

St Botolph's, Longthorpe

Report from The Parochial Church Council on the activities at St Botolph's in the year 2023

INTRODUCTION

St Botolph's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Jackie Bullen, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Botolph's and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the commitment we have made to being a church which is open and welcoming to all people.

We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

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

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St Botolph's and monitor and review the finances over which we exercise stewardship.

2023 has seen growth in numbers of people attending church events, a varied programme of social events which have been possible due to the flexible space we now have in the building and teamwork of members of the church. We continue to look forward with hope and faith.

WORSHIP

Worship Committee:

The aim of the Worship Committee is to consider all aspects of our Worship at St Botolph's and to innovate, plan, review and suggest improvements or changes throughout the year. This past year has seen worship patterns evolve and we continue to look at new ways of offering:

In Church services -- the normal pattern of worship (i.e. three Sunday services, Midweek Eucharist on Wednesday, and Thursday morning) has continued in the church building.

Opening the church building – The building has been opened for Private Prayer every day and kept clean by a team of volunteers.

Virtual worship – This has been offered on an Ad-hoc basis for those who are unable to attend worship and have been posted on the church's Facebook page and YouTube (Longthorpe Church).

Morning Prayer on Monday-Saturday continues to be celebrated via Zoom.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Sunday Family Worship

This year saw us back in the church building full time and holding family sessions in the cloister at the 9.30 services and our Families Together services at 11am on the 3rd Sunday of each month. The sessions are led by one of the three families ministers and supported by a small team of people by rota.

To plan the sessions, we continue to use a combination of the Roots worship material and other online resources, always referenced to the Gospel reading of the week as set out in the Common Worship Lectionary.

Each week we use the same structure of opening prayer, confession and creed followed by an activity and discussion based on the reading. Attendance figures at the 9.30 sessions are mixed.

At our 11am services we have seen a gradual increase in numbers as the year progressed, often including families who are not regulars at the 9.30 services but who may be involved with Buggy Buddies or Baptisms. These services are usually supported with music from Jonathan Craymer and the Ukelele band, which adds to the atmosphere and enjoyment as well as the numbers.

Special Services and events:

In late 2023 we held our Christingle Service (which raises funds for The Children's Society) in our December 11am service slot. This was a break from previous tradition in terms of times, but the service was well attended and again it was good to see a mixture of families present, including many who do not normally come to the 9.30 service.

Our Crib services also went ahead at 3pm and 4.30 on Christmas eve. The 3pm service was extremely busy with many young children dressing up and getting involved in our 'nativity from scratch' format. However, the 4.30pm service was much quieter and with only a few families with younger children in attendance. We will continue to review what we offer in these services to ensure it is appropriate for the current congregation and community.

We appreciate the dedication and commitment from the teams involved without whom these services and events would not be possible. Currently we have three leaders and three supporters, and we are always looking to increase the number of leaders and supporters within our family ministry team.

Baptisms, First Communion and Confirmation:

First Communion in 2023 – two young people were admitted to receive Holy Communion.

The Christening Team continued to support the Vicar in preparing families for baptisms and offering friendship and welcome. Seven young people and one adult were baptised in 2023. It is a privilege to walk this journey with them and their families.

A confirmation service in November was officiated by Bishop John. We are delighted that four adults and three young people were confirmed.

Botolph's Buggy Buddies:

Buggy Buddies has gone from strength to strength this year under the leadership of Natalie and Sarah. Children come along with adult carers (parents, grandparents, or childminders) and have a time of free play, crafts, and finish with story and song. There is a theme for each half term linked to a Bible story and we finish each session with our Buggy Buddies' prayer and goodbye song. The volunteer leaders and helpers work hard to provide a safe and friendly environment for everyone.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

The committee continued to seek to offer opportunities for members of the congregation to grow in faith.

Lent: A course based on Paula Gooder's book 'Women of Holy Week' was offered, with a session on Tuesday mornings and a repeated session on Wednesday evenings for the five weeks of Lent. It was very well received. The book covered nine women and the remaining four sessions were offered after Easter. These were also much appreciated. Lent Cloister Lunches took place each Wednesday consisting of soup, bread and fruit, ending with a Thought for the Day. These were well attended and valued.

Alpha: An Alpha course was run in the autumn with 12 participants. The course provided preparation for the adults who were to be confirmed in November. The participants engaged well with the material and enjoyed the evenings. The Holy Spirit Day was a highlight for a number of people.

Advent: A Compline service was held in church each Tuesday in Advent. It was also live streamed to accommodate those not wishing to go out on dark evenings.

The Library: Julie Tate has continued to take care of the Library. She displays appropriate books through the seasons of the year to encourage readers.

Home Groups continued to meet, offering mutual support, fellowship and encouragement in members' spiritual journeys.

Cursillo: Regular Group Reunions have taken place through the year at bring and share lunches in the cloister. These are open to anyone who might be interested in knowing more about Cursillo as well as Cursillistas. In September 2023 Peterborough #15 took place at Launde Abbey and was attended by two members of St Botolph's.

PASTORAL CARE

Visiting the sick and housebound

There have been many members of the congregation requiring support through times of illness and we are grateful to all church members who continue to call on or telephone those who live alone, are sick or housebound. Members of the congregation who have found themselves in hospital will have been surprised by a visit from Liz Medlock on a Friday morning and we have strong links with the chaplaincy dept at Peterborough City Hospital.

Visits to the sick are important so do let us know if anyone needs one. Rev'd Jackie visits the sick and can also pass on those who request a visit to the Pastoral Team, but you need to tell her!

Home communion is an important part of linking the worshipping community to those unable to get to a church service, there are five members of the team who take home communion to the housebound monthly.

The outreach continues to our local Thorpe Wood Care Home where a service for the residents and staff is taken monthly, we average 20 communicants each time. This is a valuable link and we were so pleased to see the residents, carers and staff come to their Christmas Carol service in church, followed by tea and cake.

The **book box** continues to be a much-used resource for the local community, thanks to Jackie Last for maintaining this, the puzzles are also much in demand. There is now also a book box for children's books.

Coffee and chat and **games afternoons** are much enjoyed by those taking part and continue to be a time for socialising and being together in a warm friendly place.

Cloister lunches have been joyous occasions throughout the year with many joining in the event. During 2023 we have had additional helpers cooking, serving, and washing up. Thank you to all those who have done so, and we pray that others will come and join in too.

We will miss Elaine Hunt, a valued member of the Pastoral Team and a bereavement visitor who sadly passed away in December, her cooking was legendary!

Our limited kitchen capacity means that hot meals are cooked at home and transported to hot trolleys in the vestry area. New regulations to meet food safety standards have been introduced. These include completing a short form listing the ingredients in the dish, alerting consumers with dietary restrictions to any allergens.

Safeguarding

‘St Botolph’s Church is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all volunteers to share this commitment.’

Face to face training returned and in January 2023 a Foundations (C1) training session took place in church. In total 23 members of St Botolph’s attended. Those holding roles where safeguarding training is required but who were unable to attend this date have been completing the training online via the Diocese.

DBS checks have continued to be updated where required. DBS checks and safeguarding training both need renewing after three years. The Churchwardens and I, as Safeguarding Officer, have completed the Domestic Violence Awareness training.

The online safeguarding dashboard continues to be updated and automatically submitted to the Diocese. The PCC continues to have safeguarding as a standing item on the agenda at every meeting which helps to ensure its profile in St Botolph’s remains high. The PCC have adopted and renewed all policies required.

All those who have been appointed to new posts within the Church have been recruited following safer recruitment procedures.

Bereavement Support:

The first contact with bereaved families is by the Vicar. Rev’d Jackie passes on their contact details to a member of the Pastoral Team for follow up when appropriate. This important ministry has continued during the year.

Marriage Preparation:

As most of our marriage couples do not live locally, marriage preparation is undertaken by the vicar on a one-to-one basis. Ongoing contact with couples is kept by the sending of anniversary cards by Mothers’ Union, sending the Easter, Harvest and Christmas Cards to them and offering them the opportunity to receive the daily emails sent out by the church.

MINISTRY

The church’s regular pattern of worship has continued with three services each Sunday and midweek services of Holy Communion on Wednesdays and Thursdays with additional services at the festivals.

Eddie Miller continues to develop her ministry as Lay Pastoral Minister and chair of the Pastoral Team. She retired from her role as Parish Nurse in May but continues to support the people of the church, the wider community and parish.

Corinne Craymer continues to exercise ministry as a Lay Worship Leader and in September began training as a Reader.

Mark Willis was licensed to the parish as a Reader.

Julie Tate started the Lay Worship Leader course in September and has the support of the ministry team and a small, dedicated group from within the church family.

Pat Hemsley and Pat Hope-Jones and all those named above support the worship in church as members of the serving team and offer reflections during services from time to time.

Judith Willis was licensed to the parish as a Lay Pastoral Minister in May and offers ministry in conjunction with the Pastoral Team.

The Ministry Leadership Team which also includes the Churchwardens and Ann Green, Sacristan, meet and pray regularly and continue to be committed to working together with the common aim of using our God-given gifts for the benefit of the church and the wider community. We hope to do this by constantly and consistently monitoring and evaluating the Church's ministry and making plans for the future which will help to achieve the aims and objectives of the PCC. We continue to support one another in prayer and practical ways.

The Rev'd Ray Hemingray and Rev'd Canon Grant Brockhouse have also provided cover for services.

OUTREACH

Mission and Evangelism / Events (MEET)

On Zoom weekly Coffee and Chat on Thursdays and monthly quizzes on Fridays have continued. Both are appreciated by regulars, but we would also welcome newcomers.

A key feature of this year was the hosting of several concerts, namely – U3A singers, Gabriella, Singers of Note and Christian singer Dave Bilbrough. As we went along, we learnt lessons about putting on such events for rather large numbers - catering, selling tickets, setting up etc. These events made some good surpluses for church funds, as did the Quiz and Fish + Chip supper in October which also raised funds for Christian Aid.

We had quite a lot of catering events this year in addition to the above. These included two successful afternoon teas for visiting groups from the U3A Historic Churches groups and another group from Cambridge. Both the Teddy Bears' Picnic and the Afternoon Tea had to be moved into church due to inclement weather, but these worked out well. The Harvest Supper with homemade pies and crumbles as well as games was enjoyed by members of the congregation of all ages. The visitors from the Care Home really enjoyed the cakes served for their Christmas Service.

Several events really helped us to reach out to the local community. These included our Coronation Picnic, the ever-popular Scarecrow Trail and Carols on the Green, putting St Botolph's at the centre of the village. We are using social media more to advertise events, as well as mailings and posters provided by John Davis and this seems to be paying off.

There were a number of theatre visits this year – to As You Like It at Toilethorpe, Sister Act in the Cathedral and in fact two panto visits to the Key because of the way the calendar fell - Dick Whittington in January 2023 and Aladdin in December 2023. Again, the calendar meant that we had two New Year Bring and Share lunches, complete with good old-fashioned games on January 1st and December 31st.

We had three completely new ventures this year. Firstly, a wine tasting evening, ably hosted by Mike and Maggie Taylor, which was thoroughly enjoyed by members of the congregation and wider community alike. Secondly, a 'Miscellaneous' evening with a group performing hit songs and which even included dancing in the aisles, well the nave! And finally, the Decorated Windows for Christmas – it was great to see various groups being very creative and pulling together to make our church ready for Christmas.

We are very grateful to all the people who put in so much hard work to enable all these events to happen. We are always in need of extra helpers, particularly with providing or serving refreshments. Let us know if you can help in any way. And if you have a good idea for an event, then don't be shy in letting us know!

Communications

Daily Mailings

The Daily Mailings continue to be successful both as a way for church members to contribute and to advertise events. Pat Hope-Jones is always grateful for contributions on any topic you think might be of interest and we are very appreciative of all her hard work.

Social Media

Rev'd Jackie uses Facebook to advertise events and asks fellow users to share her Longthorpe church posts. Bob Noyes puts regular messages on X (formerly Twitter) which we are also urged to pass on.

Website

The committee reviewed the website at the request of webmaster Ray Hemingray. The suggested changes were mostly on updating items on church groups, especially to take out pandemic references. Ray continues to work tirelessly on maintaining the website for which we are very grateful. He has stressed that individual organisers must contact him directly with any special instructions.

Signage and posters

We keep an eye on all church signs and arrange for them to be repaired and replaced. Many thanks to John Davis for keeping the information displayed up to date. We looked at the possibility of official signs for the church on entry to the village but the cost of £10,000 was deemed prohibitive.

Seasonal cards

We now have a calendar for 2023-2024 allowing a six-week period for the creation and distribution of the seasonal cards. This is regularly monitored to ensure that everyone in the process has enough time to do their job efficiently and when it suits them. We are always pleased to have more volunteers for delivering the cards, and to be given as much notice as possible if any distributors are not able to take cards out for the three festive periods of Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

All the above methods of communication mean that many non-church members have come to 2023 events which is encouraging.

Heritage

We have hosted two visits from local U3A Country Churches and Afternoon Teas groups in 2023. We have also made a start on archiving material. Historical church documents have been sorted, duplicates removed, all filed and placed in the archives loft, alongside Pat Hope-Jones's collection of all the magazines she produced from 1998 to 2020 and an on-going collection of Pew News also dating from the late 1990s.

Christian Aid Week 14th – 20th May 2023

Christian Aid works with partner organisations in some of the poorest communities in the world, regardless of nationality or faith, aiming to tackle both the effects of poverty and its root causes. Christian Aid Week 2023 focused on supporting the people of Malawi where costs of many basic commodities had doubled in the previous year, and some extreme weather conditions in recent years have continued to make farming more difficult. Christian Aid helps farmers to grow drought-resistant crops such as pigeon peas which help families to secure their income and plan.

For the third year a 'delivery only' envelope collection was held during Christian Aid Week. Thirty volunteers delivered envelopes to around 1,300 households in the parish. Once again Longthorpe Post Office was used as the collection point for the envelopes, with Mohammad Arif's blessing. A grand total of £1,700.38 was raised (including Gift Aid), comprising £1,387.88 from the Post Office collection and £312.50 donated online. The amount raised in the whole of East Anglia was just over £260,000 and the national total was £4.6 million, a reflection of people's generosity all over the UK as well as locally.

In a new venture this year, Peterborough Christian Aid committee organised a small carol singing event in December to raise additional funds and to publicise the charity. A group of committee members and friends sang carols at the Bretton Centre, and a bucket collection raised £166.54.

I would like to extend thanks to everyone who gave their time and money to support Christian Aid Week and the carol singing event.

SUPPORT

Church Fabric, Ornaments and Churchyard

2023 has been another busy year. Church life has moved back to full worship with a few COVID changes (the way we celebrate the peace and some aspects of the offertory). Chris Wren stood down after a further seven-year period as Church Warden – thank you for your hard work, Chris!

The team has been delivering on the benefits that 'Our Project' planned to deliver in terms of a flexible space which could deliver to congregation and wider community. The church is far more accessible for worshippers/visitors, and it is very simple to accommodate wheelchair users. Examples of this are the regular occasions when wheelchair users can be located to any part of the church with the simple removal of a chair at a place of their choice. The reordered church now has regular events for Thorpe Wood Care Home where residents travel to church and can be seated at tables located in the nave. The church has organised several very successful concerts and social events in church throughout the year.

The Fabric Committee continues to keep in touch and maintain oversight of the fabric of the church and the churchyard. The committee has maintained the church and yard throughout the year by pruning several trees, widening the path, clearing/repairing drainage gullies, treating fences/benches/bin cupboards, created a Christmas tree insertion post and repairing the boiler. The committee wishes to highlight the fantastic work completed by the churchyard grass cutting team who quietly ensure that the churchyard is always presentable – thank you!

The quinquennial inspection is due to be booked for July 2025 – the wardens will book the inspection later this year.

Health and safety inspections within and outside the church have been ongoing – the illuminated exit sign in the vestry was identified as unserviceable and replaced. The footpath to the church entrance has been widened in response to access issues for several members of the congregation. An annual electrical/PAT testing inspection was completed. The churchyard lighting has been reprogrammed to ensure the yard is lit between 1600-2200hrs.

As decreed by Canon Law of the Church of England, an inventory check of ornaments and silverware, vestments and furniture belonging to St Botolph's, together with the Logbook was completed - all items were accounted for.

Our thanks go to the Fabric Committee and to the many volunteers for all the physical and practical work that has been done throughout the year. They keep the church and churchyard in such good order. Everyone ensures we have a safe and comfortable environment in which to hold our church services and other activities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income

The total income for 2023 was £141,103 in 2023 compared to £197,324 in 2022. This is a decrease of £56,221. The difference primarily reflects the income received for Our Project in 2022. The donations, grants, VAT reclaims, and sale of pews received in 2022 totalled £57,204.

Our income from those that give regularly through Standing Order, or the envelope scheme decreased in 2023 compared to 2022. We are grateful to all those who give regularly to the Church, this generosity allows us to achieve so much as a church. In September 2023 we launched a Stewardship Review to coincide with the harvest season. We were hopeful that the level of regular committed giving would increase to provide enough for the church to be a presence as the Church of England in Longthorpe and join with God's mission to His world. The outcome of the campaign was positive and encouraging. As in previous years, Gift Aid is a vital part of our income being £22,786 in 2023. Our income in 2023 was strengthened by the various concerts, events and fundraisers that were organised. This is a result of being able to use the building in creative and different ways. We hope that we continue to expand our outreach using the Church building in 2024.

Expenditure

Our expenditure decreased from £325,567 in 2022 to £147,993 in 2023, a reduction of £177,574. As with the income the difference between these numbers primarily reflects Our Project with an expenditure of £154,074 on Our Project in 2022. In addition, our expenditure in 2022 was higher due to the works to our church building resulting from the Quinquennial Inspection.

As many of us will have noticed at home, our utility bills have seen significant recent increases. It is the same for the church with our running costs seeing an increase of more than 50% between 2022 and 2023. As a Church we strive to minimise our running costs, this includes securing the best rates for our utility bills.

Deficit

The deficit of income over expenditure for 2023 was £6,890 (our expenditure exceeded our income). We cannot lose focus of our financial situation. We hope that the Stewardship Review and monitoring of our expenditure will improve our finances.

Reserves Policy

The Finance Team and the PCC have agreed a reserves policy in line with the recommendations of Peterborough Diocese.

Legacies Policy

The Legacies Policy has been adopted in line with the guidance received from the Church of England.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Botolph's Church is situated in Thorpe Road, Longthorpe, Peterborough. It lies within the Deanery of Peterborough, in the Diocese of Peterborough.

Correspondence is addressed to:

The Rev'd Jackie Bullen, 315 Thorpe Road, Peterborough PE3 6LU. (e-mail: jacqbullen@aol.com)

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Botolph, Longthorpe is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1131670. The charity's trustees are the members of the PCC.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2023 to the date this report was approved are listed in Appendix 1, together with details of the PCC's bankers and independent examiner. A statement of Trustees' responsibilities is at Appendix 3.

STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. These rules provide that certain persons are ex officio members of the PCC: the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the elected representatives on Peterborough Deanery Synod and such other members of the Deanery and/or Diocesan Synod who are on the Church Electoral Roll. The rules also provide that there be a number of elected representatives of the laity on the PCC, who shall hold office from the conclusion of the annual meeting (APCM) at which they were elected to the conclusion of the third APCM thereafter.

In addition –

the APM on 27th May 2021 resolved that section 3 of the Churchwardens measure 2001 shall not apply in relation to the parish of Longthorpe.

the APCM on 20 April 2010 resolved that Readers had the right to be appointed to the PCC if they wished;

the APCM on 29 April 2008 resolved that the number of elected representatives of the laity on the PCC be 9;

the APCM on 24 April 2007 resolved that no elected representative of the laity may hold office for more than six years continuously after the date of the APCM at which he/she was elected.

Appendix 1: Details of PCC Members, Electoral Roll and Safeguarding Officers, Bankers and Independent Examiner

PCC members who have served from 11th May 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

Vicar	The Rev'd Jackie Bullen (Chairman)
Reader	Mark Willis
Lay Pastoral Ministers	Edwina Miller, Judith Willis
Churchwardens	Robert Noyes (Vice Chairman) , Yvette Magri
Elected representatives on Peterborough Deanery Synod	Corinne Craymer, Jonathan Craymer, Saji Dominic, Daphne Mair, Liz Medlock
Elected at APCM 2023	Stephen Rotondo, Julie Tate, Christopher Wren (to retire 2026)
Elected at APCM 2022	Tim Ellingham, Michael Sampson, Jackie Last (to retire 2025)
Elected at APCM 2021	Edwina Miller, Alyson Mitchell, Michael Taylor (to retire 2024)
PCC Treasurer	Tim Ellingham

PCC Secretary	Alyson Mitchell from APCM until Suzie Robinson elected 30 th November 2023
Safeguarding Officer	Claire Drake
Electoral Roll Officer	Daphne Mair
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc, PO Box 294, 1 Church Street, Peterborough PE11EZ
Independent Examiner	Azets, Westpoint, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE2 6FZ.

Appendix 2: Membership of PCC Committees

PCC committees

As required under the Church Representation Rules, the PCC has a Standing Committee, which has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings. The Vicar and Churchwardens are ex officio members of the Standing Committee.

In addition the PCC has established eight committees to conduct identified areas of business. Each has its own terms of reference. The Vicar is an ex officio member of every PCC Committee. The Committees report regularly to the PCC. At 31st December 2023 the membership of each Committee was as below:

Standing Committee: The Rev'd Jackie Bullen (Chair), Bob Noyes (Churchwarden), Yvette Magri (Churchwarden), Tim Ellingham (Treasurer), Suzie Robinson (Secretary), Jonathan Craymer, Stephen Rotondo, Ann Green

Worship Committee: The Rev'd Jackie Bullen (Chair), Corinne Craymer, Jonathan Craymer, John Davis, Anne Davis, Ann Green, Pat Hemsley, Pat Hope-Jones, the Rev'd Barbara Howitt, Barbara King, Alison Sampson, Mike Sampson, Julie Tate, Linda Verdegem, Mark Willis, Chris Wren.

Faith Development Committee Pat Hope-Jones (Chair) the Rev'd Jackie Bullen, the Rev'd Barbara Howitt, Corinne Craymer, Pat Hemsley, Yvette Magri, Liz Medlock, Marjorie Peck, Julie Tate, Judith Willis, Mark Willis.

Mission/Evangelism Events Committee: Julie Tate (Chair), the Rev'd Jackie Bullen, Anne Davis, John Davis, Jackie Last, Liz Medlock, Eddie Miller, Jane Pawley, Mike Sampson, Maggie Taylor, Michael Taylor, Chris Wren.

Fabric Committee: Bob Noyes (Chair), The Rev'd Jackie Bullen, Chris Wren, Vince Magri.

Finance Committee: The Rev'd Jackie Bullen (Chair), Tim Ellingham (Treasurer), Alan Eldred (Gift Aid Secretary), Bob Noyes, Stephen Rotondo.

Pastoral Committee: Eddie Miller (Lay Pastoral Minister) (Chair), the Rev'd Jackie Bullen, Liz Eldred, Ann Green, Phil Hemsley, Liz Medlock, Jackie Last, Judith Willis (Lay Pastoral Minister), Chris Wren.

Communications Committee: Jane Hogg (Chair), the Rev'd Jackie Bullen, Jonathan Craymer, Steve Collins, John Davis, Pat Hope-Jones, Daphne Mair, Suzie Robinson.

Appendix 3: Statement of Trustees' Responsibility

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping 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 1993, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and trust deed. 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.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
ST BOTOLPH, LONGTHORPE**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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CONTENTS:

Page 2	Independent Examiner's Report
Pages 3-4	Statutory financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023:
Page 3	Statement of Financial Activities
Page 4	Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023
Pages 5-13	Notes to the accounts:
Page 5	Note 1 Accounting policies
Page 6	Note 2 Incoming resources
Pages 7-8	Note 3 Resources expended
Page 9	Note 4 Staff costs
	Note 5 Fixed assets for use by the PCC
	Note 6 Debtors
	Note 7 Creditors
Page 10	Note 8 Analysis of net assets by Fund
	Note 9 Summary of Fund balances
Page 11	Note 10 Charities Fund
	Note 11 Church Reordering Fund
Page 12	Note 12 Other restricted funds
	Note 13 External Fund
Page 13	Note 14 Lent/Advent Appeals Fund
Page 14	Note 14 Harvest Appeal Fund
	Note 15 Our Project Fund

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S LONGTHORPE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO ST BOTOLPH'S LONGTHORPE PAROCHIAL PARISH COUNCIL

This report on the financial statements of St Botolph's Longthorpe Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the following pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements: you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144(2) of the 2011 Act do not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 of the 2011 Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met: or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M A Jackson FCA DChA
Azets Audit Services Limited
Chartered Accountants

Westpoint
Lynch Wood
Peterborough
PE2 6FZ

Date:

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unre- stricted Funds £	Design- ated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
INCOME FROM:						
Voluntary income	2(a)	119,731	-	7,888	127,619	185,342
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,760	-	-	4,760	125
Income from church activities	2(c)	7,989	-	-	7,989	8,982
Income from investments	2(d)	735	-	-	735	2,875
TOTAL INCOME		133,215	-	7,888	141,103	197,324
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Costs of generating voluntary income	3(a)	2,413	-	-	2,413	219
Church activities	3(b)	122,172	10,210	7,263	139,645	142,320
Governance costs	3(c)	1,140	-	-	1,140	1,080
Major capital expenditure	3(d)	1,670	-	3,125	4,795	181,948
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		127,395	10,210	10,388	147,993	325,567
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		5,820	(10,210)	(2,500)	(6,890)	(128,243)
Transfers between funds		(13,748)	11,574	2,174	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(7,928)	1,364	(326)	(6,890)	(128,243)
Balances brought forward at 1 January	9	41,710	6,479	5,668	53,857	182,100
Balances carried forward at 31 December		33,782	7,843	5,342	46,967	53,857

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Balance sheet at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5(a)	-	-
		-	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and prepayments	6	7,047	9,098
Short term deposits		21,400	20,735
Cash in hand and at bank		18,520	28,217
		46,967	58,050
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	7	-	(4,193)
		-	(4,193)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		46,967	53,857
TOTAL NET ASSETS	8	46,967	53,857
CHURCH FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
General Fund		33,782	41,710
Designated funds:			
Charities Fund	10	7,843	6,479
Church Reordering Fund	11	-	-
		7,843	6,479
Restricted funds:			
Church Reordering Fund		-	-
Upkeep of Church Building		-	-
Children's Work Fund		5,000	5,000
Other restricted Funds	12	5,000	5,000
External Fund	13	-	-
Lent/Advent Appeals Fund	14	342	668
Our Project Fund	15	-	-
		5,342	5,668
TOTAL CHURCH FUNDS		46,967	53,857

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 7/3/24 and signed on its behalf by:

Reverend J Bullen, PCC Chair

T Ellingham, PCC Treasurer

S Robinson, PCC Secretary

J Bullen
T Ellingham
S Robinson

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015. The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body (e.g. Longthorpe Mothers' Union).

Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these accounts.

Incoming resources

Collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to a contractual provision of the instrument.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with section 10(2)(c) of the Charities Act, 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For anything acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Funds

Restricted funds represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside by the PCC for a particular purpose or purposes. Funds so designated by the PCC may be redesignated by the PCC, so designation does not prevent funds being spent on any other purpose.

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

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 INCOMING RESOURCES (£)

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
2(a) Voluntary incoming resources					
Planned giving, eligible for Gift Aid:					
standing orders	74,718	-	974	75,692	78,769
envelopes and other	3,535	-	-	3,535	4,349
	78,253	-	974	79,227	83,118
Planned giving, ineligible for Gift Aid:					
standing orders	1,375	-	-	1,375	1,660
	1,375	-	-	1,375	1,660
Collections at services:					
by Gift Aid	685	-	-	685	413
not by Gift Aid	1,214	-	136	1,350	1,485
For third parties, not Gift Aid		-	4,203	4,203	5,201
	1,899	-	4,339	6,238	7,099
Donations and all other giving:					
Once-off donations by Gift Aid	9,220	-	2,121	11,341	16,482
Wall safe	450	-	-	450	359
Sundry other donations, not by GA	478	-	187	665	1,834
	10,148	-	2,308	12,456	18,675
Gift Aid recoverable from HMRC:					
on planned giving	20,926	-	267	21,193	22,689
on small donations by GASDS	1,593	-	-	1,593	1,823
	22,519	-	267	22,786	24,512
Other voluntary income:					
Grants	4,852	-	-	4,852	26,476
VAT rebate	685	-	-	685	23,802
	5,537	-	-	5,537	50,278
Voluntary incoming resources: total	119,731	-	7,888	127,619	185,342
2(b) Activities for generating funds					
Use of church premises	575	-	-	575	125
Fund raising	4,185	-	-	4,185	-
Fund-generating activities: total	4,760	-	-	4,760	125
2(c) Income from church activities					
Fees (for funerals, weddings etc)	5,421	-	-	5,421	5,118
Breakfast, lunches and Harvest meal	996	-	-	996	646
Sales of books	336	-	-	336	866
Other income	1,236	-	-	1,236	2,352
Income from church activities: total	7,989	-	-	7,989	8,982
2(d) Income from investments					
Interest	735	-	-	735	650
Sale of church assets	-	-	-	-	2,225
Investment income: total	735	-	-	735	2,875
Total incoming resources	133,215	-	7,888	141,103	197,324

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED (£)				2023	2022	
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds	Total Funds	
3(a) Costs of generating voluntary income						
Stewardship expenses, etc	2,413	-	-	2,413	219	
Our project - fundraising fees and costs	-	-	-	-	-	
	2,413	-	-	2,413	219	
3(b) Church activities						
Charitable donations	-	10,210	7,263	17,473	21,453	
Ministry:						
Parish Share and Deanery quota	84,192	-	-	84,192	84,192	
Parish priest's expenses	1,679	-	-	1,679	1,797	
Assisting priest's expenses	-	-	-	-	165	
Expenses of other ministers & laity	576	-	-	576	1,078	
	86,447	-	-	86,447	87,232	
Worship:						
Choir and music	1,332	-	-	1,332	1,031	
Altar requisites	599	-	-	599	965	
Flowers	96	-	-	96	73	
Other devotional material	815	-	-	815	36	
Baptism preparation	8	-	-	8	210	
	2,850	-	-	2,850	2,315	
Pastoral care:						
Marriage preparation	-	-	-	-	10	
Coffee/biscuits	347	-	-	347	251	
Other refreshments	219	-	-	219	231	
Parish nursing	369	-	-	369	1,821	
Pastoral care, general	97	-	-	97	96	
	1,032	-	-	1,032	2,409	
Faith development:						
Children's groups	120	-	-	120	120	
Confirmation classes	62	-	-	62	-	
Christian books for resale	386	-	-	386	298	
Bibles & books, not for resale	311	-	-	311	214	
Advent calendars, Easter eggs, shoe boxes	-	-	-	-	89	
	879	-	-	879	721	
Mission and evangelism:						
Alpha course	285	-	-	285	-	
Buggy buddies	160	-	-	160	-	
Other evangelism and mission	967	-	-	967	1,176	
Start course	-	-	-	-	-	
	1,412	-	-	1,412	1,176	
3(b) Church activities	c/f	92,620	10,210	7,263	110,093	115,306

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED (continued) (£)

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
3(b) Church activities	b/f	92,620	10,210	7,263	110,093	115,306
Communication:						
Posters		10	-	-	10	-
Communication, other		225	-	-	225	363
		235	-	-	235	363
Church running expenses:						
Gas		1,586	-	-	1,586	2,397
Electricity		8,230	-	-	8,230	3,366
Water		269	-	-	269	238
Telephone		459	-	-	459	541
Internet services		161	-	-	161	126
		10,705	-	-	10,705	6,668
Church building, contents and land:						
Insurance		2,762	-	-	2,762	2,566
Movable fixtures, fittings & equipment		104	-	-	104	483
Building maintenance		3,378	-	-	3,378	2,690
Minor church building works		582	-	-	582	-
Upkeep of churchyard		838	-	-	838	936
Glebe land rent		287	-	-	287	287
		7,951	-	-	7,951	6,962
Contractual staff payments, honoraria:						
Organist		4,555	-	-	4,555	3,580
Gifts		250	-	-	250	771
		4,805	-	-	4,805	4,351
Support costs:						
Lease payments, photocopying costs		4,392	-	-	4,392	3,481
Stationery, postage etc n.e.s.		936	-	-	936	1,181
Treasurer's expenses		75	-	-	75	75
Bank charges		453	-	-	453	496
Our project - Consultancy fees		-	-	-	-	3,437
		5,856	-	-	5,856	8,670
Total cost of church activities		122,172	10,210	7,263	139,645	142,320
3(c) Governance costs						
Fees of independent examiner		1,140	-	-	1,140	1,080
3(d) Major capital expenditure						
Large items of church equipment		1,670	-	-	1,670	-
Major church repairs		-	-	-	-	27,118
Our project - Phase 1		-	-	-	-	1,916
Our project - Phase 2		-	-	-	-	148,464
Our project - Organ		-	-	3,125	3,125	4,450
		1,670	-	3,125	4,795	181,948
Total resources expended		127,395	10,210	10,388	147,993	325,567

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

4 STAFF COSTS

The PCC employs no staff. The services of the organist are provided under a contractual agreement. All other tasks required to be performed for the maintenance of the church are provided free of charge by numerous volunteers. In particular, the church benefited from the unpaid services of the Retired Priest, two Readers and the Lay Pastoral Minister.

No payments were made to any PCC member, other than the reimbursement of expenses necessarily incurred by PCC members in the performance of their voluntary duties on behalf of the PCC.

5 FIXED ASSETS (£)

(a) Tangible

	Photo-copier	Chairs	Lawn-mower	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
Actual cost					
At 1 January 2023	3,773	500	600	4,873	4,873
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	3,773	500	600	4,873	4,873
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2023	3,773	500	600	4,873	4,873
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	3,773	500	600	4,873	4,873
Net book value					
At 1 January 2023	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-	-

6 DEBTORS (£)

	Unrestrict- ed Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
Income tax recoverable	7,007	-	-	7,007	8,165
Other debtors	40	-	-	40	933
Total debtors	7,047	-	-	7,047	9,098

7 CREDITORS (£)

	Unrestrict- ed Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
Other creditors	-	-	-	-	4,193
Total creditors	-	-	-	-	4,193

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

8 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND (£)

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	7,047	-	-	7,047	9,098
Cash and short-term deposits	26,735	7,843	5,342	39,920	48,952
Current assets	33,782	7,843	5,342	46,967	58,050
Current liabilities	-	-	-	-	(4,193)
	33,782	7,843	5,342	46,967	53,857

9 SUMMARY OF FUND BALANCES (£)

SUMMARY OF FUND BALANCES (2)

	Movements in 2023				
	Balance at 31.12.22	Surplus/ (deficit)	Inter-Fund Transfers	Inc/(dec) in balance	Balance at 31.12.23
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	41,710	5,820	(13,748)	(7,928)	33,782
	41,710	5,820	(13,748)	(7,928)	33,782
Designated funds					
Charities Fund	6,479	(10,210)	11,574	1,364	7,843
Church Reordering Fund	-	-		-	-
	6,479	(10,210)	11,574	1,364	7,843
Restricted funds					
Upkeep of Church Building	-	-	-	-	-
Children's Work Fund	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Other Restricted Subtotal	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
External Fund	-	(256)	256	-	-
Lent & Advent Appeals	668	(326)	-	(326)	342
Our Project	-	(1,918)	1,918	-	-
	5,668	(2,500)	2,174	(326)	5,342
Total funds	53,857	(6,890)	-	(6,890)	46,967

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

10 CHARITIES FUND (designated funds)

It is the policy of the PCC to tithe all unrestricted undesignated income. This is effected by an annual transfer from the General Fund of approximately 10% of that Fund's income to the Charities Fund.

	2023	2022
Summary		
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	6,479	7,488
Incoming resources	-	-
Resources expended	(10,210)	(11,330)
Net surplus/(deficit)	(10,210)	(11,330)
Transfers to/(from) Charities Fund:		
From General Fund	12,000	10,380
From/(To) External Fund	(426)	(59)
Total transfers	11,574	10,321
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	7,843	6,479

Resources expended

Church activities

Donations:

Mr G and Mrs S Giles	3,900	3,900
Church and mission overseas	3,000	3,350
Church and mission in the UK	610	750
Secular charities overseas	600	740
Secular charities in the UK	2,100	2,590
Total resources expended	10,210	11,330

11 CHURCH REORDERING FUND (designated funds)

The Church Reordering Fund was established by the PCC during 2015 to hold funds donated or generated specifically for the church reordering project.

	2023	2022
Summary		
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	-	89,448
To Our project fund	-	(89,448)
Total transfers	-	(89,448)
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	-	-

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

12 OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS

Other restricted funds comprise funds donated for specific purposes within the Church.

As at 31 December 2023 the funds consists of £5,000 held for the Children's work (2022 - £5,000).

	2023	2022
Summary		
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	5,000	5,000
Incoming resources	-	-
Resources expended	-	-
Net surplus/(deficit)	-	-
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	5,000	5,000

13 EXTERNAL FUND (restricted funds)

The External Fund comprises funds which are donated for specified external charities.

	2023	2022
Summary		
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	-	-
Incoming resources	4,373	4,030
Resources expended	(4,629)	(4,089)
Net surplus/(deficit)	(256)	(59)
Transfers to/(from) External Fund:		
From/(To) Charities Fund	256	59
Total transfers	256	59
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	-	-

Incoming resources

Voluntary income

Collections for third parties

Total incoming resources

4,373	4,030
<u>4,373</u>	<u>4,030</u>

Resources expended

Charitable donations

Zimbabwe School

Donations to third parties

Total resources expended

180	180
4,449	3,909
<u>4,629</u>	<u>4,089</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

14 LENT, ADVENT AND HARVEST APPEALS (restricted funds)

14(a) LENT APPEAL

	2023	2022
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	-	-
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income		
Once-off donations by Gift Aid	1,001	3,042
Donations, not by Gift Aid	125	651
Total incoming resources	<u>1,126</u>	<u>3,693</u>
Resources expended		
Charitable donations		
The British Red Cross	-	3,693
CPSL Mind	-	-
Alzheimers	1,020	-
Total resources expended	<u>1,020</u>	<u>3,693</u>
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	<u>106</u>	<u>-</u>

14(b) ADVENT APPEALS

	2023	2022
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	668	510
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income		
Donations, by Gift Aid	1,120	1,222
Donations, not by Gift Aid	62	106
Total incoming resources	<u>1,182</u>	<u>1,328</u>
Resources expended		
Charitable donations		
The British Red Cross	-	-
The Children's Society	1,615	1,170
Total resources expended	<u>1,615</u>	<u>1,170</u>
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	<u>235</u>	<u>668</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOTOLPH'S, LONGTHORPE

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

14(c) HARVEST APPEAL

	2023	2022
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	-	-
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income		
Donations received	-	1,171
Total incoming resources	-	1,171
Resources expended		
Charitable donations		
Donations made	-	1,171
Total resources expended	-	1,171
Transfer from General Fund	-	-
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	-	-

15 OUR PROJECT (restricted funds)

	2023	2022
Fund balance at 31.12.2022	-	9,354
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income		
Donations, standing orders by Gift Aid	974	4,092
Donations, cheques and cash by Gift Aid	-	550
Income tax recoverable	233	1,593
Grants	-	25,000
VAT rebates	-	23,745
Sale of assets	-	2,225
Total incoming resources	1,207	57,205
Resources expended		
Church activities		
Consultancy fees	-	3,437
Major capital expenditure		
Phase 1	-	1,916
Phase 2	-	148,464
Organ	3,125	4,450
Total resources expended	3,125	158,267
Transfers		
From designated church reordering fund	-	89,448
From general unrestricted fund	1,918	2,260
	1,918	91,708
Fund balance at 31.12.2023	-	-

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST BOLOTPH'S LONGTHORPE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO ST BOTOLPH'S LONGTHORPE PAROCHIAL PARISH COUNCIL

This report on the financial statements of St Botolph's Longthorpe Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on the following pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As the members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements: you consider that the audit requirement of Regulations and section 144(2) of the 2011 Act do not apply and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 of the 2011 Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met: or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

M A Jackson FCA DChA
Azets Audit Services Limited
Chartered Accountants

Westpoint
Lynch Wood
Peterborough
PE2 6FZ

Date: