

THE PCC OF GREAT AYCLIFFE

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Armstrong Accountancy
68 Leander Drive
Boldon
Tyne and Wear
NE35 9LS

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THE PARISH OF GREAT AYCLIFFE
CHURCH INFORMATION

Diocese ORD Number	248711
Charity Commission Registration Number	1131381
Bank	Barclays Bank plc 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP
Independent Examiner	Mrs L Armstrong Armstrong Accountancy 68 Leander Drive Henley Grange Boldon Colliery NE35 9LS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

To the PCC of the Parish of Great Aycliffe

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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, which has not been met.

Signed

Mrs L Armstrong
Armstrong Accountancy
68 Leander Drive
Henley Grange
Boldon Colliery
NE35 9LS

Independent Examiner

5th May 2024

The Parish of Great Aycliffe
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023
Receipts and Payments Accounts

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Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2,023 £	Total Funds 2,022 £
Voluntary receipts					
Planned Giving	30,657	-	353	31,010	37,114
Gift Aid donations	-	-	-	-	137
Income Tax Recovery	9,143	-	-	9,143	3,851
Open Plate collections	11,698	-	-	11,698	8,576
Other voluntary receipts					
Donations and Appeals	2,108	-	10,661	12,769	10,074
Sundry donations	7,572	-	3,993	11,565	8,862
Community fund	782	-	718	1,500	-
Legacies	-	-	30,000	30,000	-
	61,960	-	45,726	107,686	68,614
Activities for generating funds					
Fetes Bazaars, other fund raising events	11,407	-	2,771	14,179	11,448
Welcome café	4,804	-	-	4,804	-
Church Hall lettings etc	24,248	-	-	24,248	13,253
Candles	344	-	-	344	107
Baptism/wedding certificates and banns	258	-	-	258	5,877
Internment of ashes	-	-	-	-	197
Headstones	349	-	-	349	319
Sundry income	320	-	-	320	130
	41,730	-	2,771	44,502	31,331
Investment income					
Dividends	48	-	-	48	40
Interest	134	-	33	167	65
Surplus/-Deficit on investments	-	-	33	33	- 213
	182	-	66	249	- 108
Church activities					
Fees	20,069	-	-	20,069	17,709
Magazines	-	-	236	236	297
Grants	491	-	14,250	14,741	21,013
Refunds	181	-	-	181	1,017
Advertising	375	-	-	375	150
Memorial book	84	-	-	84	250
Gifts	1,639	-	-	1,639	-
Parish youth	-	-	70	70	-
Sundry Receipts	1,273	-	-	1,273	553
	24,113	-	14,556	38,669	40,989
Total receipts	127,985	-	63,120	191,105	140,826
Excess/-Deficit of receipts over payments	19,161	- 16	23,193	42,339	13,733
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank at 1 January 23	19,177	16	49,749	68,942	55,209
Cash at bank at 31 December 23	38,338	-	72,942	111,281	68,942

The Parish of Great Aycliffe
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023
Receipts and Payments Accounts

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Payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2,023 £	Total Funds 2,022 £
Church activities					
Mission giving and donations					
Missionary & charitable giving	390	-	3,277	3,667	250
Church Overseas	-	-	-	-	1,806
Home missions & Church Societies	-	-	-	-	967
Secular charities	683	-	-	683	1,556
	<u>1,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,277</u>	<u>4,350</u>	<u>4,579</u>
Activities : related to church work					
Ministry : Parish share	39,600	-	-	39,600	48,600
Clergy Expenses	460	-	-	460	413
Visiting clergy	1,297	-	-	1,297	28
Clergy house (water)	403	-	-	403	683
Church running expenses	19,572	-	-	19,572	20,035
Rent	528	-	450	978	1,785
Church maintenance	8,373	-	1,417	9,790	5,492
Hall running costs	-	-	844	844	160
Major Repairs and decoration	872	-	32,877	33,749	6,458
Upkeep of church services	833	-	-	833	1,168
Copyright Licence	459	-	-	459	428
DBS checks	14	-	-	14	60
Holiday grant	-	-	180	180	-
Parish children	126	16	382	523	566
Community trip & entertainment	-	-	-	-	400
Salaries	3,458	-	-	3,458	3,239
Pensions	780	-	-	780	780
Sundry Expenses	1,096	-	392	1,487	775
Fees paid	8,919	-	-	8,919	14,051
Organist	840	-	-	840	926
Vergers	913	-	-	913	938
Hampers and gifts	5,651	-	-	5,651	1,800
Equipment purchased	756	-	-	756	3,502
	<u>94,950</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>36,541</u>	<u>131,508</u>	<u>112,287</u>
Cost of generating funds					
Costs of fetes, bazaars etc	1,086	-	108	1,194	360
Welcome café	4,581	-	-	4,581	3,554
	<u>5,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>5,775</u>	<u>3,914</u>
Church Management & administration					
Accountancy	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,500
Professional fees	1,856	-	-	1,856	1,680
Bank and sum up charges	20	-	-	20	14
Training	775	-	-	775	20
Advertising printing and stationery	1,271	-	-	1,271	1,294
Telephone	1,712	-	-	1,712	1,806
	<u>7,134</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,134</u>	<u>6,314</u>
Total payments	<u>108,824</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>39,926</u>	<u>148,766</u>	<u>127,094</u>

The Parish of Great Aycliffe
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 31 December 2023

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	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2,023 £	Total Funds 2,022 £
Cash Funds					
Bank accounts churches	33,810	-	70,459	104,269	61,097
Cash accounts	214	-	-	214	1,248
CCLA	4,315	-	-	4,315	4,181
Other monetary assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investment assets					
Investment funds (at market value)	-	-	2,483	2,483	2,416
Assets retained for Church use	-	-	-	-	-
	38,340	-	72,941	111,281	68,942
Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
	38,340	-	72,941	111,281	68,942

Approved by the Parish of Great Aycliffe, and signed on its behalf by Mr S. Ingram (Treasurer)

Mr. S. Ingram (Treasurer)

The Parish of Great Aycliffe
Notes to the financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

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1 Accounting Policies

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

2 Fixed assets under £5,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

3 Movements in designated and restricted funds were:-

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Excess/-Deficit of receipts over payments	19,161	-	16	23,193	42,339
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank at 1 January 23	19,177	16	49,749	68,942	55,209
Cash at bank at 31 December 23	38,338	-	72,942	111,281	68,942

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Movement in Funds

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus & (Deficit)	Interest	Closing Balance	
							Designated	Restricted
St Andrew								
Fabric fund	13946.16	30010.00	960.00					42996.16
Fabric fund - WC	1413.28	10000.00	780.00					10633.28
Churchyard	932.68	175.00	175.00					932.68
Bells	1235.00							1235.00
General Maintenance	0.00							0.00
Service requisites	0.00							0.00
Organ	685.60							685.60
Heritage fund	311.80							311.80
T Chapman	110.64					5.08		115.72
Tithe Act	350.98				33.31			384.29
AH Bowen	610.56					28.01		638.57
T Gibson	1344.04							1344.04
Charities	0.00	70.00	70.00					0.00
St Clare								
Youth ministry	179.21	246.26	335.85					89.62
Fabric fund	6427.62	17507.69	21317.12	283.57				2901.76
Roof fund	283.57			-283.57				0.00
Memorial plaque	99.60		99.60					0.00
Messy church	100.00	140.00						240.00
Church garden.	10.00							10.00
Places of welcome	10.00							10.00
Tiddles and toddlers	0.00	100.00	45.69					54.31
Festo and grace	0.00							0.00
Magazines	0.00	236.00	236.00					0.00
Charities	33.20	2774.61	2805.78					2.03
St Elizabeth of Hungary								
Fabric fund	2153.46	392.95	55.97					2490.44
Mother & Toddlers	132.74		106.70					26.04
Collections	100.00	255.00	355.00					0.00
Deanery weekly welcom	298.37	337.46	451.43					184.40
Grants	12387.00		11862.15					524.85
Charities	0.00	90.00	90.00					0.00
St Francis								
Fabric	960.39							960.39
After school club	0.00							0.00
Parish								
Community fund	1253.56	718.20						1971.76
Wardens fund	4046.00							4046.00
Holiday	307.30		180.00					127.30
Open the book	17.55							17.55
Youth development	16.00		16.00				0.00	
Pastoral care	8.17							8.17
	49764.48	63053.17	39942.29	0.00	33.31	33.09	0.00	72941.76

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THE PARISH OF GREAT AYCLIFFE CHURCH INFORMATION

Diocese ORD Number

248711

Charity Commission Registration Number 1131381

Team Rector

Reverend Canon A. Anderson

Bank

Barclays Bank plc
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

Independent Examiner

Mrs L Armstrong
Armstrong Accountancy
68 Leander Drive
Henley Grange
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The PCC of Great Aycliffe

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Great Aycliffe (other name or acronym: PCC of Great Aycliffe)

Registered charity number: 1131381

Charity's principal address: The Parish Office
St Clare's Church
St Cuthbert's Way, Newton Aycliffe
DL5 5NT

Names of the charity trustees at the date the report was approved

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Rev. Canon A Anderson	Team Rector	Resigned 31.12.23
Rev. J. Anderson	Team Vicar	Resigned 31.12.23
Rev. D. Hudson	Curate	Resigned 19.02.23
Rev. S. Price	Assistant Curate	Resigned 29.04.23
Mr. A E. Temple	Treasurer	Resigned 31.12.23
Mrs. M. Duffin	Church Warden (St. Elizabeth's)	Resigned 31.12.23
Mr. R. Hargreaves		
Mr. D. Blair	Church Warden (St Andrew's)	
Mrs. E. Bowman	Licensed Lay Reader	
Mrs. M. Wilson	Church warden (St. Clare's)	
Mrs. C. Halford		
Ms. J. Fay		

Administrative information

The Parish of Great Aycliffe is made up of four churches, St. Clare's Church, St. Cuthbert's Way, Newton Aycliffe; St. Elizabeth's Church, Woodham; St. Andrew's Church, Aycliffe Village and St. Francis' Church which is a part of St. Francis Church of England aided Junior School, Horndale. The parish is a part of the Durham Diocese within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Parish Office. St Clare's Church. St. Cuthbert's Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 5NT

Structure, governance and management

PCC's are governed by two "Church of England Measures"; the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. In the Parish of Great Aycliffe, the PCC consists of the Incumbent, Team Vicar, Curate(s), Licensed Lay Minister, Parish Treasurer, Church Wardens, two representatives from each of the District Church Councils of St. Andrew's Church, St. Clare's and St. Elizabeth's Church, and three Deanery Synod Representatives. The Parish Safeguarding Officer attends by invitation around three times per year and as necessary. All are registered on the electoral roll, all who attend our churches are encouraged to register. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC is the governing body of the DCC's and therefore any faculty applications or other major decisions need to be approved at the PCC meetings. Both PCC and DCC's meet bi-monthly and therefore six times each year. Subcommittees at DCC level have certain responsibilities and are able to deal with the ongoing development, upkeep and maintenance of the church. These committees include pastoral care, hall management, buildings committee, funding application committee, communications, and missional leadership for growth. They are responsible to the PCC and DCC's and report back regularly with minutes of their decisions being received and discussed as necessary.

Aims and purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Parish of Great Aycliffe has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Canon Ann Anderson in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the promotion of the Christian faith in the Church of England Aided School of St. Francis, Horndale.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at each of our churches of St. Clare, St. Andrew, St. Elizabeth and St. Francis. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. We have tried to fulfil the aims of the church for the benefit of our church and the wider community.

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

Achievements and performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC are committed to providing services that our church family and wider community find fulfilling and nurturing to their faith. Through the use of our Facebook page, we have circulated prayer and services, which reached many more people than our congregation. Through the services of the word, we are nurturing lay leaders and growing the number of laity involved in reading and praying in church.

These services are also different as they use multimedia and offer a range of worship styles/music. The number of people on the electoral roll this year is 130 spread across the four churches.

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At Christmas and Easter, we reached out to the community through Christingle, Relaxed Carols and Candlelight Carols, similarly appropriate services across Holy Week and Easter. At St. Clare's Church a Sunday Club for the children has been relaunched and Messy Church has continued to grow having been temporarily halted in its' tracks by the pandemic. Our services of meditation and healing.

Deanery synod

Deanery Synod have met as agreed once each quarter, alternating between online meetings and in-person meetings. Co-operation within the Deanery is very good with ministers very generous in providing "cover" for services when requested. In particular, we are blessed with retired clergy who so often are forgotten; for their ministry we are very grateful.

Warm spaces

We are fortunate to have been able to register both the Welcome Cafe and Weekly Wednesday as a Warm Space, both are attracting well people who need to stay warm and gain interaction with others.

Community development

A small group of volunteers have expanded and continue to run the free Welcome Cafe each Tuesday morning providing a simple breakfast and a two-course meal in St. Clare's Church Hall. Effectively showing the love of God in practical ways it attracts people from all walks of life who come together as a new community every Tuesday. Similarly, Weekly Wednesday at St. Elizabeth's Church is open to a small group to spend time together chatting, crafting, and engaging in seasonal activities, sharing refreshments time and friendship. Coffee mornings in these two churches have flourished; not just a fundraiser but knitting people together in friendship including, at St. Clare's the Syrian families who gather for other activities alongside the coffee morning. Kidzflicks and Tiddlers and Toddlers also draw families together in community.

Pastoral care

Has been maintained by a strong group of Volunteers.

Mission and evangelism

As a staff team and wider team of lay leaders, having very few Missional Leadership for Growth meetings due to volunteer shortage, have instead tried to keep everything we do intentionally missional. The work at St. Francis' School has involved wider families on a regular basis. The Welcome Cafe and Weekly Wednesday are missional as they act as doorways to church and Offer a welcome that is infectious. Our primary school contact has grown massively as each of the clergy team adopted particular schools.

Again, parents are invited to attend seasonal celebrations where God's word is spoken clearly. Tiddlers and Toddlers has included an element of Christian teaching, and the Parish booklet of information and invitation is shared widely. Our online presence continues and offers a forum for faith sharing, as does our Parish magazine. Our many occasional offices offer an opportunity to share faith and invitation. St. Andrew's Church remains a popular choice for weddings though these are often going elsewhere as permissions to marry in other places has widened. Work which must be considered missional, has continued against the to further the project to build a toilet/kitchen/new heating system at St. Andrew's Church.

The Parish faces a future year of change, when the Rector and her husband the Team Vicar announced their retirement in the last quarter of 2023. Having started the year with that team in place plus two curates, who moved on to more permanent positions during the year, the Parish closed 2023, with no paid clergy in place and relying on support from Lay people and retired ministers. We view the future with interest and determination.

Ecumenical relationships

Unfortunately, the Churches Together of Great Aycliffe folded during the pandemic and has not re-formed since.

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Volunteers

We would like to thank all of the volunteers who work so hard to make our churches the lively, welcoming place it is. In particular we want to mention the Church Wardens and their assistants. Parish Treasurer Mr. Ernie Temple has faithfully kept our heads above water, in 2023 he steered us to paying our Parish Share in full whilst always putting mission first. In a challenging time which has caused a huge stress on financial resources he remained a faithful, steady, calming influence for which we are very grateful.

Financial Review

Charity's policy on reserves

Reserves are held against the future costs of maintaining the fabric of the church buildings, are largely made up of funds donated for this purpose. A modest reserve is held as a buffer fund for current expenditure. The PCC keep the level of reserves under review and regard them as being realistic under current circumstances.

Financial review details

Throughout 2023, there was a steady increase towards pre-pandemic giving, but comparable figures to the previous year were not achieved. Following various project appeals and the receipt of a legacy, boosted the Restricted sector of the accounts by some £37,000, compared to the previous year. However as a steady trend for funerals and memorial services to take place away from the churches impacts, the level of income from those streams continues to decline. In 2023 a parish share of £39,600.00 (2022: £48,600.00) was paid to the diocese, during the year.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: Miriam Wilson, Helen McCormic, David

L J Blair

Parish Wardens, Great Aycliffe Parish

