

# THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN

England & Wales · Charity number 1131590

## Details

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**Other names** FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PCC

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Previously excepted

**Registered** 2009-09-14

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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## Activities

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**Objects:** Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

**Activities:** Regular public worship open to all. The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation. Pastoral work. Teaching of Christianity. Provision of youth and children's groups. Promotion of Christianity. Promoting the whole mission of the Church through the provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and toddlers. Supporting other Gospel based charities.

## Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Essex

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£170,699	£163,299	-	-
2023-12-31	£165,599	£161,067	-	-
2022-12-31	£181,261	£195,769	-	-
2021-12-31	£211,503	£181,957	-	-
2020-12-31	£193,327	£214,189	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Francis Blight	Chair	2019-05-13
Grace Lee		2016-04-17
Irene Dorothy Bale		2020-10-18
John Stirling Bradley		2021-05-09
MARY CAROLINE DURLACHER		2011-05-12
Nicholas Durlacher		2019-04-28
ROGER JOHN MILES		2024-05-12
Taiwo Fimihan Olajumoke		2025-05-11
Victoria Emma Rolfe		2023-04-30

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# Accounts

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# All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Colchester



## Parochial Church Council Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

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## Reference Information

<b>Name of Charity</b>	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN  FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PCC (Working name)	
<b>Incumbent</b>	Revd Francis Blight	
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	All Saints Church Office John Owen Barn Church Road Fordham CO6 3NL  01206 243261  <a href="http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk">www.fordhamchurch.org.uk</a>	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1131590	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank	9 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1DA
	CAF Bank	25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE	Stewardship, 1 Lamb's Passage, London, EC1Y 8AB

## Parochial Church Council

	Up to APCM on 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	From the APCM on 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
<b>Rector</b>	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)
		Roger Miles
<b>General Synod</b>	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	John Bradley	John Bradley
	Roy Miller (Resigned April 2024)	Irene Bale
<b>Elected Members</b>	Alistair Grote	Alistair Grote
	Grace Lee (Secretary)	Grace Lee (Secretary, Electoral Roll Officer)
	Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)	Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)
	John Bennion	
	Irene Bale	
	Jenny LeGood (Electoral Roll Officer) (Resigned January 2024)	
	Keith Hodges (Resigned January 2024)	
<b>Co-opted Non-Voting Members</b>	Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer)	

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are spent.

## Committees

PCC Standing Committee	
<b>Chair</b>	Rev'd Francis Blight (Rector)
<b>Members</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Warden), Roger Miles (Warden) Grace Lee (Secretary) Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)

Finance Sub-Committee	
<b>Chair</b>	Victoria Rolfe
<b>Members</b>	Francis Blight Nicholas Durlacher John Bradley

Fabric Sub-Committee	
<b>Chair</b>	Alistair Grote
<b>Members</b>	Mary Durlacher Jim Day John Revett

# The Parochial Church Council's Annual Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Rector and members of the Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC') have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year. The PCC are the charity's trustees for the purposes of charity law.

## A Message from the Rector (PCC chair)

In my leadership of our church across 2024 I have endeavoured to keep the teaching of God's Word and evangelism at the centre of our focus. The report highlights the significant work that is going on in our ministries to different age groups within the life of our church, and we are grateful for the ministry leaders and their teams who have persevered week by week through the year. In 2024 we added a new programme of quarterly Explore Sunday outreach services to complement and support our Explore courses. The Community Hub continues to be popular and much appreciated.

My thanks go to the staff team, ministry leaders and church family for all that you have invested in the life of our church during 2024. This year's annual report gives testimony to a church community who are seeking to serve and prevail in 'knowing Jesus and making him known'. This is in the context of post-covid social changes, and the disquiet created by ungodly leadership from the House of Bishops in regard to God's teaching on sexual practice. Thank you for all that you have given practically, financially and in love to one another through the year.



The PCC would be delighted if you would pray for the FEAG church, that we can remain faithful to Jesus and grow in our fruitfulness as a church seeking to please God. Through the report are several prayer requests to help you. There are many demands upon me as the minister, so I do ask that you pray for me, that I can keep Bible teaching, discipleship and evangelism at the top of our church's agenda. I hope you find this report helpful in giving a picture of church life through the year.

Reverend Francis Blight

## Our Vision

Our stated aim is "To know Jesus Christ and make him known". We seek to work out this vision through the guiding principles set out in the Eleven Decisions which were endorsed by the PCC at the April 2000 APCM. In planning its activities, the PCC have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## The Eleven Decisions

### Why we do what we do

1. In all that we do, we shall remember that our aim is to please and honour God and to receive his approval of our work on the last day.

### What we will do

2. We shall try to bring people to receive Christ as Lord and Saviour and to join our church family, not distracted from this activity which we alone and no other organisation can accomplish.
3. We shall try to make the Christians in our church people who have a firm grasp of the Christian message and are making steady progress in living it out.

4. We shall encourage each member of the church to find and use the gifts that God has given them.
5. We shall make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full time' Christian work.
6. We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.

#### **How we do what we do**

7. We shall rely on prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.
8. Believing that the Bible is what God says to the church today we will make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.
9. We shall make plans prayerfully and be sensitive to the Lord's leading looking for a common mind on the way forward and events conspiring to make it possible.

#### **For whom we do what we do**

10. We shall consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field, and will use the network of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the word of the gospel.
11. We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.

## **Teaching and Preaching**

Jesus said that 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God' (Matthew 4:4). Therefore we prioritise teaching and learning from God's word, the Bible which is food for the Christian community. Across 2024, the Sunday and Growth Group programme included the following teaching series:

- 1 Thessalonians: Faith, Hope & Love (January – March)
- The Apostles' Preaching in the Book of Acts (April - May)
- Life With Jesus (June - August) based on Tim Chester's Book '*Life with Jesus: A Discipleship Course for Every Christian*'
- The Book of Daniel chapters 1-5 (September – November)
- The Book of Haggai (Sunday@Six)

Four Growth Groups met in people's homes across the year to study God's Word and to pray together. We give thanks for our dedicated Growth Group Leaders and celebrate the formation of a new day-time Growth Group for women.

The weekly preaching was primarily carried by the Rector with periodic support from Rev'd Paul Southern (retired, Permission to Officiate) and Rev'd Aëlla Gage (Permission to Officiate), along with occasional guest speakers. We are grateful for their ministry to the congregation and their different giftings. During 2024 we livestreamed Sunday services and published recordings of teaching sermons as podcasts and videos on YouTube.

The monthly All Age Services in the John Owen Barn are opportunities for the church family to worship and learn together across the age spectrum. The community time before and after the service has encouraged a warm sense of togetherness. The monthly Sunday@Six evening service ran through to September, but did not continue beyond then, due to a lack of capacity in the staff team. We hope to begin again later in 2025.

Explore Sundays were a new venture for 2024. Across the year we ran four guest services for the church family to invite friends, family, colleagues and neighbours to. Each time, Rev'd Aëlla Gage spoke on a

thought provoking topic. The services were well received, and we pray that as they continue into 2025, they can support and encourage a culture of invitation within the church family.

#1 Exploring Faith: Irrational Fairy Tales or Something Else?

#2 Exploring Hope: Fading Dreams or Something More?

#3 Exploring Meaning: Just Bags of Cells with an Expiry Date?

#4 Exploring Justice: Justice? Don't Make Me Laugh!

Three Explore Courses ran at the Community Hub during 2025: Hope Explored (winter and summer) and Christianity Explored (autumn). These use hospitality, a weekly teaching video, Bible study and discussion to enable adults to engage with the Christian message. The courses were led by Francis Blight and Aëlla Gage with co-leaders Andy Jelfs, Mim Jelfs and Christine Bradley. The courses are open to all and free of charge.

## Prayer

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall rely on prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.*

“In every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6). During 2024 we held monthly Prayer Focus meetings at the John Owen Barn to pray for the needs and growth of our church community, our church ministries and our mission partners. There is core of people in the church family who regularly participate, and we give thanks for their commitment to corporate prayer. We experimented with an occasional day-time prayer and lunch format to enable a wider group of church members to join in.

During 2024 the church staff team met to pray together each Tuesday and Growth Group members prayed together during their regular small group meetings. In addition, our young people are encouraged to pray at the Friday night 421 youth group and Sunday morning All Saints Club. We publish a regular bi-monthly prayer diary through the year which helps the church family to pray for different members of the church community day by day.

## Youth, Children & Families

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.*



### Babies and Toddlers Group (0-4 years)

The group met on Tuesday mornings during term time, run by Janette Miller (Bs&Ts leader) and Ruth Wheeler (assistant leader). The children play whilst supervising adults have an opportunity to socialise and support each other. Snacks for the children are provided along with refreshments for adults. We continue with the format of free play divided by snack time and end the session with a Bible story time and singing. Over the course of 2024 the group had contact with 55 families and approximately 67 children. Some come faithfully every week while others dip in and out. We also had the privilege of welcoming children from America and Australia visiting family in the U.K.

The busy January to July months saw an average of just over 19 children each week and the quieter September to December term saw an average of 13.5 children weekly. Obviously if everyone came at once we would be overwhelmed! At the end of July children leave to start school but they are soon replaced by new attendees.

The group is much appreciated by its members, and we receive thanks for 'support, advice and care'. One mother writes, 'Thank you for all the amazing work you all do. You truly provide a special space for all of us caregivers to enjoy some time with our little ones.'

Our biggest challenge is to ensure we have an adequate number of team members to cover each session so that the group can continue to be run safely and effectively.

From September 2024, Ruth Wheeler's staff team role was extended to include Families work which was focused on assisting with Babies and Toddlers, school seasonal services and making creative teaching content for the All Age Services. This is part of our strategy to engage families and to draw them into church life.

### **All Saints Sunday Club and 421 Youth Group, 0 - 18 years**

Our aim is to shepherd children and young people to know, believe and trust God's Word. Through faithful Bible teaching, learning to pray and developing strong Christian friendships, we want to help them put their faith in Jesus and to depend on God as they grow up.

During 2024, the All Saints Sunday Club and the Friday 421 Youth Group were led by Georgina Blight (Youth & Children's Leader). In September, she took on the additional responsibility for delivering weekly collective worship assemblies in the two parish schools. At the same time, her leadership of the All Saints Club became a voluntary role.

### **All Saints Sunday Club (ASC), 0-16 years**

**Beginning with God (0-4s)** This group ran with two children until July 2024. In September, they became old enough to join the Luke Group and Beginning with God has not run since then.

**Luke Group (4-11s)** In September 2024, four children moved into the older group and two joined from the younger group which meant that Luke group had three children regularly attending. The group used the Biggest Story and Mustard Seeds curriculums over the course of the year. Many thanks to the team of six leaders who diligently prepared and led these sessions across each month.

**Matthew Group (11-16s)** Eight children attended across 2024. Our thanks to the team of five Matthew group leaders who gave time, prayer and preparation to enable this group to run. This group covered the basics of living as a Christian using Mustards Seeds' TnT curriculum as well as a series on the book of Daniel.

*Prayer: Give thanks for the children and young people who are part of All Saints Church. Please pray that they will grow in knowing and loving God and in their friendships with one another. Pray for God to bring in new families to strengthen our church community, and for new leaders to help with this important work.*

### **421 Youth Group, 11- 18 years**

421 Youth Group runs for 90 minutes on Friday's during term time. The evening begins with 30 minutes of free time (table games, craft table & tuckshop). This is followed by half an hour of Christian teaching, discussion and prayer. The evening ends with an all-in-game for the whole group together. The format is proving popular and during 2024 the average weekly attendance grew to 26 with a total of 40 individuals

attending across the autumn term. (In 2023 the average attendance was 20 young people per week from a total of 34). The group attracts young people from our church, several local churches and others (approximately half) who have no church affiliation. The latter have come through links with the two parish schools.

Our thanks go to the team of leaders who enabled this group to run each week. By the end of 2024 we were struggling to find four leaders per week. However, due to the increase in attendance, we are looking to have six leaders per week to enable three Bible discussion groups to run.

*Prayer: Give thanks to God that 421 is thriving. Please pray for God to provide new leaders from our church family, so that we can continue to share the Bible's message with the aim that young people will come to a saving faith in Jesus and be strengthened in their faith.*

## **The Community Hub**

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall try to bring people to receive Christ as Lord and Saviour and to join our church family, not distracted from this activity which we alone and no other organisation can accomplish.*

The community hub serves as a vital resource for local residents, offering a café, post office and events for charity fundraising. The hub made significant strides in fostering social engagement, supporting local initiatives, and providing essential services (post office) over the past year. This report highlights key achievements, challenges, and future plans to enhance the hub's impact.

### **Project Objectives**

- Establish a welcoming space for the local community to engage
- Create a sustainable and inclusive environment accessible to all
- Strengthen local partnerships
- Fund raising and talks to promote resident participation
- Create pathways into the life of Fordham & Eight Ash Green church.
- Create a pathway for local people to discover a saving faith in Jesus Christ, through offering periodic Explore courses.

### **Community Impact**

- Strengthened partnerships with the local Parish Council
- Increased community participation since launch by 80%
- Increased friendships between residents
- Access made easier for residents having the post office

The community hub is a not-for-profit initiative, which continues to be a cornerstone of the community, promoting inclusivity and well-being. Despite challenges with volunteers' health, the hub remains committed to growth and sustainability, ensuring that it serves the community effectively for years to come.

## **Parish Schools (Holy Trinity Eight Ash Green and Fordham All Saints Primary Schools)**

The strong links with the two parish schools continued during 2024 with:

- Weekly collective worship assemblies led by our schools' worker
- School Church services at Christmas, Harvest and Easter
- Participation in the Year-Six School Leavers' events including the gift of a Bible to each leaver.
- The Rector serving as a member of the local governance committees.

During 2023, both schools went through separate academisation processes which resulted in them independently joining the Life Education Trust. <https://lifeeducationtrust.com/> The Life Trust does not have a specifically Christian foundation, but it contains a number of Church of England schools. Life Trust schools believe in Courageous Optimism, Heartfelt Compassion and Boundless Creativity. As part of the academisation process, Mrs Ceri Daniels became the Exec head over both schools. Emily McMillen is the head of Fordham school and Katie Welsh of Holy Trinity. The academisation resulted in both governing bodies being disbanded. This means that the FEAG PCC is no longer entitled to place governors on the board of each school. The professional Life Trust governing board oversees the eleven schools in the trust and each Life Trust school has a Local Governance Committee (LGC) which operates in a similar way to the previous governing body, but with a reduced set of responsibilities. In the autumn of 2024, the LGCs for the two schools became a joint LGC over both schools. It is the expectation that each church school will have a member of the clergy on the Local Governance Committee. Rev'd Francis Blight was appointed as a member of the joint LGC.

In the summer of 2024 Janette Miller stepped down as our church schools' worker and Georgina Blight took on the role from September. During the year, we invited pupils and their families to church services and events which were advertised in the schools. There are about 100 children in each school.

*Prayer: Please pray that the two schools can continue to prosper in the Life Trust and that we can continue to support them in maintaining and growing their Christian ethos and distinctiveness. Please pray for Georgina to have an effective ministry as Schools worker.*

## **PCC Proceedings**

During 2024, PCC business has supported church life in a number of ways. We continued church services at all three buildings with a variety of styles of worship. The monthly All Age Worship service is held in the more informal setting of the John Owen Barn. A monthly communion service and seasonal services are held at All Saint Church Eight Ash Green.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field, and will use the network of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the word of the gospel.*

The development of 125 new homes at Aspen Walk in Eight Ash Green provided an opportunity to reach out to the new homeowners. The PCC continued to deliver leaflets to all new homeowners introducing the activities of the Church and Church services. The Friday Community Hub continued to grow and thrive in 2024. It provided the opportunity to run three Explore courses during the year alongside the hub café (Hope Explored February & July, Christianity Explored October – November). The Children and Youth Work has gone from strength to strength under the very capable leadership of Georgina Blight. The 421 Friday Youth Group has continued to grow through connections with our two parish primary schools alongside young people from our Church family and other Churches. Our school assemblies and seasonal school services continued during 2024 as did our Babies and Toddlers weekly sessions run by Janette Miller and Ruth Wheeler.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full time' Christian work.*

A key part of the PCC's work is the strategic recruitment of staff team members and ministry leaders. The PCC are grateful for those who invested week by week in the different ministries of the church and the practical and administrative running of the church. From September 2024 the church staff team and ministry leaders were:

### **Staff Team (from September 2024)**

Mrs Ruth Wheeler, Office Administrator and Rector's PA & Families Worker (part-time)

Mrs Linda Stenner, Administration Assistant – Finance and Parish Safeguarding Officer (part-time)

Mrs Georgina Blight, Youth, Children & Schools Worker (part-time)

Rev'd Francis Blight, Rector

### **Ministry Leaders (from September 2024)**

Mrs Janette Miller, Babies and Toddlers Leader (volunteer)

Miriam Jelfs, Care Team Co-ordinator (volunteer)

Jacqui Griffiths, Community Hub Leader (volunteer)

The PCC continues to place a strong emphasis on safeguarding along with health and safety. Both of these are standing items on the PCC agenda. In September 2023 the PCC hosted an Emergency First Aid at work course for staff members and volunteers which was attended by 12 people. 10 church members currently hold a 'Food Safety and Hygiene for Catering' certificate. Our safer recruitment process is now well established. We were pleased to recruit new volunteers to assist with the All Saints' Sunday Club.

During the winter/spring of 2024, three members of the PCC resigned because of the House of Bishops and General Synod's introduction of church prayers and blessings for same-sex couples who are in civil marriages (the PLF Prayers of Love and Faith). Eight people stopped attending our Sunday worship services specifically for this reason, six of whom have joined other churches. It is a great sadness to us that this ungodly development in the Church of England's practice has caused this to happen. All of them were valued members of our church community and we are sad to no longer have them in the fellowship of our church. We wish them every blessing as they seek to faithfully follow Christ. During 2023 the PCC paid no parish share in protest at the House of Bishop's Living in Love and Faith (LLF) proposals. In 2024 the PCC returned to paying a portion of the parish share through the Ephesian Fund <https://www.ephesianfund.org.uk/> The amount paid covers the costs of the incumbent, plus some essential diocesan administration (e.g. safeguarding). We call on the House of Bishops and our own area bishop of Colchester to repent and return to an orthodox leading of church and society in matters of sexuality.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.*

The Care Team continue to support our Church Family when people are in need. During the autumn harvest festival, we collected food and household items for the Colchester Food Bank with donations from the church family and Fordham All Saints school families.

## **Parish Activities**

The church worked with the two parish councils and local community during the year with church members serving on both parish councils. Church members participated in the D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event and the December Jingle and Mingle Events at the Fordham village green and hall. Both events were organised by the Fordham Parish Council with a church team providing refreshments. The annual Remembrance Day service was followed by Acts of Remembrance at the Fordham war memorial and the Eight Ash Green flagpole and there were seasonal festival services at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. We partnered with the Eight Ash Green Parish Council in a Christmas light switch-on event for the village at the Eight Ash Green church. The Friday community hub has continued as a key outreach and point of connection with local people.

## Links to the Wider Church

During 2024 PCC members served on Deanery Synod and Mary Durlacher on General Synod, Diocesan Synod and the Bishop of Chelmsford's Council. We are part of the Ebbsfleet network, having passed a resolution requesting the extended spiritual and pastoral care of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Rt Rev Dr Rob Munro. Bishop Rob supports churches who have requested their Diocesan Bishop to provide for their evangelical and complementarian convictions - that is their commitment to the authority of the Bible, to direct the life of the Church and express the equal but different roles of men and women in family and Church. <https://www.bishopofebbsfleet.org/>

The PCC continues to support strong links with like-minded churches, through the Chelmsford ReNew Regional Group made up of churches in Essex and East London <https://www.renewconference.org.uk/>. We are connected nationally with churches as part of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet's Network and in 2023 became a partner church of Church Society a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith <https://www.churchsociety.org/>. In addition, the PCC has supported engagement with the new Chelmsford Diocesan Evangelical Network (CDEN) which comes under the national Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC).

Through our mission partnerships we have been able to connect with and pray for the following ministries during 2024: Serving in Mission, Release International, Oak Hill College, True Freedom Trust, The Christian Institute, A Passion for Life, Church Society, UCCF, Open Door Colchester and Bridgeway Mission. The PCC approved financial support for our 2024 programme of Mission Partner giving (£15,000).

*Prayer: Please pray that we can be a blessing to others in our connections to the wider church, particularly in the current difficult context of false teaching beginning to be instituted in the Church of England on matters of sexual ethics.*

## Safeguarding

Our Christian community continues to be actively engaged in safeguarding measures and strives to uphold the Church of England's safeguarding policies. The FEAG policy is reviewed annually by the PCC and is an integral part of our recruitment process and ministry.

At the end of 2024, in line with our implementation of the new safeguarding measures laid out in the 'National Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework', we have processed a template for Role Descriptions and finalised documents for voluntary roles within the All Saints Club and our 421 Youth Group. These documents are the foundation of the recruitment process and therefore a necessary achievement for us as a Church.

We currently have thirty-four volunteers involved in our church ministries, who are fully recruited with appropriate and up to date DBS certificates and safeguarding training applicable to their roles. We have one person currently addressing the renewal of their safeguarding training.

The members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

## Financial Review

Income for the year was £170,698 (2023: £165,599), which included grant income of £20,000 (2023: £10,000) from the Fordham Trust.

Expenditure for the year was £163,299 (2023: £161,067) including mission partner giving of £15,000 (2023: £21,357). The net movement in funds showed a surplus for the year of £7,439 (2023: £3,594) leaving total funds at the end of the year of £64,497 (2023: £57,058).

At the year end the charity held unrestricted funds of £55,421 (2023: £40,881) and restricted funds of £9,076 (2023: £16,177). Restricted funds comprise principally monies held to support mission projects as well as monies held in The Benevolent Fund (the latter is available to support members of the church family who have encountered financial hardship). Full details of all funds are set out in the financial statements.

### **Reserves Policy**

The trustees consider that reserves (unrestricted net current assets) should be maintained at a level equivalent to 3 months budgeted operating costs (approx. £50,000). At the year end the PCC held unrestricted net current assets of £54,089 and the PCC is complying with its reserves policy. The trustees closely monitor reserves, income and expenditure, which are discussed regularly at PCC meetings.

### **Key Risks and Uncertainties**

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The PCC review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

## **Fabric Report**

### **All Saints Church Fordham**

We continue to work through the Quinquennial Report completed on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 by Roger Barrel and Eric Cartwright of Quinlan Terry Architects LLP.

The report found the church to be in generally good condition. Items of regular maintenance have been completed. The large growth of ivy needs removing from the tower, but this will involve the expense of a professional tree surgeon with a 'cherry picker' to ensure the work is done safely.

**Cracks:** The major challenge continues to be cracks in the internal rendering. This is being monitored to identify the rate at which the cracks are increasing, but it appears to be slow.

**Noticeboard:** Funding is available for a new notice board to be installed outside Fordham Church.

**Windows:** Expensive repairs are required to nearly all 18 windows in Fordham church. There are three which are of the 'utmost urgency'. We appointed Trinity Leaded Lights to carry out the repairs on the three windows. In 2024, one window was repaired and the other two will be repaired when the contractor has capacity. Other companies specialising in this work are few and booked for up to two years ahead.

### **All Saints Church Eight Ash Green**

The main area of concern remains the cracking in the rendering in the nave, kitchen and toilet. £8,000 was spent underpinning this part of the building in 2017. Rising water have been cited as a contributing factor. It is difficult to decide what further course of action can be taken, if any.

**Churchyards:** Both churchyards have been considerably tidied up by cutting back overgrown shrubs and trees, and more regular mowing of the grass.

**Noticeboard:** During 2024 a new noticeboard was installed on the roadside by Eight Ash Green Church.

**Regular maintenance:** PAT Testing of electrical appliances and fire extinguishers have been done in both churches and the John Owen Barn.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

The charity's objects, as set out in the governing document, are to co-operate with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church be it pastoral, evangelistic, social or ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining certain church property situated within the parish.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. The PCC comprises ex-officio members (which includes clergy and churchwardens), elected members and co-opted members. The PCC organise elections annually at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to fill vacancies.

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the PCC who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

## Trustee Responsibilities

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## APPROVAL

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

**Name: Revd Francis Blight**

**Signed:**   
Francis Blight (Apr 29, 2025 09:25 GMT+1)

**Date:** 15 April 2025

**Name: Roger Miles**

**Signed:**   
R. J Miles (Apr 29, 2025 10:02 GMT+1)

**Date:** 15 April 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF**  
**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 14 to 22 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 16 and 17.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

*Ajay Rajani*

[Ajay Rajani \(Apr 29, 2025 13:35 GMT+1\)](#)

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Apr 29, 2025

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	140,059	21,828	161,887	153,625
Charitable activities	4	8,576	-	8,576	11,883
Investments		236	-	236	91
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>148,871</b>	<b>21,828</b>	<b>170,698</b>	<b>165,599</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	130,845	32,453	163,299	161,067
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>130,845</b>	<b>32,453</b>	<b>163,299</b>	<b>161,067</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>(937)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>18,064</b>	<b>(10,626)</b>	<b>7,439</b>	<b>3,594</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>(3,524)</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>14,540</b>	<b>(7,102)</b>	<b>7,439</b>	<b>3,594</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		40,881	16,177	57,058	53,463
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>55,421</b>	<b>9,076</b>	<b>64,497</b>	<b>57,058</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 16 to 22 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	7	<u>1,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,332</u>	<u>1,293</u>
		<u>1,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,332</u>	<u>1,293</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	27,405	430	27,835	4,617
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>32,252</u>	<u>9,046</u>	<u>41,299</u>	<u>58,842</u>
		59,658	9,476	69,134	63,459
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(5,569)</u>	<u>(400)</u>	<u>(5,968)</u>	<u>(7,694)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>54,089</u>	<u>9,076</u>	<u>63,165</u>	<u>55,765</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>55,421</u>	<u>9,076</u>	<u>64,497</u>	<u>57,058</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	12				
General funds		55,421	-	55,421	40,881
Designated funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		55,421	-	55,421	40,881
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>9,076</u>	<u>9,076</u>	<u>16,177</u>
		<u>55,421</u>	<u>9,076</u>	<u>64,497</u>	<u>57,058</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

*Francis Blight*

Francis Blight (Apr 29, 2025 09:25 GMT+1)

-----  
Revd Francis Blight

Date: 15 April 2025

Charity number: 1131590

The notes on pages 16 to 22 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 Statutory Information**

The Parochial Church Council of Fordham and Eight Ash Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1131590 and the charity has its offices at John Owen Barn, Church Road, Fordham, CO6 3NL.

**2 Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated facilities, services and goods. Goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries are recognised as income when receivable at fair value (being an estimate of the amount it would cost to purchase those items). Facilities, services and goods donated for the charity's own use are recognised as income when receivable at their value to the charity.

When donated goods, services and facilities are distributed or consumed, an expense in respect of those items is included in the Statement of Financial Activities. At the year end any goods that have not been distributed or consumed are recognised as stock; donated fixed assets are capitalised.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals, other church activities and the church bookstall.

Income from property letting is recognised for letting periods that fall within the financial year.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

## 2 Accounting Policies continued

- c) Expenditure  
Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.  
Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.  
The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.  
Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.
- d) Fund accounting  
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.
- e) Tangible fixed assets  
Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.  
Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.  
Expenditure on maintaining facilities donated to the PCC (namely the John Owen Barn) are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.  
Other items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life.  
By the year end, the charity had not incurred any expenditure that needed to be capitalised.
- f) Investments  
Fixed asset investments comprise fixed interest securities. These securities are held to generate income and for their investment potential and have been included at their market value at the balance sheet date.
- g) Pension scheme arrangements  
The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.
- h) Taxation  
The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's
- i) Financial instruments  
The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).
- j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement  
The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.
- k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement  
The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3 Donations and legacies**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	111,441	111,373
Gift aid recoverable	25,446	24,602
Grants receivable		
The Fordham Trust	20,000	10,000
Other grants	-	2,650
Donated facilities	5,000	5,000
	<u>161,887</u>	<u>153,625</u>

Donated facilities comprise the John Owen Barn, which has been let to the charity rent free by Trafalgar Nominees.

The Fordham Trust is an independent charity with Christian objectives registered in the UK. It has supported the gospel ministry of All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green for some time. The PCC and the Fordham Trust do not have any trustees in common however one of the Trust's six trustees is closely related to a member of the PCC.

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees from weddings, funerals, baptisms and similar	5,902	8,212
Church activities including book sales	1,883	2,089
Letting of facilities for community benefit	791	1,581
	<u>8,576</u>	<u>11,883</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>		
Parish share:		
The Ephesian Fund	46,200	-
Diocese of Chelmsford	-	10,371
Diocesan fees	1,397	1,428
Staff costs	40,048	44,430
Other ministry costs	11,874	13,743
Rectory	980	2,584
Church running expenses (inc. maintenance)	11,423	14,680
Upkeep of churchyard	4,416	4,860
JOB donated facility	5,000	5,000
JOB maintenance and running costs	10,856	18,116
Community hub expenses	2,893	7,503
Grants payable (note 5c)	15,000	21,357
	<u>150,086</u>	<u>144,071</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	2,280	2,160
Office and administration costs	5,540	8,556
Payroll processing	666	721
Insurance	4,726	5,559
Depreciation	-	-
	<u>13,212</u>	<u>16,996</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>163,299</u>	<u>161,067</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,280 (2023: £2,160); in addition the charity paid £666 (2023: £721) to Stewardship for payroll bureau services.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**5c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2024
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>

	Institutions	Individuals	2023
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>19,857</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>21,357</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Serving in Mission	7,100	7,200
Oak Hill College	2,000	2,000
Open Doors UK	1,000	
True Freedom Trust	800	1,000
Christian Institute	700	750
Church Society	700	250
UCCF	600	550
Bridgeway Mission	500	500
Christianity Explored	500	-
Video Bible Talks	500	-
Open Doors Colchester	300	500
Passion For Life	300	250
Good Stewards Trust Essex & East London	-	4,857
Release International	-	2,000
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>19,857</u>

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 3 (2023: 3.5). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC. No employment benefits were paid to key management during the year, or in the previous year.

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Fixed interest securities	2024	2023
		£	£
Cost or fair value brought forward		1,293	2,230
Change in value of investments		39	(937)
Cost or fair value carried forward		<u>1,332</u>	<u>1,293</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	13,002	4,617
Instalment overpayment held by electricity supplier	13,118	-
Other debtors	1,716	-
	<u>27,835</u>	<u>4,617</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	41,254	58,796
Petty cash	45	45
	<u>41,299</u>	<u>58,842</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	2,429	5,534
Accrued expenses	2,280	2,160
Deferred income	1,259	-
	5,968	7,694

Deferred income comprises fees received before the year end for a church retreat that will not be taking place until after the year end when the receipts will be recognised as income.

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £663 (2023: £649) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £139 (2023: £89) were owed.

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2024 £	Incoming resources 2024 £	Outgoing resources 2024 £	Transfers in the year 2024 £	Gains and losses 2024 £	Closing balance 2024 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Community Hub	-	2,643	(2,643)	-	-	-
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	40,881	146,228	(128,203)	(3,524)	39	55,421
Total Unrestricted Funds	40,881	148,872	(130,846)	(3,524)	39	55,421
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	5,001	8,165	(16,690)	3,524	-	-
Mission fund	8,389	4,638	(7,981)	-	-	5,046
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	2,537	-	-	-	-	2,537
Community fund	250	-	(250)	-	-	-
Church maintenance fund	-	4,025	(2,532)	-	-	1,493
	16,177	21,828	(32,453)	3,524	-	9,076
Aggregate of funds	57,058	170,699	(163,299)	-	39	64,497

During the year £3,524 was transferred from unrestricted general funds to the restricted Youth and Children's Worker fund so that this fund was not in deficit at the year end.

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	1,332	-	-	1,332
Debtors	27,405	-	430	27,835
Cash at bank and in hand	32,252	-	9,046	41,299
Creditors falling due within one year	(5,569)	-	(400)	(5,968)
	55,421	-	9,076	64,497

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**12 Funds continued**

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Community Hub	1,007	3,327	(4,334)	-	-	-
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	13,394	144,578	(116,155)	-	(937)	40,881
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>14,401</b>	<b>147,905</b>	<b>(120,489)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(937)</b>	<b>40,881</b>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	23,171	1,686	(19,857)	-	-	5,001
Mission fund	11,604	5,188	(8,402)	-	-	8,389
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	(1,500)	-	-	2,537
Community fund	250	3,170	(3,170)	-	-	250
Energy Support fund	-	1,900	(1,900)	-	-	-
Church maintenance fund	-	750	(750)	-	-	-
	<b>39,062</b>	<b>17,694</b>	<b>(40,578)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,177</b>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<b>53,463</b>	<b>165,599</b>	<b>(161,067)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(937)</b>	<b>57,058</b>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2023 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	1,293	-	-	1,293
Debtors	4,181	-	436	4,617
Cash at bank and in hand	43,101	-	15,741	58,842
Creditors falling due within one year	(7,694)	-	-	(7,694)
	<b>40,881</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,177</b>	<b>57,058</b>

Designated funds

The **Community Hub** fund represents donations and other income received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

Restricted funds

The **Youth and Children's Worker** fund represents donations received to help meet the cost of employing a Youth and Children's worker.

The **Mission** fund represents donations received by the charity to help fund specific mission projects.

The **John Owen Barn** fund represents the estimated value to the charity of the rent free use of a property.

The **Benevolent** fund was created from donations received to help members of the church family facing financial hardship.

The **Community** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

The **Energy Support** fund was created from a grant received from the Diocese to help with rising energy costs.

The **Church Maintenance** fund was created from donations received for a variety of small projects. This year it included donations for new notice boards and for maintaining churchyards.

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- received donations totalling £37,775 (2023: £50,957) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- employed the spouse of a clergy member of the PCC (Francis Blight) and paid her employment benefits totalling £15,268 (2023: £12,904) for her role as Youth and Children's Leader.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking employment and clergy duties not connected with serving as a PCC member, no expenses were reimbursed to the members of the PCC.

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds				Unrestricted funds			
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	137,416	2,643	21,828	161,887	132,605	3,327	17,694	153,625
Charitable activities	4	8,576	-	-	8,576	11,883	-	-	11,883
Investments		236	-	-	236	91	-	-	91
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>146,228</b>	<b>2,643</b>	<b>21,828</b>	<b>170,699</b>	<b>144,578</b>	<b>3,327</b>	<b>17,694</b>	<b>165,599</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Charitable activities:	5	128,203	2,643	32,453	163,299	116,155	4,334	40,578	161,067
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>128,203</b>	<b>2,643</b>	<b>32,453</b>	<b>163,299</b>	<b>116,155</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>40,578</b>	<b>161,067</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>(937)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(937)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>18,064</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10,626)</b>	<b>7,439</b>	<b>27,486</b>	<b>(1,007)</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>(3,524)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,524</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>14,540</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,102)</b>	<b>7,439</b>	<b>27,486</b>	<b>(1,007)</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		40,881	-	16,177	57,058	13,394	1,007	39,062	53,463
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>55,421</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,076</b>	<b>64,497</b>	<b>40,881</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,177</b>	<b>57,058</b>

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# Accounts

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# All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Colchester



## Parochial Church Council Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

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## Reference Information

<b>Name of Charity</b>	THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN  FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PCC (Working name)	
<b>Incumbent</b>	Revd Francis Blight	
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	All Saints Church Office John Owen Barn Church Road Fordham CO6 3NL  01206 243261  <a href="http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk">www.fordhamchurch.org.uk</a>	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1131590	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank	9 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1DA
	CAF Bank	25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE	Stewardship, 1 Lamb's Passage, London, EC1Y 8AB

## Parochial Church Council

	Up to APCM on 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	From the APCM on 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
<b>Rector</b>	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)
	Roy Miller (until August 2023)	
<b>General Synod</b>	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Roy Miller	Roy Miller
	Grace Lee (Secretary)	John Bradley
	Sheona Farruggio	
<b>Elected Members</b>	Irene Bale	Irene Bale
	John Bennion	John Bennion
	John Bradley	
	Alistair Grote	Alistair Grote
	Keith Hodges	Keith Hodges
	Jenny LeGood (Electoral Roll Officer)	Jenny LeGood (Electoral Roll Officer) (resigned January 2024)
	Lesley Southern	Grace Lee (Secretary)
		Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)
<b>Co-opted Non-Voting Members</b>	Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer) Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)	Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are spent.

### Committees

Standing Committee	
<b>Rector</b>	Rev'd Francis Blight
<b>Warden</b>	Nicholas Durlacher
<b>Secretary</b>	Grace Lee
<b>PCC Member</b>	Roy Miller
<b>Treasurer</b>	Victoria Rolfe

Finance Sub-Committee	
<b>Chair</b>	Victoria Rolfe
<b>Members</b>	Francis Blight                      Nicholas Durlacher Roy Miller                              Colin Munday

Fabric Sub-Committee	
<b>Chair</b>	Alistair Grote
<b>Members</b>	Mary Durlacher Jim Day John Revett

# The Parochial Church Council's Annual Report

## For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Rector and members of the Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC') have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year. The PCC are the charity's trustees for the purposes of charity law.

### **Our Vision**

Our stated aim is "To know Jesus Christ and make him known". We seek to work out this vision through the guiding principles set out in the Eleven Decisions which were endorsed by the PCC at the April 2000 APCM. In planning its activities, the PCC have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

### **The Eleven Decisions**

#### **Why we do what we do**

1. In all that we do, we shall remember that our aim is to please and honour God and to receive his approval of our work on the last day.

#### **What we will do**

2. We shall try to bring people to receive Christ as Lord and Saviour and to join our church family, not distracted from this activity which we alone and no other organisation can accomplish.

3. We shall try to make the Christians in our church people who have a firm grasp of the Christian message and are making steady progress in living it out.

4. We shall encourage each member of the church to find and use the gifts that God has given them.

5. We shall make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full time' Christian work.

6. We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.

#### **How we do what we do**

7. We shall rely on prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.

8. Believing that the Bible is what God says to the church today we will make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.

9. We shall make plans prayerfully and be sensitive to the Lord's leading looking for a common mind on the way forward and events conspiring to make it possible.

#### **For whom we do what we do**

10. We shall consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field, and will use the network of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the word of the gospel.

11. We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.

### **Teaching and Preaching**

*From the Eleven Decisions: Believing that the Bible is what God says to the church today we will make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.*

During 2023 we livestreamed Sunday services and published recordings of teaching sermons as podcasts and on YouTube. Five Growth Groups met in people's homes across the year to study God's Word and to pray for one another. The 2023 Sunday and Growth Group programme included the following teaching series:

- Wisdom for Life and the Fear of God (January)
- Meeting Jesus: Encounters with Jesus in John's Gospel (February – March)
- Marriage, Singleness, Relationships & Identity (May – July)
- Kingdom Come: God's Unfolding Plan for His World (September – December)

The weekly preaching was primarily carried by the Rector with periodic support from Rev'd PS (retired with Permission to Officiate) and Rev'd AG (with PTO). We are grateful for their ministry to the congregation and their different giftings.

The monthly All Age Services continued in the John Owen Barn with the All Age Christmas Special at the end of the year proving particularly popular. In January we launched a new monthly evening service in the John Owen Barn. For this we revived the title Sunday@Six, with a new format. The services are open to all with teaching on video, contemporary hymns/songs and table talk discussion. Afterwards there is community time with drinks, puddings and table games available (table tennis, table football etc). The service has proved popular, enabling families with teenagers to worship together and creating a context for some who can only attend occasionally on Sunday mornings.

During the autumn Rev'd AG and IB ran a Christianity Explored Course at the Community Hub. The course was well attended and appreciated.

In October we invited AR from the organisation Living Out to speak at a mid-week Faith & Sexuality Event. We were pleased to welcome guests from other churches across North Essex at the evening in the John Owen Barn. It was a significant meeting with helpful teaching and testimony from Andy in the context of the Church of England's Living in Love and Faith deliberations.

## Staff Team

We are grateful for the church staff team who invest week by week in the different ministries of the church and the practical and administrative running of the church. During 2023 the church staff team consisted of:

Mrs RW, Office Administrator and Rector's PA, (part-time)

Mrs LS, Administration Assistant – Finance and Parish Safeguarding Officer (part-time)

Mrs JM, Schools Worker & Babies and Toddlers Leader (volunteer)

Mrs GB, Youth & Children's Leader (part-time)

Mr BM, Ministry Apprentice from January – August (part-time)

Rev'd FB, Rector

## Prayer

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall rely on prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.*

During 2023 we held regular monthly Prayer Focus meetings at the John Owen Barn. There is a small core of people in the church family, who regularly participate. We give thanks for their commitment and pray that God will grow these meetings so that together we can seek God's will for our church community, ministries and mission partners in 2024.

During 2023 the church staff team met to pray together each Tuesday morning and Growth Group members prayed together during their regular small group meetings. In addition, our young people are encouraged to pray at the Friday night 421 youth group and Sunday morning All Saints Club. We publish a regular bi-monthly prayer diary through the year which encourages the church family to pray for different members of the church community each day.

Church Statistics for 2022 & 2023 Compared						
	2022			2023		
	Adults (16+)	Under 16 years	Totals	Adults (16+)	Under 16 years	Totals
Average Sunday Attendance	50	11	61	58	13	71
Worshiping Community*	113	25	138	91	20	111
Electoral Roll members (16+)			90			82
Electoral Roll members resident in the Parish			46			41
Electoral Roll members not resident in the parish			44			41

\* Those who attend at least once a month on a Sunday or would attend if not prevented by illness, infirmity etc. (Holiday makers or those who consider another church to be their home are not included).

## Parish Schools

### (Holy Trinity Eight Ash Green and Fordham All Saints Primary Schools)

The strong links with the two schools continued during 2023 with church services at Christmas, Harvest and Easter, participation in Year Six School Leaver events and weekly assemblies provided by our school's worker JM. During the year, we invited pupils and their families to church services and events which were advertised in the schools.

During 2023, both schools went through separate academisation processes which resulted in them joining the Life Education Trust. Chappel CofE primary School has also joined the Life Trust. <https://lifeeducationtrust.com/> Life Trust does not have a specifically Christian foundation, but it contains a number of Church of England schools. Life Trust schools believe in Courageous Optimism, Heartfelt Compassion and Boundless Creativity. As part of the academisation process, Mrs CD became the new Exec head of Fordham primary school. She continues at Holy Trinity School Eight Ash Green and has become the Exec head over both schools. Mrs EM is now the head at Fordham school and Mrs KW at Holy Trinity.

The academisation resulted in both governing bodies being disbanded. This means that the FEAG PCC is no longer entitled to place governors on the board of each school. The professional Life Trust governing board oversees the eleven schools in the trust. For each local school there is also a Local Governance Committee (LGC) which operates in a similar way to the previous governing body, but with a reduced set of responsibilities. Both schools remain Church of England primary schools. It is the expectation that each church school will seek to have a member of the clergy on the Local Governance Committee. Rev'd Francis Blight was appointed to the Holy Trinity (LGC) during the autumn when the school formally became an academy. All Saints FEAG currently has no representation from the church community on the All Saints Fordham school LGC.

*Prayer: Please pray that the two schools can continue to prosper under this new administration and that we can continue to support them in maintaining and growing their Christian distinctiveness.*

## PCC Proceedings

During 2023, PCC business has supported church life in a number of ways. We continued church services at both church buildings with a variety of styles of worship. Towards the end of 2022 the PCC agreed to restart a Sunday evening service. Sunday@Six is a more contemporary style of service held on the fourth Sunday of each month. Initially this was for a trial period but the PCC agreed in June 2023 to make it a fixture of our Sunday Worship.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field, and will use the network of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the word of the gospel.*

The development of 125 new homes at Aspen Walk in Eight Ash Green provided an opportunity to reach out to the new homeowners. The PCC agreed to the delivery of leaflets to all new homeowners introducing the activities of the Church and Church services. The Friday Community Hub continued to grow and thrive in 2023. It provided the opportunity to run Christianity Explored courses during the year while the Hub was open. The Children and Youth Work has gone from strength to strength under the very capable leadership of GB. A Sunday morning creche was started for children of 0-4 years during 2023 and the 421 Friday Youth Group has grown with an influx of Year 7 students as well as young people from our Church family and other Churches. Our schools work in our village schools continued during 2023.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full time' Christian work.*

The PCC decided to appoint a part-time Church Administrator & Rector's PA and a part-time Ministry Apprentice in January 2023.

The PCC continues to place a strong emphasis on safeguarding and health and safety. Both of these are standing items on the PCC agenda. Our safer recruitment process is well established and the parish safeguarding officer (PSO) is a co-opted member of the PCC.

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.*

The Care Team continue to support our Church Family. During the autumn harvest festival we collected food and household items for the Colchester Food Bank with donations from the church family and Fordham All Saints school families.

The PCC approved support for our 2023 programme of Mission Partner giving.

The PCC continues to support strong links with like-minded churches, particularly through the Chelmsford ReNew network of churches. In November the whole PCC attended the ReNew synod hosted by St Michael's in Braintree. In addition, the PCC has supported engagement with the new Chelmsford Diocesan Evangelical Network (CDEN) which comes under the national Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC).

## **Parish Activities**

The church worked with the two parish councils and local community during the year with church members serving on both parish councils. Significant events in 2023 included: Sunday Services in each village to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III, followed by a King's Coronation picnic organised by the Fordham parish council. The annual Remembrance Day service was with SASRA reader GD from the Colchester Garrison. This was followed by Acts of Remembrance at the Fordham war memorial and the Eight Ash Green flagpole. There were Seasonal festival services at Easter, Harvest and Christmas and Christmas light switch-on celebrations in the two villages. The Christmas services were a notable return to pre-covid days with 300 people attending across Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Friday community hub has continued as a key outreach and point of connection with local people.

## Links to the Wider Church

During 2023 PCC members served Deanery Synod and MD on General Synod, Diocesan Synod and the Bishop of Chelmsford's Council. We are part of the Ebbsfleet network, having passed a resolution requesting the extended spiritual and pastoral care of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, Rt Rev Dr Rob Munro. Bishop Rob supports churches who have requested their Diocesan Bishop to provide for their evangelical and complementarian convictions - that is their commitment to the authority of the Bible, to direct the life of the Church and express the equal but different roles of men and women in family and Church. <https://www.bishopofebbsfleet.org/>

The PCC voted during 2023 for us to become a partner church of Church Society- a fellowship contending to reform and renew the Church of England in biblical faith. <https://www.churchsociety.org/>

We have connected with like-minded churches in Chelmsford diocese through Essex and East London ReNew synods and nationally through the annual ReNew Conference. <https://www.renewconference.org.uk/>

The Rector and a number of church members have joined the recently formed Chelmsford Diocese Evangelical Network (CDEN). This is under the oversight of the Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC). <https://ceec.info/>

Through our mission partnerships we have been able to connect with and pray for the following ministries during 2023: Serving in Mission, Release International, Oak Hill College, True Freedom Trust, The Christian Institute, A Passion for Life, Church Society, St Peter's Colchester, UCCF, Open Door Colchester and Bridgeway Mission.

*Prayer: Please pray that we can be a blessing to others in our connections to the wider church, particularly in the current difficult context of false teaching beginning to be instituted in the Church of England on matters of sexual ethics.*

## The Community Hub

*From the Eleven Decisions: We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.*

The Friday morning community Hub run by JG, has continued to grow from strength to strength through 2023. Building on an initial start with six outside stall holders, we now have around 15. We introduced a monthly all stallholder event where around 12-15 stallholders join us. On the alternate weeks we now have around 8 per week. These include the following stalls:

- Refill Den
- Duke's Seafood
- Collett's Farm Meats
- Cheese & Pie Man
- JJ Fruit & Veggie Shop
- Mop Cap Preserves
- Mum's Pantry
- Freckled Foxglove
- Woodcraft and Jewellery
- Homemade soaps
- Homemade Craft ware
- Stationers
- Picture design
- Pottery
- Utility Warehouse

The Post Office continues inside the John Owen Barn and is well used by the local community. In April 2022 the Community Hub Café opened its doors for the first time. The success of this venture has far exceeded our initial expectations and we average between 60-70 visitors every Friday. The café has been warmly welcomed by Fordham, Eight Ash Green, and many other communities, providing a warm, friendly, and cheerful place to meet. This includes local walking groups who happen to be passing by.

The Fordham Parish Council hold their monthly workshops in the café, making them accessible to the community. This has strengthened our ties with the village and has been welcomed as a positive partnership.

During the autumn of 2023 we ran Christianity Explored as part of the Community Hub for the first time. This took place on seven Friday mornings in a side room next to the café kitchen. The format worked well and we look forward to running other Explore courses during 2024.

Over the winter we provide free warm soup and a roll to all. We are currently registered with the Essex County Council as a warm space, which continues to the end of March 2024. We aim to include bacon rolls for this season too, just for around an hour every morning.

The café is staffed purely by volunteers, who provide their time, cakes and a sympathetic listening ear. We provide coffee, cakes, sausage rolls, scones and soup weekly. We have celebrated many a birthday of one of our local visitors to ensure they feel loved and welcomed.

We opened a pantry during 2023 which provided essential items to those in need, with no questions asked. This was initially funded by a donation from the church and a congregation member but has proven so popular that residents are also now donating. We receive weekly donations which even includes dog food, so everything is covered. This service has proven to be extremely important to the community.

Going forward we aim to have talks from Age Concern giving advice on scams and helping the elderly. Dementia is a growing concern in the community so this would require an expert speaker to give us the tools on how to manage that as a community and church looking ahead.

*From the Eleven Decision: We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.*

## **Babies and Toddlers**

The Babies and Toddlers group continued on a Tuesday morning during term time, run by JM and RW. A consistent number of families attended from the parish and further afield. The children play whilst supervising adults have an opportunity to socialise and support each other. Snacks for the children are provided and refreshments for the adults are available throughout the morning. Each session ends with Bible Storytime and singing.

## **Youth & Children's Work**

During 2023, the All Saints Sunday Club and the Friday 421 Youth Group were led by GB (Youth and Children's Leader).

### **All Saints Sunday Club (ASC) 0-16 years**

**Beginning with God (0-4s)** In this group there is lots of fun play and a Bible story each week using the Beginners Bible and corresponding teaching material. It was formed with the aim that when new families come there will be something available on a Sunday for even the youngest children. It was a struggle to staff this group each week during the year.

**Luke Group (4-11s)** used teaching materials from Faith in Kids (Ed Drew) and The Jesus Story Book Bible, as well as Click materials. In autumn 2023 we used The King, the Snake, and the Promise, to give the children an overview of the whole Bible story. Many thanks to the team of seven leaders who diligently prepared and led these sessions each week.

**Matthew Group (11-16s)** used Bible studies written by Tim Hawkins and Nick Margesson. In autumn 2023 the group worked with a curriculum called The Journey, by Bible Video Talks, to get an overall view of the big story of the Bible. The aim of these studies is to help our teens remain followers of Jesus despite the increasingly hostile environment that secondary education is becoming towards Christian faith. Again, many thanks to the team of six Matthew group leaders who gave time, prayer and preparation to enable this group to run.

Over the course of 2023, the ASC team lost six leaders. Two of these leaders helped in ASC twice a month which means that we needed to find eight people to fill the monthly rota. GB tried to recruit new volunteers from the church family, throughout 2023, to fill these places. By the end of 2023, three people offered help and joined the team. ASC still needs five people to enable each group to run week by week.

*Prayer: Give thanks for the children and young people who are part of All Saints Church. Please pray that they will grow in knowing and loving God and in their friendships with one another. Pray for God to bring in new families to strengthen our church community, and for new leaders to help with this important work.*

#### **Friday 421 Youth Group 11- 18 years**

During 2023 the 421 Youth Group's average weekly attendance has grown from 14 to 20 with a total of 34 individuals attending across the term. Some of the young people come from our church and several other local churches, others have no church affiliation. A new group of eleven year olds joined in the autumn who were previously pupils at the two parish schools.

421 meets for an hour and a half each Friday evening during term time. Within that time, we have half an hour of Christian teaching and discussion. It has been exciting to see Christian teens strengthen friendships with each other and with Jesus. Our thanks go to the small team of leaders who enabled this group to run each week. By the end of 2023 we were struggling to find four leaders per week. However, due to the increase in youngsters coming each week, we are looking to have six leaders per week to enable three discussion groups to run.

*Prayer: Give thanks to God that 421 is thriving. Please pray for God to provide new leaders to help us keep sharing the gospel and Bible with young people and for new young people to join.*

#### **Easter Discovery! For Families**

On Good Friday we ran a hugely popular Easter Discovery! Event. This event was aimed at families from church and from our parish. We hosted around 90 adults and children, most of whom were not from our own church family. We had a waiting list of about 15 other people who hoped to attend. At the event, we told the Easter story, held an exciting Easter Egg Hunt and had a bible talk which explained the meaning of Easter. To make this happen we had a team of about 12 adults and help from 6 teenagers who served drinks and hot cross buns. In order to run similar events in the future, we need a strong team.

*Prayer: Please pray for people who want to be involved, so that Discovery events can run in the future.*

## **Thank you**

The Rector and members of the PCC wish to express their heartfelt thanks to the staff team and church family for all that has been invested in the life of our church during 2023. This annual report gives testimony to a church community which is seeking to prevail in faithful Christian discipleship. Thank you for the part you have played in making the eleven decisions a reality across the age spectrum, in church life and the wider community.

## **Safeguarding**

Our Christian community continues to be actively engaged in safeguarding measures and strives to uphold the safeguarding policy adopted by the Church. The Policy is reviewed annually and is an integral part of our recruitment process and ministry.

At the end of 2023, we had completed the two-year transitional period, that brought in the new Recruitment Policy, 'Safer Recruitment and People Management' (SRPM). Practically this means that, in line with the National Requirements, all new DBS applications and those that were due for renewal during 2023, have now been processed into a three-year cycle.

We currently have thirty-one volunteers involved in our ministries, who are fully recruited with appropriate and up to date DBS certificates and safeguarding training applicable to their role. We have two people currently addressing the safer recruitment process.

In December the Diocese introduced 'The National Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework' which sets out a vision for safeguarding learning to ensure that all Church Officers develop skills and knowledge in safeguarding to an appropriate level to safeguard and protect our community, whilst rooted in the nature and love of God. This is set out in Five Standards: 1) Prevention, 2) Culture, Leadership and Capacity 3) Recognising, Assessing and Managing Risk 4) Victims & Survivors and 5) Learning Supervision and Support. We aim to improve our safeguarding endeavours under these new guidelines as we move into the new year. In addition to this new framework the National Safeguarding team have also updated the Confidential Declaration Form (CDF) for those applying for an Enhanced DBS check and a new one for those eligible for a Basic DBS check.

The Diocese have introduced new online training opportunities including new Leadership Training delivered in two sessions, a course in 'Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse' and 'Modern Slavery'. There is also a new course for all those involved in recruitment called 'Safer Recruitment and People Management'.

We have had one or two low level safeguarding concerns that have been addressed by the PSO and the Minister with advice from the Diocese. They have been recorded but no further action is required and pastoral care has been made available. In 2021 the safeguarding annual report, mentioned that it was important that safeguarding concerns, however minor, are reported to the Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO – LS) or Minister (FB). Once an incident has been heard, it may be deemed unnecessary to take any further action, however, an accumulation of small, minor events relating to one person, reported by different individuals, over a period of time, may indicate a bigger problem that needs to be dealt with, before it becomes too serious.

The members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

The charity's objects, as set out in the governing document, are to co-operate with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church be it pastoral, evangelistic, social or ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining certain church property situated within the parish.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. The PCC comprises ex-officio members (which includes clergy and churchwardens), elected members and co-opted members. The PCC organise elections annually before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to fill vacancies.

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the PCC who meet monthly to monitor the activities of the charity.

## **Financial Review**

Income for the year was £165,599 (2022: £181,261), which included grant income of £30,000 (2022: £31,000) from the Fordham Trust. The Trust has supported the church in previous years, and it is anticipated that this funding support will continue into the future.

Expenditure for the year was £161,067 (2022: £195,769) including missionary and charitable giving of £21,357 (2022: £15,000). The net movement in funds showed a surplus for the year of £3,594 (2022: deficit of £14,804) leaving total funds carried forward at the end of the year at £57,058 (2022: £53,463).

At the year end the charity held unrestricted funds of £40,881 (2022: £14,401) and restricted funds of £16,177 (2022: £39,062). Restricted funds comprises principally monies held to help fund the appointment of a Youth and Children's worker, to help support mission projects and monies held by The Benevolent Fund (which helps members of the church family who have encountered financial hardship). Full details of all funds are set out in the financial statements.

## **Reserves Policy**

The trustees consider that free reserves (which the trustees define to be unrestricted funds) should be maintained at a level equivalent to 3 months budgeted operating costs (approx. £50,000). The trustees recognise that unrestricted funds of £40,881 (2022: £14,401) at the year-end is below this level but are confident that, given the relationship with the Fordham Trust, additional funds would be made available if required. After also considering the PCC's forecasts for the coming year and the measures that could be taken to increase income and reduce expenditure, the trustees are satisfied that the charity can operate with this level of reserves for the time being.

The trustees are continuing to closely monitor reserves and income and expenditure, which are both discussed regularly at Finance Committee and PCC meetings.

## **Key Risks and Uncertainties**

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The PCC review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

## **Fabric Report**

**All Saints Church Fordham** We continue to work through the Quinquennial Report completed on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 by RB and EC of Quinlan Terry Architects LLP.

The report found the church to be in generally good condition. Items of regular maintenance have been completed, such as ensuring the perimeter drainage channels are kept clear of plant debris. Gutters and downpipes have been cleared, reducing the risk of damp. A large growth of ivy needs removing from the tower, probably requiring the use of professional tree surgeons with a 'cherry picker' to ensure the work is done safely.

**Cracks** The major challenge continues to be cracks in the rendering. This is being monitored regularly to identify the rate at which the cracks are increasing. A more sustained measuring of movement through the use of Dengue studs is underway, as recommended by the Morton Partnership, our structural engineer.

**Plaster Fall** The fall of plaster from the ceiling above the gallery in October was investigated and repaired on the advice of The Morton Partnership, and we were able to return to the church after holding services in the John Owen Barn.

**Windows** Expensive repairs are required to nearly all 18 windows in the church. There are 3 which are of the 'utmost urgency' according to the Quinquennial report. Quotes have been obtained from 2 leaded light specialist companies, both of which examined all other windows as well. For the 3 windows in question, the extent of work required differs, and consequently so do the quotes which range from £3,000 to £7,500. RB to advise and meet with the preferred contractor to recommend priority action.

The Quinquennial report details many items that require planned action, but with the constraints on available financing. Fabric priorities will need to be considered alongside increased ministry and general operating costs.

**All Saints Church Eight Ash Green** The main area of concern remains the continued cracking in the rendering in the nave, kitchen and toilet. This has occurred after £8,000 was spent underpinning this part of the building in 2017. Rising water table levels and the effect of nearby housing developments have been cited as contributors. Monitoring of movement continues to be a priority concern, as directed by our team of structural engineer and architects.

The church was inspected by the Environmental Health Officer on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023. It is a requirement for the cracks round the kitchen ceiling to be filled to reduce risk of loose plaster falling into food. Our food hygiene rating is currently 5 but could be reduced if this is not actioned by July 2024.

'Hedgehog' guttering has been installed to reduce the accumulation of debris in the gutters which presented hard-of-access issues.

**Churchyards** Both churchyards have been considerably tidied up by cutting back overgrown shrubs and trees, and more regular mowing of the grass.

**Tree Reports** The statutory requirement for an annual churchyard tree inspection of both churchyards was carried out in October 2023 by C.J. Wynn Tree Services. His priority recommendations have been actioned and any related work identified as suitable for working party action addressed, with further dates planned for the coming year. The full list is kept in the Church office and may be viewed.

**Noticeboards** Planned renovations to both church noticeboards are in hand having received PCC approval.

**Regular maintenance** Testing of electrical appliances and fire extinguishers with the clearance of gutters and drainpipes have been carried out in both churches.

## **Trustee Responsibilities**

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **APPROVAL**

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

**Name: Revd Francis Blight**

**Signed:** *Francis Blight*  
Francis Blight (Apr 18, 2024 10:40 GMT+1)

**Date:** 16 April 2024

**Name: Nicholas Durlacher**

**Signed:** *Nicholas Durlacher*  
Nicholas Durlacher (Apr 18, 2024 15:58 GMT+1)

**Date:** 16 April 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF**  
**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 15 to 23 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 17 and 18.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

*Ajay Rajani*  
Ajay Rajani (Apr 18, 2024 15:59 GMT+1)

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Apr 18, 2024

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	135,932	17,694	153,625	172,025
Charitable activities	4	11,883	-	11,883	9,185
Investments		91	-	91	51
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>147,905</b>	<b>17,694</b>	<b>165,599</b>	<b>181,261</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	120,489	40,578	161,067	195,769
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>120,489</b>	<b>40,578</b>	<b>161,067</b>	<b>195,769</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>(937)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(937)</b>	<b>(296)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>26,479</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>26,479</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		14,401	39,062	53,463	68,267
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>40,881</b>	<b>16,177</b>	<b>57,058</b>	<b>53,463</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	7	<u>1,293</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,293</u>	<u>2,230</u>
		<u>1,293</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,293</u>	<u>2,230</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	4,181	436	4,617	23,580
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>43,101</u>	<u>15,741</u>	<u>58,842</u>	<u>38,112</u>
		47,282	16,177	63,459	61,692
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(7,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,694)</u>	<u>(10,459)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>39,588</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>55,765</u>	<u>51,233</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>40,881</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>57,058</u>	<u>53,463</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	12				
General funds		40,881	-	40,881	13,394
Designated funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,007</u>
		40,881	-	40,881	14,401
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>39,062</u>
		<u>40,881</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>57,058</u>	<u>53,463</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Francis Blight  
Francis Blight (Apr 18, 2024 10:40 GMT+1)  
-----  
Revd Francis Blight

16 April 2024  
-----  
Date

Charity number: 1131590

The notes on pages 17 to 23 form part of these accounts.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of Fordham and Eight Ash Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1131590 and the charity has its offices at John Owen Barn, Church Road, Fordham, CO6 3NL.

#### 2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

##### a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

##### b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated facilities. The estimated value of these facilities to the charity is recognised as income when they are made available to the charity. Expenses include a charge for rent in respect of the charity's use of these facilities.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals, other church activities and the church bookstall.

Income from property letting is recognised for letting periods that fall within the financial year.

##### c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Expenditure on maintaining facilities donated to the PCC (namely the John Owen Barn) are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.

Other items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life.

By the year end, the charity had not incurred any expenditure that needed to be capitalised.

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprise fixed interest securities. These securities are held to generate income and for their investment potential and have been included at their market value at the balance sheet date.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	91,373	107,073
Donated facilities	5,000	5,000
Income tax recoverable	24,602	23,476
Grants receivable		
The Fordham Trust	30,000	31,000
Other grants	2,650	5,476
	<u>153,625</u>	<u>172,025</u>

Donated facilities comprise the John Owen Barn, which has been let to the charity rent free by Trafalgar Nominees.

The Fordham Trust is an independent charity with Christian objectives registered in the UK. It has supported the gospel ministry of All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green for some time. The PCC and the Fordham Trust do not have any trustees in common however one of the Trust's six trustees is closely related to a member of the PCC.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees from weddings, funerals, baptisms and similar	8,212	5,507
Church activities including book sales	2,089	2,703
Letting of facilities for community benefit	1,581	975
	<u>11,883</u>	<u>9,185</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>		
Parish share and other Diocesan fees	11,799	86,869
Staff costs	44,430	26,141
Other ministry costs	13,743	12,436
Parsonage House (Fordham Hall)	2,584	1,300
Church running expenses (inc. maintenance)	14,680	7,101
Upkeep of churchyard	4,860	4,700
JOB donated facility	5,000	5,000
JOB maintenance and running costs	18,116	18,774
Community hub expenses	7,503	3,962
Grants payable (note 5c)	21,357	15,000
	<u>144,071</u>	<u>181,283</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	2,160	1,920
Office and administration costs	8,344	6,472
Payroll processing	721	586
Bank charges	212	254
Insurance	5,559	5,254
	<u>16,996</u>	<u>14,486</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>161,067</u>	<u>195,769</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £2,160 (2022: £1,980); in addition the charity paid £721 (2022: £586) to Stewardship for payroll bureau services.

**c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2023
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>19,857</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>21,357</u>
	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Serving in Mission	7,200	7,200
Good Steward Trust	4,857	-
Oak Hill College	2,000	2,000
Release International	2,000	2,000
True Freedom Trust	1,000	1,000
Christian Institute	750	-
UCCF	550	600
Open Doors Colchester	500	600
Bridgeway Mission	500	600
Passion For Life	250	250
Church Society	250	-
Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans	-	750
	<u>19,857</u>	<u>15,000</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 3.5 (2022: 3.4). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC. No employment benefits were paid to key management during the year however in the previous year the following employment benefits were paid to key management:

	Wages and salaries	Pension contributions	2022 £
R Gage	<u>10,137</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>10,442</u>

R Gage was a member of the PCC until May 2022 was employed as an administrator until October 2022; she received the above emoluments for being employed in that capacity, not for serving as a member of the PCC. These payments are permitted by the PCC's governing document.

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Fixed interest securities	2023 £	2022 £
Cost or fair value brought forward	2,230	2,230	2,526
Change in value of investments	(937)	(937)	(296)
Cost or fair value carried forward	<u>1,293</u>	<u>1,293</u>	<u>2,230</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Tax recoverable	4,617	23,411
Other debtors	-	169
	<u>4,617</u>	<u>23,580</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	58,796	38,067
Petty cash	45	45
	<u>58,842</u>	<u>38,112</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	5,534	8,479
Accruals	2,160	1,980
	<u>7,694</u>	<u>10,459</u>

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £649 (2022: £380) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £89 (2022: £nil) were owed.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Hub	1,007	3,327	(4,334)	-	-	-
	<u>1,007</u>	<u>3,327</u>	<u>(4,334)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	13,394	144,578	(116,155)	-	(937)	40,881
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u>14,401</u>	<u>147,905</u>	<u>(120,489)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(937)</u>	<u>40,881</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	23,171	1,686	(19,857)	-	-	5,001
Mission fund	11,604	5,188	(8,402)	-	-	8,389
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	(1,500)	-	-	2,537
Community fund	250	3,170	(3,170)	-	-	250
Energy Support fund	-	1,900	(1,900)	-	-	-
Building fund	-	750	(750)	-	-	-
	<u>39,062</u>	<u>17,694</u>	<u>(40,578)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,177</u>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<u>53,463</u>	<u>165,599</u>	<u>(161,067)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(937)</u>	<u>57,058</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds			2023 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	1,293	-	-	1,293
Debtors	4,181	-	436	4,617
Cash at bank and in hand	43,101	-	15,741	58,842
Creditors falling due within one year	(7,694)	-	-	(7,694)
	<u>40,881</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,177</u>	<u>57,058</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Gains and losses 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,682	825	-	(9,507)	-	-
Community Hub	-	3,243	(2,237)	-	-	1,007
	<u>8,682</u>	<u>4,068</u>	<u>(2,237)</u>	<u>(9,507)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,007</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	24,233	155,966	(176,015)	9,507	(296)	13,394
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u>32,915</u>	<u>156,791</u>	<u>(178,252)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(296)</u>	<u>14,401</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	22,636	5,899	(5,363)	-	-	23,171
Mission fund	8,679	4,852	(1,927)	-	-	11,604
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	-	-	-	4,037
Community fund	-	5,476	(5,226)	-	-	250
	<u>35,352</u>	<u>21,226</u>	<u>(17,517)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,062</u>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<u>68,267</u>	<u>178,017</u>	<u>(195,769)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(296)</u>	<u>53,463</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**12 Funds continued**

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2022 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	2,230	-	-	2,230
Debtors	21,562	-	2,018	23,580
Cash at bank and in hand	61	1,007	37,044	38,112
Creditors falling due within one year	(10,459)	-	-	(10,459)
	<u>13,394</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>53,463</u>

Designated funds

The **John Owen Barn** fund is money set aside by the PCC for the maintenance and redecoration of the John Owen Barn. In the previous year the trustees concluded that this fund was no longer needed and the balance on the fund was transferred to general unrestricted funds.

The **Community Hub** fund represents donations and other income received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

Restricted funds

The **Youth and Children's Worker** fund represents donations received to help meet the cost of employing a Youth and Children's worker.

The **Mission** fund represents donations received by the charity to help fund specific mission projects.

The **John Owen Barn** fund represents the estimated value to the charity of the rent free use of a property.

The **Benevolent** fund was created from donations received to help members of the church family facing financial hardship.

The **Community** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

The **Energy Support** fund was created from a grant received from the Diocese to help with rising energy costs.

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £50,957 (2022: £42,823) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) employed the spouse of a clergy member of the PCC (Francis Blight) and paid her employment benefits totalling £12,904 (2022: £4,479) for her role as Youth and Children's Leader.
- c) employed the son of a member of the PCC (Roy Miller) and paid him employment benefits totalling £10,514 (2022: £nil) for his role as ministry apprentice.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking employment and clergy duties not connected with serving as a PCC member, no expenses were reimbursed to the members of the PCC.

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

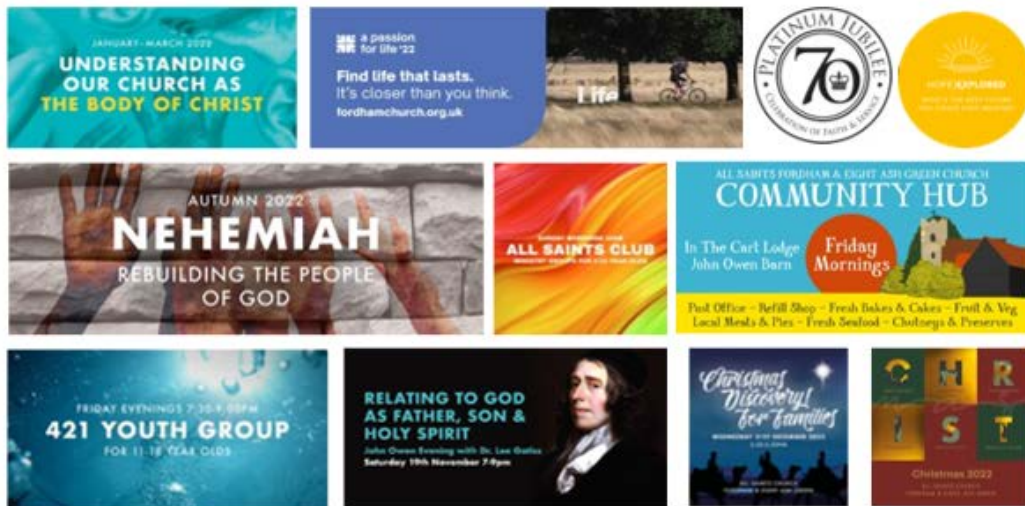
Note	Unrestricted funds				Unrestricted funds				
	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	132,605	3,327	17,694	153,625	146,731	4,068	21,226	172,025
Charitable activities	4	11,883	-	-	11,883	9,185	-	-	9,185
Investments		91	-	-	91	51	-	-	51
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>144,578</b>	<b>3,327</b>	<b>17,694</b>	<b>165,599</b>	<b>155,966</b>	<b>4,068</b>	<b>21,226</b>	<b>181,261</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Charitable activities:	5	116,155	4,334	40,578	161,067	176,015	2,237	17,517	195,769
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>116,155</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>40,578</b>	<b>161,067</b>	<b>176,015</b>	<b>2,237</b>	<b>17,517</b>	<b>195,769</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>(937)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(937)</b>	<b>(296)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(296)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>27,486</b>	<b>(1,007)</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>	<b>(20,345)</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,507</b>	<b>(9,507)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>27,486</b>	<b>(1,007)</b>	<b>(22,885)</b>	<b>3,594</b>	<b>(10,838)</b>	<b>(7,675)</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		13,394	1,007	39,062	53,463	24,233	8,682	35,352	68,267
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>40,881</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,177</b>	<b>57,058</b>	<b>13,394</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>39,062</b>	<b>53,463</b>

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# Accounts

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# All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Colchester



## Parochial Church Council Annual Report And Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

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## Reference Information

<b>Incumbent</b>	Revd Francis Blight	
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	All Saints Church Office John Owen Barn Church Road Fordham CO6 3NL  01206 243261  <a href="http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk">www.fordhamchurch.org.uk</a>	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1131590	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank	9 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1DA
	CAF Bank	25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE	Stewardship, 1 Lamb's Passage, London, EC1Y 8AB

## Parochial Church Council

	<b>Up to APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>From the APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>
<b>Rector</b>	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Alistair Grote	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Roy Miller
<b>General Synod</b>	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee (Electoral Roll Officer) Roy Miller	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee (Secretary) Roy Miller
<b>Elected Members</b>	Irene Bale John Bennion Rachel Gage (Secretary) Julian Griffiths Roger Miles (Treasurer) Roy Miller Lesley Southern	Irene Bale John Bennion John Bradley Alistair Grote Keith Hodges Lesley Southern Jenny LeGood (Electoral Roll Officer)
<b>Co-opted Members</b>	Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer)	Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer) Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer)

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are spent.

### Committees

<b>Standing Committee</b>	
<b>Rector</b>	Rev'd Francis Blight
<b>Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher, Roy Miller
<b>Secretary</b>	Grace Lee
<b>PCC Member</b>	Alistair Grote

<b>Finance Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Victoria Rolfe
<b>Members</b>	Francis Blight Nicholas Durlacher Alistair Grote Colin Munday

<b>Fabric Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Mary Durlacher
<b>Members</b>	Alistair Grote Bill Roberts Martin LeGood John Revett

## A Message from the Rector (PCC Chair)

2022 has been a time of encouragements and challenges. As covid restrictions relaxed, the church was able to reach out to members of the church family who had not been able to attend as well as to the wider communities of Fordham and Eight Ash Green. During 2022 the worshipping community (those who attend at least once a month on Sunday or would attend if not prevented by illness) was 138. The average weekly attendance on Sunday across the year was 61 (50 adults and 11 children). We have continued to livestream the Sunday 10am services and to publish recordings of the preaching online. Across the autumn there was a sense that the church community had restabilised post-covid, with the bones and sinews of the community joining together again. We were delighted to host the bishop of Maidstone, Rod Thomas for the confirmation of six candidates on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

For the wider community, the Friday community hub has continued to develop with the addition of a café in the John Owen Barn alongside the market stalls. We are delighted that the hub is proving so popular each week. To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we held special services at both churches and partnered with the Fordham Parish Council in hosting a wonderful celebration event on the Fordham Hall field and in the John Owen Barn.

Our vision remains 'To know Jesus Christ and make him known' and we have put this into practice through continued faithful teaching of God's word week by week, on Sundays, in Growth Groups and through the different ministries of the church. Our community outreach has involved articles in the parish magazines, delivering invitations to each home and events such as the Christmas Discovery! for Families.

One challenging area has been the Church of England's Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process on matters of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. While intended to bring people together, in practice it has drawn energy away from the mission of the church and forced us to focus in on ourselves rather than look outwards to spread the word of the gospel in the community around us. We pray that God will move mightily in 2023, that the Church of England will continue to profess the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures as the bishops and General Synod debate these matters.

Finally, I wish to give a hearty thank you to the church family for your enthusiasm and commitment to the vision of gospel-focused community engagement. This has been demonstrated in the congregation's financial giving and practical service in the life and weekly ministries of the church. Together, as we have looked to God to lead us, 2022 has been a positive and fruitful year.

Reverend Francis Blight

# The Parochial Church Council's Annual Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2022

The Members of the Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC'), who are the charity's trustees for the purposes of charity law, have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year.

## Our Vision

"To know Jesus Christ and make him known" is our stated aim. We seek to work out this vision through the guiding principles set out in *the Eleven Decisions, a number of which are included in this report in italics*. In planning its activities, the PCC have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## Teaching and Preaching

*Believing that the Bible is what God says to the church today we will make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.*

During 2023 we continued to livestream services and to publish recordings of teaching sermons.

The Sunday teaching programme included the following:

- Understanding the Church as the Body of Christ (January – March)
- A Passion for Life '22 (Easter)
- Hope Explored (June)
- Colossians (July)
- Hebrews 11&12 (August)
- Nehemiah: Rebuilding the People of God (Autumn)

The monthly All Age Services continued in the John Owen Barn and we had a number of visiting speakers through the year. In November we invited Dr Lee Gatiss (Director of Church Society) to speak at a John Owen Evening, on Owen's classic book 'Communion with God'. The evening was titled 'Relating to God as Father, Son & Holy Spirit'.

## Prayer

*We shall rely on prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in all that we do.*

During 2022 we returned to holding monthly prayer focus meetings in-person after the online meetings of the covid pandemic. There is a committed core of praying people in the church family, who regularly participate and for this we give thanks. We pray that God will grow these meetings so that together we can seek God's will for our church and ministries in 2023.

During 2022 the church staff team met to pray together each Tuesday and we encouraged each other in prayer during our weekly Growth Group meetings. There are currently five growth groups who meet on mid-week evenings in people's homes to study God's word and to pray for one another. In addition, our young people are encouraged to pray at the Friday night 421 youth group and Sunday morning All Saints Club. At the beginning of the year we had a dedicated three weeks of prayer for our church during which we sought God for the life, health and growth of our church during 2022. We used the book "Five Things to Pray for the Church" by Rachel Jones during this time. We continued to publish a regular church prayer diary through the year.

## Parish Schools (Holy Trinity Eight Ash Green and Fordham All Saints Primary Schools)

The strong links with our local Church of England schools continued with ongoing representation of the church on the governing boards, church services at Christmas, harvest and Easter, participation in year 6 school leaver events and regular assemblies provided by our school's worker. We invited pupils to church events for families which were advertised in the schools' newsletters. At the end of 2022 we nominated a new foundation governor for Holy Trinity school.

During 2022 the PCC was formally asked to consider the formation of a federation between All Saints Fordham CofE primary school and Chappel CofE primary School. In the end the federation did not go ahead. At the end of December, it was announced that the head of Holy Trinity School Eight Ash Green would become the interim executive head teacher at Fordham Primary School. As we move into 2023, the two schools continue to explore the best way ahead for the future. We look forward to supporting them in maintaining the Christian distinctiveness of the schools.

## PCC Proceedings

During 2022, PCC business has supported church life in a number of ways. We continued church services at both church buildings with a variety of styles of worship. Towards the end of the year the PCC agreed to restart a Sunday evening service. Sunday@Six is planned to be a more contemporary style of service held on the fourth Sunday of each month. It will run as a trial from January – July 2023.

*We shall consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field, and will use the network of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the word of the gospel.*

The PCC discussed and supported the Life '22 mission (Passion for Life) around Easter 2022 with the following: Outreach services on John's gospel, giving away copies of 'Your Verdict on the Empty Tomb' by Val Grieve and 'The Gospel of John: Find Life That Lasts'. Growth Group and church ministries organised events (a mime artist, an evening at Colchester Castle, a piano recital with a Christian testimony and a 421 youth evening). In June we ran the new Hope Explored course. Other areas of outreach that were progressed by the PCC included: the Christmas Discovery! for Families event, schools work and the Friday Community Hub project. Towards the end of the year the church ran a Christianity Explored course.

*"We shall make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full time' Christian work."* The PCC planned the appointment of new staff team members. Having been unsuccessful in appointing a full time Youth and Children's Minister at the beginning of 2022, we looked at alternatives and appointed the minister's wife as part-time Youth & Children's Leader for the academic year beginning September 2022. A part-time Administration Assistant (JA) finished in April and the part-time Church Manager (RG) in October. Our thanks go to both of them for their significant contribution to the life and functioning of our church community over the last few years and especially during the complexities of the covid season. The PCC decided to appoint a part-time Church Administrator & Rector's PA and a part-time Ministry Apprentice to begin in January 2023.

The PCC continues to place a strong emphasis on safeguarding and health and safety. Both of these are standing items on the PCC agenda. Our safer recruitment process is well established and the parish safeguarding officer (PSO) is a co-opted member of the PCC.

*"We shall do what we can lovingly to help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need."* During 2022 it was agreed that the purpose of the benevolent fund, originally set up to help with hardship associated with COVID unemployment, should be changed to support church families facing hardship due to rising energy costs. During the

autumn harvest festival we collected food and household items for the Colchester Food Bank with donations from the church family and Fordham All Saints school families.

The PCC approved support for our 2022 programme of Mission Partner giving to eleven organisations.

The PCC continues to support strong links with like-minded churches, particularly through the Chelmsford ReNew network of churches. In November the whole PCC attended the ReNew synod hosted by St Michael's in Braintree. In addition the PCC has supported engagement with the new Chelmsford Diocesan Evangelical Network (CDEN) which comes under the national Church of England Evangelical Council (CEEC).

## Parish Activities

The church continued to work with the two parish councils and local community. Significant events in 2022 included: the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and a remembrance service for the Queen, the annual Remembrance Day service followed by Acts of Remembrance at the Fordham war memorial and the Eight Ash Green flagpole; Easter, Harvest and Christmas Services; Christmas light switch-on celebrations in the two villages and a Christmas Discovery! event aimed at families in our community.

## The Community Hub

The Friday morning community Hub run by JG, has continued to grow from strength to strength through 2022. Building on an initial start with six outside stall holders, we now have eight:

- Refill Den
- Duke's Seafood
- Collett's Farm Meats
- Cheese & Pie Man
- JJ Fruit & Veggie Shop
- Mop Cap Preserves
- Mum's Pantry
- Freckled Foxglove

The Post Office continues inside the John Owen Barn and is well used by the local community. In April, after many months of red-tape, planning and meticulous organising, the Community Hub Café opened its doors for the first time. The success of this venture has far exceeded our initial expectations and we average between 40-50 visitors every Friday. The café has been warmly welcomed by Fordham, Eight Ash Green, and many other communities, providing a warm, friendly, and cheerful place to meet and to re-build relationships after Covid.

The Fordham Parish Council hold their monthly workshops in the café, making them accessible to the community.

Over the winter, we successfully received warm space grants from Fordham Parish Council and Essex County Council, which enabled us to provide free warm soup and a roll to all. We are currently registered with the Essex County Council as a warm space, which continues to the end of April.

The café is staffed purely by volunteers, who provide their time, cakes and a sympathetic listening ear. We provide coffee, cakes, sausage rolls, scones and soup weekly. We also ran a Macmillan Cancer morning, where we raised £800 through cake sales and personal testimonies.

Going forward into 2023, we plan to open a pantry which will provide essential items to those in need, with no questions asked. We plan to have expert speakers to provide knowledgeable information on a wide range of topics, such as coping with dementia, Parkinson's disease and depression. We also have plans for the Essex Police to talk to us about fraud prevention.

*We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.*

## **Babies and Toddlers**

The Babies and Toddlers group was run weekly during term time by Rachel Gage and JM during 2022. A growing number of families from the parish villages and further afield attended. The children play while the adults enjoy a chat and then a snack together. Each session ends with a singing and Bible story time.

## **Children and Young People**

GB led the Sunday All Saints Club and the Friday 421 Youth Group during 2022. We were keen to employ a Youth and Children's Minister, but were not successful in recruiting during 2021 and early 2022. As a result, in September 2022, Georgina was employed by the PCC for 11 months to continue this work. We still pray that a Youth & Children's Worker might be recruited for September 2023.

## **Sunday All Saints Club (ASC) 0-16 years**

Ministry groups for children and young people ran in person throughout 2022. In ASC a new group (for children aged 0-4) called Beginning with God joined the Luke and Matthew groups. In this group there is lots of fun play and a Bible story each week using the Beginners Bible and corresponding teaching material. It was formed with the hope that when new families come there will be something available on a Sunday for even the youngest children.

Throughout 2022, Luke group (4-11s) used teaching materials from Faith in Kids (Ed Drew) and The Jesus Story Book Bible. Many thanks to the leaders who diligently prepared and led these sessions each week.

Matthew group (11-16s) used a number of bible studies written by Tim Hawkins and Nick Margesson. The aim of these studies is to help our teens remain as followers of Jesus despite the increasingly hostile environment that secondary education is becoming for Christian faith. Again, many thanks to the Matthew group leaders who gave their time to enable this group to run.

Give thanks for the children and young people who are part of All Saints Church and pray for God to bring in new families to strengthen our church community. Please pray for new leaders to help with this work.

## **Friday 421 Youth Group 11- 18 years**

During 2022 the 421 Youth group had an average weekly attendance of 14, from a pool of 25 to 30 who came across the year. The young people come from a number of local churches, and a few have no church affiliation. It has been exciting to see Christian teens strengthen friendships with each other and with Jesus. Towards the end of 2022, we began to see some young people from Fordham village attend and really enjoy 421. Our thanks go to the small team of leaders who enabled this group to run each week. LW from St Peter's Colchester re-joined the 421 team in September 2021 and at the end of 2022 stepped down in order to focus on the development of a new ministry among young people at St Peter's. Our thanks go to her for her contribution during this time. In September 2022, BM began regularly helping at 421 and we have been very grateful for his energy and enthusiasm for this ministry. Please pray for God to provide new leaders to help us keep investing in young people and for new young people to join.

## **Development Plans for further growth**

Our focus for 2023 is to continue developing the children, youth and families work while maintaining the established ministries. Ideally this would involve the appointment of a Children's and Youth Worker or a ministry apprentice. We continue to pray for guidance and God's provision in this area. We plan to build on the success of the Christmas Discovery! event with further family events around Easter time and look forward to the Sunday@Six services establishing a new style of service over the coming months.

We will endeavour to pursue and invest in our Bible teaching ministry on Sundays and in specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.

The PCC has approved plans to provide information about the church to the new Aspen Walk houses being built in Eight Ash Green and has approved a plan to start Prayer Walking once the weather improves in the new year.

We plan to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III in May with special Sunday services and participating in local events in the two villages.

While acknowledging the particular challenges we face at the present time related to doctrine and practise in the Church of England, we look forward to 2023 and the opportunity to continue to minister to one another within the church community and to share the message of the Gospel with those around us. *In all that we do, we shall remember that our aim is to please and honour God and to receive his approval of our work on the last day.*

## Safeguarding

The awareness of safeguarding in general and the need for individuals to actively engage in safeguarding measures has become a more integral part of our church culture. Individuals are engaging more readily in undergoing the online safeguarding training and enquiring about the need for a DBS, which is very encouraging.

The National Safeguarding Team (NST), launched a new Recruitment Policy in 2021 called 'Safer Recruitment and People Management' (SRPM). This reduces the length of time between DBS renewals from five to three years. This change is being phased in over a period of two years. The SRPM was agreed by the PCC and the 'Church Safeguarding Action Plan for 2022' began the process of bringing our practices in line with the new National requirements. Practically this meant that in 2022, we saw part of this implementation of all new DBS applications and those due for renewal in the year 2022 and 2023, being processed into the three year cycle.

Currently we have 39 people who are fully recruited with appropriate DBS Certificates and safeguarding training. The C2 training which was suspended over the lockdown period has been resumed. Dates are given for three months in advance with times during the day, evening and weekends. From feedback we believe the content of the training is unfortunately not based on biblical ethics in regard to sex outside marriage.

Outstanding from last year's report, is the implementation of job descriptions for the voluntary roles within the children's and youth work and the setting up of regular individual and team support. Job descriptions would act as clarification for volunteers, as to what the role entails, and should be presented on enquiry along with the relevant application form, Confidential Declaration, Ministry Declaration, and information about DBS applications and Safeguarding Training. Once enrolled, there should be support through regular meetings between team leaders and volunteers, for mentoring and pastoral care. This will support the wellbeing of the volunteers themselves, promote team cohesion and bring attention to any potential issues both personal, and of a safeguarding nature. We hope that the new year will bring in the implementation of these requirements.

The members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

The charity's objects, as set out in the governing document, are to co-operate with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church be it pastoral, evangelistic, social or ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining certain church property situated within the parish.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. The PCC comprises ex-officio members (which includes clergy and churchwardens), elected members and co-opted members. The PCC organise elections annually before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to fill vacancies.

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the PCC who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

## Financial Review

Notwithstanding that 2022 was a challenging year in terms of the cost of living crisis, the income for the year was £181,261 (2021: £211,503), which included grant income of £31,000 (2021: £30,000) from the Fordham Trust. The Trust has supported the church in previous years, and it is anticipated that this funding support will continue into the future.

Expenditure for the year was £195,769 (2021: £181,957) including missionary and charitable giving of £15,000 (2021: £14,800). After a loss of £296 (2021: a gain of £1,011) in the value of the PCC's investments, the net movement in funds showed a deficit for the year of £14,804 (2021: surplus of £30,557) leaving total funds carried forward at the end of the year at £53,463 (2021: £68,267).

At the year end the charity held unrestricted funds of £14,401 (2021: £32,915) and restricted funds of £39,062 (2021: £35,352). Restricted funds comprises principally monies held to help fund the appointment of a Youth and Children's worker, to help support mission projects and monies held by the Benevolence Fund (which helps members of the church family who have encountered financial hardship because of the pandemic and the more recent rise in energy costs). Full details of all funds are set out in the financial statements.

## Reserves Policy

The trustees consider that free reserves (which the trustees define to be unrestricted funds) should be maintained at a level equivalent to 3 months operating costs (approx. £50,000). The trustees recognise that unrestricted funds of £14,401 (2021: £32,915) at the year-end is below this level but are confident that, given the relationship with the Fordham Trust, additional funds would be made available if required. After also considering the PCC's forecasts for the coming year and the measures that could be taken to increase income and reduce expenditure, the trustees are satisfied that the charity can operate with this level of reserves for the time being.

The trustees are continuing to closely monitor reserves and income and expenditure, which are both discussed regularly at Finance Committee and PCC meetings.

## Key Risks and Uncertainties

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The PCC review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

## Quinquennial Inspection

The last quinquennial inspection of All Saints Eight Ash Green was held in 2019; as all significant recommendations that required urgent attention have been undertaken, there are no extant significant items requiring immediate work.

A new quinquennial report for All Saints Fordham was completed on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022 by Roger Barrell and Eric Cartwright, our Church Architects, from Quinlan Terry Architects.

For the first time, the report included a reference to climate emergency which General Synod acknowledged in February 2020, committing to an ambitious carbon reduction target of Net Zero by 2030. Questions of sustainability should inform all our buildings-related decisions from now on, and this report highlights opportunities for action, outlined in Appendix C along with green flag recommendations aimed at making the church more sustainable.

The Report finds the church to be generally in good condition, with an emphasis on improving day-to-day maintenance to ensure the perimeter drainage channel is kept cleared and plant growth on all flat roofs is removed, along with the build up of silt. Regular clearing of gutters and downpipes has continued along with servicing of fire extinguishers, the boiler, PAT testing of electrical appliances and the five year electrical installation certification.

A number of leaded lights are in poor condition and should be replaced and areas of mortar to joints identified as needing work.

Cracks to the rendering were being monitored and repointing to exterior brickwork recommended. The structural engineer, Ed Morton of the Morton Partnership was called in to recommend what action should be taken following the fall of ceiling plaster in the Gallery following strong winds and stormy weather. This led to a period of closure while investigations were carried out and competitive quotes obtained for doing the required work.

Recommendations include five to be addressed as soon as practical, another 21 within 18 months and the remainder within five years.

The Fordham churchyard has been surveyed and a Tree Report is kept in the Church Office.

## Trustee Responsibilities

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **APPROVAL**

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

**Name: Revd Francis Blight**

**Signed:** *Francis Blight*

**Date: 21 April 2023**

**Name: Nicholas Durlacher**

**Signed:** *Nicholas Durlacher*

**Name: Roy Miller**

**Signed:** *Roy Miller*

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF**  
**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 on pages 13 to 21 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 15 and 16.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

*Ajay Rajani*

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 28 April 2023

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	151,624	21,226	172,850	203,093
Charitable activities	4	8,210	-	8,210	5,230
Other trading activities: property letting		150	-	150	3,134
Investments		51	-	51	46
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>160,034</b>	<b>21,226</b>	<b>181,261</b>	<b>211,503</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	178,252	17,517	195,769	181,957
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>178,252</b>	<b>17,517</b>	<b>195,769</b>	<b>181,957</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>(296)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(296)</b>	<b>1,011</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(18,513)</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>	<b>30,557</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(18,513)</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>	<b>30,557</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		32,915	35,352	68,267	37,710
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>14,401</b>	<b>39,062</b>	<b>53,463</b>	<b>68,267</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	7	<u>2,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,230</u>	<u>2,526</u>
		<u>2,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,230</u>	<u>2,526</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	21,562	2,018	23,580	30,593
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>1,068</u>	<u>37,044</u>	<u>38,112</u>	<u>38,863</u>
		22,630	39,062	61,692	69,456
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(10,459)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,459)</u>	<u>(3,715)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>12,171</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>51,233</u>	<u>65,741</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>14,401</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>53,463</u>	<u>68,267</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	12				
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds		13,395	-	13,395	24,233
Designated funds		<u>1,007</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>8,682</u>
		14,401	-	14,401	32,915
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>35,352</u>
		<u>14,401</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>53,463</u>	<u>68,267</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

*Francis Blight*

Revd Francis Blight

Date 21 April 2023

Charity number: 1131590

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these accounts.

# FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

### 1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of Fordham and Eight Ash Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1131590 and the charity has its offices at John Owen Barn, Church Road, Fordham, CO6 3NL.

### 2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

#### a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

#### b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated facilities. The estimated value of these facilities to the charity is recognised as income when they are made available to the charity. Expenses include a charge for rent in respect of the charity's use of these facilities.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals, other church activities and the church bookstall.

Income from property letting is recognised for letting periods that fall within the financial year.

#### c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Expenditure on maintaining facilities donated to the PCC (namely the John Owen Barn) are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.

Other items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life.

By the year end, the charity had not incurred any expenditure that needed to be capitalised.

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprise fixed interest securities. These securities are held to generate income and for their investment potential and have been included at their market value at the balance sheet date.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	107,898	137,181
Donated facilities	5,000	5,000
Income tax recoverable	23,476	30,912
Grants receivable		
The Fordham Trust	31,000	30,000
Other grants	5,476	-
	<u>172,850</u>	<u>203,093</u>

Donated facilities comprise the John Owen Barn, which has been let to the charity rent free by Trafalgar Nominees.

The Fordham Trust is an independent charity with Christian objectives registered in the UK. It has supported the gospel ministry of All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green for some time. The PCC and the Fordham Trust do not have any trustees in common however one of the Trust's six trustees is closely related to a member of the PCC.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees from weddings, funerals, baptisms and similar	5,507	4,206
Church activities	2,378	1,002
Book sales	325	22
	<u>8,210</u>	<u>5,230</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>		
Parish share and other Diocesan fees	86,869	82,812
Staff costs, travel and expenses	26,141	27,291
Other ministry costs	12,436	7,937
Parsonage House (Fordham Hall)	1,300	1,070
Church running expenses (inc. maintenance)	7,101	6,144
Upkeep of churchyard	4,700	3,240
JOB donated facility	5,000	5,000
JOB maintenance and running costs	18,774	19,618
Community hub expenses	3,962	-
Rental property expenses	-	356
Grants payable (note 5c)	15,000	14,800
	<u>181,283</u>	<u>168,269</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	1,920	1,884
Office and administration costs	6,472	6,094
Payroll processing	586	632
Bank charges	254	228
Insurance	5,254	4,850
	<u>14,486</u>	<u>13,688</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>195,769</u>	<u>181,957</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £1,980 (2021: £1,884); in addition the charity paid £586 (2021: £632) to Stewardship for payroll bureau.

**5c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>
	Institutions	Individuals	2021
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>14,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,800</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Serving in Mission	7,200	6,700
Oak Hill College	2,000	1,900
Release International	2,000	1,700
True Freedom Trust	1,000	1,000
Open Door Colchester	600	400
UCCF	600	400
Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans	750	700
Bridgeway Mission	600	600
Passion For Life	250	-
The Christian Institute	-	600
Gifts to other Parochial Church Councils	-	400
Friends International	-	400
	<u>15,000</u>	<u>14,800</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 3.4 (2021: 3). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows.

	Wages and salaries	Pension contributions	2022 £
R Gage	<u>10,137</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>10,442</u>
	Wages and salaries	Pension contributions	2021 £
R Gage	<u>10,269</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>10,577</u>

R Gage was a member of the PCC until May 2022 was employed as an administrator until October 2022; she received the above emoluments for being employed in that capacity, not for serving as a member of the PCC. These payments are permitted by the PCC's governing document.

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Fixed interest securities	2022 £	2021 £
Cost or fair value brought forward	2,526	2,526	1,515
Change in value of investments	(296)	(296)	1,011
Cost or fair value carried forward	<u>2,230</u>	<u>2,230</u>	<u>2,526</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2022 £	2021 £
Tax recoverable	23,411	30,593
Other debtors	169	-
	<u>23,580</u>	<u>30,593</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	38,067	38,818
Petty cash	45	45
	<u>38,112</u>	<u>38,863</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2022 £	2021 £
Other creditors	8,479	1,795
Accruals	1,980	1,920
	<u>10,459</u>	<u>3,715</u>

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £380 (2021: £449) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £nil (2021: £108) were owed.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Gains and losses 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,682	825	-	(9,507)	-	-
Community Hub	-	3,243	(2,237)	-	-	1,007
	<u>8,682</u>	<u>4,068</u>	<u>(2,237)</u>	<u>(9,507)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,007</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	24,233	155,966	(176,015)	9,507	(296)	13,395
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u><u>32,915</u></u>	<u><u>160,034</u></u>	<u><u>(178,252)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(296)</u></u>	<u><u>14,401</u></u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	22,636	5,899	(5,363)	-	-	23,171
Mission fund	8,679	4,852	(1,927)	-	-	11,604
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	-	-	-	4,037
Community fund	-	5,476	(5,226)	-	-	250
	<u>35,352</u>	<u>21,226</u>	<u>(17,517)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,062</u>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<u><u>68,267</u></u>	<u><u>181,261</u></u>	<u><u>(195,769)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(296)</u></u>	<u><u>53,463</u></u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			Restricted funds £	2022 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £			
Fixed asset investments	2,230	-	-	-	2,230
Debtors	21,562	-	2,018	-	23,580
Cash at bank and in hand	61	1,007	37,044	-	38,112
Creditors falling due within one year	(10,459)	-	-	-	(10,459)
	<u>13,395</u>	<u>1,007</u>	<u>39,062</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,463</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2021 £	Incoming resources 2021 £	Outgoing resources 2021 £	Transfers in the year 2021 £	Gains and losses 2021 £	Closing balance 2021 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,207	475	-	-	-	8,682
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	8,222	188,797	(173,798)	-	1,011	24,233
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u><u>16,429</u></u>	<u><u>189,272</u></u>	<u><u>(173,798)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,011</u></u>	<u><u>32,915</u></u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	11,138	12,025	(527)	-	-	22,636
Mission fund	6,106	5,206	(2,633)	-	-	8,679
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	-	-	-	4,037
	<u>21,281</u>	<u>22,231</u>	<u>(8,160)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,352</u>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<u><u>37,710</u></u>	<u><u>211,503</u></u>	<u><u>(181,957)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,011</u></u>	<u><u>68,267</u></u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**12 Funds continued**

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2021 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	2,526	-	-	2,526
Debtors	27,905	-	2,688	30,593
Cash at bank and in hand	(2,484)	8,682	32,665	38,863
Creditors falling due within one year	(3,715)	-	-	(3,715)
	24,233	8,682	35,352	68,267

Designated funds

The **John Owen Barn** fund is money set aside by the PCC for the maintenance and redecoration of the John Owen Barn. During the year the trustees concluded that this fund was no longer needed and the balance on the fund was transferred to general unrestricted funds.

The **Community Hub** fund represents donations and other income received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

Restricted funds

The **Youth and Children's Worker** fund represents donations received to help meet the cost of employing a Youth and Children's worker.

The **Mission** fund represents donations received by the charity to help fund specific mission projects.

The **John Owen Barn** fund represents the estimated value to the charity of the rent free use of a property.

The **Benevolent** fund was created from donations received to help members of the church family facing financial hardship.

The **Community** fund was created from grants and donations received to help meet the cost of operating a hub that seeks to serve the local community.

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £42,823 (2021: £39,061) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) employed the spouse of a clergy member of the PCC (Francis Blight) and paid her employment benefits totalling £4,479 (2021: £nil) for her role as Youth and Children's Leader.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking employment and clergy duties not connected with serving as a PCC member, no expenses were reimbursed to the members of the PCC.

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

Note	Unrestricted funds				Total 2021	Unrestricted funds				Total 2021
	General 2022 £	Designated 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £		General 2021 £	Designated 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>										
Donations and legacies	3	147,556	4,068	21,226	172,850	180,387	475	22,231	203,093	
Charitable activities	4	8,210	-	-	8,210	5,230	-	-	5,230	
Other trading activities		150	-	-	150	3,134	-	-	3,134	
Investments		51	-	-	51	46	-	-	46	
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>155,966</b>	<b>4,068</b>	<b>21,226</b>	<b>181,261</b>	<b>188,797</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>22,231</b>	<b>211,503</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>										
Charitable activities:	5	176,015	2,237	17,517	195,769	173,798	-	8,160	181,957	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>176,015</b>	<b>2,237</b>	<b>17,517</b>	<b>195,769</b>	<b>173,798</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,160</b>	<b>181,957</b>	
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>(296)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(296)</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,011</b>	
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(20,345)</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>	<b>16,011</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>9,507</b>	<b>(9,507)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>	
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(10,838)</b>	<b>(7,675)</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>(14,804)</b>	<b>16,011</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>										
Total funds brought forward		24,233	8,682	35,352	68,267	8,222	8,207	21,281	37,710	
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>13,395</b>	<b>1,007</b>	<b>39,062</b>	<b>53,463</b>	<b>24,233</b>	<b>8,682</b>	<b>35,352</b>	<b>68,267</b>	

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# Accounts

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# All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Colchester



## Parochial Church Council Trustees Annual Report 2021

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## Reference Information

<b>Incumbent</b>	Revd Francis Blight	
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	All Saints Church Office John Owen Barn Church Road Fordham CO6 3NL  01206 243261  <a href="http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk">www.fordhamchurch.org.uk</a>	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1131590	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank	9 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1DA
	CAF Bank	25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE	Stewardship, 1 Lamb’s Passage, London, EC1Y 8AB

Cover photo taken outside Fordham Church on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## Parochial Church Council

	<b>Up to APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>	<b>From the APCM on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>
<b>Rector</b>	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Alistair Grote	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Alistair Grote
<b>General Synod</b>	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee (Electoral Roll Officer) Roy Miller
<b>Elected Members</b>	Irene Bale John Bennion Rachel Gage (Secretary) Julian Griffiths Roger Miles (Treasurer) Roy Miller Lesley Southern	Irene Bale John Bennion John Bradley Rachel Gage (Secretary) Roger Miles (Treasurer) Lesley Southern

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are spent.

## Committees

<b>Standing Committee</b>	
<b>Rector</b>	Rev'd Francis Blight
<b>Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher, Alistair Grote
<b>Treasurer</b>	Roger Miles
<b>Secretary</b>	Rachel Gage

<b>Finance Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Roger Miles
<b>Members</b>	Francis Blight Nicholas Durlacher Alistair Grote Colin Munday

<b>Fabric Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Mary Durlacher
<b>Members</b>	Alistair Grote Fred Campbell Jim Day John Revitt

# The Parochial Church Council's Annual Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2021

The Members of the Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC'), who are the charity's trustees for the purposes of charity law, have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year.

## Our Vision

"To know Jesus Christ and make him known" is our stated aim. We seek to work out this vision through the guiding principles set out in the Eleven Decisions, a number of which are included in this report in italics. In planning its activities the PCC have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## Teaching and Preaching

*We believe that the God of the Bible speaks through his Word, and so we prioritise this preaching ministry and make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.* We continued to broadcast our Sunday 10am service during 2021 but saw increasing numbers of people returning to in-person attendance. The monthly All Age services really benefitted from everyone being able to meet together in person again from September.

## Prayer

*We believe that private and corporate prayer is essential to all that we do.* Our monthly Prayer Focus meeting has remained on-line enabling us to pray with some of our members who have moved away from the area and with representatives of some the mission partner organisations that we support financially.

## Parish Schools

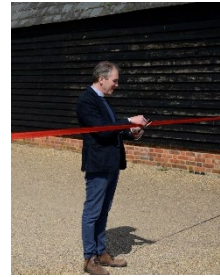
The PCC and church family take their responsibilities to the two parish schools very seriously. Alongside the Rector, there are two Foundation Governors on each governing body. Both schools are small and are struggling financially due to recent changes in school funding formulas. During 2021 both schools, in separate processes, consulted with parents and stakeholders on the possibility of federating with two different schools. The federation plan of one of the schools has not gone ahead and the other is still in process. The PCC remains committed to the pupils and staff of the two schools and continues to work with the governing bodies to strengthen and develop the Christian Ethos in both schools. We held services for both schools in our churches during 2021.

The PCC faces a challenge in carrying out their obligations towards the schools in the parish in that church schools are not necessarily encouraged to federate within parish boundaries. If our two parish schools were able to federate together then the PCC would be able to concentrate its energy into one governing body instead of two.

In September 2021 we appointed a volunteer Schools Worker who leads an assembly in each school once a week. Her proven Bible story telling skills have received extremely positive reviews from both pupils and staff.

## Community Hub

In 2018, with the closure of the Fordham village store and Post Office, it became clear that there was a practical need in Fordham and Eight Ash Green for a Post Office and a place for local people to buy produce. A place where people could gather to get to know each other, share life together. The PCC commissioned a member of the church family to pursue this idea and so the Community Hub was born. The pandemic greatly slowed the progress of this project but from April 2021 the Community Hub began opening on Friday mornings. To begin with, there was a greengrocer and the Refill Den (a stall refilling containers with household food and cleaning items) set up outside and an outreach Post Office inside the John Owen Barn. Through the year this grew to six stallholders. In addition to this a walking group meets once a month. In 2022 it is intended to develop activities inside the John Owen Barn offering people refreshments and other suitable activities.



## Children and Young People

*We shall have specific ministries to the people of different age groups whom God is drawing to our congregation.*

We are keen to employ a Youth and Children's Minister however we were not successful in recruiting to this post during 2021.

Online ministry groups for children and young people ran from January 2021 moved back to being in-person during the summer and autumn of 2021. The children and leaders greatly benefited from being together again. The Babies and Toddler group met in person in a restricted way during the first part of the year and it was a real joy for the whole group to get back to normal from September.

## Development Plans for further growth

*We make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full-time' Christian work.*

As the church family began to emerge from the restrictions of Covid-19, it became apparent that the pool of volunteers that had been large at the beginning of 2020 was greatly reduced. There were a number of reasons for the reduction, but the result was that the same workload was spread amongst a smaller number of people. In 2020 a significant number of church members pledged to fund a youth and children's worker for three years. The impact of being unsuccessful in filling this post by September 2021 has reduced our capacity across our ministries as a whole and created significant pressure on our volunteer teams and especially on the Rector and his wife.

At the end of 2021 the PCC began to consider this issue and will look at ways to work more strategically in the year to come.

## Safeguarding

With regards to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. The PCC comprises ex-officio members (which includes clergy and churchwardens), elected members and co-opted members. The PCC organise elections annually before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to fill vacancies.

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the PCC who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

## Financial Review

Income for the year of £211,503 (2020: £193,327) included grant income of £30,000 from the Fordham Trust. The Trust has supported the church in previous years, and it is anticipated that this funding support will continue into the future.

Expenditure for the year was £181,957 (2020: £214,189) including missionary and charitable giving of £14,800 (2020: £17,000). After a revaluation gain of £1,011 (2020: £52), the net movement in funds showed a surplus for the year of £30,557 (2020: a deficit of £20,810) leaving total funds carried forward at the end of the year at £68,267 (2020: £37,710).

Unrestricted non-designated funds at the end of the year are £24,233 (2020: £8,222). The designated fund of £8,682 (2020: £8,207) relates to future refurbishment, redecoration and upkeep of the John Owen Barn. Restricted funds of £35,352 (2020: £21,281) comprises monies held to help fund the appointment of a Youth and Children's worker, to help support mission projects and monies held by the Benevolence fund (which was created to help members of the church family who may have encountered financial hardship because of the pandemic). Full details of all funds are set out in the financial statements.

## Reserves Policy

The trustees consider that reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to 3 months operating costs (approx. £50,000). The trustees recognise that unrestricted non-designated funds of £24,233 (2020: £8,222) at the year-end is below this level but are confident that, given the relationship with the Fordham Trust, additional funds would be made available if required. The trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and underlying financial position, which is regularly discussed at Finance Committee and PCC meetings.

## Key Risks and Uncertainties

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The PCC review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

## Quinquennial Inspection

The last quinquennial inspection of All Saints, Eight Ash Green was held in 2019; as all significant recommendations that required urgent attention have been undertaken, there are no extant significant items requiring immediate work.

The last quinquennial inspection of All Saints, Fordham was held in 2017; no significant immediate work is required.

## Trustee Responsibilities

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## APPROVAL

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

**Revd Francis Blight**

**Date: 13 April 2022**

**Nicholas Durlacher**

**Date: 13 April 2022**

**Alistair Grote**

**Date: 13 April 2022**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF**  
**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the members of the PCC (who are also the charity's trustees) on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021 on pages 8 to 16 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 10 and 11.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 13 April 2022

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	180,862	22,231	203,093	176,408
Charitable activities	4	5,230	-	5,230	3,886
Other trading activities: property letting		3,134	-	3,134	12,084
Investments		46	-	46	75
Other income		-	-	-	875
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>189,272</b>	<b>22,231</b>	<b>211,503</b>	<b>193,327</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	173,798	8,160	181,957	214,189
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>173,798</b>	<b>8,160</b>	<b>181,957</b>	<b>214,189</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>1,011</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>16,486</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>16,486</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		16,429	21,281	37,710	58,521
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>32,915</b>	<b>35,352</b>	<b>68,267</b>	<b>37,710</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	7	2,526	-	2,526	1,515
		<u>2,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,526</u>	<u>1,515</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	27,905	2,688	30,593	22,788
Cash at bank and in hand	9	6,198	32,665	38,863	16,710
		34,104	35,352	69,456	39,498
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(3,715)		(3,715)	(3,303)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>30,389</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>65,741</u>	<u>36,196</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>32,915</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>68,267</u>	<u>37,710</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
Unrestricted Funds	12				
General funds		24,233	-	24,233	8,222
Designated funds		8,682	-	8,682	8,207
		<u>32,915</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,915</u>	<u>16,429</u>
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>21,281</u>
		<u>32,915</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>68,267</u>	<u>37,710</u>

The financial statements were approved by the members of the PCC and were signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd Francis Blight

Date: 13 April 2022

Charity number: 1131590

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form part of these accounts.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### 1 Statutory Information

The Parochial Church Council of Fordham and Eight Ash Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1131590 and the charity has its offices at John Owen Barn, Church Road, Fordham, CO6 3NL.

#### 2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

##### a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment, the PCC have considered how COVID-19 might affect forecasts.

##### b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated facilities. The estimated value of these facilities to the charity is recognised as income when they are made available to the charity. Expenses include a charge for rent in respect of the charity's use of these facilities.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals, other church activities and the church bookstall.

Income from property letting is recognised for letting periods that fall within the financial year.

##### c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to be payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

## FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

c) Expenditure continued

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

Expenditure on maintaining facilities donated to the PCC (namely the John Owen Barn) are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.

Other items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life.

By the year end, the charity had not incurred any expenditure that needed to be capitalised.

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprise fixed interest securities. These securities are held to generate income and for their investment potential and have been included at their market value at the balance sheet date.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**3 Donations and legacies**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	137,181	103,418
Donated facilities	5,000	5,000
Other grants receivable (note 3a)	30,000	45,000
Income tax recoverable	30,912	22,990
	<u>203,093</u>	<u>176,408</u>

Donated facilities comprise the John Owen Barn, which has been let to the charity rent free by the Fordham Trust.

**3a Grant income**

	2021	2020
	£	£
The Fordham Trust	<u>30,000</u>	<u>45,000</u>

The Fordham Trust is an independent charity with Christian objectives registered in the UK. It has supported the gospel ministry of All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green for some time. The PCC and the Fordham Trust do not have any trustees in common however one of the Trust's six trustees is closely related to a member of the PCC.

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees from weddings, funerals, baptisms and similar	4,206	3,177
Church activities	1,002	646
Book sales	22	63
	<u>5,230</u>	<u>3,886</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	2021	2020
	£	£
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>		
Parish share and other Diocesan fees	82,812	82,826
Staff costs, travel and expenses	27,291	46,229
Other ministry costs	7,937	5,643
Parsonage House (Fordham Hall)	1,070	8,821
Parsonage House (Ash Green rectory) redecoration	-	315
Church running expenses (inc. maintenance)	6,144	4,896
Upkeep of churchyard, including plaques for Garden of Remembrance	3,240	9,246
JOB donated facility	5,000	5,000
JOB maintenance and running costs	19,618	14,772
Rental property expenses	356	4,118
Miscellaneous expenses	-	308
Grants payable (note 5c)	14,800	17,000
	<u>168,269</u>	<u>199,174</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	1,884	1,836
Office and administration costs	6,094	7,412
Payroll processing	632	680
Bank charges	228	300
Insurance	4,850	4,788
	<u>13,688</u>	<u>15,016</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>181,957</u>	<u>214,189</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £1,884 (2020: £1,836); in addition the charity paid £632 (2020: £680) to Stewardship for payroll bureau.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**5c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2021	Institutions	Individuals	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	14,800	-	14,800	16,450	550	17,000

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Serving in Mission	6,700	7,000
Gifts to other Parochial Church Councils	400	2,200
Oak Hill College	1,900	2,000
Release International	1,700	2,000
True Freedom Trust	1,000	1,000
Open Door Colchester	400	550
UCCF	400	550
Global Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans	700	-
Bridgeway Mission	600	-
The Christian Institute	600	-
Friends International	400	-
Christian Concern	-	600
AMIE	-	550
	<u>14,800</u>	<u>16,450</u>

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 3 (2020: 3). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows.

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension cont.	Total 2021 £	Wages & salaries	Employer pension cont.	Total 2020 £
Members of PCC						
R Gage	10,269	308	10,577	10,117	178	10,295
F Blight (to May 2020)			-	11,288	4,069	15,357
			<u>10,577</u>			<u>25,652</u>

F Blight serves as clergy and R Gage serve as an administrator; they received the above emoluments for serving in those capacities, not for serving as members of the PCC. These payments are permitted by the PCC's governing document. F Blight ceased to be employed by the PCC on 31 May 2020 and, from that date, he has been receiving a stipend from the Diocese. Some of the Parish Share paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. F Blight was provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); the PCC did not incur any expenditure for this accommodation in 2021 (2020: £315).

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Fixed interest securities	2021	2020
		£	£
Cost or fair value brought forward	1,515	1,515	1,463
Change in value of investments	1,011	1,011	52
Cost or fair value carried forward	<u>2,526</u>	<u>2,526</u>	<u>1,515</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Tax recoverable	30,593	22,788
	<u>30,593</u>	<u>22,788</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	38,818	16,665
Petty cash	45	45
	<u>38,863</u>	<u>16,710</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	3,715	3,303
	<u>3,715</u>	<u>3,303</u>

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £449 (2020: £396) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes and employer's pension contributions totalling £nil (2020: £4,069) were payable to a defined benefit pension scheme. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £108 (2020: £238) were owed.

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2021 £	Incoming resources 2021 £	Outgoing resources 2021 £	Transfers in the year 2021 £	Gains and losses 2021 £	Closing balance 2021 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,207	475	-	-	-	8,682
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	8,222	188,797	(173,798)	-	1,011	24,233
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>16,429</u>	<u>189,272</u>	<u>(173,798)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,011</u>	<u>32,915</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Youth and Children's Worker fund	11,138	12,025	(527)	-	-	22,636
Mission fund	6,106	5,206	(2,633)	-	-	8,679
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,037	-	-	-	-	4,037
	<u>21,281</u>	<u>22,231</u>	<u>(8,160)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,352</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>37,710</u>	<u>211,503</u>	<u>(181,957)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,011</u>	<u>68,267</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 £
Fixed asset investments	2,526	-	-	2,526
Debtors	27,905	-	2,688	30,593
Cash at bank and in hand	(2,484)	8,682	32,665	38,863
Creditors falling due within one year	(3,715)	-	-	(3,715)
	<u>24,233</u>	<u>8,682</u>	<u>35,352</u>	<u>68,267</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**12 Funds continued**

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2020 £	Incoming resources 2020 £	Outgoing resources 2020 £	Transfers in the year 2020 £	Gains and losses 2020 £	Closing balance 2020 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,187	20	-	-	-	8,207
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>						
	27,951	164,559	(182,898)	(1,441)	52	8,222
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>36,138</u>	<u>164,579</u>	<u>(182,898)</u>	<u>(1,441)</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>16,429</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Associate Minister's fund	17,727	4,865	(17,051)	(5,541)	-	-
Youth and Children's Worker fund	-	4,269	(33)	6,901	-	11,138
Mission fund	4,656	3,078	(1,627)	-	-	6,106
Memorial fund	-	7,500	(7,580)	80	-	-
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	-	4,037	-	-	-	4,037
	<u>22,383</u>	<u>28,749</u>	<u>(31,291)</u>	<u>1,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,281</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>58,521</u>	<u>193,327</u>	<u>(214,189)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>37,710</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds			2020 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	1,515	-	-	1,515
Debtors	18,381	-	4,407	22,788
Cash at bank and in hand	(8,371)	8,207	16,874	16,710
Creditors falling due within one year	(3,303)	-	-	(3,303)
	<u>8,222</u>	<u>8,207</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>37,710</u>

Designated funds

The **John Owen Barn** fund is money set aside by the PCC for the maintenance and redecoration of the John Owen Barn.

Restricted funds

The **Associate Minister's** fund was created from donations received to help fund the employment of an associate minister. F Blight was appointed to this position until he then moved on to become the church's Rector. In the previous year, with the permission of donors, the remaining balance on the fund was transferred to a new **Youth and Children's Worker** fund and in 2020 a new appeal was launched to help meet the cost of employing a Youth and Children's worker (hopefully in 2022).

The **Mission** fund represents donations received by the charity to help fund specific mission projects.

The **Memorial** fund was created from donations received to help purchase plaques for a Garden of Remembrance.

The **John Owen Barn** fund represents the estimated value to the charity of the rent free use of a property.

The **Benevolent** fund was created from donations received to help members of the church family facing financial hardship.

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- received donations totalling £39,061 (2020: £34,323) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking employment and clergy duties not connected with serving as a PCC member, no expenses were reimbursed to the members of the PCC.

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>				<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total
		2021	2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	2020	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	180,387	475	22,231	203,093	147,639	20	28,749	176,408
Charitable activities	4	5,230	-	-	5,230	3,886	-	-	3,886
Other trading activities		3,134	-	-	3,134	12,084	-	-	12,084
Investments		46	-	-	46	75	-	-	75
Other income		-	-	-	-	875	-	-	875
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>188,797</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>22,231</b>	<b>211,503</b>	<b>164,559</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28,749</b>	<b>193,327</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Charitable activities:	5	173,798	-	8,160	181,957	182,898	-	31,291	214,189
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>173,798</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,160</b>	<b>181,957</b>	<b>182,898</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,291</b>	<b>214,189</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>1,011</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,011</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>16,011</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	<b>(18,288)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(2,543)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,441)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>16,011</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>30,557</b>	<b>(19,729)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(1,102)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		8,222	8,207	21,281	37,710	27,951	8,187	22,383	58,521
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>24,233</b>	<b>8,682</b>	<b>35,352</b>	<b>68,267</b>	<b>8,222</b>	<b>8,207</b>	<b>21,281</b>	<b>37,710</b>

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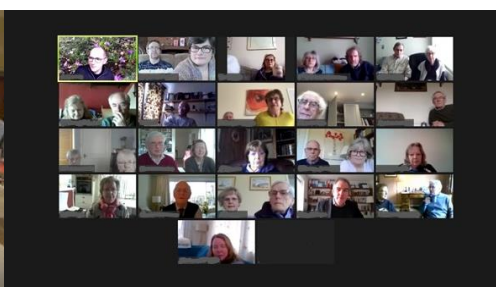
# Accounts

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# All Saints Fordham & Eight Ash Green Colchester

## Parochial Church Council Annual Report 2020



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## Reference Information

<b>Incumbent</b>	Revd Francis Blight	
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	All Saints Church Office John Owen Barn Church Road Fordham CO6 3NL  01206 243261  <a href="http://www.fordhamchurch.org.uk">www.fordhamchurch.org.uk</a>	
<b>Charity Number</b>	1131590	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank	9 High Street, Colchester, Essex CO1 1DA
	CAF Bank	25 Kings Hill Ave, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE	Stewardship, 1 Lamb’s Passage, London, EC1Y 8AB

## Parochial Church Council

	<b>Up to APCM on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2020*</b>	<b>From the APCM on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2020</b>
<b>Associate Minister then Incumbent (from Sept 2020)</b>	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Alistair Grote	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) Alistair Grote
<b>General Synod</b>	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
<b>Deanery Synod</b>	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee	Sheona Farruggio Grace Lee (Electoral Roll Officer)
<b>Elected Members</b>	Rachel Gage (Secretary) Julian Griffiths Roger Miles (Treasurer) Roy Miller (Deputy Warden) Christopher Reynolds Christopher Willis	Irene Bale (2020-23) John Bennion (2020-23) Rachel Gage (Secretary) (2017-23) Julian Griffiths (2015-22) Roger Miles (Treasurer) (2016-23) Roy Miller (2017-23) Lesley Southern (2020-23)
<b>Co-opted Members</b>	Lesley Southern (co-opted for 1 yr) Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer co-opted)	Christopher Reynolds (co-opted for 1 yr) Linda Stenner (Parish Safeguarding Officer co-opted)

\* The APCM could not take in place in person in April 2020 due to Corona Virus restrictions. In the Autumn of 2020 Chelmsford Diocese allowed APCMs to take place via on-line conferencing software.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Parish, including how the funds of the PCC are spent.

## Committees

<b>Standing Committee</b>	
<b>Incumbent</b>	Rev'd Francis Blight
<b>Wardens</b>	Nicholas Durlacher, Alistair Grote
<b>Treasurer</b>	Roger Miles
<b>Secretary</b>	Rachel Gage

<b>Finance Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Roger Miles
<b>Members</b>	Francis Blight Nicholas Durlacher Alistair Grote Colin Munday

<b>Fabric Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	Mary Durlacher
<b>Members</b>	Alistair Grote Fred Campbell Jim Day John Revitt

## A Message from our Rector

In September 2020 I was instituted as Rector in the Parish of Fordham and Eight Ash Green by the Bishop of Colchester Roger Morris. Rod Thomas the Bishop of Maidstone preached the sermon. Due to social distancing regulations only 30 people were permitted to be present, so it was not the usual large church family celebration that would normally accompany the beginning of a new ministry. But through the church website and YouTube I was able to share that moment with our Church family, Parish, Deanery and with friends and family. It is an honour to have been appointed as your Rector and a privilege to serve you during this challenging Covid year.

This has been a year of challenge and change. We had to adapt everything we do to accommodate lockdowns and social regulations. We have worked hard to maintain our relationships online and on the telephone when we have been unable to meet in person. In July we said goodbye to our Schools Worker after ten years of faithful and committed ministry.

This year has started an ongoing process of rethinking the way we do ministry and has increased our commitment to serving the two villages in our parish. We look forward to regaining the freedoms and fellowship that we have missed during 2020.

Reverend Francis Blight

# The Parochial Church Council's Annual Report For The Year Ended 31 December 2020

The Members of the Parochial Church Council (the 'PCC'), who are the charity's trustees for the purposes of charity law, have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year.

## Our Vision

"To know Jesus Christ and make him known" will continue to be our stated aim. We seek to work out this vision through the guiding principles set out in the [Eleven Decisions](#), a number of which are included in this report in italics. Although the Covid 19 pandemic has made 2020 an exceptionally challenging year, we have achieved many of our objectives with the use of technology and the IT expertise of members of our church family. To this end we have identified the following priorities and objectives:

## Teaching and Preaching

*We believe that the God of the Bible speaks through his Word, and so we prioritise this preaching ministry and make every effort to understand its message and teach it to one another.* During 2020, our services were broadcast on-line so that we could continue to teach our church family even when we were unable to meet together in person.

## Prayer

*We believe that private and corporate prayer is essential to all that we do.* Our monthly Prayer Focus meeting moved on-line using Zoom and we were able to invite representatives of some of the organisations that we support financially to join us from wherever they were in the country.

## Evangelism

*We seek to bring people to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and to join our church family.* We aim to do this at both a personal level and through specific events and endeavour to provide suitable training, encouragement and help in outreach. We ran Life Explored for the first time at the beginning of the year.

Evangelism has been a challenge during the Covid restrictions. However, we ran two on-line Christianity Explored courses and have embraced social media in a new way. With the ample parking we enjoy, we organised two drive in services in the autumn and an outdoor Carol Service on Christmas Eve, all of which were well attended by many outside the church family.

## Care

*We aim to do all that we can to lovingly help people, especially within the congregation but also outside it, who are in physical, emotional, social or material need.* At the beginning of the first lockdown in March a strengthened and more focussed Care Team reformed to progress the care of church family members and people in the two villages. The group met and prayed together online regularly through the year. The offer of a grocery parcel for anyone who was facing hardship in the two villages and two parish schools was publicised. A benevolent fund was set up to support church members should someone lose their employment. At the harvest service a collection of food items was made for the Colchester Food Bank including contributions from Fordham School.

## Children and Young People

We seek to grow the children and young people's ministry through fun and meaningful Sunday and midweek activities and by providing services that will attract young families. It is the Children's and Youth work that has suffered most during the pandemic. Before lockdown in March we were able to run a Pancake Party open to all the families we have contact with in our two villages. During the early months of the restrictions our Schools Worker produced a weekly All Saints Club video for the website and YouTube. In September we launched our Zoom All Saints Club (Sunday School). Providing a suitable replacement for our Friday night youth group has been more problematic but we are seeking to meet this need in the near future. Our Babies and Toddlers group initially met via Zoom and then was able to meet in person as regulations permitted by adapting and meeting in smaller groups.

## Equipping

*We aim to encourage the Christians in our church to have a firm grasp of the Christian message and to make progress in living it out, and to discern and use the gifts that God has given them.* We encourage the congregation personally to participate in the work of the church through prayer and by giving their time and gifts. In February 2020 we invited the whole church family to take part in the 'Life Explored' course in the John Owen Barn. 45 people in 6 small groups participated.

Most of our Growth Groups moved on-line to Zoom during the lockdown at the beginning of 2020. As the year progressed some were able to meet outside. These times of (virtually) meeting together have been vitally important in continuing to equip the church family for the times that we are living in. We also set up an after 'church' Zoom coffee time that, as well as providing fellowship, gives an opportunity to discuss the parts of the sermon that were of particular note to individuals. This has been a great success.

## Mission Field

*We consider not only the villages of Fordham and Eight Ash Green but also the tens of thousands of people in our area who have no meaningful contact with a biblically based gospel ministry to be our mission field.* We use our networks of contacts, acquaintances, friends and colleagues, in order to spread the work of the Gospel. The restrictions placed upon us by Covid 19, and the initiatives taken to move to a greater use of on line technology, have allowed our services and children's content to be viewed from anywhere around the world. Through to the summer the numbers listening to audio Podcasts of services exceeded previous church attendance.

## Mission Elsewhere

We financially support missions at home and abroad and encourage a close relationship to enable further prayerful support. We have continued to be blessed by no reduction in giving, and so have continued to financially support our mission partners through our Away Giving. This included giving to four Essex churches in the Anglican ReNew network.

## Wider Vision

Our vision is not just for the parish, but also for the wider area. While the emphasis on Bible teaching makes the ministry of All Saints, Fordham and Eight Ash Green distinctive, our vision for the wider area includes a willingness to engage and partner with other Bible-believing churches and to promote this distinctive ministry within the Deanery, Diocese and Church of England.

We have been actively involved within the 'ReNew Chelmsford' network within the Diocese. ReNew aims to advance Anglican Evangelical ministries for the salvation of England. More directly, we joined with St Peter's Colchester to run our 421 youth group on Friday evenings for 11-18 year olds. Unfortunately, this had to be suspended due to the Covid pandemic restrictions.

## Administration

We aim for our administration to be of a standard one would expect of a secular organisation of similar scale, to be good stewards of our resources and to free the ministry team to fulfil their God-given mission of spiritual leadership. Our office team, comprising a part-time Church Manager and two part-time Admin Assistants, provides cover for 42 hours per week. Office staff were able to work from home during the lockdowns.

In planning the activities the PCC have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the charity are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by, and set out in, the Church Representation Rules. The PCC comprises ex-officio members (which includes clergy and churchwardens), elected members and co-opted members. The PCC organise elections annually before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to fill vacancies.

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the PCC who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

## Development Plans for further growth

*We make spending on gospel workers a top priority and encourage suitably gifted people within the congregation to consider 'full-time' Christian work.*

Despite the challenge Covid has placed upon us all, we have been blessed with ongoing Biblical teaching, steady numbers in our church family and generous giving to enable the work of the gospel to continue. We recognise however that to achieve growth, we need to reach out to families with children in our two church schools and to develop the ministry to families with children in our church community.

To this end, we made an appeal to fund the cost of a Youth and Children's worker for three years. We give thanks to God that £100,000 was pledged by our church family. We are in the process of advertising the post and pray that the person of God's choosing will be appointed to this work. In the meantime, we look towards starting a more family-friendly Sunday afternoon service.

As a church, we are blessed with the facility of the John Owen Barn (JOB), which provides the facilities for our church office, a well-equipped kitchen, a large hall and 3 smaller meeting rooms. The JOB is under utilised at present, but it is our objective to develop it as a 'community hub' for our Parish and the rural community surrounding us. Arrangements have been made to start a mobile post office along with a mobile greengrocer over Friday lunchtimes. It is the intention to have a coffee shop in the John Owen Barn to encourage a connection with local people and the church family. Additional uses of the JOB that could generate revenue to cover some of the overheads of the building are being considered. Government restrictions placed upon us due to the Covid pandemic will limit what we can achieve in the building during 2021.

## Safeguarding

With regards to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and vulnerable adults, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

## Financial Review

Income for the year of £193,327 (2019: £214,620) included grant income of £45,000 from the Fordham Trust. The Trust has supported the church in previous years and it is anticipated that this funding support will continue into the future.

Expenditure for the year was £214,189 (2019: £255,425) including missionary and charitable giving of £17,000 (2019: £18,871). The net movement in funds showed an outflow for the year of £20,810 (2019: £40,773) leaving total funds carried forward at the end of the year at £37,710 (2019: £58,521).

Unrestricted non-designated funds at the end of the year are £8,222 (2019: £27,951). The designated fund of £8,207 (2019: £8,187) relates to future refurbishment, redecoration and upkeep of the John Owen Barn. Restricted funds of £21,281 (2019: £22,383) comprises monies held to help fund the appointment of a Youth and Children's worker\*, to help support mission projects and monies held by a new Benevolence fund (this fund was created to help individuals who may have encountered financial hardship because of the pandemic). Full details of all funds are set out in the financial statements.

\*On the appointment of Rev'd Francis Blight as our Rector, and with the agreement of the donors, the balance of the Associate Minister Fund was transferred to create a new restricted fund for the appointment of a Youth and Children's worker.

## Reserves Policy

The trustees consider that reserves should be maintained at a level equivalent to 3 months operating costs (approx. £50,000). The trustees recognise that unrestricted non-designated funds of £8,222 (2019: £27,951) at the year end is below this level but are confident that, given the relationship with the Fordham Trust, additional funds would be made available if required. The trustees will continue to monitor the reserves policy and underlying financial position, which is regularly discussed at Finance Committee and PCC meetings.

## Key Risks and Uncertainties

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The PCC review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

## Quinquennial Inspection

The last quinquennial inspection of All Saints, Eight Ash Green was held in 2019; as all significant recommendations that required urgent attention have been undertaken, there are no extant significant items requiring immediate work.

The last quinquennial inspection of All Saints, Fordham was held in 2017; no significant immediate work is required.

## Trustee Responsibilities

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the PCC are required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## APPROVAL

This report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by:

**Name: Revd Francis Blight**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Name: Nicholas Durlacher**

**Signed:**

**Name: Alistair Grote**

**Signed:**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020 on pages 10 to 19 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 12 to 14.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Trust 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

2021

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	147,659	28,749	176,408	190,965
Charitable activities	4	3,886	-	3,886	10,163
Other trading activities: property letting		12,084	-	12,084	12,084
Investments		75	-	75	145
Other income		875	-	875	1,263
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>164,579</b>	<b>28,749</b>	<b>193,327</b>	<b>214,620</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	182,898	31,291	214,189	255,425
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>182,898</b>	<b>31,291</b>	<b>214,189</b>	<b>255,425</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(18,268)</b>	<b>(2,543)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>	<b>(40,773)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>(1,441)</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(19,709)</b>	<b>(1,102)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>	<b>(40,773)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		36,138	22,383	58,521	99,294
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>16,429</b>	<b>21,281</b>	<b>37,710</b>	<b>58,521</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 12-19 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets		-	-	-	-
Investments	7	<u>1,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,463</u>
		<u>1,515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,463</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	18,381	4,407	22,788	24,480
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>(164)</u>	<u>16,874</u>	<u>16,710</u>	<u>39,435</u>
		18,217	21,281	39,498	63,915
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	<u>(3,303)</u>		<u>(3,303)</u>	<u>(6,857)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>14,914</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>36,196</u>	<u>57,058</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>16,429</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>37,710</u>	<u>58,521</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>					
	12				
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds		8,222	-	8,222	27,951
Designated funds		<u>8,207</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,207</u>	<u>8,187</u>
		16,429	-	16,429	36,138
Restricted Funds					
		<u>-</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>22,383</u>
		<u>16,429</u>	<u>21,281</u>	<u>37,710</u>	<u>58,521</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on its behalf by:

2021 and were signed on

-----  
Revd Francis Blight

Charity number: 1131590

The notes on page 12-19 form part of these accounts.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**1 Statutory Information**

The Parochial Church Council of Fordham and Eight Ash Green is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1131590 and the charity has its offices at John Owen Barn, Church Road, Fordham, CO6 3NL.

**2 Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets, which are measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities. The financial statements include all activities for which the PCC is legally responsible; the activities of informal gatherings of church members and groups that owe their main affiliation to another body are excluded.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Church Accounting Regulations 2006, the 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The PCC have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The PCC have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the PCC have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The PCC have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment, the PCC have considered how COVID-19 might affect forecasts.

b) Income

Income (which includes planned giving, collections and other donations) is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part income is generally recognised when it is received by, or on behalf of, the PCC. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Donated facilities. The estimated value of these facilities to the charity is recognised as income when they are made available to the charity. Expenses include a charge for rent in respect of the charity's use of these facilities.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from fees for weddings, baptisms and funerals, other church activities and the church bookstall.

Income from property letting is recognised for letting periods that fall within the financial year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Contributions in respect of the diocesan parish share are included in the Statement of Financial Activities for all amounts agreed to being payable for the financial year. Any contributions that have not been paid over by the year end are included as a creditor.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the PCC in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is not included in these financial statements by virtue of s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings is written off in the year in which it is incurred.

Movable church furnishings held by the incumbent and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are capitalised in accordance with the policy set out below. These items are regarded as inalienable property and are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected at any reasonable time. Inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 has not been capitalised as there is insufficient cost information available.

The church halls and certain clergy accommodation are held in trust by the Diocese on behalf of the PCC. These properties are essential for the mission of the church and have been in use for many years but they have not been included in these financial statements as there is insufficient cost information and their depreciated cost is unlikely to be material.

Expenditure on maintaining facilities donated to the PCC (namely the John Owen Barn) are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.

Other items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life.

By the year end, the charity had not incurred any expenditure that needed to be capitalised.

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprise fixed interest securities. These securities are held to generate income and for their investment potential and have been included at their market value at the balance sheet date.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

j) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

k) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The members of the PCC do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**3 Donations and legacies**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	103,418	113,289
Donated facilities	5,000	5,000
Other grants receivable (note 3a)	45,000	50,445
Income tax recoverable	22,990	22,231
	176,408	190,965

Donated facilities comprise the John Owen Barn, which has been let to the charity rent free by the Fordham Trust.

**3a Grant income**

	2020	2019
	£	£
The Fordham Trust	45,000	50,445

The Fordham Trust is an independent charity with Christian objectives registered in the UK. It has supported the gospel ministry of All Saints Fordham and Eight Ash Green for some time. The PCC and the Fordham Trust do not have any trustees in common however one of the Trust's six trustees is closely related to a member of the PCC.

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Fees from weddings, funerals, baptisms and similar	3,177	5,627
Church activities	646	4,222
Book sales	63	314
	3,886	10,163

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	2020	2019
	£	£
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>		
Parish share	82,826	83,291
Staff costs, travel and expenses	46,229	57,798
Other ministry costs	5,643	10,685
Parsonage House (Fordham Hall)	8,821	9,442
Parsonage house (Ash Green rectory) redecoration	315	3,592
Church running expenses (inc. maintenance)	4,896	5,848
Upkeep of churchyard, including plaques for Garden of Remembrance	9,246	3,624
Minibus expenses	-	225
JOB maintenance and running costs	19,772	38,676
Rental property expenses	4,118	5,027
Miscellaneous expenses	308	3,655
Grants payable (note 6c)	17,000	18,871
	<u>199,174</u>	<u>240,733</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	1,836	1,800
Office and administration costs	7,412	6,384
Payroll processing	680	715
Staff recruitment	-	654
Bank charges	300	452
Insurance	4,788	4,687
	<u>15,016</u>	<u>14,692</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>214,189</u>	<u>255,425</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £1,836 (2019: £1,800); in addition the charity paid £680 (2019: £715) to Stewardship for payroll bureau.

**c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2020	Institutions	Individuals	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	<u>16,450</u>	<u>550</u>	<u>17,000</u>	<u>18,371</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>18,871</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Serving in Mission	7,000	7,375
Gifts to other Parochial Church Councils	2,200	250
Oak Hill College	2,000	2,500
Release International	2,000	2,200
True Freedom Trust	1,000	2,200
Christian Concern	600	500
AMIE	550	500
Open Door Colchester	550	500
UCCF	550	-
Maralel (Kenyan pastors)	-	1,581
Renew Partnership Trust	-	500
Grants to institutions for less than £1,000 each	-	265
	<u>16,450</u>	<u>18,371</u>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 3 (2019: 4). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the members of the PCC. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows.

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension cont.	Total 2020 £	Wages & salaries	Employer pension cont.	Total 2019 £
Members of PCC						
R Gage	10,117	178	10,295	6,656	-	6,656
F Blight (to May 2020)	11,288	4,069	15,357	17,887	5,318	23,205
			<u>25,652</u>			<u>29,861</u>

F Blight serves as clergy and R Gage serves as an administrator; they received the above emoluments for serving in those capacities, not for serving as members of the PCC. These payments are permitted by the PCC's governing document. F Blight ceased to be employed by the PCC on 31 May 2020 and, after that date, he received a stipend from the Diocese. Some of the Parish Share paid to the Diocese is used to help meet the cost of this stipend. F Blight was provided with accommodation (which is customary for clergy); the cost of this accommodation to the PCC was £315 (in 2019 £9,442 was paid for accommodation provided to clergy).

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Fixed interest securities	2020 £	2019 £
Cost or fair value brought forward	1,463	1,463	1,431
Change in value of investments	52	52	32
Cost or fair value carried forward	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,515</u>	<u>1,463</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2020 £	2019 £
Tax recoverable	<u>22,788</u>	<u>24,480</u>
	<u>22,788</u>	<u>24,480</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	16,665	39,389
Petty cash	45	45
	<u>16,710</u>	<u>39,435</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	<u>3,303</u>	<u>6,857</u>
	<u>3,303</u>	<u>6,857</u>

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £396 (2019: £525) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes and employer's pension contributions totalling £4,069 (2019: £5,318) were payable to a defined benefit pension scheme. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £238 (2019: £nil) were owed.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2020 £	Incoming resources 2020 £	Outgoing resources 2020 £	Transfers in the year 2020 £	Gains and losses 2020 £	Closing balance 2020 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	8,187	20	-	-	-	8,207
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>						
	27,951	164,559	(182,898)	(1,441)	52	8,222
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>36,138</b>	<b>164,579</b>	<b>(182,898)</b>	<b>(1,441)</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>16,429</b>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Associate Minister's fund	17,727	4,865	(17,051)	(5,541)	-	-
Youth and Children's Worker fund	-	4,269	(33)	6,901	-	11,138
Mission fund	4,656	3,078	(1,627)	-	-	6,106
Memorial fund	-	7,500	(7,580)	80	-	-
John Owen Barn fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
Benevolent fund	-	4,037	-	-	-	4,037
	<b>22,383</b>	<b>28,749</b>	<b>(31,291)</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21,281</b>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<b>58,521</b>	<b>193,327</b>	<b>(214,189)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>37,710</b>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds			2020 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	
Fixed asset investments	1,515	-	-	1,515
Debtors	18,381	-	4,407	22,788
Cash at bank and in hand	(8,371)	8,207	16,874	16,710
Creditors falling due within one year	(3,303)	-	-	(3,303)
	<b>8,222</b>	<b>8,207</b>	<b>21,281</b>	<b>37,710</b>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2019 £	Incoming resources 2019 £	Outgoing resources 2019 £	Transfers in the year 2019 £	Gains and losses 2019 £	Closing balance 2019 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
John Owen Barn	24,525	40	(16,378)	-	-	8,187
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>						
	33,180	198,936	(203,797)	(400)	32	27,951
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>57,705</b>	<b>198,976</b>	<b>(220,175)</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36,138</b>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
Associate Minister's fund	37,298	7,576	(27,547)	400	-	17,727
Mission fund	3,700	1,328	(372)	-	-	4,656
Maralal appeal fund	591	990	(1,581)	-	-	-
Retiring minister's fund	-	750	(750)	-	-	-
John Owen Barn Fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-	-
	<b>41,589</b>	<b>15,644</b>	<b>(35,250)</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,383</b>
<b>Aggregate of funds</b>	<b>99,294</b>	<b>214,620</b>	<b>(255,425)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>58,521</b>

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**12 Funds continued**

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2019 £
	General	Designated	Restricted	
	funds £	funds £	funds £	
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Fixed asset investments	1,463	-	-	1,463
Debtors	23,805	-	675	24,480
Cash at bank and in hand	9,540	8,187	21,708	39,435
Creditors falling due within one year	<u>(6,857)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,857)</u>
	<u>27,951</u>	<u>8,187</u>	<u>22,383</u>	<u>58,521</u>

Designated funds

The **John Owen Barn** fund is money set aside by the PCC for the maintenance and redecoration of the John Owen Barn.

Restricted funds

The **Associate Minister's** fund was created from donations received to help fund the employment of an associate minister. F Blight was appointed to this position until he then moved on to become the church's Rector. With the permission of donors, the remaining balance on the fund was transferred to a new **Youth and Children's Worker** fund. A new appeal has been launched to help the meet the cost of employing a Youth and Children's worker and the PCC hopes to appoint someone to this position in 2021.

The **Mission** fund represents donations received by the charity to help fund specific mission projects.

The **Memorial** fund was created from donations received to help purchase plaques for a Garden of Remembrance.

The **John Owen Barn** fund represents the estimated value to the charity of the rent free use of a property.

The **Benevolent** fund was created from donations received to help individuals facing financial hardship; the donations have been given so that, if the need arose, they could be used for another purpose and so this is not a restricted fund.

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £34,323 (2019: £25,783) from related parties (which includes members of the PCC, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking employment and clergy duties not connected with serving as a PCC member, no expenses were reimbursed to the members of the PCC.

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**FORDHAM & EIGHT ASH GREEN PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>				<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total
		2020	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019	2019
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	147,639	20	28,749	176,408	175,281	40	15,644	190,965
Charitable activities	4	3,886	-	-	3,886	10,163	-	-	10,163
Other trading activities		12,084	-	-	12,084	12,084	-	-	12,084
Investments		75	-	-	75	145	-	-	145
Other income		875	-	-	875	1,263	-	-	1,263
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>164,559</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>28,749</b>	<b>193,327</b>	<b>198,936</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>15,644</b>	<b>214,620</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Charitable activities:	5	182,898	-	31,291	214,189	203,797	16,378	35,250	255,425
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>182,898</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,291</b>	<b>214,189</b>	<b>203,797</b>	<b>16,378</b>	<b>35,250</b>	<b>255,425</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>52</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(18,288)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(2,543)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>	<b>(4,829)</b>	<b>(16,338)</b>	<b>(19,606)</b>	<b>(40,773)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>(1,441)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(400)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(19,729)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(1,102)</b>	<b>(20,810)</b>	<b>(5,229)</b>	<b>(16,338)</b>	<b>(19,206)</b>	<b>(40,773)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		27,951	8,187	22,383	58,521	33,180	24,525	41,589	99,294
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>8,222</b>	<b>8,207</b>	<b>21,281</b>	<b>37,710</b>	<b>27,951</b>	<b>8,187</b>	<b>22,383</b>	<b>58,521</b>