

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

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

Parochial Church Council

	Up to APCM on 30 th April 2023	From the APCM on 30 th April 2023
Rector	Francis Blight (Chair)	Francis Blight (Chair)
Church Wardens	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)	Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair)
	Roy Miller (until August 2023)	
General Synod	Mary Durlacher	Mary Durlacher
Deanery Synod	Roy Miller	Roy Miller
	Grace Lee (Secretary)	John Bradley
	Sheona Farruggio	
Elected Members	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)
Co-opted Non-Voting Members	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	
Rector	Rev'd Francis Blight
Warden	Nicholas Durlacher
Secretary	Grace Lee
PCC Member	Roy Miller
Treasurer	Victoria Rolfe

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

Fabric Sub-Committee	
Chair	Alistair Grote
Members	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 5th 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 19th 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 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
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
Total income and endowments		147,905	17,694	165,599	181,261
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	5	120,489	40,578	161,067	195,769
Total expenditure		120,489	40,578	161,067	195,769
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(937)	-	(937)	(296)
Net income/(expenditure)		26,479	(22,885)	3,594	(14,804)
Transfers between funds	12	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		26,479	(22,885)	3,594	(14,804)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		14,401	39,062	53,463	68,267
Total funds carried forward	12	40,881	16,177	57,058	53,463

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

Rev'd 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
	£	£
a Costs incurred directly on specific activities		
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 Costs incurred on support & administration		
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>
Total expenditure	<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
Total Unrestricted Funds	<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>
Aggregate of funds	<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:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £
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
Total Unrestricted Funds	<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>
Aggregate of funds	<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>			
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2022
	£	£	£	£
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:

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