

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

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|-------------------------------|--|---|
| 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 12 th May 2024 | From the APCM on 12 th May 2024 |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Rector | Francis Blight (Chair) | Francis Blight (Chair) |
| | | |
| Church Wardens | Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) | Nicholas Durlacher (Vice-chair) |
| | | Roger Miles |
| | | |
| General Synod | Mary Durlacher | Mary Durlacher |
| | | |
| Deanery Synod | John Bradley | John Bradley |
| | Roy Miller (Resigned April 2024) | Irene Bale |
| | | |
| Elected Members | 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) | |
| | | |
| Co-opted Non-Voting Members | 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 | |
|------------------------|--|
| Chair | Rev'd Francis Blight (Rector) |
| Members | Nicholas Durlacher (Warden), Roger Miles (Warden) Grace Lee (Secretary) Victoria Rolfe (Treasurer) |

| Finance Sub-Committee | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Chair | Victoria Rolfe |
| Members | Francis Blight Nicholas Durlacher John Bradley |

| 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 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 80th 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 5th 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 £ |
|--|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM: | | | | | |
| 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 |
| Total income and endowments | | 148,871 | 21,828 | 170,698 | 165,599 |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | 130,845 | 32,453 | 163,299 | 161,067 |
| Total expenditure | | 130,845 | 32,453 | 163,299 | 161,067 |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments | | 39 | - | 39 | (937) |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | 18,064 | (10,626) | 7,439 | 3,594 |
| Transfers between funds | 12 | (3,524) | 3,524 | - | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 14,540 | (7,102) | 7,439 | 3,594 |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 40,881 | 16,177 | 57,058 | 53,463 |
| Total funds carried forward | 12 | 55,421 | 9,076 | 64,497 | 57,058 |

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 £ |
|---|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | | - | - | - | - |
| Investments | 7 | 1,332 | - | 1,332 | 1,293 |
| | | <u>1,332</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,332</u> | <u>1,293</u> |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Debtors | 8 | 27,405 | 430 | 27,835 | 4,617 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 9 | 32,252 | 9,046 | 41,299 | 58,842 |
| | | 59,658 | 9,476 | 69,134 | 63,459 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year | 10 | (5,569) | (400) | (5,968) | (7,694) |
| | | <u>(5,569)</u> | <u>(400)</u> | <u>(5,968)</u> | <u>(7,694)</u> |
| Net current assets | | <u>54,089</u> | <u>9,076</u> | <u>63,165</u> | <u>55,765</u> |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u>55,421</u> | <u>9,076</u> | <u>64,497</u> | <u>57,058</u> |
| FUND BALANCES | | | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 12 | | | | |
| General funds | | 55,421 | - | 55,421 | 40,881 |
| Designated funds | | - | - | - | - |
| | | <u>55,421</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>55,421</u> | <u>40,881</u> |
| Restricted Funds | | - | 9,076 | 9,076 | 16,177 |
| | | <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 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| a Costs incurred directly on specific activities | | |
| 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 Costs incurred on support & administration | | |
| 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> |
| Total expenditure | <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 | 15,000 | - | 15,000 |

| | Institutions £ | Individuals £ | 2023 £ |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Grants for UK and overseas mission | 19,857 | 1,500 | 21,357 |

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 | 1,293 | 2,230 |
| Change in value of investments | 39 | 39 | (937) |
| Cost or fair value carried forward | <u>1,332</u> | <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 | - |
| | <u>5,968</u> | <u>7,694</u> |

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 | <u>40,881</u> | <u>148,872</u> | <u>(130,846)</u> | <u>(3,524)</u> | <u>39</u> | <u>55,421</u> |
| <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 |
| | <u>16,177</u> | <u>21,828</u> | <u>(32,453)</u> | <u>3,524</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>9,076</u> |
| Aggregate of funds | <u>57,058</u> | <u>170,699</u> | <u>(163,299)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>39</u> | <u>64,497</u> |

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:

| | <u>Unrestricted Funds</u> | | Restricted funds £ | 2024 £ |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| | General funds £ | Designated 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) |
| | <u>55,421</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>9,076</u> | <u>64,497</u> |

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 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | 14,401 | 147,905 | (120,489) | - | (937) | 40,881 |
| <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) | - | - | - |
| | 39,062 | 17,694 | (40,578) | - | - | 16,177 |
| Aggregate of funds | 53,463 | 165,599 | (161,067) | - | (937) | 57,058 |

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 £ | 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) |
| | 40,881 | - | 16,177 | 57,058 |

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