Our week-by-week worship has continued supported by those who lead, preach, play music, read and intercede and we have covered many themes exploring how we live out our Christian faith in our daily lives. The use of our church building has increased with many calling in to visit our beautiful

A: Structure, governance and management

The method of appointing PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. New appointees are given an information pack. The PCC has passed a resolution by which a proportion of the PCC members will stand for re-election every three years, limited to a total of six years served. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. This is achieved by notices given out during church services, articles in the St Mary's newsletter and notices placed around the church.

The incumbent is currently Rev Sally Moring with Associate Priest Rev Nadine Rose and Curate Revd Matthew Routledge. David Blackmore and Ian Sansbury are licensed to serve in the parish as Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM).

The PCC operates by meeting during the year with various sub-committees meeting and conducting delegated activities and taking delegated responsibility in between. Methods of reporting back to the PCC range from the formal pre-distributed reports for discussion at PCC meetings, to informal verbal reports. The PCC became a registered charity in 2009 and is mindful of its responsibilities as Trustees. The major risks to which the church is exposed, as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed annually, and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

B: Objectives and Activities

St Mary's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church building, St Mary's Centre, and the churchyard at Church Lane. Since 1992, the PCC has been a party to the Sharing Agreement of 1986 relating to St Anne's Church, Aylesbury Road, Wendover. The PCC also holds a lease over the premises at 11 High Street, Wendover (JUST shop and Parish Office). All of which contribute to our aim to be a church at the heart of the community. Details of our work are described more fully in the following reports from committees and other groups who contribute to our church community. The PCC depends on many volunteers who give freely of their time and talents. A

major part of its activity is the training and involvement of an increasing number of volunteers, doing practical projects or duties alongside others who are further involved as a trustee or a committee member. The benefits from volunteers' work, and our thanks to them, cannot be overstated, without them the viability of our church would be seriously affected. Our grant-making policy is twofold; special appeals which may arise, and giving at a budgeted annual level, where finances are available, as managed by the Global Church Committee.

Electoral Roll

Our Electoral Roll is managed by Jacquie Smith, our Electoral Roll officer. As required, the draft new register has been displayed in church for two weeks prior to the APCM. The number of people on the new Roll was reported at the APCM on 21st May 2023 which was 243 down by 3 from 2022.

The PCC

The full PCC met seven times during the past year using the online Zoom facility or in person at St Mary's. Committees met between meetings and a number reported formally to the PCC.

Church Attendance

We are required by the Diocese to report on the average weekly attendance for the first four weeks of October. This figure is one of the inputs to our Parish Share allocation. For 2023 the average weekly attendance for in person services was 89 and for online services at home services was 10. This period includes the October half term holidays so cannot be taken as a true reflection of 'average' church attendance. Also, being online it does include some households where more than one individual dialled in

We also had the following numbers for occasional services held at St Mary's: 20 baptisms, 2 weddings and 19 funerals.

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees that meet between full meetings of the PCC:

Standing Committee (Chair: Sally Moring) *is responsible for transacting the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.* The committee met seven times between the Annual Meeting of 2023

reporting on Safeguarding it requires for its regular meetings - It may be that this is a regular review of the Safeguarding Action Plan for St Mary's displayed on the Diocesan Parish Dashboard for Safeguarding .

What is most important is that all volunteers are aware of 'Best Practice'. St Mary's has adopted two Good Practice Guides – one for children and one for vulnerable adults. These guides include a Code of Conduct and other relevant support materials. These documents have been distributed in the past to volunteers working in the church community in different contexts; they will now be reviewed in the context of current guidance, and once adopted by the PCC will be re-distributed. Bellringers have recently received specific guidance and training from the Diocese, and have identified members of that team requiring DBS clearance which is now being processed by the Verifier, Anne-Marie Foster.

Volunteers are DBS checked as required, through AccessPCS, the Diocesan preferred Verification organisation. As the APCS procedures enable automatic renewal communication with individuals (if they sign up to this), the work of the Verifying Officer is helped. The PSO and Verifier will, following the APM, construct a new spreadsheet of the Training completed, and DBS checks processed, in relation to members of the PCC and other volunteers. On the Diocesan website there is detailed guidance to clarify which volunteers need to be DBS checked, and at which level. On the Government website linked to DBS is further definition of "Volunteer".

In addition to guidance provided by the Diocese, excellent guidance is available on the NSPCC website in relation to "keeping children safe". The Diocesan guidance includes helpful protocols for communication with Families, Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults – whether by phone, electronic means, by distance or by face-to-face visiting.

Currently, related to Safeguarding, if anyone has cause for concern about any vulnerable adult or young person and would like to talk in confidence, then please contact Helen Blakeman, the Safeguarding Officer. (h.blakeman3@btinternet.com)

Report by Helen Blakeman, Safeguarding Officer

The ministry team, led by the Vicar, receive specific Safeguarding training and guidance from the Diocese. The PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer) has recently completed three levels of Diocesan training and is now Certificated at Leadership Level. The PSO has the opportunity to participate in the regular on-line “drop-in” sessions hosted by Tsungai Muchegwa, the Safeguarding Adviser for Buckinghamshire churches. She also attended the Diocesan Safeguarding Service and Workshops for PSOs at Christchurch Cathedral (19th November)

The PCC considers St Mary’s approach to Safeguarding in the context of current Diocesan Guidance and model Policies, particularly taking account of the role of volunteers and the changing nature of activities in the church. At St Mary’s we have many volunteers helping to lead the various activities for both children, young people and vulnerable adults. All volunteers and paid workers have to undertake periodic training in safeguarding awareness under the auspices of the Diocese, the majority of which is delivered on-line. Much work has been done by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to regularise levels of training necessary for different roles, and the frequency of such training. Most on-line training modules last between 60, 90, or 120 minutes, and the PCC will consider how to support individuals needing to complete training modules, but for whom doing so online is not possible from home.

The online training modules are continually updated and each module comes with helpful guidance on how to navigate through the course on a computer or tablet, and it is set up to enable users to pause in a module, or to see the spoken commentary as printed text (PCC members, and Volunteers, whether working with children or vulnerable adults, requiring initial or updated training, have already been able to use online resources from the Diocese during the past year).

Safeguarding and Communication issues in the context of General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) remain an important consideration, as do compliance with National Guidance on the use of social media.

The sub-committee structure of the PCC now makes it easier to address issues of protocol, and to look in detail at policies and documentation requiring ratification – for example, the policy and guidance on Safer Recruitment and People Management, and procedures to deal promptly with any Safeguarding allegation or concern. The PCC should confirm the nature of

and 2024 and has reported formally to each PCC meeting.

In addition to the Standing Committee we also have the following committees, Finance and Governance, Estates Committee and People Committee that meet regularly during the year and report back to the PCC.

C: PCC Review of the Year

The year started with our first meeting after the APCM on 13th June 2023 via Zoom with only one agenda item to update the signatories on one of the bank accounts which was proposed seconded and passed by the meeting.

The second meeting was on 28th June 2023 where the PCC officers were elected being Matt Ryan as Treasurer, Paul Dean as secretary. The standing committee was elected as follows Revd Sally Moring, Revd Nadine Rose, Peter Dean, Paul Dean, Sian Chattle, Catherine Taylor, Anne-Marie Foster.

Sally then showed some slides which explained what the purpose of the PCC was. The following members were also elected to sub groups, Michael Crockett to the Finance group and Jennifer Ballentine and Anne-Marie Foster to the People group. Helen Blakeman then gave the meeting an update on safeguarding and the training requirements for PCC members was explained. The Policy on Safeguarding was proposed seconded and passed by the meeting.

Matt then gave a finance update, and Global church charities were approved for donations being Tear Fund, Aylesbury Youth Concern, St Philips Chapel Street in Salford. Sarah Frost’s preaching agreement renewal was proposed, seconded and agreed by the meeting. Nadine gave an update on the Children and Young People work. A Quinquennial report had been completed for the church and was sent out to members prior to the meeting.

The third meeting was on 28th September 2023, Peter Dean chaired this meeting as Sally was on her sabbatical. Matt gave us a finance update and said the budget for the year was running to plan. Sub group report by Finance and Governance group was given which mentioned the Risk Register and possibility of buying JUST. The Estates group then gave a report and the worrying cost of energy was referred to, pressure was to be made to the company fitting the new church doors as still not fitted. The People committee gave their report and we were advised that Employment policy, Payment review policy and Performance review policy were being looked at.

Nadine gave a safeguarding update and reminded PCC members on the training they need to undertake, Peter said he would like this completed before Sally returned from her sabbatical. Nadine then gave her Associate Priest update advising all the work she had been doing in Sally's absence, particularly mentioned the current youth worker issue and she had been having meetings with Ian Sansbury on this subject.

The fourth meeting was on 22nd November 2023, Peter Dean once again chairing the meeting. Matt gave a finance update handing out a summary document to everyone. Matt advised we are now spending more money than we are getting in and asked members to think how we can do some fund raising. We then had sub group updates, David Blackmore advised the Estates group now have a sub group to look at the church's decarbonisation as if our Gas Boiler broke down we would not be permitted to buy a new gas boiler. A feasibility study was suggested. Safeguarding was reported by Peter who said training documentation was now nearly up to date, Helen Blakeman advised she had attended the Parish Safeguarding Officer Commissioning service. Helen also reported she is due to attend the Diocesan Safeguarding Leadership Pathway training. Associate Priest report from Nadine mentioned Matthew and herself had taken a lot of funerals recently. A Light Party took place and we celebrated the anniversary of David Blackmore's Lay Reader licensing.

The fifth meeting was held on 23rd January 2024 where we welcomed Sally back after her sabbatical. Matt gave a regular finance update and thanked Paul Moring for his work on reducing our energy bills. The budget for 2024 was discussed proposed, seconded and passed by the meeting including the paying of our full parish share. Matt advised that the Ministry Development fund runs out on 31st December 2024 so we need to do some fund raising, in addition to this the funding of a family and youth working will be required. Nadine gave an update on the family and youth pioneer worker situation and that grants were being sort to fund some of this. The PCC passed a motion to continue with this work. Sub groups reports were received some being sent out prior to the meeting. The feasibility study on Energy Decarbonisation was proposed, seconded and passed by the meeting. We had a safeguarding update and Anne-Marie said she had now completed her first DBS check and that she was now due to move on to the Sparklers helpers checks. Peter then took over the chairing of the meeting to discuss Prayers on Love and Faith that was recently commended by General Synod. Sally advised that

diocesan initiative launched to raise the number of children we are engaging with.

Deanery synod then met on January 30th 2024 at St Peter and St Paul, Great Missenden and welcomed Paul Moring, our Deanery Environmental Lead. He spoke to a group of both synod members and others from the local parishes about what the diocese is encouraging us to do.... to look at our energy and other ways of conserving our world. There was discussion about Eco- Church membership and a share of what parishes are doing to make a difference. Paul gave some theological input and encouraged parishes to be teaching on this subject on a regular basis.

The next Deanery Synod meeting takes place on Wednesday May 15th at St Mary's, Wendover.

Report by Revd Sally Moring

G: Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Church of England and the Diocese require each church to have in place policies on Safeguarding, to support our '*working with children and young people*', to consider in our own context all aspects of the '*Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults in the Diocese of Oxford*' policy - to ensure procedures are in place to ensure a safe environment for children and young people, and Vulnerable Adults - in all aspects of St Mary's work. Within the policies and guidance, it considers all aspects of current disclosure procedures under the "Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to ensure safe recruitment of volunteers and employees".

Our church follows the guidance and good practice on Safeguarding issued by Oxford Diocese. Our current Safeguarding Policy, for Children & Vulnerable Adults can be found in the church porch and centre. We make an annual return the Oxford Diocesan to confirm that we are following guidelines and that we have noted changes in requirements. Making this return has become more streamlined through the Safeguarding Dashboard for Parishes, and the questions asked help us to know that our policies and procedures are in line with requirements, or that some aspects require renewal, or need to be developed. The Dashboard reflects the requirements of the national Safeguarding Handbook 2018 (revised 2019).

an employer and as a community venue – we have carried out a review of health and safety and updated risk assessments, minimising risks to users of the building.

All of our activities are dependent on so many volunteers that contribute their time and skills, enriching the life of the church in so many ways. Often this is quietly unseen, many things “just happen” but would not without the faithful service of individuals and teams. We were delighted to celebrate the contribution of so many at our recent joint service in February. This provided some recognition of all the work that goes into making St Mary’s such a special and welcoming place. Thank you for all you do.

Peter Dean

Churchwarden

F: Deanery Synod Report

Wendover Deanery Synod has met on three occasions over the last twelve months.

We met at St Mary’s Wendover on June 7th 2023 and elected Gavin Oldham as chair, Gary Beynon as Secretary and a standing committee comprising of Edward Blakeman and Robert Donnell as lay representatives and Rev’d Sally Bottomer and Rev’d John Simpson as clergy representatives as well as the Area Dean, lay chair, secretary and treasurer (this post is still not filled) . The meeting also discussed subjects which the synod would like to discuss so that future meetings could be planned.

Synod met again on September 27th at St Michael and All Angels, Aston Clinton and welcomed James Wood, Buckingham are Discipleship enabler who spoke to quite a sizeable group of local people involved in Children and Young Peoples work in their parishes. The meeting was encouraging of those doing this work and provoking to those who can help to influence decisions about what’s Is happening in our local parishes. Since then, there has been a

Nadine, Matthew and herself are all happy to use these prayers. A proposal was passed by the meeting that the PCC fully support our clergy on this matter. Sally then gave her Vicar’s report saying that her sabbatical had been useful and that she got through Christmas services in a more relaxed state to previous years. Sally advised she was due to have a meeting with Father Derek and Remco concerning the churches share agreement from 1992 as St Mary’s no longer use St Annes church for any services. The meeting then split up into smaller groups to discuss the current MAP document on how we need to re-launch it as a Future Plan for St Mary’s

The sixth meeting was held on 13th March 2024. Peter Dean updated the meeting on Inclusive Church and Prayers for Love and Faith, Sally gave an update on safeguarding and advised that Helen Blakeman had attended a leadership training course. The meeting then discussed the Vision Work for St Mary’s, PCC members had received documents from Sally in preparation for discussions on this subject the meeting split into separate groups and post it notes were completed on a number of subjects which were collated at the end. Sally gave us an update on the hole in the car park, Bishop Steven had sent an e-mail to all parishes with concerns on the lack of children in the church community and urged each parish to make this a top issue in their parish. David Blackmore gave an update on the Church Energy feasibility study.

Report by Paul Dean PCC Secretary

D: Financial Statement of the PCC

Treasurer’s Report on the accounts for the year to 31 December 2023

Fund details for the financial year to 31 December 2023 are summarised in the table. Please note that fixed assets and depreciation have been excluded from the figures as they relate to past expenditure and not cash spent in 2023.

The General Fund below reflects the income and expenditure arising from the day-to-day activities of our Church. Other Funds for the Church have special rules applied to them and these restrict how the funds can be spent. During

2023 the Church accounts showed a decrease in total funds by £14,517, which is outlined below.

Funds	Income	Expense s	Transfer/(Losses)	Surplus/ (deficit)	Funds at 31.12.23
General	£182,009	£166,139	(£13,527)	£2,343	£37,975
Designated (All)	£560	£30,205	£7,640	(£22,005)	£46,378
Fabric (Restricted)	£14,143	£33,283	£-	(£19,140)	£10,283
Legacy (Restricted)	£-	£-	£-	£-	£23,207
Other Restricted	£17,895	£19,473	£1,281	(£297)	£27,072
Total	£214,607	£249,100	(£4,606)	(£39,099)	£144,915

General Fund

2023 saw a steady pattern for our finances at St Mary's. Planned giving, via the Parish Giving Scheme and regular standing orders was consistent with 2022 other giving from other sources such as direct payments, the website and the card reader increased quite significantly. The weekly cash collections were marginally down on 2022. Our income from hiring the church and centre and some fundraising activities was similar to 2022, however church fees, for weddings etc, increased by c£5,000. Overall, our total income in 2023 was £30,163 higher due to the church receiving several grants from organisations for many of the larger projects that were planned and carried out in 2023. The

and working well but we cannot do nothing and be unprepared for its eventual end-of-life.

The team that worked on the last major internal refurbishment had the foresight to commission underfloor heating and so it would be possible to install a heat-pump driven heating system running on renewable electricity without major internal works. However, such a project would still be complex and, although it could pay for itself in lower energy costs, would require substantial capital investment.

Given the likely cost and recognising that we have finite capacity to manage large-scale projects, PCC is proceeding very cautiously. We have commissioned and received a feasibility study that suggest that the most efficient solution could be a heat pump extracting heat from Hampden Pond and using it to heat the church. Making use of the fortuitous proximity of the pond in such an innovative way is of interest to the Parish Council (who have recently declared a climate emergency), the Diocese and the national church.

David Blackmore is leading this project with monitoring by the Estates Committee and PCC. We are taking a watchful step-by-step approach as we commission further design work and consider potential external capital funding. Hopefully we will make good progress with this but even if the project proves to be imprudent at this time, it will put us in a better position to address the issue when we eventually have no choice but to move away from fossil fuels. I expect to report on progress in next year's report but we will keep you fully informed through the PCC as we proceed.

Although care for the building is important and can dominate day-to-day considerations, St Mary's is much more about the people than the building. The People Committee have made steady progress on developing and submitting updated policies and procedures that cover our responsibilities as

Also underway last year was the Quinquennial Inspection of the building. We received the final report after the last APCM. The report was very thorough but also encouraging in terms of the current state of the building. We are still reaping the benefits of the major internal refurbishment project carried out over ten years ago now. The latest report did highlight a number of items for urgent attention but none of these were particularly major and they have been factored into the minor works being overseen by the Estates Committee. There are also some longer-term recommendations that we will need to consider moving forward. These will be progressed through the Estates Committee and monitored by the PCC.

One thing we weren't anticipating at last year's APCM was the appearance of a large hole in the car park. You will probably know by now that this is the result of the collapse of a Victorian vault, possibly associated with the excessive rain this year. Unfortunately, we have had to close the car park whilst we investigate the safety of the whole area and work with diocese towards agreeing a faculty for the repair of the vault. This is on-going but we are making progress and hope to have the car park back in use (perhaps partially) as soon as possible.

Last year we were concerned about our non-renewable energy consumption and the associated costs. We have managed our way through the last winter, keeping the building acceptably warm and balancing our budget. However, this is unsustainable in the long term. Whilst the cost of gas and electricity is no longer increasing at the rate it was, it is likely to remain expensive and, ultimately, we need to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels to retain any credibility as we promote caring for the environment as part of our faith.

Replacing halogen lights with LEDs has made a significant impact on our electricity consumption but using gas to heat the building cannot continue indefinitely. Oxford Diocese no longer permits the replacement of existing boilers with any fossil fuel-based replacement. Our current boiler is mid-life

JUST shop, once again made an enormous difference to our income as it donated over £13,203 from profits and contributed £9,966 towards running costs.

Our general fund costs increased slightly in the year with costs rising from £164,206 to £166,139. The largest general fund costs for the church in the year were Parish Share of £108,900, which was paid in full and meant that we were able to support the ministry of other churches in the Oxford Diocese. Running the shop cost £14,043 and our utilities continued to be a large proportion of our costs due to the energy price rises. Our gas and electricity costs were lower in the year than we had budgeted, due to our utility provider making errors with the 'smart' meter and these differences were written off by them. Larger works this year for repairs included the works on the churchyard wall at the start of 2023, plus the introduction of the automatic doors making the church more accessible. The AV works were capitalised and do not appear in the expenditure as their use will be seen for many years to come.

As a result of some the additional giving and the unexpected reduction to energy costs we ended the year with the General Fund making a surplus of £15,870. As agreed in 2021, the Global Church fund was increased by taking 2% of our general fund income which amounted to £3,640 which is used to make grants to local, national and international organisations. The balance at the year end was £3,762. In addition to this, the General Fund also transferred £4,000 to the Ministry Development Fund to provide enough resource for the Associate Priest role for 2024.

Other Funds

In the year the Ministry Development Fund, which had been setup to support the plans shown in the Mission Action Plan, spent £26,266. The church has made a commitment until November 2025 regarding payments for our Associate Priest. It was agreed by the PCC, that legacies received by the PCC would be designated to be used towards Ministry Development, unless restrictions were given by the donor. At the year end the Ministry Development Fund had £26,009 after transfers from the General Fund to carry forward to pay for one of the two years' salary costs.

Grants from the Friends helped to support the planned works on the automatic doors, some smaller internal maintenance as well as the introduction of the energy efficient lights which has helped the church with its aim to reduce its carbon footprint.

It should be noted that none of the other restricted funds can be used against St Mary's running costs but restricted to fabric, the churchyard, bells, flowers amongst other things.

In the year we spent £39,099 more than we received across all our funds which obviously is not sustainable. Whilst there was some planned extra spending in 2023 we will all need to look to fundraising, increased giving and pursue significant grants if we wish to continue doing what we currently do, in addition to looking after the building.

Thank you

I would like to say a big thank you to all of you who have continued to support the church over the last 12 months. We are fortunate to have a faithful and generous congregation who support our work in Wendover.

Grants from outside sources have been received with much gratitude, notably the Friends of St Mary's, The Lionel Abel-Smith Trust, U3A and the Wendover Parish Council. Thank you to the donors, but also those who worked hard on researching and requesting fundraising.

Not only have we benefited from income but thank you to those of you who have helped us to keep our costs down, whether that be volunteering with posts or actively trying to save money on our running costs with particular note going to Paul Moring who has worked very hard to manage the energy providers!

Once again, we are hugely grateful to Helen Blakeman and her team at Just who have run the shop and have once again done a fantastic job in the year.

I would also like to give special thanks to all those who have supported me as treasurer during this year. I mention Sarah Bishop who has continued to help with some of the finance tasks! There are many others who work behind the scenes, so thank you for all you do.

Report by Matt Ryan, PCC Treasurer

E: Churchwardens' Report, including the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

Looking back at my churchwarden's report for 2023, it's interesting to reflect on the continuities from last year as well as the new opportunities and issues that have arisen over the last twelve months. Many of the things that were work-in-progress last year have come to fruition, others are longer term projects that will occupy us for some time to come and there are new and fresh openings to consider – and I don't just mean the 'hole'. Such is a year in the life of a church community and building that has been around for hundreds of years.

We were pleased to be able to support Sally in her three-month sabbatical in the autumn of 2023. It's difficult to comprehend the full extent of the pressures and expectations on any incumbent – they are significant. It was good that we were able to support Sally and Paul in taking an opportunity for refreshment and renewal away from day-to-day church life. Whilst we all missed their contribution whilst they were away, the ministry team and many others stepped up their contribution to ensure that our activities continued as normal. Whilst well-supported by many others, Nadine, Julie and Matthew cheerfully took on a whole range of additional services, activities and responsibilities and I'd like to record our thanks to them here. And it did make us more appreciative of all that Sally does!

At the time of last year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), we were planning the motorisation of the main glass entrance doors. This work was completed successfully and has made the building more accessible as well as helping to save energy as they automatically close. Managing the works and the budget proved to be more complex than we anticipated, and completion took longer than expected but the result is a major improvement.

**WENDOVER PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Statement of Financial Activities
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS							
Donations and Legacies	2	147,880	275	39,332	-	187,487	164,328
Church Activities	2	24,030	-	730	-	24,760	19,378
Other trading activities	2	6,940	285	194	-	7,419	7,592
Investments	2	3,159	-	282	-	3,441	1,496
Other		-	-	-	-	-	150
Total income and endowments		182,009	560	40,538	-	223,107	192,944
EXPENDITURE							
Cost of generating funds	3	906	-	1,218	-	2,124	-
Church activities	3	165,233	30,205	66,583	-	262,021	218,753
Other		-	-	-	-	-	35
Total expenditure		166,139	30,205	67,801	-	264,145	192,944
Transfers							
Gross transfers between funds in		-	7,640	5,887	-	13,527	78,293
Gross transfers between funds out		(13,527)	-	-	-	(13,527)	(78,293)
Other recognised gains/losses							
Gains/(losses) on investments	9	-	-	1,290	(9)	1,281	(2,278)
Net movement in funds		2,343	(22,005)	(20,086)	(9)	(39,757)	(28,123)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total Funds brought forward		35,632	68,383	188,611	251	292,877	321,000
Total Funds carried forward		37,975	46,378	168,525	242	253,120	292,877

The notes on pages 3 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
FIXED ASSETS							
Tangible assets	8	-	-	108,205	-	108,205	108,863
Investments	9	-	-	17,406	242	17,648	16,367
Total Fixed Assets		-	-	125,611	242	125,853	125,230
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors and prepayments	12	7,637	5	1,227	-	8,869	7,866
Investments	10	-	39,713	33,770	-	73,483	71,217
Cash at bank and in hand	11	38,994	9,698	11,464	-	60,156	101,915
Total Current Assets		46,631	49,416	46,461	-	142,508	180,998
CURRENT LIABILITIES							
Creditors due in one year	13	8,656	3,038	3,547	-	15,241	13,351
NET CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		37,975	46,378	42,914	-	127,267	167,647
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		37,975	46,378	168,525	242	253,120	292,877
Creditors due more than one year		-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES		37,975	46,378	168,525	242	253,120	292,877
FUNDS OF THE CHURCH							
General Fund		37,975				37,975	35,632
Designated Funds		-	46,378	-	-	46,378	68,383
		37,975	46,378	-	-	84,353	104,015
Restricted funds		-	-	168,525	-	168,525	188,611
Endowments		-	-	-	242	242	251
TOTAL FUNDS		37,975	46,378	168,525	242	253,120	292,877

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 11 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by Rev'd Sally Moring.

The notes on pages 3 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with S 145 of the Charities Act 2011, and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs. Also in accordance with the Regulations' 'true and fair view' provisions, together with FRS 102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

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.

The accounts are reported on an accruals basis, in line with best practice for charities with income over £250,000.

Funds

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

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes.

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trust or 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 are given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. Funds raised at fund raising events are accounted for gross. St Mary's Centre lettings income is recognised when due. Government and Local Government Grants for Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Local Restriction Support Grants are accounted for when legally entitled to the amounts due.

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. Any parish share unpaid at the year end is provided for in these statements as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s10(2) (a) and (c)) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). Expenditure of less than £2,000 on any individual item has been written off when incurred.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost evenly over the expected useful economic life of assets as follows;

- AV equipment, altar, shed, organ, seating and additional bells - 10 years,
- Lighting and heating equipment - 20 years.

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date..

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at the year end in respect of fees or other income are shown as debtors less provision for any amounts that may prove uncollectable.

2. Analysis of incoming resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
Donations and legacies						
Planned giving – gift aided	87,619	-	-	-	87,619	87,871
Planned giving – non gift aided	5,640	-	-	-	5,640	5,616
Other giving – gift aided	2,271	-	-	-	2,271	2,006
Planned - CAF/Stewardship Scheme	900	-	-	-	900	1,180
Other giving - Non Gift Aided	8,124	-	612	-	8,736	2,303
Special Collections - All	93	-	1,378	-	1,471	2,792
Gift Aid Recoverable	24,790	-	937	-	25,727	24,239
Collections – open plate	4,760	-	848	-	5,608	6,058
Grants - all	13,203	-	35,557	-	48,760	31,088
Legacies	-	275	-	-	275	1,000
Church boxes	480	-	-	-	480	176
Total donations and legacies	147,880	275	39,332	-	187,487	164,328
Church activities						
Shop recharges and contributions	9,996	-	-	-	9,996	10,641
Other recharges	1,081	-	-	-	1,081	19
PCC fees	12,745	-	-	-	12,745	7,755
Events and non-fundraising activities	208	-	730	-	938	963
Total church activities	24,030	-	730	-	24,760	19,378
Other trading activities						
Sunday coffee	-	285	44	-	329	533
Events and fundraising activities	1,877	-	150	-	2,027	2,001
Church and centre hire	5,063	-	-	-	5,063	5,058
Total other trading activities	6,940	285	194	-	7,419	7,592

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
Investment income						
CBF CE deposit and bank interest	3,159	-	282	-	3,441	1,496
Total investment income	3,159	-	282	-	3,441	1,496
Other income						
Other	-	-	-	-	-	150
Total other income	-	-	-	-	-	150
Total Income and endowments	182,009	560	40,538	-	223,107	192,944

3. Analysis of outgoing resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
Costs of generating funds						
Fundraising activities	906	-	1,218	-	2,124	-
Total cost of generating funds	906	-	1,218	-	2,124	-
Church activities						
Parish share	108,900	-	-	-	108,900	111,644
Other ministry costs	-	25,044	-	-	25,044	22,800
Utilities and insurance	12,065	-	2,508	-	14,573	16,034
Cost of church services	4,898	-	2,135	-	7,033	3,776
Repairs	5,237	-	40,938	-	46,175	4,041
Furniture and equipment	200	-	-	-	200	45
Depreciation	-	-	15,045	-	15,045	13,606
Junior church	43	-	-	-	43	628
Use of other premises	300	-	-	-	300	749
Training costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missionary and charitable giving	-	3,939	3,090	-	7,029	3,917
Youth	-	1,222	-	-	1,222	5,895
Sages	-	-	917	-	917	1,135
Non-fundraising events	859	-	-	-	859	517
Support costs	32,731	-	1,950	-	34,681	33,967
Total church activities	165,233	30,205	66,583	-	262,021	218,753

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
Other expenditure						
Sundry	-	-	-	-	-	35
Total other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	35
Total expenditure	166,139	30,205	67,801	-	264,145	218,788

4. Support costs

Church running costs/admin	18,688	-	1,950	-	20,638	20,265
High Street (note 19)	14,043	-	-	-	14,043	13,702
Total support costs	32,731	-	1,950	-	34,681	33,967

5. Staff numbers and emoluments

The average number of persons employed during the year was three. An administrator, a youth worker and an Associate Priest; all were part-time. Total wages were £38,949. No National Insurance was paid as the HMRC employment allowance was not exceeded. No person was paid at a rate exceeding £60,000 per year. No employees are in the NEST pension scheme. Employer contributions to the pension scheme totalled £0. The church is invoiced by the Diocese of Oxford for the Associate Priest's salary.

6. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No member of the PCC received any remuneration for their work on the PCC. The clergy, who are ex officio members, are not remunerated for their service on the PCC. Apart from the reimbursement of costs, no expenses were paid to members.

7. Missionary and Charitable giving

Our 2023 giving is set out below:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Wendover and Villages Ukraine	-	500	-	500
Youth Concern	-	1,146	-	1,146
St Phillips Chapel Street	-	1,146	-	1,146
Tear Fund	-	1,147	-	1,147
	-	3,939	-	3,939

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

Grants and donations from special collections:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Gifts under £100	-	-	30	30
Christmas/Harvest Collections	-	-	1,996	1,996
Other collections	-	-	1,064	1,064
	-	-	3,090	3,090
Total charitable giving	-	3,939	3,090	7,029

The PCC's policy on charitable giving is to give 2% of income to charitable purposes annually and to choose a local, national and international partner for the year. In 2023 £3,640 was transferred to the Global Church Fund (Designated). The balance remaining in the Global Church Fund at 31 December 2023 stands at £3,762.

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Organ £	AV Equipment £	Bells £	Lighting And heating £	Altar, shed, seats £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 January	39,587	17,985	28,762	272,135	63,015	421,484
Additions in year	-	14,387	-	-	-	14,387
Disposals/write off	-	(12,000)	-	-	-	(12,000)
At 31 December	39,587	20,372	28,762	272,135	63,015	423,871
Depreciation						
At 1 January	39,587	17,985	28,762	163,272	63,015	312,621
Depreciation in year	-	1,439	-	13,606	-	15,045
Disposals/write off	-	(12,000)	-	-	-	(12,000)
At 31 December	39,587	7,424	28,762	176,878	63,015	315,666
Net book value						
At 1 January	-	-	-	108,863	-	108,863
At 31 December	-	12,948	-	95,257	-	108,205

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

9. Investment assets

	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed asset investments			
At 1 January	16,116	251	16,367
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	1,290	(9)	1,281
At 31 December	17,406	242	17,648

Analysis of investments

	MV 2023 £	Income In year £
Restricted		
Dorothy Rance Fund - 233 units in CBFCE	5,267	72
Wendover C of E Trustees Fund – 4,309.93 units in CBFCE	6,239	64
Churchyard Care Committee – 261 units in CBFCE **	5,900	-
Endowment fund		
Brown Trust 10.73 units in CFCE	242	7
At 31 December	17,648	143

** Income for the Churchyard Care Committee is paid directly to the Churchyard Care Committee bank account.

10. Short term deposits

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
CBFCE	-	39,713	33,136	-	72,849	70,590
Barlow legacy	-	-	500	-	500	500
Brown Trust	-	-	134	-	134	127
Total	-	39,713	33,770	-	73,483	71,217

Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

Bank balances over £500 in the NatWest Current Account are automatically transferred to the NatWest Business Reserve Account. Where a PCC fund has substantial monies that are of a short term nature, these are placed on deposit with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England (CBFCE). A General Deposit Account was opened in December 1999 to cover previously uninvested funds and maximise returns from this source.

11. Cash at bank and in hand

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £	2022 Funds £
NatWest	-	7,696	9,649	-	17,345	29,177
CAF	38,894	2,002	-	-	40,896	70,506
Flower Fund	-	-	-	-	-	32
Flower Fund cash	-	-	-	-	-	29
Bellringers Harpenden	-	-	1,596	-	1,596	2,004
High Street Petty Cash	100	-	-	-	100	100
Other Petty Cash	-	-	219	-	219	67
Total	38,994	9,698	11,464	-	60,156	101,915

12. Debtors and prepayments

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due in one year		
Prepayments	3,128	3,285
Accrued income	2,311	1,429
Fees	2,356	536
Recharges	-	511
Centre and church hire	1,074	2,105
Total	8,869	7,866

No amounts were due in more than one year.

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

13. Creditors and accruals

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts due in one year		
Grants awarded from Special Collection not paid at year end	2,727	2,872
Accrued or owed costs	12,514	10,479
Total	<u>15,241</u>	<u>13,351</u>

14. Analysis of net assets by fund

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	2022
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	108,205	-	108,205	108,863
Investment Fixed Assets	-	-	17,406	242	17,648	70,506
Current assets						
Short term investments	-	39,713	33,770	-	73,483	71,217
Bank and cash	38,994	9,698	11,464	-	60,156	101,915
Debtors and prepayments	7,637	5	1,227	-	8,869	7,866
Creditors within one year	(8,656)	(3,038)	(3,547)	-	(15,241)	(13,351)
Total	<u>37,975</u>	<u>46,378</u>	<u>168,525</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>253,120</u>	<u>292,877</u>

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

15. Statement of funds

	Fund b/f £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Gain/losses Transfers £	Fund c/f £
Unrestricted					
Global church	4,061	-	3,939	3,640	3,762
Fabric fund	395	285	-	-	680
Legacies	15,927	-	-	-	15,927
Ministry development fund	48,000	275	26,266	4,000	26,009
Total designated	68,383	560	30,205	7,640	46,378
General fund	35,632	182,009	166,139	(13,527)	37,975
Total unrestricted	104,015	182,569	196,344	(5,887)	84,353
Restricted funds					
Wendover CofE School	6,986	136	-	330	7,452
Bell ringers Fund	2,004	730	1,070	-	1,664
Church refurbishment Fund	108,863	-	13,606	-	95,257
Churchyard Care Committee	5,938	11,057	11,507	507	5,995
Fabric Fund	29,423	14,143	33,283	-	10,283
Legacies Fund	23,207	-	-	-	23,207
Climate Action Wendover	654	-	-	-	654
Flower Fund	2,737	150	2,642	-	245
Dorothy Rance Fund	4,992	139	-	453	5,584
Ministry Development Fund	171	-	-	-	171
Sages Fund	669	512	917	-	264
Special Collections Fund	-	3,164	3,060	-	104
Special Purposes Fund	2,840	-	-	-	2,840
Warm Welcome	-	2,000	277	-	1,723
AV Fund	-	8,500	1,439	5,887	12,948
Brown Trust	127	7	-	-	134
	188,611	40,538	67,801	7,177	168,525
Endowment Fund					
Brown Trust	251	-	-	(9)	242
Total of all Funds	292,877	223,107	264,145	1,281	253,120

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

16. Fund details

Unrestricted

General Fund	Main transaction fund for PCC operations
Global Church - Designated	Money set aside by PCC for mission and charitable giving
Flower Fund - Designated	Money set aside by PCC for the purchase of flower pedestals
Fabric Fund - Designated	Money set aside by PCC for fabric (of the church) purposes
Legacies Fund - Designated	Legacies with no specific instructions as to use
Ministry Development Fund - Designated	Money set aside by PCC to support Ministry Initiatives of St. Mary's & St. Michael's

Restricted

Wendover C of E School Trustees Fund	To be used for the benefit of the school
Bell Ringers Fund	Fund maintained on the PCC's behalf by the bell ringers with their own building society account. Transactions assigned to the Bell Ringers Restricted Fund
Church Refurbishment Fund	Church refurbishment projects
Churchyard Care Committee	Income from investments goes direct to Churchyard Care Committee
Dorothy Rance Fund	Support for costs for floral arrangements
Fabric Fund	For expenses relating to the fabric of the Church, including insurance
Flower Fund	Fund maintained on the PCC's behalf by the Flower Arrangers with their own bank account. Transactions are assigned to the Restricted Flower Fund which has been set up to support the cost of floral arrangements.
Legacies (Fabric) Fund	Legacies given specifically for fabric and furniture
Ministry Development Fund	To support Ministry initiatives of St. Mary's & St. Michael's
SAGES Fund	SAGES, with PCC approval, manage their own petty cash expenditure. Donations received at SAGES meetings are banked in the main PCC bank account and the petty cash float is periodically topped up by the PCC. All transactions are assigned to the SAGES Restricted Fund.
Special Collections Fund	Collections for special causes pass through this fund
Special Purposes Fund	Funds donated for special purposes
Brown Trust	Unspent income from endowment fund
Endowment Fund	
Brown Trust	Capital invested by the Diocese: Income for specific work in churchyard

17. Related Party Transactions

Aggregate donations from Trustees of the PCC totalled £17,364.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wendover (PCC) is the ultimate controlling party of St. Mary's (Wendover) Limited (The Company). St. Mary's (Wendover) Limited is a trading company which sells and promotes fairly and ethically traded products from 'Just' on the High Street. During the year, the PCC charged the company £9,996 (2022 - £9,187) for services including rent and other running costs. Also during the year, the company made donations of £13,203 (2022 - £15,533).

18. Insurance

Buildings and contents sum insured is £14,780,000. There is a £1,000 excess on a number of items.

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

19. St Mary's (Wendover) Limited

The PCC holds the lease on premises in Wendover High Street. Part is used for parish administration and a convenient point of contact for parishioners. The majority is effectively sublet to JUST, a shop run by volunteers. JUST is run on lines which the Church can endorse, particularly Fair Trade, though the PCC has no control over detailed trading policy on purchases or sales. The shop's activities are not presented as a charity, faith, Christian or Anglican venture, and are therefore not included in the PCC accounts. However in recent years the shop has generated cash making possible, contributions to St. Mary's PCC for general purposes. In 2023 a contribution of £13,203 was made.

High Street premises costs paid by St Mary's

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rent	9,600	9,600
Buildings insurance	734	396
Utilities	1,942	1,673
Telephone	1,466	1,050
IT equipment	-	719
Maintenance	301	264
Total	14,043	13,702

20. Reserves policy

The PCC's Reserves Policy is to have a reserve equivalent to two months general running and salary costs, plus an additional months salary costs in the General Fund. This is equivalent to £27,538 including Parish Share. At year end the General Fund reserve stood at £37,975. The General Fund slightly exceeded the Reserves Policy to reflect the current cost of living rises and known expenditure in 2024.

In November 2019 St Mary's appointed a part time Associate Priest for a 3-year contract. In November 2022, the PCC agreed to extend the contract for a further three years to 2025. Annual costs are expected to be £24,000. The costs of this are to be financed by the Ministry Development Fund, the designated legacy fund and the general fund. In the year the PCC agreed to transfer £24,000 from the General Fund and £24,000 from the designated legacy fund to the Ministry Development Fund.

The 2017 Quinquennial Inspection declared the church to be in good condition with few 'urgent works' required. The Lady Chapel roof is in need of repair. The intention is to address this in conjunction with work required to alleviate the detrimental consequences of HS2.

In the year the PCC agreed to allocate 2% of general income to the Global Church Fund to support external agencies. In the year £3,439 was allocated to the Global Church Fund.

21. Obligations under operating leases

St Mary's has a lease which runs to 2029 on 11c, High Street, Wendover of £9,600 a year.

They also have a lease on a photocopier which expires in 2024.

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Independent Examiners Report
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

Independent Examiners report to the trustees of the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Wendover (Charity No 1131299).

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out on pages one to 13.

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Gavin Styles FCCA
Chapel Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4BJ

27 April 2024

**Wendover Parochial Church Council
Independent Examiners Report
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023**

Independent Examiners report to the trustees of the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Wendover (Charity No 1131299).

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out on pages one to 13.

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Gavin Styles FCCA
Chapel Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4BJ

27 April 2024