

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. HELEN, STAPLEFORD

England & Wales · Charity number 1131777

Details

Other names ST. HELENS PCC, STAPLEFORD

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-09-23

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

Contact

Address St. Helens Church Hall
Frederick Road
Stapleford
Nottingham
NG9 8FN

Phone 01159399958

Email staplefordparish@aol.com

Website www.staplefordparish.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Regular public worship open to all. Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved. Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. Taking of religious assemblies in schools. Provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and children. Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£165,146	£164,356	-	-
2023-12-31	£173,154	£174,885	-	-
2022-12-31	£142,109	£142,985	-	-
2021-12-31	£130,778	£149,213	-	-
2020-12-31	£190,585	£168,482	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Paul Savage	Chair	2022-09-27
Alan Thomas Sare		2019-04-15
Angela Witten		2023-05-28
Audrey June Clarke		2019-04-07
Beverley Jane Brooks		2024-05-19
CHRISTINE JOAN BASSFORD		2022-05-22
Christina Davidson		2018-04-22
Christopher Bull		2023-05-28
Christopher William Hawthorn		2021-05-16
Claire McMillan		2023-05-28
David Bassford		2022-05-22
David Wild		2023-05-28
Deborah Jane Greenhalgh		2017-04-24
Eileen Dodsworth		2023-05-28
Hillary Holmes		2023-05-28
JOANNA SMITH		2023-05-28
Jefferson Koilpillai		2023-05-28
MR MIKE HAMMANS		2012-10-03
MR STEVE MARVIN		
Rev Joan Whysall		2019-04-07
Trevor Paul Jones		2019-04-15

Accounts



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period

From 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

Charity registration number: 1131777

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Reference and Administrative Details

The charity's trustees are represented by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is responsible for churches of St Helen's, St Luke's, and The Church @ Montrose Court, all of which are located in Stapleford, Nottingham. The Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford is part of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The charity's principal address is:
Stapleford Parish Church Office, St Helen's Church Hall, Frederick Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8FN.

PCC members who were trustees on the date this report was approved and those who served as members/trustees at any time during the reporting period (1st January to 31st December 2024) are:

Chairperson	Reverend Paul Savage
Wardens	Beverley J Brooks MBE (since May 2024) Christina Davidson (continues) Mike Hammans (transitional Warden from May 2024)
Secretary	Deborah Greenhalgh (May 2023)
Treasurer	Chris Hawthorn (May 2023)
Curate	Reverend Emma Rolls (from June 2024)
Deanery Synod members (Until APCM 2026)	Mike Hammans Christina Davidson Joanna Smith
Reader representative* (Readers are Co-Opted not elected)	Joanna Smith (LLM) Colin Clarke (LLM) (from May 2024)
Other elected members	Term finished during 2024 Alan Sare (Finished May 2024) Chris Bassford (Finished May 2024) Chris Bull (Finished May 2024) Dave Bassford (Finished May 2024) Hilary Holmes (Finished 23 March 2024) Continued after APCM Angela Witten (from 28 May 2023) Claire McMillan (from 28 May 2023) Josephine Clements (from 28 May 2024 St Luke's) Jefferson Koilpillai (from 28 May 2023) Steven Marvin (from May 2023) Trevor Jones (from May 2023 Montrose Court) Godfrey Senyonga (from May 2024- initially Co-opted) Eileen Dodsworth (from May 2024 St Luke's) Sara Norwood-Mewies (from May 2024)

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: **registered number 1131777.**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules 2020. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC operates three sub-committees:

The Standing Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Parish. It consists of the Incumbent, both Wardens, the Treasurer and a further representative elected PCC member (Over the last several years this has been the Secretary).

St Luke's Management Committee is responsible for matters of specific concern to St Luke's church. It consists of:

Vicar:	Reverend Paul Savage
LLM:	Colin Clarke
Treasurer:	Audrey Clarke
Deputy Church Wardens:	John Osborne David Steggles
PCC reps:	Jo Clement Eileen Dodsworth

The Church@Montrose acts as a subcommittee of the PCC and is led by:

Vicar & Curate	Reverend Paul Savage & Reverend Emma Rolls
Recognised Local Minister:	Emma Jane Jones
Treasurer:	Trevor Jones
Core Team of Volunteers:	With a Role Description, Safeguarding training and DBS, drawn from St Helen's and the church@Montrose

Objectives and Activities

The PCC promotes, within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, including pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical elements.

The PCC believes that the range of church activities provide public benefit by provision of:

- Opportunities for worship and prayer
- Teaching on Christian life and faith
- Pastoral and practical care for the community
- Ecumenical links with other churches in Stapleford

To facilitate this work, the PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St Helen's parish church and hall and also of St Luke's church, and the church@Montrose unit Stapleford, Nottingham.

The PCC has regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

PCC Report

The PCC met 5 times during the last year, with additional discussions on email as necessary between scheduled meetings. A short additional meeting was held after the APCM 19 May 2024 to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer. An Awayday enabled the members to get to know each other in a less formal setting and also to study and plan together.

The PCC Meetings have been held on a rotational basis within the 3 churches that make up the Parish. Agenda items have included, but were not limited to, the spiritual life of the Church, plans for growth, outreach and mission work locally and internationally, maintenance and repairs, finance, payment of the Parish Share, Safeguarding, and funding for a youth minister.

D J Greenhalgh

PCC Secretary

Electoral Roll Report

Before closure of the 2024 roll there were 144 persons on the Parish electoral roll

Parish Electoral Roll	144
Within the Parish	94
Outside the Parish	50
St Helen's	115
St Luke's	21
Montrose Court	8

The numbers entered on the new 2025 roll are as follows:

Parish Electoral Roll	144
Within the Parish	94
Outside the Parish	50
St Helen's	115
St Luke's	21
Montrose Court	8

The new electoral roll (names only) was displayed at St Helen's, St Luke's and the Church @ Montrose Court from 4th May 2025, being 14 days before the 2024 APCM. During this time no new names can be added but errors are corrected.

Steve Marvin Electoral Roll Officer

Safeguarding

Safeguarding within the Church of England has been in the mainstream media multiple times in 2024 with the publication of independent reviews of the Church's handling of some historical cases of abuse. These reviews were extremely critical because of the lack of action of members of the Church, delays and cover ups. The Church is imperfect - we would be naive to think that there will never be people within the Church who do not try to abuse positions of trust to harm others. The Church of England is reviewing processes and encouraging better practices, reinforcing the need for safe recruitment and training of volunteers in all roles, not just those involved with children and young people.

Paul preached about many of these issues on **Safeguarding Sunday** and since then, we have had more engagement with training and people raising concerns about the welfare of others which is encouraging but only represent the first steps on our journey. We review the Safeguarding Policy annually, this was on 11th July 2024 and we pay due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we should all care for the vulnerable among our community. If you have any concerns or would like support, please get in touch. If you have a need for training, please ask. We have a new database to help record completed training and Diane Hall has been recruited as a volunteer safeguarding administrator.

Angela Witten Parish Safeguarding Officer

Achievements and Performance:

Vicar's Report

Our passage for Easter Sunday, seems timely for our APCM, **Matt 28:1-11**

There is a lot we can say about this, yet I'd like to focus on the final section. In v10 the disciples response to seeing Jesus is worship and as they worship, Jesus calls them to share good news with the rest of his disciples. I am convinced that as we hear God's call to us, as we worship, as we spend time in his presence, we commit ourselves be more like him, we then do the things he wants us to do.

The passage at the morning and evening service at today's APCM is **Luke 11** where Jesus assumes that we pray, and when we pray we should say:

Our Father...

I hope in these two passages we first see a God who deserves our worship, the one who lived and died for us, and was raised to life by the great AMEN of the Father. Though we must admit our distraction, whether its technology or chasing experience, relationships, memories or anything else to fill the space.

- Where are you placing your "worth" the thing you spend your time and energy on, this is what you are worshipping. Is it bringing you life?

I also hope it shows us that God is not distant or unapproachable, but one we can approach, as Father. In deed the very prayer Jesus ask us to pray in Luke, is one of approach to God, but it's not a one-sided relationship. It involves us. We have to come to the Father, we are called to forgive, yes God helps us to resist temptation, but we need God to help us to place our self-centred desires in his hands and have a hunger and thirst for the Kingdom.

- How is God calling you to serve, in the report that follows there are plenty of opportunities to serve.

This Kingdom continues to confound and challenge the world, which is why we ask big questions when any Christian adds an adjective to the word. Whether this is a nationalistic vision of Jesus or a Jesus who is happy with us living for ourselves, it just tends to denote our judgement over another, and not question our life against the life of Christ.

2024

As we look back over the last year I want to start with thanks. God has been generous we have worshipped together, shared food, built community and shared Jesus with our neighbours. We have grown, we have what we have needed financially and though there have been plenty of challenges on the way, we have come through 2024 in a healthy place.

A big thank you to everyone who has served whether on PCC, or in any way across the church whether as a volunteer or leader. It has been good to hear a variety of preachers and seeing people grow in confidence in leading. Change is challenging and we continue to need to change to be more like Jesus and to be better set up to be with Jesus, becoming like him and then doing the things he asks us to do.

For the first time in many years we had a budget as a church, and we set aside money to support a Youth Minister. God has provided what we need to journey through this year. Yet this remains a partnership between us and God,

- Have you thought prayerfully about your giving to church? Whether financially or your time?

It's through your giving that we can do all the things that happen across Stapleford, we partner together in the Mission of God as we serve in a variety of ways. We have needed to question our expenditure on things, not because they aren't good things, but because we need to be responsible with the money that we give and receive as a church, Chris will outline in his presentation the costs and how your money is prayerfully and carefully invested in the Kingdom of God.

We have also had to ask questions about the things we do, faithfulness is important as we follow God's leading, but we also need to continue to discern if there are things we need to stop doing so new things can start, and what we

can support whether prayerfully, financially or by our involvement. Some things will have to change, for example the way we organise ourselves.

I am grateful to Rev's Adrian and Gill Chatfield for covering my Sabbatical in January and August. This sees the end of my sabbatical. Rebecca and Steve have provide support in the office and with the premises, knowing events are booked in and invoiced, that chairs will get shifted removes big headaches for us all.

We have spent time focusing on growing in our Faith, with the **Bible Project**, a display in the church tower, encouraging us to open the Bible in services, and some helpful marking up of the church Bibles to help people access the Bible, this was also part of Children's church and at St John's school initiatives. In 2025 the Bible course will also run. We have had the privilege of running 2 Alpha Course, the Diocese Discipleship Course, seeing 4 young people **confirmed**, and 7 children received their **first Holy Communions**. We invested in **Training Course** like Messy Church and Worship for Everyone. Been involved in our role in the **civic life** of the community with the Freedom parade, Hustings and Remembrance. With the **Stapleford Churches Forum** in the Good Friday walk of witness and open air service and the Hemlock Happening, sadly high winds called off the Christmas lights event. We have met to **pray** monthly as a Deanery, as the Churches Forum, at Montrose Court, Thy Kingdom Come, Holy Week, TEARFUND & the Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, World Day of Prayer, as well as School of Prayer. We have had the Moon Festival, opening the doors to the Hong Kong Community, and Pancake parties and other **outreach** events. Our **services** continue to develop and grow, and as the Vicar, I hope I continue to develop and grow and respond to the promoting of the spirit and the wisdom of one another, while holding firmly to the Vision we have and following Jesus together.

This year saw Colin Clarke licensed as Reader (LLM) and Rev'd Emma Rolls join us as curate as well as Rev'd Tony & Lorna Mitchell being an active part of our congregation. We are grateful for the ministry of all those on our Ministry Team, and continue to look to support those who serve across the churches, and grow the church. I have the additional responsibilities of Chair of Trustees for Dame Caroline Warren Trust, I am a member of the Deanery leadership team, a Diocesan Synod Representative and ex-officio governor at St John's Church of England school. With an active town there are several Civic events per year, in 2024 this included The Freedom of the Borough, and Remembrance day, of which I am involved in the planning and delivery of these events.

Our VISION remains the same:

We are a growing **Christ centred** worshipping community, one church in 3 locations, gathered scattered and sent. Being built into a house of prayer for all nations (ISA 58:1-8). Where everyone is **welcome**, each of us can **flourish**, and **together** we share what we have.

- How might you join in what God is doing amongst us?



Rev Paul Savage
Vicar

Financial Review

Following 3 years of financial deficit, the parish achieved a surplus position in 2024 of £790 (2023: £1,730 deficit). Total receipts declined to £165,146 (2023: £173,154), however our total payments declined further to £164,356 (2023: £174,884).

Key receipts (income) comprised planned giving from church members of £69,188 (2023: £66,655), other collections and donations of £21,746 (2023: £24,205), associated gift aid recovered of £18,624 (2023: £17,824), church hall and annexe hire of £17,455 (2023: £16,105). In addition we received a generous donation for youth and children's work, specifically towards the funding of a Youth Minister post, of £14,000 from the Benefact Trust. Our overall fundraising income increased to £1,429 (2023: £1,038). Income from the Moon Festival in September contributed £633 and the Christmas concert £795.

We received investment income of £2,190 (2023: £1,528) and our investment capital in the CBF Investment Fund grew to £20,703 (2023: £20,240) at year end.

Total payments (expenditure) in the year decreased by 6% to £164,356 (2023: £174,885) due largely to a reduction of £8,556 in our gas and electricity costs. Major areas of expenditure comprised our diocesan parish share of £77,100, (2023: £72,204) which was paid in full to the diocese and wage costs of £20,139 (2023: £15,291). Our gas and electricity costs remain high resulting in an overall utilities spend of £17,653 (2023: £26,209). We anticipate further reductions as wholesale prices continue to fall back to normal levels in future years coupled with new eco initiatives.

Direct support of our external mission partners reduced to £2,365 (2023: £4,015) although we are increasingly running events such as the Harvest quiz night and signposting good causes, raising money indirectly for their benefit. Changes in financial and banking regulations is making it increasingly difficult for us to support other charities particularly where they are not based in the UK and it is increasingly preferable that individuals support them directly rather than through the parish.

The breakdown between the 3 churches was as follows:

	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)
St. Helen's	£133,876	£127,631	£6,245
St. Luke's	£18,252	£25,110	(£6,859)
The Church @ Montrose Court	£13,018	£11,614	£1,404

Note that the figures include payments from St. Luke's to St. Helen's of £20,160 towards parish share which includes sums overdue from previous years. £5,000 was paid from St. Helen's to the Church @ Montrose court to cover the annual £5,000 rent of the premises.

Chris Hawthorn Treasurer

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain an unrestricted reserve of three months' regular expenditure, to cover fluctuations in cash flow, to give security to employees and to provide for unexpected major expenditure. In addition designated reserves are retained to cover possible emergency building repairs, with particular regard to the facts that St Helen's church is grade II listed and St Luke's is an older building with two flat roofs. At the close of 2024, unrestricted funds of £45,429 (2023: £59,296) were held in reserve. By a small margin this meets our reserve requirement of £40,440.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. HELEN, STAPLEFORD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2024

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				RESTRICTED FUNDS	GRAND TOTAL	
	St. Helen's	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL	St. Helen's TOTAL		2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT							
RECEIPTS							
Voluntary receipts from donors	79.0%	16.6%	4.4%				
Planned giving	54,425	11,763	3,000	69,188	-	69,188	66,655
Loose collections	7,955	1,119	243	9,317	-	9,317	14,656
Donations	10,168	1,630	632	12,430	-	12,430	9,549
Legacy gifts received	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
For mission	-	-	-	-	2,597	2,597	17,789
Special collections	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,787
Gift aid recovered	14,030	3,671	923	18,624	-	18,624	17,844
Grants	-	-	3,100	3,100	-	3,100	6,500
Business rates recovered	-	-	-	-	-	-	885
Parish Mission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth & children	1,391	-	-	1,391	14,000	15,391	1,113
Montrose Court	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Friendship Club	2,341	-	-	2,341	-	2,341	-
Income from church activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising	1,429	-	-	1,429	-	1,429	1,038
Church Hall Hire	15,374	-	-	15,374	-	15,374	14,390
Community Annexe Hire	2,082	-	-	2,082	-	2,082	1,715
Room hire - Montrose Court	-	-	120	120	-	120	-
Parochial Fees	4,344	-	-	4,344	-	4,344	8,828
INSPIRE magazine advertising	1,575	-	-	1,575	-	1,575	1,275
Book sales (St Luke's)	-	45.00	-	45	-	45	-
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank interest	1,605	23.25	-	1,628	-	1,628	975
Investment Income - Dividends on CBF shares	562	-	-	562	-	562	553
Other Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,602
TOTAL RECEIPTS	117,279	18,252	13,018	148,548	16,597	165,146	173,154
PAYMENTS							
Parish Share	56,940	20,160	-	77,100	-	77,100	72,204
Parochial Fees	2,260	-	-	2,260	-	2,260	8,298
Support for Ministry	1,475	133	-	1,607	-	1,607	1,549
Maintenance of Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Business Rates	-	-	11	11	-	11	305
Utilities	13,296	2,929	1,428	17,653	-	17,653	26,209
Insurance	4,721	-	666	5,387	-	5,387	5,914
Telecoms	920	-	63	983	-	983	1,044
General Parish Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clergy expenses & training	760	-	-	760	-	760	356
Wage costs	20,139	-	-	20,139	-	20,139	15,291
Office expenses	1,221	-	-	1,221	-	1,221	1,426
Sundry	1,999	533	150	2,682	-	2,682	1,877
Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church	3,048	921	-	3,968	-	3,968	9,496
Church Hall	2,684	-	-	2,684	-	2,684	1,116
Annexe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montrose Court	-	-	680	680	-	680	374
Exceptional Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parish Mission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth & children	3,278	-	-	3,278	-	3,278	3,368
Montrose Court	5,000	-	-	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Friendship Club	614	-	-	614	-	614	-
Pastoral and outreach	1,274	-	482	1,756	-	1,756	1,154
Catering	1,215	50	1,277	2,542	-	2,542	3,007
INSPIRE Magazine	4,380	-	-	4,380	-	4,380	4,062
Meeting & special events	256	-	-	256	-	256	-
Food Bank	-	-	1,558	1,558	-	1,558	591
Other	-	-	239	239	-	239	857
External Mission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Lukes mission	-	384	-	384	-	384	352
St John's, Lindow (Alexandro Mesco)	-	-	-	-	331	331	544
CMS (B-J & Marie Shin)	-	-	-	-	519	519	1,405
Tear Fund	-	-	-	-	481	481	1,714
CPAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	40	-	-	40	610	650	-
Cost of Fundraising	3	-	-	3	-	3	356
Bank charges	167	-	60	227	-	227	281
Special Collections	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,735
TOTAL PAYMENTS	125,691	25,110	11,614	162,415	1,941	164,356	174,884
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	(8,412)	(6,859)	1,404	(13,866)	14,656	790	(1,730)
Reserves at 1st January 2024	26,503	24,932	7,861	59,296	14,455	73,751	75,481
Reserves at 31st December 2024	18,091	18,073	9,265	45,429	29,111	74,541	73,750

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	St. Helen's	Community Annexe	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds						
Bank balances	15,365	-	18,073	9,265	42,703	26,387
Deposit balances	-	-	-	-	-	17,129
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-	-
CBF Deposit Fund	31,838	-	-	-	31,838	30,234
	<u>47,203</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,073</u>	<u>9,265</u>	<u>74,541</u>	<u>73,750</u>
Other monetary assets						
Income tax recoverable	3,612	-	612	220	4,443	4,700
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>3,612</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>4,443</u>	<u>4,700</u>
Income tax recoverable for Oct-Dec 2024 was not claimed until Feb 2025, so will be included in that year's accounts						
Investments						
895.35 Income Shares in CBF Investment Fund	20,703	-	-	-	20,703	20,240
	<u>20,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,703</u>	<u>20,240</u>
Liabilities						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Assets less Liabilities	<u>71,518</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,685</u>	<u>9,485</u>	<u>99,687</u>	<u>98,690</u>

NOTES

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with both the Charities Act 2011, section 133 (as amended) on the Receipts and Payments basis, and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

2. ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

	Balance B/Fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/Fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
St Helen's Parish Mission - Youth Minister	15,000	14,000	-	-	29,000
St Helen's External Mission	(545)	2,597	1,941	-	111
	<u>14,455</u>	<u>16,597</u>	<u>1,941</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,111</u>

St Helen's Restricted Fund contains specific donations for External Mission (to be paid in 2025) and a donation from the Dame Caroline Warren Trust and the Benefact Trust towards the employment of a Youth Minister in anticipation of wider "matched" funding from Southwell DBF in 2025 for a minimum 3 year period. Most of the external mission funds are held for the benefit of Dorcas Letasi, our mission partner in Uganda.

3. ASSETS FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

(i) Churches, Churchyards and Vicarages are vested in the representative body of the Church and are not Parish assets.

(ii) Fixed assets and property, which are retained for Church purposes and which are not investment assets are listed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as non-monetary assets including:

Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
Equipment and furnishings in St Helen's church hall

4. INVESTMENTS

Quoted investments are valued at mid-market value at 31st December.

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

	£
Gross wages and salaries:	20,139
Employer's National insurance costs:	-
Pension contributions:	-
Total Staff costs:	<u>20,139</u>
Average number of employees in the year:	2

6. PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

No expenses were paid to trustees. Some insignificant clergy/minister's expenses may relate to their duties as trustees.

One PCC member is paid as an employee (see note 5.)

APPROVED AND SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PCC:

Reverend Paul Savage
Chairperson
10th March 2025

Chris Hawthorn
Treasurer
10th March 2025

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ PCC of	St Helen's Stapleford		
on accounts for the year ended	31 December 2024	Charity no	1131777

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

17 March 2025

Name:

Gary Stephenson DChA, MSc

Address:

21 Gwenbrook Road
Beeston, Nottingham
NG9 4AZ

Churchwarden's Report

In May 2024, Beverley Brooks was elected to join the Churchwarden Team; Christina Davidson having been elected previously. It has been a busy year for Christina and Beverley who have been ably assisted by our previous Churchwarden, Mike Hammans.

Rather than Christina and Beverley doing the same work areas, we agreed that we would work to our skills and experience splitting the roles appropriately. Christina has re-written all the role descriptions for those undertaking roles within St Helens including side wardens, prayer leaders, refreshment givers and the role of welcomers and, most usefully for Beverley, the role of churchwarden! All of the role descriptions have been agreed by Rev'd Paul. Christina also agreed to lead on the Dame Caroline Warren trust and has undertaken the task of sorting out the rota of duties on a monthly basis. In addition to the above tasks, Christina and Mike have led on the Volunteer training and application process which of course is a requirement under Safeguarding and from the Diocese of Southwell.

Beverley has led on the Quinquennial Report and has worked with Steve Marvin to ensure that any work which is required is undertaken in a timely manner. Please see the Fabric report below. Beverley is undertaking the supervision of Steve Marvin which has worked extremely well with Beverley supporting Steve and Steve sharing his expertise and experience gained over the years. Beverley and Steve continue to ensure that Health & Safety requirements are met and have agreed a schedule for deep cleaning, risk assessments and Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) requirements – all of which are ongoing.

It has been agreed that any complaints received by the Church Office will be forwarded and dealt with by Beverley and Christina in liaison with Rev'd Paul. Beverley continues to lead on all governance issues and has written various policies which are being scheduled to be presented to the PCC. Beverley, in liaison with Christina, is in the process of gathering data for the mission stats required by Southwell Diocese.

In addition to the above key points, Beverley and Christina have been involved in other aspects of church life including recruitment, parking arrangements and attending training courses run by the Southwell Diocese.

Christina Davidson & Beverley J Brooks MBE Church Wardens

Fabric Report – St Helen's

Following receipt of the Quinquennial Report, I met with Bruce Bradley, Architect and author of the Report. Bruce and I reviewed the outstanding matters which required urgent attention – urgent being within 1 to 2 years. Water overflowing from the north aisle gutter which cannot take the water volume – this overflow onto the annexe roof causing issues of damage to the timberwork getting very wet.

- i. The Forti Crete effect stonework is becoming weathered as expected. The oak work to the link needs redecorating but a gutter is to be fitted first.
- ii. There is some water ingress through the windows to the link that need sealing. This is more pronounced due to the amount of water running off the roof from the church –
- iii. at the southern end. The link oak work then needs some redecorations.

Regarding the point i. to iii. above, Beverley has discussed this with Bruce and agreed that the original work did not consider when the wind blows the rain off the roof on the annexe connector between the church and the annexe. Beverley is in the process of writing an application for funds from the Minor Repairs and Improvement Grant and Bruce has supplied appropriate plans. We have agreed that the original roofers should provide the guttering services as it is not straightforward but needs to be inline with the existing roofing materials. We should know in April 2025 if our grant application has been successful. In the meantime, I am reviewing another Trust as we may be eligible for an application covering water/weather ingress in the annexe and annexe toilets which all need redecorating.

- iv. The roof slating and flashings all appear to be reasonably sound however, as previously noted the tops of several clay ridge tiles are badly eroded and need replacing.
- v. Tower Roof leading dips in place and holds water – maintenance required. There could be a problem with outlet / eastern hopper/down pipe as the

- vi. adjacent stonework has greened up.
- vii. On the Memorial Chapel – East elevation, we need to check the rainwater outlet as the adjacent wall is damp/green.

The above points IV to VII above will be reviewed in Year 2 which will give us the opportunity to review all similar work which is required and to gain the services of professional who will make good rather than make do.

Beverley J Brooks MBE Church Warden

The Church @ Montrose Court

The Church @ Montrose Court has now been established for almost eight years. We are located in a small former retail unit, ideally placed in the centre of the Melbourne Road estate.

During the past year our weekly pattern remained as before. On Sunday afternoons we hold a very informal café style service including worship and teaching. Then on Monday and Wednesday mornings we open up for 'chat and pray' sessions when anyone is welcomed to drop in for a coffee. This is the time for folk to get to know one another. We have around 20 regulars who we see most weeks, plus occasional visitors

We also held special events which were always lively and well attended. These included pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, a fundraising event jointly with the Stapleford Community Group following the Southport child murders and our annual opening for breakfast on Christmas day. We were able to hold several 'mini-messy' events using surplus crafts from the previous weekends Messy Church.

A key part of our ministry is the foodbank, open on Monday and Wednesday mornings. We are part of the Hope Nottingham network of foodbanks. Clients arrive with vouchers from local agencies such as Citizens Advice or Jobcentre. The cost-of-living crisis is having a continued impact and some clients travel considerable distances to reach us. Some are in really desperate need. The food and toiletries we are able to provide come from generous donations, Hope central stores and sometimes we purchase food using financial donations. We are grateful to the Stapleford Community Group who collect surplus food from local supermarkets. We celebrated with a whole Family Baptism in December, baptising a mum and her 2 children. We continue to see new people exploring faith.

Plans for the coming year include improving the outside appearance at the front of church and also upgrading the very basic facilities inside. We look forward to developing our ministry following the arrival of Nakita (Jan 2025) who is settling in well. We are also well supported by Revs Paul and Emma.

We remain a small but are very committed team. When all team members are available things work well. However when some are unavailable due to other commitments or illness we sometimes struggle to have sufficient people available to open three times every week. This did mean that on several occasions in the past year we were forced to stay closed.

Additional team members are always welcome. Please talk to Revs Paul or Emma, me or drop in any time we are open to see if it's for you.

Emma Jones

St Luke's Report

Our congregation has a loving caring ethos and attendances at the Sunday Services fluctuates greatly, with support and encouragement from Rev. Paul we have a Rota that has many people helping to bring God's word to the congregation, our Communion service takes place usually on the second Sunday in the month which Paul presides at, we are fortunate now to have many different people on the rota leading and preaching at the service and we are extremely thankful for each and every one that takes on that role. We also have a very supportive congregation praying, reading, providing the music, flowers, and of course tea, coffee and cakes. As a church we still have lots of cake and are known for always having cake available, especially when we are celebrating birthdays together. We have a prayer book by the door when people arrive for prayer requests, this is then used during our time of intercessions later in the service and is valued by many.

It is always very sad to lose long standing members of the congregation and we have had to say goodbye this year to two very valued members of our family, firstly John Warry and very recently Robert Butler who's funerals both took place at St Helens.

Pastoral care I feel is a bit of an issue, in that many of us have had a lot of our own personal problems to deal with this year. But almost everyone attending in person to the services is aware of the others not present and are aware of their needs and requests for help or prayer. Colin Clarke our licensed lay minister takes communion to those that cannot get to church for any reason using the sacraments previously prepared by Paul Savage and it is given on a monthly basis where possible.

Outreach This year we have had two outreach events, one of afternoon tea and the other a soup lunch both were in aid of MacMillan cancer research. Also, during this year Paul encouraged us to apply for a £500.00 grant from a mission fund to purchase 2 feather flags to make our church more visible when open and to have Cards printed and delivered to the local houses nearby, advertising all our Christmas services (although in the end the cards were printed free as a donation of charity to us.) Many thanks to Colin Clarke for delivering all the local ones and to members of the congregation who took piles to deliver around the areas where they lived.

Fabric This year we have done a lot of work on the church which ended up being kindly donated by a member of the congregation, we have a new rear exit door, the lighting above that door has been replaced and a handrail fitted to aid exit from that door as there is a step out of it. A lot of external painting has also taken place.

Future plans fabric A quote has been received and approved for the replacement of two Kitchen windows at a cost of £720.00. A separate quote has been received for the replacement of the main front door into the Church, which is now being covered by a donation from our church family. There are plans to brick up an exit door from the storeroom that has never been used in many years, a quote is being sought for that, which is also being covered by a donation, but it will require a faculty first.

Finances The finances were taken over by Audrey Clarke (myself) I have no treasurer skills, and it has been a steep learning curve, with a great deal of help from Chris Hawthorne the Treasure at St Helens, it has now become a manageable job going forward. Due to my Illness the paperwork had been allowed to get behind (although during my absences many people stepped in to help) we wait to hear what next year's share of the parish share will be, and the final closing balance of accounts at the end of December 2024 was £18,073.01 according to the bank statement, but before everyone jumps around clapping hands, when our income over expenditure is calculated we have a deficit for the year of -£6,859.00.

Future plans We are moving our study group from a Wednesday morning to a Tuesday afternoon and are hoping more will be able to attend. Wednesdays were not really viable due to clashes with Audrey's treatments at Hospital. Colin plans to run a study group during Lent based the Church of England's lent 2024 course called "Tarry a while" which is a seven week course. Alan and Ann Sare have kindly offered to train people in prayer ministry

Thanks We are truly thankful for all the help we receive, from all areas of the church and congregation and feel if we start to name people personally and we forget someone, and they may be offended. Also thankful for all the offers of donations to pay for various things, and there has been many
So many many thanks to all concerned.

Audrey and Colin Clarke

Nottingham North Deanery Report

During 2024 we held three Synods, two in person and one remotely:

20 February 2024: Chaplaincy

Our first Synod was held at St Leonard's, Wollaton and we were joined by David McCoulough (Diocesan Chaplaincy Lead), Victoria Mullen (Archway Learning Trust) and Jonah Gorst (Woven Youth Worker). David and Victoria shared about their experiences as Chaplains in different arenas and Jonah shared about opportunities for the Deanery to join with the youth work at Woven.

13 August 2024: Elections to Diocesan Synod

We cancelled our July Synod as the key speaker was not able to attend. The sole agenda item of our August Synod was the voting in of Diocesan Synod Representatives. The following people were appointed:

Diocesan Synod House of Laity: Lee Duffield-Simms, Joanna Smith, Pauline Thomas, Paul Ward and James Willis

Diocesan Synod House of Clergy: Nikki Bates, Tim Pullen and Sue Pendenque

13 November 2024: AGM and General Synod Report

The meeting took place at St Mary the Virgin in Bulwell. Lydia Corbett brought a report from General Synod, concentrating particularly on the prayers of love and faith.

This was also our AGM and following this meeting the Deanery Leadership Team consisted of:

Ex-officio members: Tim Pullen (Area Dean), Kirsty Cowley (Deanery Administrator)

Lay: John Cartwright (Lay Chair), Joanna Smith (Lay Chair), Greg Cowley (Deanery Treasurer)

Ordained: Nikki Bates, Paul Savage

Our **Deanery Prayer** meetings have also continued on the first Tuesday of each at Christ Church, Cinderhill.

This year we have had a number of changes in the leadership of parishes within the Deanery. Rev'd Sue Pendenque was licensed as vicar of Sherwood St Martin, Rev'd Lizzie Osborne was licensed as a mission associate at St John's in Bilborough. Rev'd Emma Rolls began her curacy at Stapleford and Rev'd Jamie Price began her curacy with Woven.

We would like to thank you all for your generous and faithful giving during 2024. We managed to pay 94% of our share allocation!

Rev'd Canon Tim Pullen
Area Dean

John Cartwright
Lay Chair

Joanna Smith
Lay Chair

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care at St Helen's starts from the first time that you visit us. To this end we use "You are Welcome" forms so that we can keep in touch.

To date some 26 of these forms have been returned and each person has received an email welcoming them to the church and giving brief details of activities and help that is available. The responses received indicate that people feel generally welcome and part of our church family. Training for Welcomers and those doing Tea and Coffee is ongoing with more training and Safeguarding events planned.

There are a number of volunteers available to telephone or visit people as required. Home communion visits are available on request. A Newcomers Welcome event will be hosted later in the year and details will be made available shortly. Rev'd Paul also attends some local Care Homes to support residents.

All Pastoral care is offered in complete confidence and within safeguarding guidelines. For more information or to arrange a visit please contact:

Mike Hammans Pastoral Care coordinator on 07970121486

Home Groups

Home groups aim to model themselves on the early church. They met in homes, cared for one another, supported and prayed for one another, enabling each person to grow in faith and understanding of God's Word.

We have six home groups at present, and earlier in the year, we had a bring and share lunch for all home group members. This was a lovely time to share what each group was doing, and it was so encouraging to hear the enthusiasm of each group member.

Leaders aim to meet up around every three months to support one another, pray together and share resources. Again, thanks must be given to our leaders for their faithfulness: Miriam and Alan, Irene Whitehead, Christina Davidson, Fran and Paul and Vera.

Looking forward, we are planning to start at least one new group after Easter. If you would be interested in being a home group leader, a co-leader, or just join a home group, please let me know. I would be happy to support you, please contact me on:

Chris Bassford 0115 9394139 chris13bassford@gmail.com

Children & Young Peoples Ministry

Children's Church 2024

Each week we try to provide age-appropriate activities for the children in our congregation based on key events in Jesus' life, parables he told and some stories from the Old Testament. Using a three-year rolling program we cover most key themes and also celebrate the major Christian festivals. Our aim is Bible-based teaching with fun, using a mixture of stories, videos, games, craft activities and prayer. Some highlights from 2024 included a family social in June, when parents joined the children after church to share together fun, chat and hotdogs. In September after completing a short preparation course eight of our young people declared their desire to follow Jesus and took their first communion. Finally in December the children were taught to play hand chimes to accompany their singing and performed in the morning service telling the story of Jesus' birth in the annual Nativity play.

We value prayer for the children and our small team of volunteers. If you would like to join the team please speak to one of us.

Angela Witten

Energise 2024

Energise have continued to meet throughout 2024 although Jo's continuing illness has meant that we have only been able to meet twice a month (or 3 times when there are 5 Sundays in a month). There are currently over 20 young people aged between 10 and 17 with a link to the Church and when we meet, numbers tend to range from 6 to 12, with a core of young people attending at least every other week.

During our meetings, we have covered a wide range of themes, including physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing; Moses, Joshua and Judges; Love, Joy and Peace; Jesus "I am...." Statements and a general overview of the Bible. Our Lent theme this year was "We are Together" looking at world issues such as plastic waste, hunger, and peace, with a weekly Lent Challenge for the young people to complete at home.

Apart from the Sunday meetings, there have been a number of social events and trips out, including Laser Tag, a Pancake Party, a Taskmaster Evening, a scavenger hunt at Elvaston Castle followed by pizzas in the Annexe, an end of term Barbecue in the Vicarage garden, games evenings in the Church Hall and the annual Christmas Party at St Lukes and trip to Trowell Garden Centre. These events are always well attended and friends are often invited. However, the highlight of the year came in April when 4 of our young people were confirmed at Trinity Church, Nottingham, although the young people themselves might consider the Harby Weekend more noteworthy. The young people have also taken part in a number of church services this year, specifically Palm Praise, Pentecost and Harvest, and joined in with the Tearfund Big Quiz Night.

We hope that we can resume working with the young people in some format in the very near future, to encourage their continuing engagement with the Church and Christianity in general.

Les Witten

Messy Church

Messy Church continued through the year to be a great way to include new families and to introduce them to the stories of the Bible and faith. We met monthly on Saturdays at St Helen's church. Good Friday was a special time with a bumper Messy Church with lots of fun alongside hearing of God's love for us in giving his son.

In the first half of the year, we had less helpers for a number of reasons, which made us think about how to adapt what we were doing. Paul proposed a workshop for helpers to reinvigorate it, which was run in September by someone from the national Messy Church team. This brought in new helpers and existing helpers got involved in new ways transforming the way we were planning and running Messy Church. We were able to provide a meal at the end for the first time for a number of years. We had new families joining us, with around 70 at our autumn sessions. We will be pausing Messy Church in 2025.

Sadly Clair who was a friendly face in the kitchen making sure we had packed lunches for families, died unexpectedly during the year. We will miss her. Thank you to the team for all their contributions to Messy Church. Please pray for the families who have been coming to Messy Church, that they will find other ways of exploring and growing in faith. Pray too that St Helen's will find new avenues for meeting families who want to start exploring faith.

School visits

We welcomed Fairfield's, Albany Infants, Albany Juniors & St John's primary schools to St Helen's at Christmas and Easter which is a great opportunity to tell those important stories of our faith. A local nursery, and our own Tuesday break were also invited along with Beavers and Cubs for visits at Christmas. We have also had visits from Wadsworth Infants looking at the History of the church and from Albany Juniors at Harvest.

St John's School

Governor Report

A new Government and falling pupil rolls, have led to yet another tightening of the purse strings. We could be downhearted, but this just serves to keep us on our toes and firmly future focused. The Finance and General Purposes Committee, of which myself, Rev. Paul and formerly Steve Marvin are members, has scrutinised and adjusted the budget and the school has run a pupil recruitment campaign.

In addition, Governors have been considering the possibility of academisation and are currently in the process of consulting with staff and parents, explaining what becoming an academy would entail and giving them the opportunity to question a Multi Academy Trust with a Christian focus. Nothing definite has been decided as due diligence must be undertaken first. The wellbeing of all staff is taken seriously, particularly that of the Head and other senior staff including the business manager. They themselves are supporting other staff and a recent survey has shown that staff generally do feel that this is working well.

Personally I attended the diocesan conference in 2024 with the Head Teacher and the conference on Courageous Leadership with the Chair of Governors in March 2025. Following the resignation of Steve Marvin, I have taken on the roles of GDPR and Health and Safety link governor. More training is anticipated!

As PCC appointed Foundation Governor I can attest that the St John's school community works towards being the BEST that it can be, including the governors and staff. The school motto is Believe Endeavor Succeed Together and there is also a Golden Rule – Be Proud and Take Care. We had an encouraging SIAMS inspection in 2024.

'The school community at St John's ...flourish(es) because of Christian compassion lived out at every level and a deep awareness of individual needs. The vision is a living reality enabling all to flourish. A comprehensive communication system ensures everyone is well informed, raising awareness of the vision in every aspect of school life. Collective worship is enriched by the commitment and valuable contributions made by a range of local churches. This unswerving support makes a positive contribution to pupils' rich knowledge of Bible stories and deepening spiritual awareness. There is a rich awareness of a school family living well together and where wellbeing is prioritised. This creates a real sense of belonging.' Extract from-SIAMS report 2024

Anne Adams Foundation Governor

Collective Worship at St John's School

For 2024, St John's School embarked on a year-long initiative to enhance collective worship, spearheaded by Headteacher Matt Downes and Reverend Paul. The programme was designed to align with the school values and Stapleford Parish vision of making the Bible accessible to everyone, strengthening the children's faith, and integrating them into the church community.

The initiative was shared with our local church partnership to conduct weekly Thursday morning sessions. Our focus was on creating interactive and engaging Bible studies, building on a Christian foundation with a focus on the wider spiritual bandwidth of our Stapleford community.

Teachers and children have responded excitedly to the sessions, participating eagerly and applied their everyday understanding into the biblical teaching. We have laughed and learnt difficult concepts together by introducing new ideas and activities. These included innovative approaches from hula hooping to VIP red carpet walking. The children's prayers and singing in these informal worship sessions, have us 'skipping out of school' after each Thursday morning God encounter.

If you are young at heart, love to work with animated children and want to bring the Bible to youngsters in a more dynamic and appealing way, ask Reverend Paul or Reverend Emma for more.

Joanna Smith (LLM)

Overseas Mission Partners (combined report)

As a church we are aware that Jesus' command to love your neighbour extends to those overseas. In response we have continued to maintain links with the following mission partners. We work with the following charities and individuals.

Tearfund. Works overseas to alleviate poverty through long term community development projects and by responding to humanitarian crises brought about by warfare and natural disasters. Tearfund also works with other organisations to campaign and challenge the injustice created by climate change, which impacts most on parts of the world who are already the poorest.

During the last year St Helens was visited by Spyros Tacticos from Tearfund who spoke about their Transforming Communities work. We also joined the Tearfund Big Quiz event in November & took an offering at our Harvest

Service. To find out much more about Tearfund look at their website www.tearfund.org where you can sign up for regular newsletters and make financial donations. .

Due to changes in Charity Law and Money Laundering regulations it has become increasingly difficult to support non-affiliated Missions work, as a UK charity is restricted in the way it can give to an individual outside the UK.

We also link with the following individuals:

Through **CMS(church mission society) Beom Jin and Marie** continue to work in east Asia. They have moved town, and are finding their new location works well for all the family. They continue to focus on vocational training and education. There are many challenges to their work, but they make good contacts and make the most of the opportunities they have. A group of us zoom regularly with them, and anyone is welcome to join us.

Alejandro and Doris Mesco have been unwell during the year, and Alejandro now spends most of his time caring for Doris. He still supports the medical charity, MMI Peru, in Arequipa who support people with disabilities and their families. We have been able to send funds through another church in the UK.

Dorcas. We continue to find it difficult to send the funds raised, it remains in restricted funds and we are endeavouring to make these payments.

Newsletters from these individuals are made available in church as they are received. Financial support for our mission partners during 2024 came through specific fundraising events and the Mission Box scheme. A big thanks to Ian and Diane McLaren for running the mission giving scheme.

Susan Bell & Trevor Jones

Tuesday Break

We continue to meet fortnightly on Tuesday morning from: 9.am-11.30am.

We offer a wide range of play activities in a safe environment with a messy table to have fun on and other play activities that meet the early years outcome for their age group. We also do sing sessions at the end for all to enjoy. This is a good way to bring all age groups together.

We offer a selection of refreshments for parents/carers and little ones to enjoy for a small contribution.

We also enjoy celebrating special occasions such as Mother's Day, Easter, Father's Day, Harvest, Christmas and lots more!

We do lots of fun special activities and visits to the church to celebrate these occasions. This year we had our annual Christmas party at our local soft play area, Might Monsters, which was enjoyed by all. For our end of year party, we had a seaside day with a visit from the ice cream van, which was a big hit with all children and adults.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our small but dedicated team who go above and beyond to provide and support this important community outreach group.

If anyone is interested in joining our Tuesday break team in any way this would be a big help in the running of our group. We need extra help in these areas:

- In the kitchen -serving hot drinks and refreshments
- Setting up the toys
- Packing away the toys at the end
- Singing session – do you play an instrument? Familiar with nursery rhymes?
- Offering support in the play activities and mingling with parents / carers offering support.

If you think you could help in any way, please feel free to drop in and have a chat and see what our amazing group is all about.

Thank you for your support and prayers
The Tuesday Break Team.
Annette Gregory group leader

CONNECT

St. Helen's Church continues to be open between 10 and 12 noon on the first and third Saturdays of the month, offering friendship over refreshments, an opportunity to look round the church, or a quiet space for prayer and reflection.

Most of us would agree that it is desirable to make St. Helen's available to the community like this....and so would encourage you to consider joining the team so that this important outreach can continue into the future. It is not onerous and would require, say, two hours every two months to welcome any visitors and make tea and coffee for them. It is lovely when we are blessed to welcome strangers...or folk who have returned to visit the church at which they were married, or their parents, maybe, often many years ago.

Please have a chat with Peter and Rosemary, or Richard and Kerry Bassford, or phone the office if you are interested in helping out! You would be so welcome!

Men's Ministry

In 2024, we had a full and varied program of men's activities with something for everybody. Men whatever their church allegiance or otherwise are welcome and come along but it is not out of any desire to be exclusive. The monthly social, on the first Monday of every month is an opportunity for men who can make it, to get together at the Horse and Jockey and enjoy each other's company,

There are other activities through the year, and these included an excellent Curry evening with Matthew Holden as our after-dinner speaker sharing his experiences as a Policeman and a Christian.

There were 2 men's breakfasts with Adrian Chatfield sharing part 1 and part 2 of his story serving the church in different parts of the world.

We made our annual visit to Trent bridge for the T20 cricket. We made this an open event, and it was good that several Ladies joined us.

We sometimes get asked about making more of our meetings open to ladies and we have discussed this when planning the programme. We think that the reason for men's meetings being effective is because they are a place where friendships between men are formed and built, and there is good fellowship in a relaxed environment. When opportunities arise, the gospel can be shared, and issues that men face can be thought about.

The final meeting of the year was a Christmas quiz and chips. All these activities were well supported and very enjoyable.

There is another strong program planned for 2025, and we look forward to seeing lots of men coming to some or all of them!

Iain Walker

Church Flowers

The church has been decorated with fresh flowers and displays made for the following occasions over the last year.

- Easter period
- Mother's Day- with small bunches made for the women in the church
- Remembrance Day- the church decorated with poppies
- Harvest period- displays made with flowers and fresh produce.
- Christmas period – the church is decorated with Christmas trees, advent arrangement and nativity displays.

The flowers in church are changed fortnightly with fresh flowers placed on the holy table. These can be used to remember that special date or person through a floral tribute.

If you are interested in this, please get in contact with me or the church office to arrange this.

Many thanks

Annette Gregory.

Music group

I am thrilled to report on the worship group for St Helen's in a year when we have seen new people wanting to sing and play, not just on a Sunday but for extra services and weddings to name but some of the occasions where we lead worship. It's such a joy to have so many willing, committed, talented people offering to help in this vital part of our church's ministry – thank you to all of you. We have an abundance of riches with some able to offer multiple instrumental talents, and several singers who turn up week after week. Our biggest group is still in the morning service, but the more intimate setting of the evening service lends itself to more meditative songs and the use of video worship.

At Christmas we welcomed again a whole host of people to sing in our Carol service, along with brilliant readers – and earlier in the year we had led our evening congregation in 'Palm Praise' with songs by Al Kirkland. I'd like to especially thank Al and Chris Hawthorn for their unwavering support and talents, leading week by week with me to encourage us all in deeper worship and beautiful music that we know glorifies God.

Fran Beedell

Office report for 2024

During the last year the office has streamlined the payment system making it easier for hall & annexe hires to pay and to receive the deposit back. This is saving time for the office, the treasurer and speeding up the process for the deposit returns.

I (with the help of Rev'd. Paul and Beverley) have researched various data bases and found what we feel would work best for the parish. We purchased this towards the end of last year and started work on this.

I have also used what I have learned on the digital media course and continued to build and grow our social media platforms which now includes Instagram. This is a great source of free advertising as well as engagement between the church and parishioners.

I trailed out QR codes for ease of use for the Christmas period that link to the website and or Facebook taking the user to the 'what's on section'. Notices, I continue to use MailChimp and aim to send an E-Newsletter out fortnightly on a Friday. This seems to be working well, as we can now add links to the website and a more information button.

As a team we also print a Stapleford Parish Newsletter which is much more condensed version of the full E-News.

Weddings. We held our first wedding open day using local suppliers. The church was dressed beautifully, and we secured a wedding on the day for this year.

Hall & Annexe hire

The hall is very well used by church and the community. With lots going off for different interests and ages.

Annexe ad hoc bookings – 23

One Weekly user – from April – December

Hall ad hoc bookings - 45

Regular hirers - 10

The £50 deposit is still in place and have no plans to remove this.

I continue to respond to all enquiries in a timely manner and invoice where possible. I hope that this year's booking raise with the work that we all continue to do with advertising.

Thank you to everyone that helps the office during my annual leave.

Rebecca Gabbitas Parish Church Administrator

Friendship Club

The club is in it's 39th year having started in 1986. It meets alternate Wednesday's at 2pm at St Helen's Church hall.

Normally for the first hour we have a programme of entertainment. This alternates, we have singers, choirs or musicians at one meeting then illustrated talks at the next. The illustrated talks have included Sicily, the doctor goes to war, Bygone shops of Nottingham and Cromford canal restoration, a wide variety. 3pm is time for time for tea and coffee and biscuits then it's quiz and humorous stories until we finish about 3:45.

Lunchtime. Since Covid Emma Jones has only been able to do 3 dinners a year, at September restart. Christmas and Easter. At the other meetings we have soup and rolls.

During the year our separate accounts were closed. The club is now part of the main church accounts.

Membership is declining, 2023 attendance was average 30, 2024 was 28 and 2025 is down to 23. We do get a few new members unfortunately we have far more deaths and long-term sick. The committee is at a minimum as we are short of active members.

David Steggles Chairman

Eco Church APCM report February 2025

During 2024 St Helen's PCC agreed to register with the Eco Church scheme. This scheme is run by A Rocha, a Christian ecology movement which for many years has been a leading voice in how we should care for the world which God has given us to live in.

The Eco Church vision is that we should be helped both as churches and individuals to respond effectively to the pressing environmental issues which face us today. These issues are wide ranging but include the climate emergency, justice for the people in parts of the world most affected by global warming and the loss of biodiversity in the UK.

A small group has now formed to lead the parish in engaging with these issues. Our next activity will be to complete an Eco Church survey covering a range of topics including how to improve the energy efficiency of our church buildings, how we teach and pray about caring for the environment and how to encourage personal lifestyle changes.

By completing the Eco Church survey we will in effect be auditing how well we respond to environmental issues as churches and individuals. But more importantly we will be pointed towards actions we can take to improve our response. These actions will probably include small changes we can easily make (quick wins) and actions which are likely to take longer, such as improvements to the energy efficiency of our buildings which may be costly and require grant funding.

If you would like to join the small Eco Church group to take this work forward you would be very welcome. Please contact me via the church office,

Trevor Jones (on behalf of the Eco Church group)

Dame Caroline Warren Educational Trust

The Dame Caroline Warren Trust was set up with an endowment from the late Dame Caroline Warren. The purpose of the trust, is to provide religious and educational benefit to children up to the age of 18 in full time education in Stapleford Parish or who are part of the parish (there are several restrictions on what can be provided).

The Trustees are made up of the Vicar and Church Wardens of the Parish of Stapleford. Though it is not a part of the PCC, the Trustees are made up of members of the PCC.

Chair:	Rev'd Paul Savage
Church Warden:	Mike Hamman until May 2024
Church Warden:	Christina Davidison

There are continuing issues with the HSBC bank in updating mandates, and a lack of clarity on the assets, which has delayed the removal of Mike Hammans as trustee and prevented Beverley J Brooks from coming on. Rev'd Paul has been working with HSBC to resolve the mandate, and with the Diocese to clarify the assets of the trust.

Income comes from 2 properties on the school grounds at St John's, Stapleford, which require maintenance from the trust, we pay Insurance on the 2 properties, perform electrical and gas safety certification and the properties have had costly maintenance in 2024.

Last year it supported Harby by paying the full deposit providing a discount for Young People at St Helen's to go away at a discount. It provided a grant towards St John's school to provide a laptop, and gave a further donation towards the benefit of children in the school so they could go on an educational trip.

2025 looks to be a challenging year for the trust, as income is forecast to fall, while the assets continue to age and require more maintenance. It will continue to eat up a significant time commitment while we regularise the trust, confirm its assets, and seek legal guidance on the future of the trust.

Under charity rules its income is less than £10,000pa this does not require a report to the charity commission. We expect to provide a fuller report on the trust and its activities in 2025.

Rev'd Paul Savage

Inspire Report

INSPIRE is the parish magazine which we distribute for free. Over 7,200 copies go out with the 3 editions we produced in 2024. The magazine was set up to be a source of good news in a world where people focus on the bad. It's an opportunity to share the good news of Jesus, and good stories of local interest. We would like to thank everyone who is involved in distributing the magazine, and Steve Marvin for making sure this happens. We do appreciate it.

The editorial Team:

Editor	Peter Turner
Designer	Alan Sare (retired Dec 2024)
Editorial Team	Chris Bassford Dave Bassford
Vacancies:	Sport Schools Admin support Proof Readers

In edition to the editorial team, it receives significant support from Rebecca Gabbitas in the office to assist with invoicing, the Rev'd Paul Savage in seeking to develop and grow the magazine and Jo Dunn as our link between schools and the forum churches.

The cost for the magazine in 2024 were £4,380 with an Income of £1,775 (Advertising and a one off donation from the Forum) . This was supplemented by a fundraising Christmas concert. The magazine has been the subject of several PCC discussions, due to the rising costs of the magazine. The outcome being that the 2025 magazines future will be determined by significant reform:

- There will need to be a reduction in cost of at least 1/3rd.
- A new designer is needed after Alan's retirement.
- We need a further 3 people to join the editorial team
- 2025 it will become a sub committee of the PCC, reporting in regularly

If you value the magazine and want it to continue to bring good news, then we need your help, could you consider joining the editorial team?

Rev'd Paul Savage

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Back Cover

Accounts



The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period

From 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

Charity registration number: 1131777

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Reference and Administrative details

The charity's trustees are represented by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is responsible for churches of St Helen's, St Luke's, and The Church @ Montrose Court, all of which are located in Stapleford, Nottingham. The Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford is part of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The charity's principal address is Stapleford Parish Church Office, St Helen's Church Hall, Frederick Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8FN.

PCC members who were trustees on the date this report was approved and those who served as members/trustees at any time during the reporting period (1st January to 31st December 2023) are:

Chairperson	Reverend Paul Savage
Wardens	Mike Hammans Christina Davidson
Secretary	Deborah Greenhalgh
Treasurer	Chris Hawthorn
Deanery Synod members	Mike Hammans Christina Davidson Joanna Smith from 28 May 2023
Co-opted from St Luke's	Reverend Canon Joan Whysall Audrey Clarke (Treasurer for St. Luke's) from 28 May 2023 Eileen Dodsworth from 28 May 2023 Josephine Clements from 28 May 2023 Pat Morris (Treasurer for St. Luke's) until 28 May 2023
Co-opted from St Helen's	David Wild from 28 May 2023
Reader representative	Joanna Smith from 28 May 2023
Other elected members	Alan Sare Angela Witten from 28 May 2023 Beverley Brooks Until 28 May 2023 Chris Bassford Chris Bull from 28 May 2023 Claire McMillan from 28 May 2023 Dave Bassford Emma Jones Until 28 May 2023 Josephine Clements from 28 May 2023 Jefferson Koilpillai from 28 May 2023 Hilary Holmes from 28 May 2023 until 23 March 2024 Leon Smart Until 28 May 2023 Paul Beedell Until 28 May 2023 Peter Robart-Morgan Until 28 May 2023 Steven Marvin Trevor Jones

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: registered number 1131777.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern to the Parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC met 5 times during the year, these meetings were at the Annexe at St Helen's, St Luke's, or Montrose Court. One meeting was moved to on line at short notice due to bad weather. A short additional meeting was held after the APCM 28 May 2023 to appoint a Secretary and treasurer.

The PCC operates two sub-committees:

The Standing Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Parish. It consists of the incumbent and clergy, both Wardens, a Deputy Warden for St Luke's, the Treasurer and a representative elected PCC member.

St Luke's Management Committee is responsible for matters of specific concern to St Luke's church. It consists of both Deputy Wardens for St Luke's, St Luke's Treasurer, a Secretary and elected members.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC promotes, within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, including pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical elements.

The PCC believes that the range of church activities provide public benefit by provision of:

- Opportunities for worship and prayer
- Teaching on Christian life and faith
- Pastoral and practical care for the community
- Ecumenical links with other churches in Stapleford

To facilitate this work, the PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St Helen's parish church and hall and also of St Luke's church, Stapleford, Nottingham.

The PCC has regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Electoral Roll numbers

Before closure of the 2023 roll there were 193 persons on the Parish electoral roll

Parish Electoral Roll	193
Within the Parish	129
Outside the Parish	64
St Helen's	152
St Luke's	27
Montrose Court	14

The Electoral Roll for Stapleford Parish is renewed in 2024 with all previous members deleted.
All persons eligible for inclusion in the 2024 roll are invited to apply with applications closing on 3 May 2024.

The numbers entered on the new 2024 roll are as follows:

Parish Electoral Roll	144
Within the Parish	94
Outside the Parish	50
St Helen's	114
St Luke's	21
Montrose Court	9

The new electoral roll (names only) will be displayed at St Helen's, St Luke's and the Church @ Montrose Court from 5 May 2024, being 14 days before the 2024 APCM. During this time no new names can be added but errors are corrected.

Steve Marvin
Electoral Roll Officer

Achievements and Performance:

Vicar's Report

Thanksgiving and Prayer Phil 1.3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

This is one of my regular prayers for you all. As I pray and walk the parish. I'm thankful for you, the partnering in the gospel, the journeying through the ups and downs of our daily life. So thank you for your generosity, for serving the Lord together, in whatever way from coffee to toddlers, music to children and young people and the joy of hearing the testimony of the old and young about faith coming back to life.

2023 was a challenging year, probably the most overused and understated word of the last few years. It was difficult to get into a healthy rhythm, with a lot of changes as we said goodbye to Rev Karen as she took up her post at Trowell, Cossall and Awsworth. Jamie as she took up her post at Woven (we look forward to her Deaconing in 2023), and said goodbye to Laura in the office. Both Rev Canon Joan and Audrey Clarke have had significant health issues at St Luke's and we thank them both for all they have done and continue to pray for them. All of these things and my split Sabbatical led to a stop start kind of year. Yet we saw Jo Smith licensed as Reader, support from Rev Jo Stevens, and office support from Steve Marvin and Susan Bell and the return of Emma Jones to leading Montrose after a break so we have moved forwards. Some highlights were, Harby Youth weekend, Sunrise service, Maundy Thursday, Palm Praise & Christmas Services, all the School Visits, Messy and Mini Messy, an Un-Orthodox Christmas, Lunar New Year, Lectio and School of Prayer. We have served our community through the foodbank, Tuesday Break and Friendship club, discounted hall hire, raised funds for Tearfund, The Children's Society and mission partners. We have provided space to Connect with God, and begun to explore what it means to be a church called to be a "house of prayer for all nations".

Our vision is emerging to take us forwards. Where everyone is *welcome*, all can *flourish* and where we *share* what we have. As we gather as a Christ centred worshipping community, here in Stapleford and beyond.

-Where might God be calling you to welcome, flourish and share?

When I joined Stapleford Parish in Sept 2022, I said we need to pray and have fun. 2024 will be a continued year of change as we stabilise, reorganise and seek to find a healthy rhythm of our community life, where we prioritise prayer and have fun! I know that God is calling each of us to be with Jesus, become like him and then together do the things he did. We will keep exploring what this means for us in Stapleford and the surrounding area.

May our love abound, may we discern the Lord's will together, and become more like Jesus.



Rev Paul Savage
Vicar

PCC Report

The PCC has met regularly over the last year, with additional discussions on email as necessary between scheduled meetings.

Items relating to the Life of the Church, plans for the future growth of the Church, Missionary work at home and overseas, maintenance and repairs, safeguarding, the functioning and finances of the three churches within the parish, and payment of the Parish Share, are amongst the items which have been prayerfully considered as we endeavour to carry out God's will for our Churches.

D J Greenhalgh

PCC Secretary

Safeguarding

As part of the Church of England we should aim to promote a safer environment and culture to protect any vulnerable individual. We should safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults within the Church, respond promptly to any safeguarding concern or allegation and care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons. We also need to respond to those that may pose a present risk to others.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: it is not just a tick box but a way to show God's love in action. We celebrated Safeguarding Sunday at St Helen's to highlight this important work to the congregation. Many Church roles, including being a member of the PCC, require people to complete safeguarding training. There are different levels of training according to the role. Some training can be done on-line but there are also some face to face sessions available to be booked on the diocese website, I am happy to discuss what is required for any particular role. Some topics can be difficult, particularly for any who have personal experience: if you have concerns about any of the training or are affected by any content, please ask for support.

The PCC has complied with its duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Angela Witten

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care St Helen's is a caring church and takes seriously the care and wellbeing of its family.

Pastoral Care is in the main provided through the network of home groups where the members know each other very well, are comfortable with each other and feel able to share confidences. Prayer and practical help follow on from this. There is also a pastoral group made up from the leadership team and others, including Wardens who are available to offer prayer for all who need it including non-members of our congregation. Home communion is available on request from both the clergy and the team of lay distributors authorised by the bishop. This group offers additional support where needed. All Pastoral Care is offered in complete confidence and within safeguarding guidelines. Anyone can receive pastoral care and home communion, and if you or someone that you know would welcome a visit or a phone conversation then please contact one of the wardens.

Mike Hammans

Wardens' Report

We have now had a full twelve months of Paul's ministry which has borne fruit and a new vision for the church is developing successfully.

We are delighted to see the emergence of new leaders with other people currently expressing interest. This speaks well for the health of the church.

The environment of the church has been much improved by the re-organisation of the entrance foyer and the creation of a welcome desk. Also, the children's area created by the moving of the music group to the chancel of the church has provided more space for mothers and toddlers and made the music group more prominent.

Fabric Report, St. Helen's

There have been no major problems with the fabric of the church, but there will be a quinquennial report in the next twelve months.

We would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard during the last year on behalf of the church, but would remind the congregation that there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and get involved in the life of your church.

God bless

Christina Davidson and Mike Hammans

Wardens

Church @ Montrose Court

Incredibly The Church @ Montrose Court has now been established for seven years. We remain a small team, but all are very committed and on the whole things work well. Rev Paul has now settled in well as part of the leadership, is very much liked by our 'regulars' and I feel well supported.

Our weekly routine events remain as before. On Sunday afternoons we hold a very informal café style service including worship and teaching. Then on Monday and Wednesday mornings we open up for 'chat and pray' sessions when anyone is welcomed to drop in for a coffee. This is the time for folk to get to know one another. We have around 20 people who we see most weeks at these times, including several children attending on Sundays. There are also more occasional visitors. We are registered as a 'warm space' during winter months.

We also hold special events which are always lively and well attended. Most involve food and the number of people of all ages who visit us for a hot dog or similar will typically be 50 or more. We may offer open air coffee and hot dogs at the end of school terms to anyone passing. There were three Christmas events, including welcoming people for breakfast on Christmas day. During the past year we also held regular 'mini-messy' events, when Sue Bell kindly brought crafts from the previous Messy Church. We now look forward to next Easter, starting with a pancake party.

Another key part of our ministry is the foodbank, open on Monday and Wednesday mornings. We are part of the Hope Nottingham network of foodbanks. Clients arrive with vouchers from local agencies such as Citizens Advice or Jobcentre. The cost-of-living crisis is having a real impact, and some clients travel considerable distances to reach us. Some are in really desperate need. The food and toiletries we are able to provide come from generous donations, local supermarket surplus and sometimes we purchase food using financial donations. We are grateful for being able to work with the Stapleford Community Group who collect food from supermarkets and other sources.

Plans for the coming year include improving the outside appearance at the front of church and also the facilities inside

With thanks to Miriam Butcher, Linda Macrae, Stephen Mewies, Peter and Rosemary Robart-Morgan, Alan and Ann Sare, Karen Straw, Trevor Jones, and our church members. All contribute to our ministry in different ways. However additional team members are always welcome. Please talk to Rev Paul, me or drop in any time we are open to see if it's for you.

Emma Jones

On behalf of the team

St. Luke's Church

Colin Clark and I have attended to the fabric of the church building with the help of our plumber in the maintenance of the heating and its repair and the fitting of sensors for our safety.
The repair of a water leak in the kitchen. We have also employed a plasterer for the work on the building.

Colin and I have fixed leaks on the roof above the kitchen etc.
We have also repaired the guttering and down pipes to the blocked drains.
Flower and memorial beds have been planted.

Colin and I have made a new notice board and affixed new cabinets to the board.
We have fixed the St Luke's name in gold-coloured letters to the board.

Colin received his licence on October 23rd.

With Colin having his licence he has been heavily involved in leading and preaching at St Luke's along with visiting people and preaching such as Susan Bell, Alan Butcher, and Jonathan Smithurst.

Audrey Clark has taken on the post of treasurer despite her battle with cancer and its treatment and setting up a new bank account.

Eileen Dodsworth has lead services and along with other members taking part in the services we have been able to continue our weekly worship.

Joan Whysall is now attending services after her poor health and would love to help when she is well.

With sadness 2 of our members have passed away.

Iris Wheeler 22nd May.

Colin Hopcroft on the 01^{st of} November. His funeral was held at St Luke's, the first time a funeral has been held here for many years.

I am very pleased that David Steggells has taken on being deputy warden with me.

On a brighter note, we had a charity tea which our organiser Ruth Havers planned which raised over £530 for MacMillan.

Once a month we have introduced café church and our welcome café on the second Saturday in each month.

John Osborne.

Assistant Warden

Home Groups

The most common picture of the Church given in the New Testament, is of family. The early church didn't have their own building for two hundred years, so met in homes in small groups, or on occasions they rented larger rooms. It was in the home they could support one another, sharing joys and concerns. They grew in faith, praying for one another, and the Church grew and spread. Our home groups are based on the same principles as the early church.

Home groups are best with numbers from around six to twelve members. Two of our groups have moved from using church rooms to homes and have reported how much more welcoming and homely (!) it feels.

We now have seven groups: four daytime groups and three groups who meet in the evening.

I applaud all our home group leaders who give their time, their care and devotion, taking the role of shepherds. Thank you for your faithfulness:

Miriam and Alan, Irene Whitehead, Joanna Smith, Paul and Fran, Vera, Nadia Goddard and Chris Bassford.

The leaders aim to meet up around every eight weeks for support, encouragement and prayer. At present we are planning to run a series of sessions looking at St. Helen's vision exploring how this can be fulfilled. Hopefully, this will result in some constructive ideas on progressing our church to ensure that everybody is welcome, everybody flourishes, and everybody can be generous with their gifts.

We have also discussed the possibility of home groups being responsible for services. This way, we can develop our gifts and show case what we are about. We are also planning a bring-and-share lunch for all home groups in April with an invitation to any who would like to join a group.

If you are interested in being part of a home group, please let me know. If you would like to help a new group start, again do contact me. I would be happy to support you.

Chris Bassford

Home Group co-ordinator

Young People's Work

Children's Church

"We believe that children and young people can follow Jesus and be full members of the church, and that discipleship is possible at any age. They are integral to our churches, but we need to make sure there are no obstacles preventing them from getting involved." From Church of England website.

At St Helen's we provide bible-based activities for the children (10 years and under) on a Sunday morning. We try to make it fun with stories, videos, games, and craft. We hope that the name "Children's Church" tells people this is not school, but we also hope the children will learn about the love of God. We follow a three-year rolling program covering Old and New Testament teaching and celebrate the main Church festivals.

In the Summer before, the school holidays when the regular leaders took a short break, we had a fun morning and before Christmas after performing a Nativity for the congregation the children had a short party. We hope to plan more events in the future.

We are a small group of leaders and helpers and would value more support. With many little children we need people happy to be a pair of hands, helping on a rota: the more people that we have the less frequent the commitment (and you don't have to commit to help for life). If you are interested, please speak to one of us and we could arrange for you to come and see what we do. If you don't feel able to help us, please pray for the children and the leaders.

Angela Witten

Energise

Energise is for year 6 plus. Since Encounter finished we support all young people through Energise. We have a good group of young people in Energise. We meet on a Sunday morning fortnightly and tackle different subjects such as prayer and the Bible; how to live as a Christian, and issues they choose to discuss. We have social events which often include friends, such as pancakes, games in the hall, a summer barbecue and a Taskmaster challenge. We had a weekend away in September at the Harby Centre, and did this with Toton Churches. We also planned and ran an Advent Sunday service. One of the leaders has had a lot of illness. Please pray for the leaders we need to be able to build on what we provide for the young people. We would love to meet weekly and to do more with our social events to build the group further.

Encounter

Encounter is for 14-18 years. A small group met fortnightly on a Sunday afternoon, at the start of the year until we got to exam time, and had some good discussions. Since the summer Encounter has not met, and those who would move into that group have stayed in Energise. Please pray that we will have the leaders to provide a good group for these young people as they move towards adulthood, that there will be a place for them at St Helen's.

Messy Church

Messy Church continues to be a great way to include new families and to introduce them to the stories of the Bible and faith. We meet monthly on Saturdays at St Helen's church. We start with activities and refreshments leading into interactive ways of telling the story, songs and prayer response. We make up picnic bags for them to take away. Good Friday is a special time with a bumper Messy Church and we are grateful to all those who get involved in making it happen.

Please pray for Messy Church as we continue with less helpers, limiting what we can do. We are unable to have a meal at the end of Messy Church which we would love to do. It would be great to be able to provide something to enable those who want to, to explore faith further. One person with time and enthusiasm to share in the leadership of Messy Church would make a huge difference.

Susan Bell

On behalf of all YP leaders and volunteers

Tuesday Break

We continue to meet fortnightly on a Tuesday Morning during term time with our numbers on average of 25+ Adults and 30+ children.

We have enjoyed several events through the year such as..

- easter crafts with lots of eggs to find
 - A red, white, and blue day to celebrate the king's coronation
 - A summer special with a bouncy castle and picnic
 - We also made poppies for Remembrance Day
 - We enjoyed a Christmas craft morning and a trip into church lead by Rev Paul.
 - Followed by our Christmas party this year which was held at our local soft play centre 'little drivers'. We had 45 children and 38 adults that enjoyed the party and a play. They all received a gift from Santa and a special Christmas visit from our local fire brigade who brought all the children selection boxes.
- We continue to seek help in the running of this crucial community group and would love any help with either the setting up the toys/putting away at the end or helping in the kitchen. This group continues to

be a vital part of our ever-growing community. It helps new mums and dads to make relationships and seek advice in the early years, as well as providing fun enrichment and inviting atmosphere alongside activities for the children to thrive and learn.

Please remember us in your prayers and feel free to contact me if any questions.

Annette Gregory and Kay Mason

CONNECT

St. Helen's continues to open on a Saturday morning from 10 a.m. until 12 a.m. on the first and third Saturdays off each month (with very occasional exceptions). A small number of regulars come and enjoy coffee and conversation, and sometimes quiet prayer in the chapel. It is always good to welcome visitors, who call in for various reasons, often to look round, revisit the church of their past, or, maybe, in response to a need to be in a place of spiritual significance.

The opportunity to open just before Christmas for those who have been bereaved during the year, or those wanting to remember a loved one from previous years, remains a powerful and valued occasion.

Kerry Bassford

Men's Ministry

In 2023, we had a full and varied program of men's activities with something for everybody.

The monthly social, on the first Monday of every month is an opportunity for men who can make it, to get together at the Horse and Jockey for a time of conversation and laughter..

There are other activities through the year, and these included a Curry evening with Rev Paul as the after dinner speaker sharing his experiences as a chaplain with the fire service and then later in the year, we had an excellent Italian evening with Tom Colombo who cooked a pasta and spoke as an 'Italian in Notts'. There was a men's breakfast with Paul Gask from Christian vision for men at St Lukes who had a powerful story to tell.

On the sporting front, there was a visit to the T20 cricket at Trent bridge and an entertaining evening at the tenpin bowling.

The final meeting of the year was the quiz and chips.

All these activities were well supported and very enjoyable.

Men's ministry has an important role to play in the life of the church, as men meet together at these friendly and encouraging activities. We welcome friends, and men who aren't normally in church to all our events.

There is another strong program planned for 2024, and we look forward to seeing lots of men coming to some or all of them!

Iain Walker

Church flowers

The church flowers are changed and replaced fortnightly. Please feel free to contact Annette Gregory or the church office if you would like to donate towards the cost of the flowers or like to dedicate some flowers on a special date to remember a loved one.

The church was decorated for Easter and King Charles coronation. I also put arrangements up for Mother's Day. And alongside flowers in the church, we handed out small bunches of flowers during the service. The church was decorated also for the harvest festival, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas, in which the main tree was subsidised by Lymns funeral services.

Annette Gregory

Music Ministry

During this year we've seen lovely, talented, God gifted people come and offer their gifts to the music side of our worship, meaning that every week we can lead the congregations in sung praise, meditate to music and join together in uplifting hymns and songs. We're permanently based at the front of St Helen's now so everyone can see what we get up to!

We organised a carol service in 2023, and a Palm Praise which we hope to repeat in subsequent years. Some of us went to Albany school to sing at their Christmas fair – it was cold but fun! In the next year we are hoping to have more music and worship practices where we come before God together to explore worship and get to know each other better – learning new songs and playing and singing old favourites, so that we can be best equipped to lead the church in this side of ministry. We would love to have a large list of songs that all our congregations know and can worship through.

I want to say thank you to Alan Kirkland and Chris Hawthorn particularly, but also to the teams both morning and evening who help and give of their time. I would also like to thank the 30 or so others who join us for Easter and Christmas to sing and play in our carol services and Easter and Palm Praise. If you would like to join us in any capacity, please let me know – there are no auditions! We would love new people who could play and sing with us.

Just an additional thank you to all the AV operators who help us week by week by fixing any sound problems, displaying song words, and adding to the worship by screening sound videos – a particular thank you to Peter Greenhalgh for installing and maintaining more up to date equipment – you are all part of our worship team!

Thank you!

Fran Beedell

Parish Office

This is my first report since starting my new role in September 2023.

In the office we have made some changes that hopefully cut down on cost and on time.

We have now rented a refurbished photocopier / printer that we now pay for monthly in arrears. The idea being that only office staff with the pin can print in colour and stop any unnecessary colour printing.

We also can call engineers out if anything goes wrong with it, saving time trying to fix it and money.

So far, we have only had one invoice that covers December & January's printing, and it shows that we use colour & mono 50/50 split in those months. We are hoping that this now calms down as the use for service books is not needed as much.

Notices were taking up a lot of time and resources. We have moved to our weekly email using Mailchimp. This is a great tool, and people are now responding well to the newsletter. We can add action buttons for ease if people want to volunteer to help or if they want to book a place at an event etc. However, as a slight contradiction to the above we have an average open rate of 60% each week. It takes a great deal of time to compile a newsletter electronic or paper. Maybe we need another rethink as to why people aren't reading electronic or paper copies?

Social Media We applied for a digital harvest grant and won! This was to help with social media and advertising on Facebook in particular. I thoroughly enjoyed this course and feel that I gained a lot out of it that I could put into action almost immediately. I have tried to keep up with the social media posts and have found that are followers are engaging with photos, prayers and videos much more than before.

In November myself, Nadia & Norma arranged what started out as a small craft fair. Coffee, Cake & Crafts. In the hope to bring people together and maybe raise a few pounds selling cakes etc. I think I got a bit carried away and turned it in to something a bit more. I contacted a lot of local businesses who were only too happy to help with donating raffle prizes etc. We all had a great time and I have included a breakdown of what we raised on the day.

<u>Stand</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tin Can Ally	£23.45
Tombola/Raffle/Win a bottle/Lucky Dip	£408.50
Tea/Coffee/Cake	£297.97
Donation	£60.00
Stall Holders	£150.00
donation	£33.20
donation	£70.00
	£1,043.12

Bookings

We have introduced a £50 cleaning & key deposit for hire on the hall and the annexe, this is due to some users not leaving the premises in a satisfactory cleaning up after the party and has taken extra time to sort out in preparation for the next user / hirer. This has been well received although it does mean extra work to arrange the refund. The terms of use, booking forms & invoice templates have been updated where we saw appropriate especially to include this new change. We also only have bank transfer details on as an option to pay as we wanted to encourage less cash more online transactions.

I respond to all enquires and where possible offering an alternative date and or time if we are not able to fulfil their initial request.

Rebecca Gabbittas

Parish Administrator

Friendship Club

The club meets fortnightly on a Wednesday from 2pm until 3:45pm.

The first hour is entertainment alternating between singing, musical and varied speakers. Then following refreshments, we finish with a quiz and story time.

For the singing musical afternoon, we have recently had the Silvertones choir, a ukelele group, a folk group and possibly the highlight of the year the professional singing of Lilly Taylor Ward.

The speakers' subjects have included 'My kind of Paris' and 'an early Bradshaw's railway tour' to Skegness there and back by different routes. Then 'Christmas is Vienna' marvellous pictures with all the stalls, food, lights, and snow. 'British Money Ramblings' most interesting and very funny.

Our attendance is now up to 32. The charge is £2.50. There is one special afternoon, the carol service in the church which is well attended.

Prior to Covid Emma provided a two-course lunch. Due to other commitments Emma Jones can now only do one meal a term. On the other Wednesday's at 12:45pm we provide soup and a roll for £2.50.

Attendance is around 18.

David Steggles

Chairman

World Vision

As a church we are aware that Jesus' command to love your neighbour extends to those overseas. In response we have continued to support the following mission partners:

Tearfund. Works overseas to alleviate poverty through community development projects and to respond to natural disasters. One of the community development schemes they support is to bring running water to villages in the Kigezi region of Uganda. Tearfund also work with others to challenge the injustice created by global warming, which impacts most on parts of the world who are already the poorest.

We can support the agencies above through individual prayer. However financial support through a tithe on giving to St Helens has had to be pulled back in the light of recent financial challenges. Financial support now comes through specific fundraising events and individual donations including the Mission Box scheme. Amounts forwarded in 2023 are reported in the financial accounts.

We have links with the following individuals, whose prayer letters are made available in church:

Alejandro Mesco.

Has worked with his wife Doris for many years with vulnerable people in Peru. Alejandro and Doris have both been unwell during the year, with Alejandro spending a lot of time caring for Doris. He still works when he can with the medical charity, MMI Peru, in Arequipa who support people with disabilities and their families.

Dorcas Letasi. Works in Uganda for UNESCO and the mission agency Global Link Africa. Africa. CMS mission family working in Southeast Asia.

Beom Jin and Marie continue to work in east Asia. They are language learning, and also continuing to explore how best to work with churches in the area in vocational training and education. There are many challenges to their work, but they make good contacts and make the most of the opportunities they have. It was great to have Marie visit the church in June at both Messy Church and our Sunday morning service. A group of us also zoom regularly with them, and anyone is welcome to join us.

We also supported Tear Fund by taking part in the Big Quiz Night in October, raising £520.00.

Susan Bell and Trevor Jones

St John's School

The school continues to provide an excellent education with a Christian ethos. The close links with St Helens have been maintained with the school using the Church for special occasions throughout the year. As usual there have been a number of trips and residentials that all children benefit from. In the coming months the school is expecting an OFSTED inspection and a SIAMS Church inspection. Please remember the school in your prayers that these inspections will be successful and not stressful.

This will be my last report as a governor. After 18 years representing the parish as a foundation governor with 17 as Chair I have decided to retire as of December 23. It has been a special time to be involved with such a good school and I will miss that involvement. Steve Marvin and Paul continue as governors and the process is underway for my replacement.

Richard Bassford

Chair of Governors

Nottingham North Deanery APCM Report for Jan – Dec 2023

During 2023 we held three Synods:

- 7 February 2023: Renew and Refresh

Our first Synod was held at Christ Church, Cinderhill and we looked at the Deanery responses to the Diocesan consultation on renewing and refreshing its vision.

- 13 July 2023: Vocations and the Environment

This Synod was held at St Helen's in Stapleford and included the swearing in of some of our churchwardens who were unable to attend the Visitation service in Southwell.

We were joined by Craig Hunt, the Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations Advisor. He shared about the training pathways available in the Diocese and highlighted the resources available on the Learning Hub.

Robert Cleave, the Diocesan Environmental Officer, spoke to Synod about the diocesan commitment to become net carbon zero by 2030 and the various ways it is doing this. He also encouraged churches to work towards eco church status.

- 15 November 2023: AGM and Renew and Refresh

The meeting took place at St Martin's in Sherwood.

Tim Pullen, our area dean, updated Synod on the renewed diocesan vision that had been shared at the Diocesan conference.

Greg Cowley, the Deanery Treasurer, shared about the change in allocation of parish share in 2024 and the review taking place around allocation from 2025 onwards.

This meeting was also our AGM.

Our Deanery Prayer meetings have also continued on the first Tuesday of each at Christ Church, Cinderhill.

This year we have had a number of clergy move within the Deanery and Diocese. Karen Hanford, previously at Stapleford, was licensed as Priest-in-Charge at Awsworth, Cossall and Trowell, Emmie Walford, curate in Woven, was licensed as Mission Associate Aspley St Margaret with Christ Church, Cinderhill and Anna Clarke, curate in Woven, was licensed as Pioneer Minister for Students and Young Adults at Trinity Church, Nottingham.

Peter Shaw moved from St John's Bilborough to be Team Rector at Emmanuel with St Paul Plymouth in the Diocese of Exeter.

Sadly, Bridget Baguley Vicar of Sherwood St Martin, lost her brave fight against cancer.

We would like to thank you all for your generous and faithful giving during 2023. We may not have achieved payment of the full 100% of our parish share allocation but we did manage to pay 85% a real achievement in such challenging times.

Rev'd Canon Tim Pullen
Area Dean

John Cartwright
Lay Chair

Financial Review

A healthy increase of 21.8% in total receipts (income) in 2023 achieved a total of £173,154 (2022: £142,109). This further recovery since 2021 was due to a substantial increase in church hall and annexe hire to £16,105 (2022: £7,321) and an increase in loose collections to £14,656 (2022: £8,293). In addition we received a generous donation for youth and children's work of £15,000 from the Dame Caroline Warren Trust. However, planned giving by church members continued to fall by 5.7% to £66,655 (2022: £70,655). We received investment income of £1,528 (2022: £932) and our investment capital in the CBF Investment Fund grew to £20,240 at year end (2022: £18,499).

Total payments (expenditure) in the period increased by 22.3% to £174,885 (2022: £142,985). Major areas of expenditure comprised our diocesan parish share, £72,204 which was paid in full and wage costs, £15,235 (2022: £15,886). Huge increases in gas and electricity costs generated a total utilities spend of £26,209 (2022: £9,462) an increase of 277% (2022: 53.8% increase). At the beginning of October St Helen's and Montrose Court opted out of the Church of England "energy basket" arrangement and negotiated new 1 year fixed price energy contracts at a lower, albeit still relatively high, rate. We anticipate significant reductions from October 2024 once wholesale prices reduce back towards normal levels.

Support of our external mission partners reduced to £4,015 (2022: £6,472) although events during the year, such as the Harvest quiz night, raised money directly for Tear Fund. £18,039 (2022: £11,773) was spent on mission activities within the parish including youth and children's work, pastoral and outreach, the publishing of INSPIRE magazine and in supporting the valuable work within Montrose Court.

The overall operating deficit was £1,731 (2022: £876) as overall payments exceeded receipts. St. Helen's contributed an operating surplus of £38 (2022: £881 surplus). St Luke's church contributed a surplus of £1,134 (2022: £3,435). The Church @ Montrose Court contributed an operating surplus of £150 (2022: £2,797). Expenditure of £3,053 on the Community Annexe in 2023 used up the remainder of the Community Annexe Fund reducing the closing fund balance to £0.

Chris Hawthorn

Treasurer

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain an unrestricted reserve of three months' regular expenditure, to cover fluctuations in cash flow, to give security to employees and to provide for unexpected major expenditure. In addition designated reserves are retained to cover possible emergency building repairs, with particular regard to the facts that St Helen's church is grade II listed and St Luke's is an older building with two flat roofs. At the close of 2023, unrestricted funds of £59,296 (2022: £72,099) were held in reserve.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:



Full name:

Michael David Hammans

Position:

Church Warden

Date:

Friday 3rd May 2024

Signature:



Full name:

Reverend Paul Savage

Position:

Chairperson of the Trustees

Date:

Friday 3rd May 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. HELEN, STAPLEFORD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				RESTRICTED FUNDS			GRAND TOTAL	Total
	St. Helen's	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL	St. Helen's	Community Annexe	TOTAL		2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT									
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary receipts from donors									
Planned giving	56,960	6,875	2,820	66,655	-	-	-	66,655	70,655
Loose collections	9,550	4,936	170	14,656	-	-	-	14,656	8,293
Donations	9,029	-	520	9,549	-	-	-	9,549	8,736
Legacy gifts received	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
For mission	-	-	-	-	17,789	-	17,789	17,789	3,553
Special collections	1,787	-	-	1,787	-	-	-	1,787	441
Income tax recovered	15,770	1,171	903	17,844	-	-	-	17,844	16,953
Grants	5,000	-	1,500	6,500	-	-	-	6,500	500
Parish Mission - Youth & Children	1,113	-	-	1,113	-	-	-	1,113	-
Business rates recovered	-	-	885	885	-	-	-	885	2,975
Parish Mission - Montrose Court	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
Income from church activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising	1,038	-	-	1,038	-	-	-	1,038	-
Church Hall Hire	14,390	-	-	14,390	-	-	-	14,390	7,261
Community Annexe Hire	1,715	-	-	1,715	-	-	-	1,715	60
Parochial Fees	8,828	-	-	8,828	-	-	-	8,828	10,365
INSPIRE advertising	1,275	-	-	1,275	-	-	-	1,275	1,318
Book sales (St Luke's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bank interest	939	36	-	975	-	-	-	975	382
Investment Income - Dividends on CBF shares	553	-	-	553	-	-	-	553	550
Other Capital Receipts	2,602	-	-	2,602	-	-	-	2,602	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	130,549	13,018	11,798	155,365	17,789	-	17,789	173,154	142,109
PAYMENTS									
Parish Share	67,328	4,876	-	72,204	-	-	-	72,204	72,204
Parochial Fees	8,298	-	-	8,298	-	-	-	8,298	3,466
Other Support for Ministry	1,549	-	-	1,549	-	-	-	1,549	894
Maintenance of Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Business Rates	-	-	305	305	-	-	-	305	1,590
Utilities	17,089	4,590	1,512	23,191	-	3,018	3,018	26,209	9,462
Insurance	4,567	746	600	5,913	-	-	-	5,913	5,137
Telecoms	929	-	115	1,044	-	-	-	1,044	991
General Parish Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clergy expenses & training	356	-	-	356	-	-	-	356	627
Wage costs	15,291	-	-	15,291	-	-	-	15,291	15,886
Office expenses	1,426	-	-	1,426	-	-	-	1,426	1,262
Sundry	1,230	647	-	1,877	-	-	-	1,877	2,081
Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church	8,824	673	-	9,497	-	-	-	9,497	5,069
Church Hall	1,116	-	-	1,116	-	-	-	1,116	396
Annexe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,380
Montrose Court	-	-	374	374	-	-	-	374	753
Vicarage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	106
Exceptional Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Parish Mission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth & children	3,368	-	-	3,368	-	-	-	3,368	940
Montrose Court	5,000	-	-	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
Pastoral and outreach	831	-	323	1,154	-	-	-	1,154	177
Catering	1,096	-	1,911	3,007	-	-	-	3,007	734
INSPIRE printing	4,062	-	-	4,062	-	-	-	4,062	3,778
Food Bank	-	-	591	591	-	-	-	591	397
Other	-	-	857	857	-	-	-	857	747
External Mission	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Lukes mission	-	352	-	352	-	-	-	352	336
St John's, Lindow (Alexandro Mesco)	-	-	-	-	544	-	544	544	2,743
CMS (B-J & Marie Shin)	-	-	-	-	1,405	-	1,405	1,405	2,143
Tear Fund	-	-	-	-	1,714	-	1,714	1,714	1,000
CPAS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250
Cost of Fundraising	356	-	-	356	-	-	-	356	-
Bank Charges	186	-	60	246	-	35	35	281	338
Other Capital Payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,150
Special Collections	1,735	-	-	1,735	-	-	-	1,735	838
Church Hall Hire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	90
TOTAL PAYMENTS	144,637	11,884	11,648	168,169	3,663	3,053	6,716	174,885	142,985
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	(14,088)	1,134	150	(12,804)	14,126	(3,053)	11,073	(1,731)	(876)
Reserves at 1st January 2023	40,591	23,797	7,711	72,099	329	3,053	3,382	75,481	76,357
Reserves at 31st December 2023	26,503	24,931	7,861	59,295	14,455	-	14,455	73,750	75,481

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	St. Helen's	Community Annexe	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds						
Bank balances	10,251	473	7,802	7,861	26,387	28,223
Deposit balances	-	-	17,129	-	17,129	17,963
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-	-
CBF Deposit Fund	30,234	-	-	-	30,234	29,295
	<u>40,485</u>	<u>473</u>	<u>24,931</u>	<u>7,861</u>	<u>73,750</u>	<u>75,481</u>
Other monetary assets						
Income tax recoverable	4,489	-	-	211	4,700	4,013
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>4,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>4,700</u>	<u>4,013</u>
Income tax recoverable for Oct-Dec 2023 was not claimed until Jan 2024, so will be included in that year's accounts						
Investments						
895.35 Income Shares in CBF Investment Fund	20,240	-	-	-	20,240	18,499
	<u>20,240</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,240</u>	<u>18,499</u>
Liabilities						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Assets less Liabilities	<u>65,214</u>	<u>473</u>	<u>24,931</u>	<u>8,072</u>	<u>98,690</u>	<u>97,993</u>

NOTES

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with both the Charities Act 2011, section 133 (as amended) on the Receipts and Payments basis and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

2. ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

	Balance B/Fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/Fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
St Helen's (Youth & Children & External Mission)	329	17,789	3,663	-	14,455
Community Annexe	3,053	-	3,053	-	-
	<u>3,382</u>	<u>17,789</u>	<u>6,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,455</u>

St Helen's Restricted Fund contains specific donations for External Mission (to be paid in 2024) and a donation from the Dame Caroline Warren Trust towards Youth Work in anticipation of wider matched funding from Southwell DBF in 2024 onwards.

St Helen's Community Annexe fund contained specific donations towards the construction and maintenance of the Community Annexe.

3. ASSETS FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

(i) Churches, Churchyards and Vicarages are vested in the representative body of the Church and are not Parish assets.

(ii) Fixed assets and property, which are retained for Church purposes and which are not investment assets are listed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as non-monetary assets including:

Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
Equipment and furnishings in St Helen's church hall

4. INVESTMENTS

Quoted investments are valued at mid-market value at 31st December.

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

	£
Gross wages and salaries:	15,291
Employer's National insurance costs:	-
Pension contributions:	-
Total Staff costs:	<u>15,291</u>
Average number of employees in the year:	<u>2</u>

6. PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

No expenses were paid to trustees. Some insignificant clergy/minister's expenses may relate to their duties as trustees.

One PCC member is paid as an employee (see note 5.)

APPROVED AND SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PCC:

Reverend Paul Savage
Chairperson
15th April 2024

Chris Hawthorn
Treasurer
15th April 2024

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

**Report to the
trustees/ PCC of**

St Helen's Stapleford

**on accounts for the
year ended**

31 December 2023

Charity no

1131777

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of
report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

18 April 2024

Name:

Gary Stephenson DChA, MSc

Address:

21 Gwenbrook Road

Beeston, Nottingham

NG9 4AZ

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Back Cover

Accounts



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St.
Helen, Stapleford**

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period

From 1st January to 31st December 2022

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Reference and Administrative details

The charity's trustees are represented by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is responsible for churches of St Helen's, St Luke's and The Church @ Montrose Court, all of which are located in Stapleford, Nottingham. The Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford is part of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The charity's principal address is: Stapleford Parish Church Office, St Helen's Church Hall, Frederick Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8FN.

PCC members who were trustees on the date this report was approved and those who served as members/trustees at any time during the reporting period (1st January to 31st December 2022) are:

Chairperson	Reverend Karen Hanford, until 26/9/22 Reverend Paul Savage from 27/9/22
Wardens	Mike Hammans Christina Davidson
Secretary	Deborah Greenhalgh
Treasurer	Chris Hawthorn
Deanery Synod members	Iris White until 22/5/22 Mike Hammans Christina Davidson Joanna Smith from 22/5/22
Co-opted from St Luke's	Reverend Canon Joan Whysall Pat Morris (Treasurer for St. Luke's) Audrey Clarke
Reader representative	Joanna Smith from 22/5/22
Other elected members	Trevor Jones Steve Marvin Joanna Smith until 22/5/22 Hannah Rice until 22/5/22 Paul Beedell Peter Robart-Morgan Alan Sare Leon Smart until 22/5/22 Stephen Mewies until 16/5/21 and from 22/5/22 until 18/11/22 Toni Thorncraft-Smith until 22/5/22 Chris Bassford from 22/5/22 Dave Bassford from 22/5/22 Beverley Brooks from 22/5/22 Emma Jones from 22/5/22

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: registered number 1131777.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern to the Parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The PCC met 6 times during 2022. 5 meetings were held via Zoom video conference and the first in-person meeting resumed in the Community Annexe. A very short additional meeting was held after the APCM on 22nd May 2022 in church.

The PCC operates two sub-committees:

The Standing Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Parish. It consists of the incumbent and clergy, both Wardens, a Deputy Warden for St Luke's, the Treasurer and a representative elected PCC member.

St Luke's Management Committee is responsible for matters of specific concern to St Luke's church. It consists of both Deputy Wardens for St Luke's, St Luke's Treasurer, a Secretary and elected members.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC promotes, within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, including pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical elements.

The PCC believes that the range of church activities provide public benefit by provision of:

- Opportunities for worship and prayer
- Teaching on Christian life and faith
- Pastoral and practical care for the community
- Ecumenical links with other churches in Stapleford

To facilitate this work, the PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St Helen's parish church and hall and also of St Luke's church, Stapleford, Nottingham.

The PCC has regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Electoral Roll numbers 2023

New applications to be included on the electoral roll since the last AGM held on 22 May 2022 have all been entered. Members who have moved away, asked to be removed or have passed away have been removed.

New entries closed on 30th April 2023

The 2023 roll has been on display from 14th May 2023. (names only)

There are 203 persons on the Parish electoral roll

Live Within the Parish	133
Live Outside the Parish	70
Registered St Helen's	161
Registered St Luke's	28
Registered Montrose Court	14

Steve Marvin

Electoral Roll Officer

Achievements and Performance:

Vicar's Report

Our APCM is a chance to look back with gratitude as we thank people for their involvement and thank God for his provision. It is also a chance to think about our future.

As you all know I only became the Vicar here in Sept so it was a privilege to join in and I have spent these first months watching, and seeing where God is at work amongst us, the challenges and opportunities which are here. The following reports are a testimony to God's provision both in terms of all those who serve the Lord in some way in the church community and in God's rich generous provision. We have done more than we thought possible.

Over the coming months we will be spending sometime dwelling in Matthew 21:13 "...a house of prayer for all Nations". It feels like a passage for us here. Originally written by Isaiah about the temple, Jesus says the temple has lost its way and its purpose, it is to be a place of PRAYER for ALL nations. It is early days but I believe we have started to grow in those 2 areas of our church life together. **Prayer and Diversity.**

So firstly, a thank you to all those who spent time in prayer and preparation for the Parish Profile and Interviewing for the New Vicar. I hope your prayers will see much fruit. I also want to thank the PCC for all the hard work that has been put in prayerfully discerning how to use the finances we have and support the re-emerging of the churches post COVID.

A Local Church

The churches in the Parish are local churches. Particular thanks to the Ministry team and Rev'd Canon Joan, Rev'd Karen Hansford, Jo Smith, Fran Beedell, Emma & Trevor Jones, Mike Hammond, Christina Davidson, John Osborne, Eileen Dodsworth, Colin and Audrey Clarke & Jamie our Ordinand. Children, young people and their families remain a key part of our church life. Thanks go to Angela Witten & Susan Bell and their teams for seeking to provide safe, fun spaces for them to grow and flourish. Thanks to Laura and those who have helped in the office. Steve our premises manager continues to go above and beyond what his hours would allow, and we don't want to take that for granted. But everything we do depends on Jesus, and the people he is knitting together who are the Church. It is your giving of yourselves in loving service, in prayer, and financially which makes everything happen.

A Growing Church

I am not really one for statistics, but having filled in our Stats for mission to the Diocese, we have pretty much doubled in size since the challenges of last year. We continue to see new people every week, as well as people returning. This brings its challenges as we seek to be safe and welcoming spaces for everyone. It means we will need to work on our welcome and find ways to have fun together so we can get to know each other and continue to be the **Jesus Centred** worshipping community we are meant to be. It also highlights that we need to continue to work together to ensure our children, young people and families are supported and encouraged in their faith.

An International Church

You might have noticed that I have used Church and church. We are part of the Church, which stretches back beyond the history of our buildings in which we worship, and into the future. It's not limited to our town, or nation or language. The other use could really be congregation or group. But no where is church the buildings. As we embrace this, and welcome people from around the world in our congregations, we become more truly the Church we are called to be. We mourn with those who mourn who have left their own countries because of politics, and conflict or persecution. We rejoice as the orphan and widow find family and in new starts and making homes here.

So with grateful thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ we commend this year to you.

Rev Paul Savage

Vicar

PCC Report

The PCC has met regularly and prayerfully over the last year; initially on Zoom, and latterly in the Annexe. As Covid restrictions were eased, care was taken to ensure that the return to worship was safe, and that individuals felt comfortable attending.

We rejoiced in the appointment of our new vicar Paul, and welcomed him and his family. Shortly afterwards we bade farewell to Karen as she left St Helen's to continue her work in Trowell, Awsworth, and Cossall.

The finances of the Parish and the Parish Share, together with the three churches within it, and their buildings, have all been the subject of prayerful discussion. Other discussions have included, Youth work within the church, Safeguarding, Christmas and Easter Services, Missionary support, actions following break ins and prayer throughout the parish.

D J Greenhalgh
PCC Secretary

Pastoral Care

St Helen's is a caring church and takes seriously the care and wellbeing of its family. Pastoral Care is in the main provided through the network of home groups where the members know each other very well, are comfortable with each other and feel able to share confidences. Prayer and practical help follow on from this. There is also a pastoral group made up from the leadership team and others, including Wardens who are available to offer prayer for all who need it including non-members of our congregation. Home communion is available on request from both the clergy and the team of lay distributors authorised by the bishop. All Pastoral care is offered in complete confidence and within safeguarding guidelines.

Mike Hammans

Wardens' Report

It's been an interesting year with highs and lows, highs being Paul joining as our new vicar, lows being losing Karen and the theft of lead from the roof.

It is wonderful that our numbers are rising and we are becoming even more multicultural and gender friendly, our doors are always open to anyone.

There is a new vibrancy in church and it is pleasing to see a number of new comers and the return of regulars who have been absent quite a while due to covid. The future of the church with God's grace is going to be wonderful.

As far as the fabric is concerned, in general the church buildings are in a good state of repair, thanks to a large amount of unseen help by volunteers. The roof repair has been completed and we await the retrospective faculty which has been applied for. Work is needed on the main entrance door and the glass door which is in hand.

We would like to thank everyone who has stepped up and helped in various roles to ensure the smooth running of the church.

Christina Davidson and Mike Hammans
Wardens

Safeguarding

As a Church, safeguarding should be an integral part of our ministry and mission, promoting a safer culture for the wellbeing of every child, young person, and adult. As such, there are policies, procedures, and guidelines to help us to follow good practice, reduce risk and respond appropriately when needed. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We held a Safeguarding Sunday earlier this year and, going forward, this will hopefully be an annual event to remind us all of this important part of our work as Church community.

Many church roles, including all PCC members, require the completion of safeguarding training. There are different levels of training according to the role, but it is now essential that all PCC members and those working with children and young people should complete the module on awareness of domestic abuse and there are face to face sessions available to be booked on the diocese website or eLearning. This topic can be difficult for some, particularly survivors of abuse: if you have concerns about any of the training or are affected by any content, please ask for support.

I have recently updated my own training: the leadership module focuses on integrating theology and one's own beliefs with safeguarding practice to allow good behaviour to flow from inner motivation. The trainers feel *"People should leave a training experience in some way different from the way they entered, the safeguarding learning and development pathways have been developed with this intention"* Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework 2021.

Angela Witten,
Parish Safeguarding Coordinator

Small Groups

Clearly Jesus thought small groups was a good idea. He had 12 in his group. The early church met in homes. That's how the church began and how it spread. In a small group everyone can be known, supported, offered unconditional love. From this family of believers, people can grow in confidence, in faith, in prayer, in discovering their gifts and using them. Every group creates its own character. Paul tells us that we are all parts of Christ's body. With Him as the Head, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. "As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love" (Eph. 4:16) This is seen more easily in a small group.

I want to thank all the small group leaders for their commitment and dedication. These groups offer pastoral support as well as opportunity to learn and grow in faith. Leaders meet together for mutual support and encouragement.

At St Helen's, at present we have five small groups, led by:

1. Miriam and Alan, at present meeting at St. Luke's on Thursdays at 7.30pm.
2. Irene Whitehead, meeting every other week on Thursday afternoons, hosted by Irene.
3. Joanna Smith, meeting in the annexe every Wednesday at 7.15, starting at 7.30pm.
4. Paul and Fran Beedell, meeting every Wednesday evening at the home of Phil and Cristina.
5. Chris Bassford meeting at various homes, beginning at 1.00pm. every Monday.

If you are interested in joining a small group, please let me know. If you're interested in helping a new group to start, or running a group for 6 or 8 weeks only, please contact me. I would be very happy to support you.

Chris Bassford
Home Group co-ordinator

Young Peoples Work

Sunday School

We are so fortunate to have so many children attending our church each Sunday morning. It is a privilege and a joy to have the opportunity to share God's love with the children and to have fun whilst teaching them something from the Bible. Unfortunately, like many areas of church life, we are short of volunteers and haven't returned to the numbers of helpers that were involved "pre-covid". This means that those leading are preparing sessions more often than anticipated so that there are sessions each week for the children (except the week of the monthly all age service).

We continue with the three year rolling program which covers different parts of the Bible each term and includes the major church festivals. We mainly use the Urban Saints "Energize" resources as a starting point for sessions, with some videos and a bit of "leader's imagination" on top. We generally include lots of craft, some games, prayers, and a snack or food craft.

Once again, we had a "Summer Special" in the Vicarage garden (while the Vicarage was empty) with sports day races and party food. We also had a Jubilee-themed week. Then we entertained the congregation at Christmas with a Nativity play before party games and more party food for the children.

We pray for more volunteers with a passion to share their faith with the children of St Helen's. This is vital work for the growth of the church family but it is rewarding and enjoyable. Please ask if you would like to know more.

Angela Witten

Energise

Energise is for young people in year 6 and above. We started the year, meeting on a Friday night over Zoom and every other Sunday morning in the Annexe. The zooms continued until the summer term. The Sundays continue to be every other week due to shortage of leaders. Sunday meetings didn't settle down until September when the group started to come more regularly and engage well in the sessions. In the autumn term we followed the life of Jesus from his birth, through to his resurrection, ascension, and looking forward to his return. We enjoy our time together and would love to meet weekly.

We have had social events on Saturday evenings, and we are now trying to run these each month. Energise members often bring friends along too. We enjoy food such as, pizzas and pancakes, and had a lovely meal prepared by Emma Jones. We enjoyed a trip to Southwell Minster and a Christmas party too. Occasionally we have to cancel these due to lack of leaders. We miss the help of Mike Turnbull who was a great support to the group and we are thankful for the energy and enthusiasm he brought. We also had to cancel our planned weekend away at the Faith Mission in Harby due to lack of leaders, but we are planning to go in 2023.

Encounter

Encounter runs for young people who are 14 +. We met every other Sunday at 5pm in the annexe for the Spring and Summer terms. In the autumn we spent time discussing how best to meet going forwards as the group is quite small, and young people have many pressures to deal with. It was decided to run monthly for now. This will be reviewed again summer '23 as some go to Uni and others move into this age group.

We have few leaders making the Energise and Encounter groups happen and would love to welcome others to join the team.

Messy Church

Messy Church is a family focussed gathering on a Saturday afternoon once a month. We have a theme and start with crafts and activities to help the families explore the main points of the story. Activity stations are placed around the church, annexe and courtyard. Families are encouraged to explore them and get involved and have fun, the messier the better. We then tell the story in an interactive way, sing and have time to think about what we've heard.

There is a lovely informal atmosphere during Messy Church, and we value the regular families who have built a relationship with the helpers. A highlight was the baptism in September of two children who have been regularly coming to Messy for several years. Each time we also see new families and Easter continues to attract a bigger crowd. At the start of 2022 we continued to provide activity bags to some families who were not yet joining us in person. The bags have been much appreciated, and we continued with them for a number of months.

We have not been providing a meal since we stopped for Covid, but in November we started to provide picnic bags for people to take away. We would love to go back to providing meals and having that time to chat with people.

The number of helpers has continued to reduce due to illness and other pressures on people. We are grateful to all those who help to make Messy Church happen whether in preparing crafts, setting up and clearing up, helping at Messy, or praying for us. With more helpers we could do more so do talk to us if you are interested in joining the team.

Susan Bell

On behalf of all YP leaders and volunteers

CONNECT

Church continues to be open most first and third Saturdays from 10 a.m. til noon for refreshments, conversation, and a quiet space for reflection and prayer. Over the months a number of visitors have called in, often spontaneously, for a variety of reasons, and it has been lovely to welcome them, and it is always good, of course, to see folk connected with our churches.

The name, CONNECT, feels very appropriate in the way being open connects visitors with other people, with part of their local heritage and with God and , for several members of the church family disconnected by Covid and absence, it has provided a bridge back, helping restore confidence.

Kerry Bassford

Men's Ministry

After a considerable period due to the lockdown when the men could only meet virtually for online quiz's, speaker evening etc, the in person Men's events have gradually re-established starting with the monthly evenings at the Horse and Jockey.

Other activities have then been organised, and were well attended including a Men's breakfast at St Lukes The Christmas Quiz and chips was also a very enjoyable and successful occasion.

Looking forward into 2023 there is a full programme organised which should have events attractive to the men of the churches and their friends.

Men's ministry has an important role to play in the life of the church, supporting men as they meet together at friendly and encouraging activities.

Iain Walker

Church flowers

The flowers in church are changed and rearrange fortnightly by me Annette. On special events during the church calendar, special flower arrangements and displays are created, these have included.

- Harvest festival
- Christmas -our Christmas tree this year was kindly donated by Lyms funeral service.
- Rev Pauls welcoming service
- Easter
- Remembrance
- Mother's Day

People are able to add to the calendar at the back of the church if you would like to dedicate the flowers on a special day to a loved one through a donation.

For more information on this please speak to Annette Gregory or the church office.

Annette

Music Ministry

It was a daunting task to take on overseeing the Music Ministry at St Helen's from Rev Peter and the Huxtable family in 2021 (ably aided by Al Kirkland and Chris Hawthorn).

During 2021 and 2022 however, I've seen lovely, talented, God gifted people come and offer their gifts to the music side of our worship, meaning that every week we can lead the congregations in sung praise, meditate to music and join together in uplifting hymns and songs.

We organised a carol service in 2022, and a Palm Praise (albeit some of us were virtual) which we hope to repeat in subsequent years. In the next year we are hoping to have more music and worship practices where we come before God together to explore worship and get to know each other better – learning new songs and playing and singing old favourites, so that we can be best equipped to lead the church in this side of ministry.

I want to say thank you to Al and Chris particularly, but also to the teams both morning and evening who help and give of their time. I would also like to thank the 30 or so others who join us for Easter and Christmas to sing and play in our carol services and Easter and Palm Praise.

If you would like to join us in any capacity please let me know – there are no auditions! We would love new people who could play and sing with us.

Just an additional thank you to all the AV operators who help us week by week by fixing any sound problems, displaying song words and adding to the worship by screening sound videos – a particular thank you to Peter Greenhalgh for installing and maintaining more up to date equipment – you are all part of our worship team!

Fran Beedell

Parish Office and Bookings

2022 was a busier year for the office as we got back in to the swing of full time Church with many activities returning, with weddings and baptisms increasing.

Hall and annexe use have increased with regular bookings and individual one off parties and training sessions.

Parish Administrator

Friendship Club

Prior to Covid we had an attendance of up to 50, Most came early to Enjoy Emma's two course lunch.

When we restarted in September 2021 attendance was down to an average of 25, Emma could only do a lunch at Christmas, Easter and September so before other meetings we have provided soup and rolls.

During 2022 attendance slowly increased to average just over 30.

We meet alternative Wednesdays. Our programme alternates, one week we will have musical entertainment, singers, a choir or instrumentalists. The next meeting it will be an illustrated talk from around the world, local, recent or historical.

We serve soup at 1 pm followed by entertainment starting at 2 pm for about an hour. 3pm is tea coffee and biscuits and we usually end with quiz questions and a story until our 3.45 finish.

Those who come really enjoy a good quality interesting afternoon. We could just do with some more people.

David Steggles

Chairman

World Vision

We have continued to keep in touch with our Mission Partners using zoom during the year as well as receiving their prayer letters. They value our prayers and our giving that enable them to continue their work. The giving to these was delayed in 2022, and made in 2023 instead, except for Alejandro Mesco who received a payment to help with medical costs.

Alejandro Mesco is working for a medical charity Medical Ministry International (MMI) in Peru. The donations we make go to this organisation to pay Alejandro. He maintains and delivers wheelchairs. Peru has been badly affected by Covid and this has had a big impact on what MMI have been able to do. The organisation 'Joni and Friends' provided wheelchairs which have been adapted and delivered to areas in and outside Arequipa. His wife Doris has long term illness which has worsened and Alejandro spends a lot of his time supporting her alongside his daughter and sons. He has also been ill during the year.

Our **CMS Mission Partners** spent much of the year, praying and exploring how they could continue with their work after changes in the country they were working in. They are very committed to continuing to work with the people in that country and support them in whatever ways they can, including online language teaching. Gradually a new plan developed, and, in the autumn, they moved back to the mission field in SE Asia. They are language learning and discerning how they can work with the church in their chosen country in vocational training and education. M got a job they never anticipated as a teacher at the local Christian School. This has meant they have more secure visas, and their two boys can attend the school. Their three children are doing well and adjusting to the latest change in their lives. We are looking forward to their visit in June 2023.

Dorcas Letasi cares for her 2 children, Daniel and Grace, while working for UNESCO in Uganda. Daniel is in his final year at Primary School and is feeling the pressure of exams. She leads the worship ministry team at her local church. Dorcas continues to support the work of the Ugandan mission agency, Global Link Afrika. She was one of the group that founded it back in 2012. GLA is an indigenous African evangelical mission agency that seeks to identify, equip, link and in partnership with the Church, send Christians to serve in mission opportunities.

The Church also supports Tearfund, including the Kigezi project, and the Church Pastoral Aid Society. We are grateful to all those who give using mission boxes to support all these missions and who pray for our mission partners.

Susan Bell

St. Luke's Church

Another strange and taxing year at St Luke's where the health of its members have played some effect on our worship and other things including our charitable events and other social outreach.

With Canon Joan Whysall having considerable health issues of late affecting her leadership other people have stepped up to help provide services and events. Colin and Audrey Clark have been fundamental to the provision of a Sunday morning worship. A lent course with a Video by Jeff Lucas was inspiring and there were different crafts to take part in with many participating also there were talk groups where we could discuss things from the video and other subjects. The Easter program was well supported and Easter Sunday was led by Audrey with Colin Preaching and Joan presiding. Joan has been involved in leadership when her health permitted. Our A.G.M. was after our morning service and successful nearly everyone stayed.

We were blessed with lots of visiting preachers from other churches including St Helens including Susan Bell, Karen Hanford, Jamie and Jo. May 22nd saw Joan Preach for the first time since her illness. St Luke's had a joint service with St Helen's for a Harvest Festival which was our introduction to our newly appointed vicar Paul Savage a lovely calibration. Paul preached for the first time at our healing service on October 23rd with Joan and Paul anointing.

We had our usual Remembrance service and closed with Robin Walker playing the last post. We decorated church for Christmas, Joan led our carol service which is always great. A joint service was held on Christmas Day and New Years Day bringing the year to a close.

I would like to thank all our church members who stepped up and involved themselves in the services at St Luke's without their contribution it would be very difficult for our worship to progress. And also a big thank you once to our visiting preachers from St Helen's throughout this difficult year.

John Osborne.
Assistant Warden

St Johns School

St Johns continues to flourish as a church school. The school is now operating normally after covid. All the usual activities have now been resumed and residential trips away have taken place.

The school greatly values its links with St Helens. There are two foundation governors appointed by the PCC and the Diocese, these at the moment are Richard Bassford and Steve Marvin. Richard Bassford is the Chair of Governors. The Rev. Paul is an ex officio governor. St Helens are regular visitors to the school and involved in assemblies. The input from Jamie Price was much appreciated in the period of interregnum. End of term services are held in the church to which many parents come.

The school continues to provide a very good education for about 100 children with a set of highly skilled staff. It has a real family atmosphere with each child valued as an individual. The school has a newly appointed Deputy Head, Nicky Pursglove, as of last September. At the end of the Summer term a long standing Teaching Assistant, Donna Colley, is retiring after 33 years at the school. She will be missed due to her great contribution to the school in many other ways, particularly with the development of PE and as part of the leadership team.

St Helens would welcome even stronger links between the school and the church with more of the children of our church community taking advantage of the excellent education that the school provides. Please pray for the continued success of this special church school. If you want to know more about the school then please talk to one of us.

Richard Bassford
Chair of Governors

Church @ Montrose Court

This last year (our sixth) at the Church @ Montrose Court has been for me personally and for us as a team by far the hardest. We are a small team each with our own personal commitments and at times the challenge of keeping things going every Sunday and during each week has been huge. There is just so much need in the area around us. We've plodded on, sometimes floundered and at times felt like giving up.

By the time Paul arrived in September of last year I personally had reached the end of my capacity to give. I was still recovering from the after effects of Covid and simply hadn't any more to pour from a very empty cup. So I have needed to take six months away from Montrose Court. A small but amazing team kept things going and the time out has given me a renewed perspective on the way forward.

However as I've returned, others in our team have more recently had to also step back and take a break. It's simply so much harder than you might imagine to be there for everyone all of the time.

Going forward into this summer we intend more outdoor events to bring back the joy and fun into what we do. Just showing Gods' love to those around us. We also aim to bring more variety into the format of Sunday worship, for example with occasional meals together, and Paul is now able to lead some weeks.

A key part of the ministry at Montrose Court continues to be the 'chat and pray' sessions on Monday and Wednesday mornings. This is the chance for all of our folk to get to know one another. These are also the times when our foodbank is open. This continues to provide an essential service. The number of people coming in with vouchers from local agencies continues to increase as the cost of living pressures build. We remain grateful for all donations of food and toiletries.

Other plans for Montrose Court include improving the outside appearance at the front of church and facilities inside.

Prayer is so important to us at Montrose Court. Please join us for the monthly prayer walks around the area at the times advertised in the Sunday notices. We also ask you to keep us in your own prayers.

We are also very open to new team members. We appreciate estates ministry isn't for everyone, but please come for a coffee, see what we do and meet our lovely folk. You'll be always welcome and we don't bite!

Emma Jones

(on behalf of the team).

INSPIRE

Pete Turner
Editor

Nottingham North Deanery Report for Jan – Dec 2022

During 2022 we held three Synods which were all in person.

- **8 February 2022: Growing Disciples Younger**

Our first Synod was held at St Mary's Church, Bulwell. We were joined by Ruth Lee, the Diocesan Lead for Growing Disciples Younger and James Willis the leader of the Eden team based in Bestwood.

- **7 July 2022: Racial Diversity**

This Synod was held at Bestwood Emmanuel. We had speakers from St John's Bilborough, Emmanuel and St Nic's in Nottingham who shared their experience of racial diversity in our churches and challenged us to consider the following questions:

- How has your church performed in relation to racial diversity?
- What action could your church take to progress the conversation around racial justice?

We also swore in our churchwardens

- **16 November 2022: AGM, Food and Fellowship**

Our final Synod of the year was hosted by St John's, Bilborough who provided a delicious meal enabling us to share fellowship and to worship together. This meeting was also our AGM.

Our Deanery Prayer meetings have also continued on the first Tuesday of each month initially via Zoom and then from July we were able to return to in person meetings at Christ Church, Cinderhill.

This year we welcomed Paul Savage as the new vicar at Stapleford. We also said goodbye to Jess Savill who moved to Toton, St Peter.

We would like to thank you all for your generous and faithful giving during 2022. We may not have achieved payment of the full 100% of our parish share allocation but we did manage to pay 88%.

Rev'd Canon Tim Pullen
Area Dean

John Cartwright
Lay Chair

Financial review

2022 saw a recovery in total receipts (income) with an 8.7% increase to £142,109 (2021: £130,778). The recovery was due to a substantial increase in parochial fee income from weddings and funerals to £10,365 (2021: £3,644), church hall hire, £7,261 (2021: £5,678) the recovery of business rates previously paid by Montrose Court of £2,975, an increase in plate collections, £8,293 (2021: £5,418) and a one off legacy gift of £10,000. However, planned giving by church members continued to fall by 13.9% to £70,655 (2021: £80,449) with associated gift aid recovery falling to £16,953 (2021: £18,936). There was a small investment income of £932 however our investment capital in the CBF Investment Fund fell to £18,499 at year end (2021: £20,967).

Total payments (expenditure) in the period fell by 4.4% to £142,985 (2021: £149,214). Major areas of expenditure comprised our diocesan parish share, £72,204 which was paid in full and wage costs, £15,886 (2021: £14,037). Our utilities costs increased by 53.8% to £9,462 (2021: £6,153) and due to us remaining in a fixed price contract for much of the year the full effect of recent energy price rises has yet to be fully felt. Due to our ongoing deficit position our aspirations to fund our external mission partners were not fully met, £6,472 (2021: £11,572).

There was a substantial recovery in our overall operating deficit to £876 (2021: £18,435) as overall payments only marginally exceeded receipts. St. Helen's contributed an operating surplus of £881 (2021: £14,271 deficit). St Luke's church contributed a surplus of £3,435 (2021: £143). The Church @ Montrose Court contributed an operating deficit of £2,797 (2021: £6,375). The Church Annexe fund contributed a deficit of £2,395 (2021: £2,068 surplus).

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain an unrestricted reserve of three months' regular expenditure, to cover fluctuations in cash flow, to give security to employees and to provide for unexpected major expenditure. In addition designated reserves are retained to cover possible emergency building repairs, with particular regard to the facts that St Helen's church is grade II listed and St Luke's is an older building with two flat roofs. At the close of 2022, unrestricted funds of £72,099 (2021: £68,400) were held in reserve.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature: 

Full name: Michael David Hammans

Position: Church Warden

Date: Friday 12th May 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. HELEN, STAPLEFORD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				RESTRICTED FUNDS			TOTAL	Total
	St. Helen's	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL	St. Helen's	Community Annexe	TOTAL	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT									
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary receipts from donors									
Planned giving	58,883	8,952	2,820	70,655	-	-	-	70,655	80,449
Loose collections	6,678	1,472	143	8,293	-	-	-	8,293	5,418
Donations	7,913	243	580	8,736	-	-	-	8,736	6,349
For mission	-	-	-	-	3,553	-	3,553	3,553	3,250
Special collections	441	-	-	441	-	-	-	441	1,615
Income tax recovered	13,036	2,730	770	16,536	402	15	417	16,953	18,936
Legacy gifts received	10,000	-	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	-
Grants	-	-	500	500	-	-	-	500	2,531
Business rates recovered	-	-	2,975	2,975	-	-	-	2,975	-
Income from church activities									
Church Hall Hire	7,261	-	-	7,261	-	-	-	7,261	5,678
Community Annexe Hire	60	-	-	60	-	-	-	60	890
Parochial Fees	10,365	-	-	10,365	-	-	-	10,365	3,644
INSPIRE advertising	1,318	-	-	1,318	-	-	-	1,318	1,097
Book sales (St Luke's)	-	67	-	67	-	-	-	67	-
Investment Income									
Bank interest	380	2	-	382	-	-	-	382	18
Investment Income - Dividends on CBF shares	550	-	-	550	-	-	-	550	532
Other Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	371
TOTAL RECEIPTS	116,885	13,466	7,788	138,139	3,955	15	3,970	142,109	130,778
PAYMENTS									
Parish Share	67,328	4,876	-	72,204	-	-	-	72,204	72,240
Parochial Fees	3,466	-	-	3,466	-	-	-	3,466	2,980
Other Support for Ministry	894	-	-	894	-	-	-	894	40
Maintenance of Services									
Rent	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Business Rates	-	-	1,590	1,590	-	-	-	1,590	239
Utilities	5,498	1,695	1,299	8,492	-	970	970	9,462	6,153
Insurance	4,194	728	215	5,137	-	-	-	5,137	4,934
Telecoms	911	-	80	991	-	-	-	991	1,292
General Parish Expenses									
Clergy expenses & training	627	-	-	627	-	-	-	627	193
Wage costs	15,886	-	-	15,886	-	-	-	15,886	14,037
Office expenses	1,219	-	43	1,262	-	-	-	1,262	1,131
Sundry	1,891	155	35	2,081	-	-	-	2,081	2,751
Maintenance									
Church	3,384	1,685	-	5,069	-	-	-	5,069	3,453
Church Hall	396	-	-	396	-	-	-	396	735
Annexe	-	-	-	-	-	1,380	1,380	1,380	-
Montrose Court	-	-	753	753	-	-	-	753	1,129
Vicarage	106	-	-	106	-	-	-	106	184
Exceptional Expenditure	20	-	-	20	-	-	-	20	-
Parish Mission									
Youth & children	940	-	-	940	-	-	-	940	1,921
Pastoral and outreach	-	-	177	177	-	-	-	177	547
Catering	-	-	734	734	-	-	-	734	856
Inspire Magazine	3,778	-	-	3,778	-	-	-	3,778	3,345
Meeting & special events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Bank	-	-	397	397	-	-	-	397	2,936
Other	-	556	191	747	-	-	-	747	734
External Mission									
St Lukes mission (Compassion UK)	-	336	-	336	-	-	-	336	1,536
St John's, Lindow (Alexandro Mesco)	-	-	-	-	2,743	-	2,743	2,743	2,981
CMS (B-J & Marie Shin)	-	-	-	-	2,143	-	2,143	2,143	1,881
Tear Fund (general funds)	-	-	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000	1,317
Tear Fund (Kigezi)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	941
Tear Fund (Change a Nation)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,035
CPAS	-	-	-	-	250	-	250	250	1,881
Cost of Finance	207	-	71	278	-	60	60	338	8,032
Other Capital Payments	2,150	-	-	2,150	-	-	-	2,150	1,085
Special Collections	838	-	-	838	-	-	-	838	1,695
Church Hall Hire	90	-	-	90	-	-	-	90	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	113,823	10,031	10,585	134,439	6,136	2,410	8,546	142,985	149,214
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	3,062	3,435	(2,797)	3,700	(2,181)	(2,395)	(4,576)	(876)	(18,436)
Funds Transfer for parish mission	(5,000)		5,000						
Funds at 1st January 2022	42,529	20,362	5,508	68,399	2,510	5,448	7,958	76,357	94,793
Funds at 31st December 2022	40,591	23,797	7,711	72,099	329	3,053	3,382	75,481	76,357

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	St. Helen's £	Community Annexe £	St. Luke's £	Montrose Court £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
Cash funds						
Bank balances	14,170	508	5,834	7,711	28,223	33,261
Deposit balances	-	-	17,963	-	17,963	13,949
Cash in hand	-	-	-	-	-	233
CBF Deposit Fund	29,295	-	-	-	29,295	28,914
	<u>43,465</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>23,797</u>	<u>7,711</u>	<u>75,481</u>	<u>76,357</u>
Other monetary assets						
Income tax recoverable	3,753	-	-	260	4,013	4,348
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>3,753</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>4,348</u>
Income tax recoverable for Oct-Dec 2022 was not claimed until Jan 2023, so will be included in that year's accounts						
Investments						
895.35 Income Shares in CBF Investment Fund	18,499	-	-	-	18,499	20,967
	<u>18,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,499</u>	<u>20,967</u>
Liabilities						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Assets less Liabilities	<u>65,717</u>	<u>508</u>	<u>23,797</u>	<u>7,971</u>	<u>97,993</u>	<u>101,672</u>

NOTES

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with both the Charities Act 2011, section 133 on the Receipts and Payments basis, and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

2. ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

	Balance B/Fwd £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfer £	Balance C/Fwd £
St Helen's (World Mission)	2,510	3,955	6,136	-	329
Community Annexe	5,448	15	2,410	-	3,053
	<u>7,958</u>	<u>3,970</u>	<u>8,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,382</u>

St Helen's Restricted Fund - World Mission receipts & payments (deficit to be covered by gift aid due in 2023)

St Helen's Community Annexe fund contains specific donations towards the construction and maintenance of the Community Annexe.

3. ASSETS FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

(i) Churches, Churchyards and Vicarages are vested in the representative body of the Church and are not Parish assets.

(ii) Fixed assets and property, which are retained for Church purposes and which are not investment assets are listed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as non-monetary assets including:

Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
Equipment and furnishings in St Helen's church hall

4. INVESTMENTS

Quoted investments are valued at mid-market value at 31st December.

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

	£
Gross wages and salaries:	15,886
Employer's National insurance costs:	-
Pension contributions:	-
Total Staff costs:	<u>15,886</u>
Average number of employees in the year:	2

6. PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

No expenses were paid to trustees. Some insignificant clergy/minister's expenses may relate to their duties as trustees.

One PCC member is paid as an employee (see note 5.)

7. BANK ACCOUNTS for ST HELEN'S & ANNEXE

The separate HSBC bank account that has previously been used to manage Annexe income and costs will be discontinued in 2023. Some money has been transferred to the main St Helen's bank account in 2022 (so bank balance is less than Annexe Funds balance). In future the Annexe Funds will be used to cover appropriate expenditure (including a proportion of St Helen's utilities costs).

This does not affect St Luke's and Montrose Court which still have separate bank accounts and are managed separately in year.

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the
trustees/ PCC of

St Helen's Stapleford

on accounts for the
year ended

31 December 2022

Charity no

1131777

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2022

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

9 May 2023

Name:

Gary Stephenson DChA, MSc

Address:

21 Gwenbrook Road

Beeston, Nottingham

NG9 4AZ

Accounts



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St. Helen, Stapleford**

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period

From 1st January to 31st December 2021

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Reference and Administrative details

The charity's trustees are represented by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is responsible for churches of St Helen's, St Luke's and The Church @ Montrose Court, all of which are located in Stapleford, Nottingham. The Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford is part of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The charity's principal address is: Stapleford Parish Church Office, St Helen's Church Hall, Frederick Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8FN.

PCC members who were trustees on the date this report was approved and those who served as members/trustees at any time during the reporting period (1st January to 31st December 2021) are:

Chairperson	Reverend Karen Hanford, from 01/2/21 Reverend Peter Huxtable, until 31/1/21
Wardens	Joanna Smith, until 16/5/21 Mike Hammans Christina Davidson
Secretary	Deborah Greenhalgh
Treasurer	Heather Bessant, until 16/5/21 Chris Hawthorn, from 16/5/21
Deanery Synod members	Iris White Mike Hammans Christina Davidson Hans Barto, until 01/8/21
Co-opted from St Luke's	Reverend Canon Joan Whysall Pat Morris (Treasurer for St. Luke's) Audrey Clarke
Reader representative	Nicola Daykin, until 16/5/21
Other elected members	Trevor Jones Steve Marvin Hannah Rice Paul Beedell Peter Robart-Morgan Alan Sare Leon Smart Stephen Mewies to 16/5/21 Toni Thorncraft-Smith, from 16/5/21

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: registered number 1131777.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern to the Parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met 7 times, via Zoom video conference, during 2021.

The PCC operates two sub-committees:

The Standing Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Parish. It consists of the incumbent and clergy, both Wardens, a Deputy Warden for St Luke's, the Treasurer and a representative elected PCC member.

St Luke's Management Committee is responsible for matters of specific concern to St Luke's church. It consists of both Deputy Wardens for St Luke's, St Luke's Treasurer, a Secretary and elected members.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC promotes, within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, including pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical elements.

The PCC believes that the range of church activities provide public benefit by provision of:

- Opportunities for worship and prayer
- Teaching on Christian life and faith
- Pastoral and practical care for the community
- Ecumenical links with other churches in Stapleford

To facilitate this work, the PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St Helen's parish church and hall and also of St Luke's church, Stapleford, Nottingham.

The PCC has regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Vicar's Report

For me personally it has been an incredibly rewarding time to come and help minister alongside you all in Stapleford Parish. Thanks to everyone across the 3 Churches for such an amazing welcome and to the Wardens & Ministry Team for unstinting support and care.

2021 was without doubt a year of change. It started with the 3rd Lockdown and with the Huxtable family and Clare from the office moving on in January, the Wenhams leaving in March and Simon & Julia in April. This amid a time of great change and uncertainty with the Covid Pandemic left many feeling bereft.

Alongside these losses, it was a great joy to begin our corporate worship again on Easter Sunday 2021 – when I started to meet people in person for the first time. The whole wider Ministry Team have done an amazing job – giving their all to maintain wonderfully uplifting worship Services week by week while also keeping the Online Service. A big “Thank-you” to everyone involved.

In May we welcomed Laura to the office who along with Steve has been an incredible support to me and to the smooth running of all that we do here, so much of it unsung and “behind the scenes”.

Everyone had to become creative and do things differently – not least the Church @ Montrose Court who continued with their Foodbank and prayer walking ministry week by week, while arranging outdoor café style Drop-Ins on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The Congregation at St Luke's welcomed the chance to meet again in person, while Joan, ever resourceful, kept up her weekly Zoom Services for those unable to attend.

It has been great to witness our Sunday worship at St Helen's gradually growing and families in particular coming back – and, of course, new people “finding us” and joining us, not least a number of new people at our 6.30pm Evening Service.

There has been a steady stream of Baptisms since we re-opened and it has been lovely to make connections with those families.

In our teaching last summer we took the topic “Meeting Jesus – what's your story?” and one of the real high-lights of the year was hearing some incredibly moving testimonies from members of the Congregation. We then went on to study the Acts of the Apostles during the Autumn with a series called “The Big Church Build”.

I want to thank those who week by week, month by month, have continued the vital ministry amongst our children, young people and families with Sunday School, Tuesday Break, Messy Church, Energise and Encounter. It was amazing that in September 2021 the youth weekend at Harby was able to happen due to the dedication of the team of leaders.

We look forward to the way God will lead us in 2022 as we continue during this season of vacancy.

Rev Karen Hanford

Associate Minister

PCC Report

The PCC has met regularly and prayerfully via zoom over the last year due to Covid restrictions.

The PCC has taken care to ensure that all three churches in the Parish have met safely. We have been eager to maintain the life of the church whilst our priority has been prayerfully considering what can and cannot be done legally and safely.

All members of the PCC have completed Safeguarding training throughout the last year.

A great deal of time, effort, and prayer has been devoted to obtaining a new incumbent. This is still ongoing and we are certain that God will provide us with a new vicar in the future.

Other discussions have been related to the functioning and finances of the three churches within our parish, the payment of the 'Parish Share', Youth work within the Church, Safeguarding, Christmas and Easter Services, Missionary support, and prayer throughout the parish.

D J Greenhalgh

PCC Secretary

Wardens' Report

The last year has been somewhat different to what we consider to be the normal life of the Church.

As we have slowly come out of the lockdowns, the congregations though starting off small have gradually begun to increase and we are now able to worship together as the Church family we are more used to seeing.

There are unfortunately some members who have not yet felt ready to return to Church but continue to worship through the online services, these members have also been kept in touch with through regular telephone calls.

It has been heart-warming to see so many members step up to help keep the services and activities going during the vacancy, thank you to all involved.

We also thank the team who are doing their best towards the appointment of a new vicar, and thanks to Karen our associate minister who has been such a blessing to us all.

Christina Davidson and Mike Hammans

Wardens

Safeguarding

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a safer church for all.

Safeguarding policies and procedures in the Church of England have changed considerably in the last few years and are continuing to evolve. The present Diocese Safeguarding Advisor has been in post about a year and there have been other changes in the team.

Safeguarding training has been forced to evolve because of the difficulties of face-to-face meetings. Basic awareness training and foundation level training are only available as an online course (links can be found on the diocese website).

Leadership training can be booked, for those who need it, as a zoom event but numbers are limited to allow discussion. All PCC members are required to complete both online modules as well as fulfilling DBS checking and self-declaration forms.

Anyone is welcome to complete the on-line training; if you have a role in the church from welcoming to helping with any group, please speak to your group leader about the training. If you are uncertain or would like any more information, please contact me.

Angela Witten,
Parish Safeguarding Coordinator

Electoral Roll numbers 2022

New applications to be included on the electoral roll since the last AGM held on 16 May 2021 have all been entered.

Members who have moved away, asked to be removed or have passed away have been removed

New entries closed on 24th April 2022

The 2022 roll has been on display from 8 May 2022. (names only)

There are 204 persons on the Parish electoral roll

Steve Marvin

Electoral Roll Officer

INSPIRE....reflections on a changing year

The past year has seen many changes in the life of our community magazine INSPIRE. Our 'second editor' Sam stepped down because of a changing family situation. We are grateful to Sam for her work in seeing INSPIRE through covid and back to its traditional A4 format. It was I hear a real welcome back for our Stapleford readership.

The role played by Hans as graphic designer over several years cannot be underestimated. Hans illustrated a very caring and innovative style in the way INSPIRE was presented and I am sure we would wish to pass our appreciation to him. It so good now to welcome Alan as our new graphic designer He has provided an important link and stability between the changing editors as we welcomed number three to the post.

The new editor, appointed by the PCC, is Pete Turner who has already made an impressive start with the Spring Edition. I am sure Pete will take INSPIRE on to a new level with the ideas I hear being discussed. INSPIRE has been part of the Stapleford community now for over 10 years. It has a circulation of over 7300 copies and its style and content have been copied by many near and far. Articles have even been 'borrowed' and used elsewhere.

If you are interested in being part of the production of INSPIRE let Pete Turner know...it could be as journalist or researcher or reader. There are lots of opportunities.

Email : staplefordinspire@gmail.com

Dave Bassford

Editor Number One

St Helen's church

Clare left in January 2021 and we thank her for her time working in the office, supporting the work of the church so ably.

Whilst we were recruiting a new administrator Susan Bell continued to cover the office and again we extend our thanks to her.

Parish Office and Bookings

To start my report, as appointed office administrator since May of last year 2021, we have had a hectic but great year. I have been welcomed into the St Helen's family with open arms and although the role has proven to be testing in order to get to grips with the way all aspects of the Church, hall, annexe and office operate, I have had help and support from everyone.

I had been informed of the restrictions of lockdown and how this had affected the Church and slowly but surely we have been regaining our regular hall hirers through retaining their original booking slots and being adaptable to Covid restrictions. We currently have at least 11 groups which use the hall on a regular basis and Steve and I have been in constant communication with all of those regular hirers.

Our one-off hall and annexe bookings rapidly increased as soon as restrictions were lifted and the hall, which is used mainly for children's parties has been booked nearly every weekend with around 20 individual bookings between then and Dec 2021. The annexe has been continually used for small events and meetings and we have quite a variation of groups who come to use it for either business purposes or smaller celebrations (and they always compliment the space).

The Church and our other facilities have been in use for various local school events, particularly towards the end of 2021 for Christmas services. We have been in constant communication with schools in ways to encourage the school/Church relationship, Susan Bell in particular leads on this.

With regard to Baptisms and Weddings (which we could not hold at all throughout lockdown), we had bookings as soon as they could take place and many enquiries for the upcoming year. We have what looks to be a whole summer of weddings coming up for 2022.

We were also in the same situation with funerals (restricted numbers) but were glad that so many families were able to use St Helen's in this situation.

There is a lot to cover from all aspects in the office but not always enough time, therefore sometimes our social media/advertising can suffer, which I would love to be able to put more focus into with the idea to generate more bookings, especially for the annexe. Hopefully this is something we can focus on this year. Steve has been a great help, assisting me when the work load is high.

To finish, I am very confident we are going forwards in such a positive way to regain the confidence of our visitors but to also obtain the funds we need for the Church to run as was prior to Covid.

Laura

Parish Administrator

Friendship Club

After lockdown we restarted our fortnightly Wednesday afternoon meetings on September 8th. The entertainment alternates between a singer, choir or musicians and illustrated talks of holidays or interesting local history. Additionally, mid-term we have a quiz afternoon.

Prior to lockdown, Emma Jones and her team provided an excellent lunch but unfortunately now, she is only able to provide a meal on a special occasion. Our members were delighted that Emma and co were able to cook up a delicious Christmas dinner.

Rather than have no lunch time food, we started doing soup and rolls and it must be appreciated because our members always want more soup!

Karen led our carol service which was well attended. Attendance prior to lockdown was around 48 and we restarted with half that number but we are now at around 30 (nearly half of those being residents at Carpenter Court).

The Friendship Club provides a quality afternoon and we hope to increase our membership, costs vary little so the larger the membership the more money we have, the more expensive entertainment we can afford and the more generous we can be to charities.

I would finish by recording our thanks to Steve and Laura for their help and support.

David Steggles
Chairman

Men's events

In a typical year the Men's events will include Men's breakfasts, Dinner / Speaker evenings, a visit to the T20 cricket, Ice hockey and a ten pin bowling evening alongside the monthly evening at the Horse and Jockey. However the last 2 years have been far from normal with the pandemic, and we were restricted to the occasional online activity.

We have re-established the monthly evening at the Horse and jockey. This is still popular and a great time for men to catch up with each other. Other activities are being planned but with fewer men available to attend for various reasons we will need to reduce the programme for the foreseeable future.

Opportunities for men to meet together in a friendly supportive environment are important for introducing, building and working out Christian faith and life.

Iain Walker

Home Groups

Firstly, acknowledgment must be given to Vera Allen, who has overseen the home groups for over ten years. I know her vision and passion for the small group, and I share that passion. Thank you Vera for all your input, creativity and resourcefulness.

Having taken on the role of over-seeing the home groups, we had our first leaders' meeting on the first of February. Obviously the pandemic has had a huge impact on being able to meet. Praise and thanks must be given to every home group leader for their faithfulness in keeping on keeping on. With zooming and WhatsApping and reflective walks, the groups have kept in touch and are finding their way back to "normal." I know that keeping connected has been hugely appreciated, especially during lockdown. At present we have six home groups led by:

1. Colin Clarke, at present at St Luke's on Thursday at 7.30, with several members taking it in turn to lead.
2. Irene Whitehead, meeting every other week on Thursday afternoons, members taking it turn to lead, hosted by Irene.
3. Linda McRae, meeting at Montrose Court at 7.30 each Wednesday
4. Joanna Smith now meeting in the Annexe every Wednesday at 7.15 with refreshments and start at 7.30. They have agreed to a rota of leading and hosting
5. Paul and Fran Beedell, meeting every Wednesday evening at the home of Phil and Cristina, with everyone sharing the leading. This group, set up 5 years ago, was an initiative to support new people at church.
6. Chris Bassford meeting at various homes and led by different members. Our all-female group meets at 1.15 every Wednesday (usually with home-made cakes from Jackie!)

Two groups have recently ended. Susan Bell formed an Alpha group in 2020, following the course on zoom and continuing the group until Easter. Thank you Susan for your initiative, passion and hard work.

A message from Kerry and Vera:

Sadly, after around 17 years of meeting together, we have decided to close our group. Various factors have contributed to this decision. We are so grateful for all the years we have spent together, sharing our lives, and growing in faith. It is likely that at least some of us will find alternative groups to join, or we might even re-form at some point in the future.

Thank you, Kerry and Vera for your hard work and faithfulness over the years. It has been greatly appreciated.

Vision

Clearly Jesus thought small groups was a good idea. He had 12 in his group. The early church met in homes. That's how the church began and how it spread. In a small group everyone can be known, supported, offered unconditional love. From this family of believers, people can grow in confidence, in faith, in prayer, in discovering their gifts and using them. Every group creates its own character. Paul tells us that we are all parts of Christ's body. With Him as the Head, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. "As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love" (Eph. 4:16) This is seen more easily in a small group.

If you are interested in joining a small group, please let me know. If you're interested in helping a new group to start, or running a group for 6 or 8 weeks only, please contact me. I would be very happy to support you.

Chris Bassford

Home Group co-ordinator

Young Peoples Work

Sunday School

We are trying to run two groups for children on a Sunday morning each week, (except when there is an all-age service)- 5 years & under, 6-10 years.

The numbers of children fluctuate from week to week: there are still some families who attended regularly pre-Pandemic who we have only seen occasionally since, but there are other families now attending regularly who we did not know a few years ago.

There are more children at the younger end of the age-range, meaning the role of the helpers is very important to ensure we have enough pairs of hands to help and support the little ones. The younger the children, the lower the ratios that are required (1 adult to 4 children for the youngest). There are also challenges taking the children safely to the hall and then bringing them back to church with their carefully made craft.

The children enjoyed performing the traditional Nativity before Christmas and had a fun morning in the Vicarage garden in the summer. Otherwise, the session topics have followed our three-year rolling programme covering Old Testament stories in the autumn and, after Christmas, events in Jesus's life. In the coming term, we will be looking at parables and some New Testament characters. We always include lots of craft, some games and simple prayers.

There is a rota of leaders and helpers. Ideally, we would aim for people to help once a month but, because there aren't enough of us at present, leaders are leading more frequently, so we would love for anyone else to have a passion to share the Bible with the youngest members of the church to join the team: we just ask for enthusiasm and commitment. If you feel that you could help, please speak to me after a service or leave a message with one of the leadership team.

Angela Witten

Energise

Energise meets on a Friday night over Zoom and every other Sunday morning in the Annexe for young people in year 6 and above. The Fridays are still popular and get a regular group of 4 or 5 young people. We start with a review of our week and prayer which has been a good opportunity to talk and pray about the highs and lows of their weeks. There have been fewer joining on Sundays.

We have started to have social events in person with a pizza evening, a Christmas party and a pancake evening which was very popular.

We also had a weekend away at the Faith Mission centre in Harby and 15 young people from Energise and Encounter came. The theme was how God guides us which we looked at in different and creative ways. We enjoyed the sports hall and play area on the site and went off site for trampolining on the Saturday afternoon.

Encounter

Encounter runs for young people who are 14 +. Encounter was run by Simon and Julia Fellows on Tuesday evenings on zoom until they left in April '21. We relaunched in September, meeting every other Sunday at 5pm in the annexe.

A new group of young people have been getting to know each other and have enjoyed discussing a variety of topics. We then discussed what builds our faith and what gets in the way of it, following this up by looking at some of these areas in more detail.

We also enjoyed an evening out to the 'Dreaming the Impossible' roadshow, which was held at Trent Vineyard.

We have just 4 leaders making all this happen and would love to welcome others to join the team.

Messy Church

At the start of 2021 Messy Church were delivering activity bags each month on the theme of a bible story and these were really valued by the families that had them. Messy Church started back in person Easter '21 running with a table for each family that booked in. In the autumn we moved to having families move around tables with different activities on, using the church and the annexe. We stopped asking families to book from February 2022.

There are a lot fewer coming than before Covid, but this has given the opportunity to start to get to know the families better. We get good feedback from the families that come.

We have fewer helpers and provide fewer crafts and aim to keep the crafts simple so help is not needed.

We are not providing a meal as we used to and are a way off having the capacity to do so.

Easter has often had a bigger crowd come along, and 2022 was no exception with around 140 there.

Some additional helpers joined us and it worked well.

At Christmas and Easter we made up activity bags for the Church at Montrose Court to hand out.

We are grateful to all those who help to make Messy Church happen whether in preparing crafts, setting up and clearing up, helping at Messy, or praying for us. With more helpers we could do more so do talk to us if you are interested in joining the team.

Susan Bell

On behalf of all YP leaders and volunteers

CONNECT

With Karen's encouragement, we re-opened Church on Saturday mornings in September, initially just on the first Saturday each month. This was then extended to twice a month, on the first and third, with Peter and Rosemary manning the third Saturday.

We renamed it CONNECT to remind any who had not yet returned to services since COVID that it might be an opportunity to stay in touch, and this has actually proved to be the case. Otherwise, we continue to welcome members connected with St. Helen's, a few people from the local community and also, from time to time, strangers, each with their own reason to call in. It is a rewarding time and a privilege to spend it with all who come.

Feel welcome to join us for a drink, chat or quiet prayer in the future.

Kerry Bassford

Time Travelling

In 2020/2022 Time Travelling didn't happen at St Helen's because of Covid. Getting the children from local schools together to explore faith via history in our parish has been challenging to say the least. This year (2022) we would love to try to put something on in the autumn -however we would need a totally new team as many of the old guard have stepped down or left. (Thank you Val, Christine, Simon, Lydia and Peter)

Those of us left have other responsibilities in the vacancy so please pray that we have wisdom to know what to do next. This is such a valuable ministry and loved by local children.

Fran Beedell

St Johns School

St Johns continues to flourish as a Church school. The school has worked hard over the last two years to cope with the problems from covid. At the moment with all children back at school the staff are working extremely hard to make good any shortfalls due to the problems that have arisen due to home schooling. The school is gradually returning to normal with after school activities and trips out of school beginning to happen again. There has been a recent residential trip to Castleton.

The school greatly values its links with St Helens. There are two foundation governors appointed by the PCC and the Diocese, these at the moment are Richard Bassford and Steve Marvin. Richard Bassford is the Chair of Governors. The vicar is ex officio. St Helens are regular visitors to the school and involved in assemblies. The input from Jamie Price is much appreciated in this period of interregnum. End of term services are held in the church to which many parents come when this is possible.

The school continues to provide a very good education for about 100 children with a set of highly skilled staff. It has a real family atmosphere with each child valued as an individual. The Deputy Headteacher retired at Christmas and the governors and the school are in the process of appointing a new deputy to start in September. Please pray for this important appointment that it will be the right person to continue to take the school forward.

St Helens would welcome even stronger links between the school and the church with more of the children of our church community taking advantage of the excellent education that the school provides. Please pray for the continued success of this special church school. If you want to know more about the school then please talk to either of us.

Richard Basford

TUESDAY BREAK

We started back September 2021 meeting once a month.

Our numbers are steadily increasing October 2021, 12 adults 17 children. March 2022 26 adults and 29 children which is amazing.

We are just now starting to have offers of help, so we hoping these will be regular offers, which will enable us to eventually increase how often we can meet.

As we build relationships with new parents/carers and children more links can be made to other groups in the church like messy church, Sunday school and what is on offer at church.

Please keep Tuesday break in your prayers as it is a very important 1st link into the church from a lot of the community.

All our thanks for your ongoing support.

Annette, Kay

World Vision AGM Report 2022

During the past year St Helen's has maintained links with a number of overseas mission partners, as described below:

Tearfund. Their mission is to partner with local churches worldwide as they work to lift local communities out of poverty and also respond to specific crises around the world. St Helen's have supported Tearfund financially for many years. In recent years this support has been provided in three parts:

General funds. Money to be used by Tearfund wherever the need is greatest. Often to provide emergency aid to local churches around the world as they respond to events such as famine and refugee crises.

Specific support for the **Kigezi** diocese in Uganda as they work with local village communities to install new running water and sanitation facilities.

Specific support for **Community Transformation** work in Uganda, helping village communities to take advantage of locally available resources to increase their income and so lift themselves out of poverty. However there is a recent change to report regarding the Community Transformation support. We originally intended the funding to be passed on by Tearfund to the Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG) in Uganda who operate a such a project in local villages. We have more recently been advised that PAG have failed to demonstrate exactly how they are applying funds passed to them. It seems there is no suggestion of money going missing, the problem is that it may not all be used for purposes agreed with Tearfund. Whilst this issue has been ongoing Tearfund have withheld from PAG the funds we and other UK churches have sent. Tearfund have now decided they should redirect the funds to similar Community Transformation projects operated by other Ugandan churches.

Turning now to our other Mission Partners it has been very good to keep in touch with them using zoom during the year as well as receiving their prayer letters. They value our prayers and our giving that enables them to continue their work.

Alejandro Mesco is working for a medical charity Medical Ministry International (MMI) in Peru. The donations we make go to this organisation to pay Alejandro. He maintains and delivers wheelchairs. Peru has been badly affected by Covid and this has had a big impact on what MMI have been able to do. They have been unable to run their normal clinics for much of the year but have been delivering food to vulnerable families. The organisation 'Joni and Friends' provided wheelchairs which have been adapted and delivered to areas in and outside Arequipa. His wife Doris has long term illness which has affected her badly during the pandemic.

Our **CMS Mission Partners** had to leave the country they worked in early in 2020 and have been unable to go back. They were in England at the start of the 2021 and then moved to South Korea to explore how best to continue with their work. This has been a long and challenging process and their next step is now to move again. They continue to do online language teaching to their students. Their three children are doing well.

Dorcas Letasi cares for her 2 children, Daniel and Grace, while working for UNESCO. She has continued to support the work of the Ugandan mission agency, Global Link Afrika.

The amounts to be sent to our mission partners in respect of the past year are:

Tear Fund	
General Funds	£ 1,780
Kigezi	£ 771
Community Transformation	£ 848
Alejandro Mesco	£ 2,743
CMS partners	£ 2,143
Dorcas Letasi	£ 1,261
Total	<u>£11,088</u>

Susan Bell and Trevor Jones

St. Luke's Church

It has been my pleasure to take on the role as second assistant warden this year and will do all I can to help Joan and Audrey in the smooth running of St Luke's

Worshippers at St Luke's continued to attend the services on Sundays observing all Covid requirements with Audrey ensuring that distancing of seating face masks gel dispensers always available. church was open until Christmas day whereupon Joan commenced services on Zoom. Our management meeting on January 21st was also on Zoom.

Pastoral care of course was and continues to be of great importance particularly has many of our congregation are elderly and shielding and nervous of mixing. We have lost from our church family John Gran, Pat and Tony Watson and Ray Derby, stalwarts of St Luke's this year .

A number of our congregation have found it difficult to attend due to poor health which makes the Pastoral care so vital.

On Saturday 27th November we were able to have a charity event in spite of Covid. where we supplied Cake and Tea and Coffee This was very well attended and raised £300 which was for Macmillan We joined the local scarecrow competition in August and were able to meet our local MP.

A six week bible study on the Prayers of Jesus was organised by Joan with our healing service on the 24th October. We held our remembrance service on the 14th November and a candle lighting to remember loved ones.

Our Carol service was held on the 19th Dec

Our after service cake tea and biscuits have been provided in the main church which is safer and well received.

Throughout the year we have received nurture and guidance from Canon Joan Whysall and she has implemented lots of helpful outreach as well as put her IT knowledge to good purpose for the congregation to enjoy. We have on occasion had visiting speakers which has been quite illuminating and I am sure that we have all taken something from these speakers.

As a church we are grateful to Diane and Kerry playing the piano and Richard Bassford for leading. Audrey and Colin have been fundamental in helping Joan make the smooth running of St Luke's through these difficult times and we are also grateful to have had a dishwasher donated for the kitchen.

With Peter Huxtable leaving in January 2021 he was presented with a gift from St Lukes and a zoom farewell. The parish is in the throws of advertising for a new vicar and hope to be interviewing prospective candidates soon .

The fabric of the church is being well maintained and work on the quinquennial report are on going.

John Osborne.

Assistant Warden

Church @ Montrose Court

A positive year.

At the time of our last report a year ago we were unable to open for Sunday worship or for informal weekday sessions, due to lockdown restrictions. During lockdown it was difficult to maintain relationships with Church members we had become used to seeing every week. It was good to be able to maintain an online presence through Facebook, (which is used by most of our regular church members) and with 'Sunday onlines'. Also though prayer walking around the estate. But even so it sometimes felt like hard work, as if we were walking through mud. Like groundhog day.

So it's been great since the summer of last year to be able to gradually open up for business as usual. We started by opening for our informal weekday sessions on Monday and Wednesday mornings, when people chat over a coffee and biscuits then close with a short time of prayer together. At first these were held outside our shop front, then we moved back indoors as the weather got colder and covid eased.

At Christmas it was great to be able to go carol singing around the estate. Then at Easter we again went round the estate with the cross, singing hymns and handing out activity bags for local young people which had been prepared by the Messy Church team. We were back where we started just with outside events, over five years ago!

Also for the first weeks of 2021 we distributed each week a 'service in a bag'. We put in an envelope everything people would need to sit down and relax for a few minutes with a tea or coffee, read a short bible passage then read a reflection written by Emma. We included a wordsearch, colouring page for the kids and even a coffee sachet, teabag and biscuits!

Through all this time our Foodbank has continued to be an essential part of our work, as we minister to peoples' physical needs as well as spiritual. As lockdown restrictions eased we have been able to gradually return to our normal way of working, for clients to collect food parcels on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Clients needing help with food come with vouchers they have been given by local agencies such as social services or the Beeston job centre. Although demand for food parcels has dropped back from the peak of 2020 lockdown period it has remained much higher than pre-pandemic. And now we are starting to see a rise again as people who were already close to the limit of their incomes are being hit hard by rising prices and particularly by recent increases in the cost of gas and electricity.

We continue to be immensely grateful thanks to members of St Helen's and St Luke's for their donations of food, toiletries, and cash. Also to members of the Stapleford Community Group, who have continued to work with us as we emerge from lockdown, donating tinned and dried food to the foodbank while also working alongside us to offer fresh food to local people which was surplus at nearby supermarkets.

During the past five years we have been learning to trust God day by day. The leadership team meet regularly for prayer and we are now looking to God for his plans to develop future ministry in the local area.

Our team has grown with the very welcome additions of Miriam, Stephen Mewies and Peter Robert-Morgan. However it remains small which sometimes restricts our ability to expand our ministry. We'd love to hear from anyone who feels called to join us.

Also thank you so much to everyone at St Helen's and St Luke's for your continued support of The Church @ Montrose Court. Your prayers are vital as God leads us into the future.

The Church@Montrose Court is back up and running! Please do come up and join us any Sunday afternoon.

Emma Jones

(on behalf of the team).

Intentionally Blank

Financial review

The period saw a reduction in total receipts to £130,778 (2020: £190,585), through planned giving by church members, £80,449, and plate collections, £5,418, supplemented by income tax recovered through the Gift Aid scheme, £18,936 and other voluntary receipts, fundraising and income from church activities, £25,054. There was a small investment income of £921. Total payments in the period amounted to £149,213 (2020: £168,482) comprising our diocesan parish share, £72,240, funding of our local and overseas mission partners and activities, £21,910, and other outgoings of £55,063 which included the final repayments of the loan for the building of the community annexe of £8,000. The 31% fall in receipts was due to a general reduction in loose collections and planned giving with a number of very large contributors moving away from the Church and the after effects of the pandemic.

There was an operating deficit of £18,435 (2020: £22,103 surplus) as overall payments exceeded receipts. St. Helen's generated an operating deficit of £14,271 (2020: £6,284 surplus). St Luke's church generated a small surplus of £143, (2020: £8,015 deficit). The Church @ Montrose Court generated an operating deficit of £6,375 (2020: £10,227 surplus). The Church Annexe account generated a surplus of £2,068 (2020: £13,607). The final repayment was made on the loan and all giving in respect of the community annexe has now ceased.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain an unrestricted reserve of three months' regular expenditure, to cover fluctuations in cash flow, to give security to employees and to provide for unexpected major expenditure. In addition designated reserves are retained to cover possible emergency building repairs, with particular regard to the facts that St Helen's church is grade II listed and St Luke's is an older building with two flat roofs. At the close of 2021, unrestricted funds of £68,400 were held in reserve.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:



Full name: Michael David Hammans

Position: Church Warden

Date: Thursday 12th May 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. HELEN, STAPLEFORD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS				RESTRICTED FUNDS			GRAND TOTAL	Total
	St. Helen's	St. Luke's	Montrose Court	TOTAL	St. Helen's	Community Annexe	TOTAL		2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT									
RECEIPTS									
Voluntary receipts from donors									
Planned giving	60,127	9,988	2,820	72,935	-	7,514	7,514	80,449	96,427
Loose collections	3,396	1,977	45	5,418	-	-	-	5,418	8,784
Donations	6,024	20	305	6,349	-	-	-	6,349	38,004
For mission	740	-	-	740	2,510	-	2,510	3,250	-
Special collections	1,615	-	-	1,615	-	-	-	1,615	-
Income tax recovered	12,630	2,957	795	16,382	-	2,554	2,554	18,936	27,586
Grants	31	-	2,500	2,531	-	-	-	2,531	-
Fund raising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,614
Income from church activities									
Church Hall Hire	5,678	-	-	5,678	-	-	-	5,678	4,968
Community Annexe Hire	890	-	-	890	-	-	-	890	-
Parochial Fees	3,644	-	-	3,644	-	-	-	3,644	8,256
INSPIRE advertising	1,097	-	-	1,097	-	-	-	1,097	-
Investment Income									946
Bank interest	15	3	-	18	-	-	-	18	-
Investment Income - Dividends on CBF shares	532	-	-	532	-	-	-	532	-
Other Capital Receipts	371	-	-	371	-	-	-	371	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	96,790	14,945	6,465	118,200	2,510	10,068	12,578	130,778	190,585
PAYMENTS									
Parish Share	62,488	9,752	-	72,240	-	-	-	72,240	72,240
Parochial Fees	2,980	-	-	2,980	-	-	-	2,980	-
Other Support for Ministry	40	-	-	40	-	-	-	40	-
Maintenance of Services									
Rent	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	5,000	-
Business Rates	-	-	239	239	-	-	-	239	-
Utilities	4,513	1,356	284	6,153	-	-	-	6,153	-
Insurance	4,075	610	249	4,934	-	-	-	4,934	-
Telecoms	849	-	443	1,292	-	-	-	1,292	-
General Parish Expenses									
Clergy expenses & training	193	-	-	193	-	-	-	193	-
Wage costs	14,037	-	-	14,037	-	-	-	14,037	-
Office expenses	1,131	-	-	1,131	-	-	-	1,131	-
Sundry	2,569	60	122	2,751	-	-	-	2,751	-
Maintenance									
Church	2,649	804	-	3,453	-	-	-	3,453	-
Church Hall	735	-	-	735	-	-	-	735	-
Montrose Court	-	-	1,129	1,129	-	-	-	1,129	-
Vicarage	185	-	-	185	-	-	-	185	-
Exceptional Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parish Mission									
Youth & children	1,921	-	-	1,921	-	-	-	1,921	-
Pastoral and outreach	100	-	447	547	-	-	-	547	-
Catering	-	-	856	856	-	-	-	856	-
Inspire Magazine	3,345	-	-	3,345	-	-	-	3,345	-
Meeting & special events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Bank	-	-	2,936	2,936	-	-	-	2,936	-
Other	-	684	50	734	-	-	-	734	96,242
External Mission									
St Lukes mission	-	1,536	-	1,536	-	-	-	1,536	-
St John's, Lindow (Alexandro Mesco)	2,981	-	-	2,981	-	-	-	2,981	-
CMS (B-J & Marie Shin)	1,881	-	-	1,881	-	-	-	1,881	-
Tear Fund (general funds)	1,317	-	-	1,317	-	-	-	1,317	-
Tear Fund (Kigezi)	941	-	-	941	-	-	-	941	-
Tear Fund (Change a Nation)	1,035	-	-	1,035	-	-	-	1,035	-
CPAS	1,881	-	-	1,881	-	-	-	1,881	-
Dorcas Letasi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Money Raising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of Finance	32	-	-	32	-	8,000	8,000	8,032	-
Other Capital Payments	-	-	1,085	1,085	-	-	-	1,085	-
Special Collections	1,695	-	-	1,695	-	-	-	1,695	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	113,571	14,802	12,840	141,213	-	8,000	8,000	149,213	168,482
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	(16,781)	143	(6,375)	(23,013)	2,510	2,068	4,578	(18,435)	22,103
Reserves at 1st January 2021	59,311	20,219	11,883	91,413	-	3,380	3,380	94,793	72,690
Reserves at 31st December 2021	42,529	20,362	5,508	68,400	2,510	5,448	7,958	76,357	94,793

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash funds									
Bank balances	13,615	6,180	5,508	25,303	2,510	5,448	7,958	33,261	51,318
Deposit balances		13,949		13,949			-	13,949	14,343
Cash in hand		233		233			-	233	233
CBF Deposit Fund	28,914			28,914			-	28,914	28,899
	<u>42,529</u>	<u>20,362</u>	<u>5,508</u>	<u>68,399</u>	<u>2,510</u>	<u>5,448</u>	<u>7,958</u>	<u>76,357</u>	<u>94,793</u>
Other monetary assets									
Income tax recoverable	3,093	1,021	189	4,302	31	15	46	4,348	5,234
Other				-				-	-
	<u>3,093</u>	<u>1,021</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>4,302</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>4,348</u>	<u>5,234</u>
Investments									
895.35 Income Shares in CBF Investment Fund	20,967			20,967			-	20,967	18,343
	<u>20,967</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,967</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,967</u>	<u>18,343</u>
Liabilities									
Loan for Community Annexe				-			-	-	9,500
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,500</u>
Total Assets less Liabilities	<u>66,590</u>	<u>21,383</u>	<u>5,697</u>	<u>93,669</u>	<u>2,541</u>	<u>5,463</u>	<u>8,004</u>	<u>101,673</u>	<u>9,500</u>

NOTES

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with both the Charities Act 2011, section 133 on the Receipts and Payments basis, and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

2. ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

	Balance B/Fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/Fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
St Helen's (World Mission)	-	2,510	-	-	2,510
Community Annexe	3,380	10,068	8,000	-	5,448
	<u>3,380</u>	<u>12,578</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,958</u>

St Helen's Restricted Fund contains specific donations for World Mission (to be paid in 2022)

St Helen's Community Annexe fund contains specific donations towards the construction and maintenance of the Community Annexe.

3. ASSETS FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

(i) Churches, Churchyards and Vicarages are vested in the representative body of the Church and are not Parish assets.

(ii) Fixed assets and property, which are retained for Church purposes and which are not investment assets are listed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as non-monetary assets including:

Movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
Equipment and furnishings in St Helen's church hall

4. INVESTMENTS

Quoted investments are valued at mid-market value at 31st December.

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

Gross wages and salaries:	£ 14,037
Employer's National insurance costs:	-
Pension contributions:	-
Total Staff costs:	<u>14,037</u>
Average number of employees in the year:	2

6. PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

No expenses were paid to trustees. Some insignificant clergy/minister's expenses may relate to their duties as trustees.

One PCC member is paid as an employee (see note 5.)

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/ PCC of	St Helen's Stapleford		
on accounts for the year ended	31 December 2021	Charity no	1131777

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

13 May 2022

Name:

Gary Stephenson DChA, MSc

Address:

21 Gwenbrook Road
Beeston, Nottingham
NG9 4AZ

Back Cover

Accounts



**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St. Helen, Stapleford**

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the period

From 1st January to 31st December 2020

Reference and Administrative details

The charity's trustees are represented by the Parochial Church Council (PCC), which is responsible for churches of St Helen's, St Luke's and The Church @ Montrose Court, all of which are located in Stapleford, Nottingham. The Parish of St. Helen, Stapleford is part of the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The charity's principal address is: Stapleford Parish Church Office, St Helen's Church Hall, Frederick Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8FN.

PCC members who were trustees on the date this report was approved and those who served as members/trustees at any time during the reporting period (1st January to 31st December 2020) are:

Chairperson	Reverend Karen Hanford, from 01/2/21 Reverend Peter Huxtable, until 31/1/21
Wardens	Joanna Smith, until 16/5/21 Mike Hammans Christina Davidson
Secretary	Deborah Greenhalgh
Treasurer	Heather Bessant, until 16/5/21 Chris Hawthorn, from 16/5/21
Deanery Synod members	Iris White Mike Hammans Christina Davidson Hans Barto, until 01/8/21
Co-opted from St Luke's	Reverend Canon Joan Whysall Pat Morris (Treasurer for St. Luke's) Audrey Clarke
Reader representative	Nicola Daykin, until 16/5/21
Other elected members	Trevor Jones Steve Marvin Hannah Rice Paul Beedell, from 25/10/20 Peter Robart-Morgan Alan Sare Leon Smart Stephen Mewies, from 25/10/20 to 16/5/21 Toni Thorncraft-Smith, from 16/5/21 Reverend Lydia Cartwright, until 16/2/21 Susan Bell, until 25/10/20

Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956. The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: registered number 1131777.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for all matters of general concern to the Parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC met 9 times during 2020; 3 times face to face and the rest via a Zoom video conference due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The PCC operates two sub-committees:

The Standing Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Parish. It consists of the incumbent and clergy, both Wardens, a Deputy Warden for St Luke's, the Treasurer and a representative elected PCC member.

St Luke's Management Committee is responsible for matters of specific concern to St Luke's church. It consists of both Deputy Wardens for St Luke's, St Luke's Treasurer, a Secretary and elected members.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC promotes, within the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, including pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical elements.

The PCC believes that the range of church activities provide public benefit by provision of:

- Opportunities for worship and prayer
- Teaching on Christian life and faith
- Pastoral and practical care for the community
- Ecumenical links with other churches in Stapleford

To facilitate this work, the PCC is responsible for the maintenance of St Helen's parish church and hall and also of St Luke's church, Stapleford, Nottingham.

The PCC has regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

The PCC has continued to meet regularly by Zoom throughout the year due to the Covid restrictions.

The continuance of the Covid virus has meant that a lot of the PCC discussions have centred around if, when, and how services can take place within the three churches in the Parish. Regulations have to be adhered to, and whilst we have been eager to maintain the life of the church our priority has been prayerfully considering what can and cannot be done legally and safely. As a result of this, much of the church life has been maintained via Zoom and online worship. We are grateful to all who have facilitated this. At the time of writing we are slowly moving back towards more familiar forms of worship.

Other items discussed have included the Parish Share, the finances of the three Churches, support of missionary workers, safeguarding, Christmas and Easter arrangements.

The PCC members are currently completing safeguarding courses if they have not already done so in other roles.

Alongside the above, the PCC is working prayerfully with CPAS to enable a replacement for Peter Huxtable.

Wardens' Report

It has been an interesting few month since the last Annual General meeting. During that time we have had to say farewell to a number of familiar faces. Our vicar Peter Huxtable left at the end of January to take up a new appointment in the Woven group of Churches and also as part time advisor to the Bishop on Urban Renewal. We also lost Clare our Parish Administrator, Peter Wenham and lastly our curate Simon Fellows. All of these were great losses to the parish, but we wish them well in their new ministry. A welcome addition was Rev. Karen Hanford who joined us as Associate Minister. Despite all of these happenings the ministry of the church in Stapleford has continued albeit largely online. At long last we are slowly starting live Worship, in a small way. Hopefully we will be able to worship together as a church family in the not-too-distant future. The Church at Montrose Court continues to minister to the Estate, largely through the Foodbank which has become increasingly well used and through an online presence. Regular prayer walks around the estate continue, so we are meeting and praying for the people in their needs. It is interesting to note that the services online have attracted new people who would not normally visit a church and so hopefully this form of worship will continue post lockdown. Children and Young people's ministry continues in an online format and is still well attended although more adult volunteers will be needed once Church goes live once more. It has really been a year of change, and now, as we slowly emerge from lockdown, we have the chance to rethink how we do things in the future, which presents us with an exciting new challenge. None of this continued ministry would have been possible without the ongoing support of the congregations and it is pleasing to note that new people are stepping up to take on roles which is really encouraging. Jo and I, as Wardens would like to thank each and every one of you for your contributions to the life of the church and look forward in sharing a new adventure with you over the next months. God Bless Mike Hammans Jo Smith

St Helen's church

Church Office and Bookings

The church office has been covered by Clare Harlow for 6 months of the year but for the other 6 months Clare was furloughed and the office was covered by Susan Bell. Bookings for the hall, baptisms, and weddings have been significantly restricted by lockdown, although enquiries continue to come in and we hire out the hall when rules allow. Clare left in January 2021 and we thank her for her time working in the office, supporting the work of the church so ably.

Friendship Club

Friendship club has been unable to meet for the last year. Sadly a few members won't be with us when we meet again. We would like to start up when we can but we will need some support to do this. Jo Clements

Housegroups

We have a number of groups and each has written a short report.

We've been meeting on zoom mainly on a Monday evening for chat and prayers. We did meet briefly at St Luke's. Peter and Christine have left but Alan and Miriam have joined us. We still miss our group leader Paul and Julia but as we go forward, we are hoping they will soon be back to lead us. Colin Clark

Formed with Simon and Julia in the Autumn of 2017 primarily with 'young adults' and grandparents, Paul and Fran, we meet on Wednesday evenings to study the bible and pray for each other...which for the last year we have done through Zoom. Paul Beedell

Our group of ladies used to meet on Monday afternoons but since Covid, we've been zooming in the morning and having reflective walks in twos in the afternoon. The group has been crucial to all of us during our time in isolation and having WhatsApp has meant we've been able to share our concerns and pray for one another. We've been pleased to welcome a new member to our group recently. Chris Bassford

The Bridle Road homegroup has continued to meet throughout the pandemic on Zoom. It has been a great way to maintain fellowship and faith but we very much look forward to enjoying the advantages of face-to-face meetings before too long. Kerry Bassford

A small group grew out of an alpha course started during the first lockdown. We then enjoyed following the Bible Course together and have since looked at John's gospel and Psalms. We enjoy getting to know each other and learning to read the Bible and pray together. Susan Bell

The group moved to zoom in March when the first lockdown was announced and have met online weekly. We have laughed and supported each other over the year and found great fellowship. The group have studied The Lord's Prayer with a little success with sign language, shared stories of what makes us bloom, studied a series on Hope, Peace and Love plus reading and understanding Leviticus. We look forward to meeting in person, in sadness we will miss our lovely member Jean, in joy we have welcomed new members who have energised and motivated us. Joanna Smith

The Escape Group are a home group of mums with children plus some grandmothers. We normally met monthly including for social get-togethers. During COVID we have tried to stay in touch. We completed the Prayer Course. In the 1st lockdown we shared a weekly prayer sheet on Whatsapp. We've met on Zoom. We lit advent wreaths at home and prayed through Advent and had a family Zoom Christmas party. We have worked through some of Luke and some of us joined Jamie's lent course. We look forward to resuming meetings in our homes. Liz Barnes

We are a small, intimate housegroup that meet at the Church at Montrose Court when it is allowed. We have discussions, DVDs and fun, and are looking forward to celebrating all the birthdays we've missed when we can meet again. Linda Macrae

Prior to lockdown cake pray love were meeting together as a group on Monday afternoons to chat, pray and study a bible passage together. The group is comprised of mums and occasionally their children, and caters for people of all stages of faith. As lockdown came in, the group continued to meet online with a similar pattern of discussion and prayer as in person, however as lockdown progressed group meetings became less regular and focused more on chat and fellowship alongside prayer. The group has not recently met online/ in person, and we are now at the stage where discussions around what the group might look like moving forward are happening. This includes a change of group leadership and also space to pray about how such a group might expand and/or change format in order to meet new needs coming out of national lockdown. We look forward to where God will lead us next in this small group setting. Jamie Price

During the last year, Irene Whitehead and Peter Robart-Morgan have kept in touch with their groups by regular phone calls and meeting one to one when possible.

A few others have kept in regular contact with those who are ill and a small group have supported people in prayer when asked to.

Music ministry

Sung worship has been one of the hardest hit parts of our church life during 2020-21, as we weren't meeting together nor are we still allowed to sing together as congregations. However, we were blessed with some amazing musical gifts, especially in the Huxtable family! So, Peter was resourceful enough to put together videos and recordings of many of our favourite songs and hymns for use in services and private worship. He also managed to get a small choir together (socially distanced) to sing in a carol service. Thank you too to Al Kirkland and others for providing children's music. We have missed Peter and his musical gifts but we are excited to say that a newly formed team will be carrying on the worship as we ease out of restrictions. Thank you too to all those who have helped on Zoom and Youtube to provide worship music during this time. Fran Beedell

Men's events

In a normal year we arrange a mixed programme of events for men who come to church, friends or indeed any men who would like to join us at any of our meetings. These events are friendly and informal and would typically include Men's breakfasts, dinner / speaker evenings, tenpin bowling, visit to T20 cricket and of course the monthly get together at the Horse and Jockey.

Because of the covid restrictions since the last AGM this programme wasn't possible but we have held a couple of successful zoom quiz nights and in January we held a well-supported online speaker evening with our friend Leigh Winsbury formerly at St Helens and now a vicar in rural Devon.

We look forward to life returning to something like normal and the chance to meet together again!

Iain Walker

Safeguarding

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a safer church for all.

Safeguarding policies and procedures in the Church of England have changed considerably in the last few years and are continuing to evolve. The present Diocese Safeguarding Advisor has been in post about a year and there have been other changes in the team.

Safeguarding training has been forced to evolve because of the difficulties of face-to-face meetings. Basic awareness training and foundation level training are only available as an online course (links can be found on the diocese website). Leadership training can be booked, for those who need it, as a zoom event but numbers are limited to allow discussion. All PCC members are required to complete both online modules as well as fulfilling DBS checking and self-declaration forms.

Anyone is welcome to complete the on-line training; if you have a role in the church from welcoming to helping with any group, please speak to your group leader about the training. If you are uncertain or would like any more information, please contact me.

As a church we participated in the national Past Case Review. Further information about the review can be found on the diocese website.

Angela Witten, Parish Safeguarding Coordinator

Sunday school

This year has been challenging in so many ways....

Whilst the church was unable to meet in person, we have provided short videos for the younger members of our church family, with bible stories, action songs and craft ideas. It was challenging knowing how many children were engaging with these but from feedback they were also viewed by a few families outside our parish. At Christmas we even managed a virtual nativity!

In the autumn, when the church family were able to meet on the premises, we started running face-to-face sessions trying to conform to the social distancing rules. This meant limited numbers, and because of limited numbers of volunteers and limited space, we were only able to run one group on alternate weeks. These sessions have restarted since Easter.

Going forward we would love to offer sessions more often and, ideally, split the age range again, but this would need an increase in the number of volunteers. We will of course miss Ruth but would welcome new team members keen to help our children grow in their faith. Angela Witten

Energise

Energise meets on a Friday night over Zoom and every other Sunday morning in the Annexe for year 6 and above. We have a good size group and many come to both on a regular basis. We have particularly enjoyed our new pick and mix sessions during Lent and the Challenges linked to this. With Covid our usual social events have had to be re-created over Zoom such as the Christmas Party, Harby Weekend and Pancake Night. We have delivered Easter Eggs and activity packs to the young people to help keep them engaged with the sessions. Overall the team of volunteers is smaller than it was and if you like to join us please get in touch, it would be lovely to have you come on board. Joanne Mee on behalf of the team

Encounter

Encounter is a small group of enthusiastic young people meeting weekly. It has met on zoom on a Tuesday led by Simon but is going to move to meet on a Friday evening alongside Energise for now, with additional leaders to enable an element of joint meeting but for the main content to be separate. We are looking and praying for others to be part of the team to enable us to develop what we are doing.

Messy Church

During 2020 Messy Church has continued to run, despite the many challenges and restrictions posed by the covid pandemic.

From February to March, Messy Church ran as large groups of up to 100 people and helpers. Crafts were completed in the hall, with worship time in the Church followed by a tea back in the hall.

After March the Messy team kept in contact with families sharing craft ideas and stories sent via email. Once restrictions were lifted it was possible to create "Messy in a bag", our regular volunteers met on Zoom to discuss a bible story and agree crafts that could be dropped on families' doorsteps. All the families were really grateful to have some different and fun activities and were looking forward to being able to meet in person.

The Messy team also joined with wider Church activities to provide crafts. During the summer holidays and at Christmas we have prepared over 60 craft bags to hand out with food parcels.

In October and December as restrictions eased and the Church reopened a Messy worship session was organised for a small number who came in their family groups and had an allocated craft station in Church and followed the story and songs from the front. Although we have not been able hold a session with the numbers we were used to, we have been able to keep a connection with a good number of families who have adapted and really enjoyed the temporary change in format.

Messy Church would not be possible without the team of volunteers who prepare the crafts, the session on the day, and those who have helped set up and tidy away. In February 2021 Messy celebrated its 10th year. Unfortunately the team was unable to get together, however a Zoom tea party was held to reminisce and catch up. It was lovely to reconnect with helpers who are no longer in the parish as well as with those who were have not seen face to face.

Anybody who would like to join the Messy team will be most welcome.

Kat Simpson

Faith on Thursday

This group of families met weekly after school. They have not met since last March and prayer and discussion are needed to see what type of group could enable people to reconnect going forwards.

Jamie Price

Time Travelling

We were all sad on the team not to be able to see all the children that normally come from local schools to Time Travel with us around the St Helen's buildings, but we'll be hoping that something can be done later this year if we are allowed! Big thanks to Christine Wenham for her part in the team. Fran Beedell

Tuesday Break, Mini Messy

These groups have been unable to meet over the last year and look forward to starting again when they can.

St John's School

St John's School continues to be very successful and to have close links with the church. The last year has been very challenging due to Covid19 with online lessons and zoom calls between class members and teacher together with lessons in school for keyworker children. Thankfully the school is now back to something like normality with all children now back in school

The school always welcomes new pupils from church families.

The current governors appointed by the PCC on behalf of the church are Richard Bassford and Steve Marvin. If you want to know any more about the school then please talk to one of them.

World Vision

During the past year links have been maintained with a number of overseas mission partners, as described below:

Tearfund. Their mission is to partner with local churches worldwide as they work to lift local communities out of poverty and respond to specific crises around the world.

St Helen's have supported Tearfund financially for many years. More recently this support has been provided in three parts:

- General funds. Money to be used by Tearfund wherever the need is greatest. Often to provide emergency aid to local churches following events around the world such as famine and refugee crises.
- Specific support for the Kigezi diocese in Uganda as they work with local village communities to install new running water and sanitation facilities.
- Specific support for the Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG) in Uganda as they also work with local communities to take advantage of local resources and so help people to lift themselves out of poverty.

The total of financial support has typically been in the region of around £4,000 a year.

However, Tearfund have in the past few months introduced a new scheme whereby the support we currently specifically allocate to Kigezi and PAG in Uganda would have instead been merged with other giving by UK churches and individuals. It would then have been used to support a variety of projects throughout the world. Whatever the merits of this new way of working by Tearfund, we would have lost our specific focus on the Kigezi and PAG projects.

So, the PCC instead decided in late 2020 to opt for an offer by Tearfund for larger churches who donate £5,000 or more to continue and actually better cement links with specific projects. By going for this we will be enabled to retain our support for Kigezi and PAG but now with more regular and detailed progress reporting from them.

But this does mean that from 2021 St Helen's must raise Tearfund donations to £5,000 a year. The PCC agreed that we should do this by asking church members to redirect personal giving to Tearfund, to be routed instead via St Helen's mission account. Tearfund themselves have suggested this as a way of better measuring total support from the parish. There will be more on how this could work in the coming few months, but only for those church members who feel called to redirect their personal giving in this way.

Our mission partners very much appreciate our prayer and financial support:

Dorcas cares for her 2 children, Daniel and Grace, while working for UNESCO. She continues to mentor missionaries working with the Ugandan mission agency, Global Link Afrika.

Alejandro Mesco is working for a medical charity, Medical Ministry International in Peru. They have moved outside Arequipa to care for Doris's health while Covid restrictions are in place.

Beom-Jin and Marie had to leave their home due to Covid and have been unable to go back. They spent a few months in Belgium and then in England where they had their third child. They taught English and Korean over zoom and kept in touch with their colleagues. They are now staying in S Korea exploring how best to continue with their work. They are very concerned for the wellbeing of the people they work with and keen to find ways to help them.

St. Luke's Church

This has been a very unusual year, because of the corona virus many of our services have been on line but we are happy to report that the church opened up again on Easter Sunday and members of the congregation were very happy to be back at church. We are fortunate to have the Rev Canon Joan Whysall continuing to minister here and her commitment is greatly appreciated. We have especially appreciated the online zoom services she arranged during lockdown and were pleased to find many of

our older generation became very tech savvy. During this time many of those attending helped with the readings and prayers and we feel we can continue to move forward with this additional support to extend the rotas once we start them again. We tried to reach out to a good many of our congregation through delivery of, cards, plants, cakes, candles and encouragement and information leaflets, on a monthly basis to ensure we were in touch with every member of St Luke's as not all we're able to come to our online services. We look forward to having continued support from St Helens who enrich our worship by helping with the leading and preaching. As a church we like to eat cake especially when celebrating birthdays and can't wait to be able to start coffee time again following the service.

Sadly we have lost a few valued members of our congregation, we think of the families of : Ray Darby, Tony Watson, Shirley Winfield and also of Pat Watson who has moved into Belvoir care home in Widmerpool, where she has settled very happily.

Outreach

We are disappointed to say we have been unable to do outreach this year because of the epidemic and the need to follow national guide lines. We look forward to being able to run some of our usual events later in the year. We have however tried to reach out where we could by displaying posters outside church and putting our large cross out on Remembrance Sunday where a wreath was laid and then again at Easter.

We did still collect for Tree Tops Hospice in lieu of Christmas cards and also donate to many Charities at Christmas time as part of the church tithing scheme. We support a girl called Ariana Valeska, aged 12 in Ecuador through Compassion, we receive letters and pictures from her, and Sandra Kendrick writes and sends small presents and cards at Christmas and Birthdays.

Our church is usually used alternate Tuesdays by the Tuesday Occasionals Choir, who have also been unable to meet, we hope they will be able to restart soon. We usually have regular meetings for the running of the church like our Management meetings that also went on line. When the need arises it is used to hold the occasional Wednesday morning service. We are always looking at new ways in which the church could be used and are happy to host ventures organised by St Helens like the men's breakfasts and away days.

Fabric

The main fabric of the church is in good condition. It is warm, bright and clean, We have an overhead projector and screen, which is used to aid our worship and is a valuable asset to the church when looking to hire out our building to the extended community in Stapleford. In February of 2020 we had to have repairs done following storm damage, but this was quickly sorted by Peak Roofing, we also had the Facias replaced and are grateful to SA Atkins Services for supplying and fitting the safety fences. During October and November we had an on going problem with cluster flies, many thanks to John Osbourne who arranged for scaffolding to be erected inside church to get better access to the roof space and arranged for Pride Pest Control to deal with the flies, unfortunately this has the potential to be an on going problem because of the location of the church being next to the fields.

Health and Safety

As a church we chose to follow the ecclesiastical churches suggestions for health and safety, Audrey Clarke, Eileen Dodsworth and Joan Whysall make up a group who oversee this, as a group between us we have completed the food hygiene course, the vulnerable adults course and first aid course. We have been unable to meet this year but moving forward we will do all that is needed to ensure the church is a safe and healthy environment to meet in.

Many thanks go to all the Management Committee, and especially Pat Morris, the Treasurer, for dealing with the planning and administration necessary to keep everything running smoothly, to Eileen Dodsworth our secretary who does an excellent job.

Deputy church warden

I have enjoyed being in this roll and assisting Joan in the running of St Luke's with a great deal of help from many members of the congregation, I am happy to report we now have a second deputy warden John Osborne and he has been a great asset to the team. I am very grateful for all the support and encouragement I receive; I am especially thankful to Colin Clarke for all the support he gives both at home and church and for the way he has maintained the outside of the church during the lockdown, litter picking round the church and weeding.

Finally, we commend and thank Joan for her every caring and enthusiastic way of dealing with the congregation and reaching out into the community. Joan continually strives to encourage us to find different ways in which we can engage with the community around us and encouraging the congregation to move forward each in their own faiths. She continues to minister the basic ideals of the Christian Faith, whilst giving us a vision for the future.

The Church @ Montrose Court

A strange year but with plenty of positives too.

At the start of March last year we were looking forward to the next chapter in the life of the Church @ Montrose Court, following the departure of Lydia for pastures new. Emma Jones had just taken up the role of Designated Leader of the Montrose team, up to 30 people were squeezing into our small premises for Sunday worship and we were developing future plans under the guidance of God.

Then in March we were hit by lockdown

Along with other churches we immediately closed for both Sunday worship and informal gatherings during the week. But God wasn't surprised by any of this and has been able to use us in new ways while our premises have remained closed.

One was through the rapid expansion of our Foodbank. We have continued to operate throughout the past year and through this ministry supported both the local community and the rest of Stapleford. Demand for food parcels grew rapidly as people felt the effects of lockdown including loss of income and isolating at home. We have been able to provide hundreds of food parcels to families and individuals in need of support though often very difficult periods. Some of their stories have been truly heartbreaking. But through it all we have been able to make new connections and show a positive presence in the local area.

For several months we operated the Foodbank on a 'non-contact' basis. People were asked to request food parcels by telephone, email or our Facebook page. Parcels were then delivered to the doorstep. At the peak 20 parcels a week were made up and delivered. As most of our team were initially isolating the foodbank was operated for several months by Emma and members of her household. However as lockdown eased so Mike, Linda, Alan and Ann were able to take up the reins again.

There were times at the beginning of lockdown when food stocks were so low that we thought we wouldn't be able to carry on. But then a donation of food arrived or a financial grant became available

for Trevor to claim. it was just one miracle after another. Grateful thanks to members of St Helen's and St Luke's for their donations of food or cash.

We are also incredibly grateful to members of the Stapleford Community Group, who have worked closely with us through the lockdown period and donated large amounts of tinned and dried food to the foodbank while also working alongside us to offer fresh food to local people which was surplus at local supermarkets, though the Fareshare scheme

As lockdown has eased we have been unable to re-open for worship and 'drop in' mornings as our premises are too small. However we have also been able to maintain our spiritual ministry in other ways. The whole team have contributed to online times of worship and reflection, released on Sunday afternoons at the time when our worship services would normally take place. A recent development has been to bring church an online Sunday service to our folk while they are at home. The service is made available both online and on a DVD for those who don't have access to the internet. We distribute bags to church members and others containing all of the refreshments and crafts they would normally enjoy as we meet.

Emma has maintained personal relationships online with church members through social media, while Alan and Ann have continued to prayer walk around the local estate each Sunday and maintained (correctly distanced) contact with other church members, many of whom were isolating due to age or medical conditions. Linda has been able to talk with people as she works in the Food bank.

During the past year we have been learning to trust God one day at a time. The leadership team meet regularly for prayer and as we now emerge from lockdown we are looking to God for his plans as we prepare to re-open our premises and develop future ministry in the local area.

However our leadership team is small which restricts our ability to expand our ministry and we'd love to hear from anyone who feels called to join us. Also thank you so much to everyone at St Helen's and St Luke's for your continued support of The Church @ Montrose Court. Your prayers are vital as God leads us into the future.

Emma Jones (on behalf of the team).

Financial review

During the period total receipts of £190,585 (2019: £184,784) was received, through planned giving by church members, £96,427, and plate collections, £8,784, boosted by income tax recovered through the Gift Aid scheme, £27,586, and other voluntary receipts, fundraising and income from church activities, £56,842. There was a small investment income of £946. Total payments in the period amounted to £168,482 (2019: £190,443) comprising our diocesan parish share, £72,240, funding of our local and overseas mission partners and activities, £14,204, and other church running expenses, £82,038. Overall the 3.1% increase in receipts was due to members maintaining or increasing their planned giving, increased fundraising activity at Montrose Court and increased donations to St. Helen's, although there was a significant 70.3% fall in plate collections due to church closures due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

There was an operating surplus of £22,103 (2019: -£5,659) as overall income exceeded expenditure. St. Helen's generated an operating surplus of £6,284 (2019: -£8,332). St Luke's church generated a surplus of -£8,015, (2019: £4,372) due to a major church repair project totalling £10,558. The Church @ Montrose Court generated an operating surplus of £10,227 (2019: -£2,280) due mainly to a significant

increase in received grants and planned giving. The Church Annexe account generated a surplus of £13,607 (2019: £2,611)

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to maintain an unrestricted reserve of three months' regular expenditure, to cover fluctuations in cash flow, to give security to employees and to provide for unexpected major expenditure. In addition designated reserves are retained to cover possible emergency building repairs, with particular regard to the facts that St Helen's church is grade II listed and St Luke's is an older building with two flat roofs. At the close of 2020, unrestricted funds of £120,888 were held in reserve.

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:



Full name: Michael David Hammans

Position: Church Warden

Date: Thursday 28th October 2021

PARISH OF ST HELEN, STAPLEFORD
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Community Annexes Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT				
Receipts				
Voluntary receipts from donors				
Planned giving	77,526	18,901	96,427	95,506
Collections and other giving	8,784	-	8,784	29,542
Income Tax recovered	24,790	2,796	27,586	28,369
Grants & Loans	-	-	-	2,000
	111,100	21,697	132,797	155,417
Other voluntary receipts	38,004		38,004	2,665
Fund raising activities	5,614	-	5,614	4,157
Income from church activities	13,224		13,224	18,029
Investment income	946		946	4,516
	168,888	21,697	190,585	184,784
Payments				
Church activities				
Diocesan Parish Share	72,240		72,240	70,134
Other payments	88,152	8,090	96,242	120,309
	160,392	8,090	168,482	190,443
Excess of receipts over payments	8,496	13,607	22,103	(5,659)
Unrealised gain on investments	1,180		1,180	2,706
	9,676	13,607	23,283	(2,923)
Reserves at 1 January 2020	111,212	(25,636)	85,576	88,499
Reserves at 31 December 2020	120,888	(12,029)	108,859	85,576
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES				
Cash funds				
Bank current accounts	47,937	3,370	51,307	43,371
Bank deposit accounts	14,343		14,343	25,177
Cash in hand	233		233	124
CBF Deposit fund	28,899		28,899	28,777
	91,412	3,370	94,782	97,449
Other monetary assets				
Income tax recoverable	4,533	701	5,234	5,664
Cash floats	-		-	-
	-	701	5,234	5,664
Investment assets				
895 CBF Church of England	18,343	-	18,343	17,163
Investment Fund shares at market value				
Liabilities				
Loan for annexe	-	9,500	9,500	34,700
Total Assets & Liabilities	109,755	(5,429)	108,859	85,576
Reserves				
St Helens	100,669		100,669	82,978
St Lukes	20,219		20,219	28,234
Annexe		(12,029)	(12,029)	(25,636)
	120,888	(12,029)	108,859	85,576

The notes below form part of these financial statements

NOTES

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. Fixed assets retained for Church use comprise the freehold St Helen's Church Hall
Assets recognised but not valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities include:
Movable church furnishings held by the church-wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal
Equipment and furnishings in St Helen's church hall.
3. The movement in restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/Fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/Fwd
	£	£	£	£	£
St Helen Annex	(25,636)	21,697	8,090	-	(12,029)
	(25,636)	21,697	8,090	-	(12,029)

St Helen's Missionary Fund contains specific donations and transfers from ordinary unrestricted funds. All payments were in support of mission activity by external organisations and individuals.

St Helen's Community Annexe fund contains specific donations towards the construction of the annexe to the St Helen's church.

4. Expenses paid to clergy may include a small, immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members in relation to PCC duties.
5. Wages include payments to one PCC member in relation to part time employment as site manager. No payments were made in relation to his PCC duties.
6. The financial statements for the Parish of St Helen includes transactions relating to the parish church (St Helen's), the daughter church (St Luke's), church plant (Montrose Court) and the St Helen's community annexe. Fund movements for the three churches and community annex fund were:

	St Helen's	Community Annex	St Luke's	Montrose Court	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	122,918	21,697	19,882	26,088	190,585	186,784
Payments	116,634	8,090	27,897	15,861	168,482	192,413
Excess of receipts over paym'ts	6,284	13,607	(8,015)	10,227	22,103	(5,629)
Unrealised gain in investments	1,180	-	-	-	1,180	2,706
Transfers	7,464	13,607	(8,015)	10,227	23,283	(2,923)
Other monetary assets	3,807	701	506	220	5,234	5,664
Investment assets	18,343	-	-	-	18,343	17,163
Liabilities	-	9,500	-	-	9,500	-

7. Receipts and payments analysis - St Helen's

	General Fund Unrestrict'd	Missionary Fund Restricted	Vestry Fund Unrestrict'd	Friendship Club Unrestrict'd	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Voluntary receipts from donors						
Planned giving	61,651				61,651	60,411
Collections & other giving	7,241				7,241	25,776
Income Tax recovered	21,819				21,819	25,570
	90,711	-			90,711	111,757

Other voluntary receipts					
Legacy	-			-	-
Donations	18,059			18,059	-
	18,059	-		18,059	-
Fundraising activities	-			-	-
	-			-	-
Income from church activities					
Fees	8,256			8,256	4,690
Church hall hire	4,968			4,968	6,361
Members payments	-			-	6,978
	13,224	-	-	13,224	18,029
Investment income					
Bank & CBF Dep interest	122			122	4,494
Dividends on CBF shares	802			802	-
	924			924	4,494
Total receipts	122,918	-	-	122,918	134,280
Payments					
Church activities					
Diocesan Parish Share	62,368			62,368	60,991
SNDBF/Vergers/Organist	5,027			5,027	5,365
External mission & relief					
CMS (Alexandro Mesco)	2,920			2,920	2,841
CMS	2,712			2,712	2,554
Tear Fund (general funds)	4,440			4,440	1,620
Tear Fund (Kigezi)	-			-	1,800
Tear Fund (Change a Nation)	-			-	1,080
Mission direct	-			-	125
Dorcas Letasi	-			-	1,150
Other	2,053			2,053	-
	79,520	-		17,152	16,535
Parish mission					
Youth & children	3,242			3,242	3,561
Pastoral and outreach	-			-	-
Catering	-			-	-
Inspire Magazine	-			-	-
Meeting & special events	890			890	350
Other	-			-	4,375
	4,132	-	-	4,132	8,286
Church running expenses					
Church upkeep	10,602			10,602	20,734
Hall upkeep	912			912	2,021
Utilities	-			-	7,215
Insurance	3,962			3,962	4,014
Clergy expenses & training	1,379			1,379	6,478
Telecoms	787			787	992
Training	-			-	-
Wage costs	13,632			13,632	14,246
Office expenses	1,708			1,708	490
Sundry	-			-	610
	32,982			32,982	56,800
Total payments	116,634	-	-	116,634	142,612
Net receipts/(payments)	6,284	-	-	6,284	(8,332)
MV Movement on CBF investment	1,180			1,180	2,704
	7,464	-	-	7,464	(5,628)
	-			-	
Net movement for the year	7,464	-	-	7,464	(5,628)

8. Receipts and payments analysis - St Helen's Community Annex

	Community Annex Fund Restricted £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Receipts			
Planned giving	18,901	18,901	18,472
Donations		-	1,414
Grants		-	2,000
Income Tax recovered	2,796	2,796	2,500
Loans		-	-
Fundraising activities		-	1,733
Total receipts	21,697	21,697	26,119
Payments			
Architects fees	-	-	-
Surveys		-	2,938
Builders	8,090	8,090	16,659
Fixtures & Fittings		-	3,898
Kigezi Mission		-	-
Sundry		-	14
Total payments	8,090	8,090	23,509
Net receipts/(payments)	13,607	13,607	2,611
Prior year adjustment		-	
Reserves 1 Jan 2020	(25,636)	(25,636)	(28,247)
Reserves 31 Dec 2020	(12,029)	(12,029)	(25,636)

9. Receipts and payments analysis - St Luke's

	General Fund Unrestrict'd £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Receipts			
Voluntary receipts from donors			
Planned giving	9,617	9,617	12,658
Collections & other giving	1,543	1,543	1,852
Income Tax recovered	2,696	2,696	2,449
	13,856	13,856	16,959
Other voluntary receipts			
Legacy	-	-	-
Donations	390	390	115
	390	390	115
Fundraising activities			
Summer Event		-	809
Book sales		-	147
Insurance Claim	5,045	5,045	-
Others	569	569	1,468
	5,614	5,614	2,424
Income from church activities			
Church hire	-	-	-
Investment income			
Bank interest	22	22	22
Total receipts	19,882	19,882	19,520
Payments			
Church activities			
Diocesan Parish Share	9,872	9,872	9,113
External mission & relief	1,657	1,657	2,390
Parish Mission	3,408	3,408	756

Major Church repairs	10,558	10,558	-
Church running expenses			
Repairs and renewals	150	150	185
Utilities	1,341	1,341	1,501
Insurance	590	590	588
Wages - cleaning	126	126	505
Sundry	195	195	110
	<u>2,402</u>	<u>2,402</u>	<u>2,889</u>
Total payments	<u>27,897</u>	<u>27,897</u>	<u>15,148</u>
Excess receipts		(8,015)	4,372
Reserves at 1 Jan 2020		28,234	23,862
Reserves at 31 Dec 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>20,219</u>	<u>28,234</u>

10. Receipts and payments analysis - The Church@Montrose Court

	Montrose Court Unrestrict'd £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Receipts			
Voluntary receipts from donors			
Planned giving	6,258	6,258	1,465
Collections & other giving	-	-	500
Income Tax recovered	275	275	350
	<u>6,533</u>	<u>6,533</u>	<u>2,315</u>
Other voluntary receipts			
Grants	14,500	14,500	2,000
Donations	5,055	5,055	2,550
	<u>19,555</u>	<u>19,555</u>	<u>4,550</u>
Fundraising activities	-	-	-
Discretionary fund	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total receipts	<u>26,088</u>	<u>26,088</u>	<u>6,865</u>
Payments			
Parish mission			
Craft materials	810	810	-
Catering	-	-	409
Special events	1,066	1,066	551
Food bank & event	5,491	5,491	-
	<u>7,367</u>	<u>7,367</u>	<u>960</u>
Church running expenses			
Rent	5,160	5,160	5,365
Insurance	-	-	-
Repairs and renewals	-	-	-
Electricity & water	538	538	220
Cleaning	-	-	-
Sundry	2,796	2,796	-
	<u>8,494</u>	<u>8,494</u>	<u>5,585</u>
Setting up costs	-	-	610
Business Rates	-	-	1,990
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total payments	<u>15,861</u>	<u>15,861</u>	<u>9,145</u>
Net receipts/(payments)	10,227	10,227	(2,280)
Transfers between funds			
From General Fund	-	-	-
	<u>10,227</u>	<u>10,227</u>	<u>(2,280)</u>
Bank current & dep. 1Jan	-	-	-
Bank current & dep 31Dec	<u>10,227</u>	<u>10,227</u>	<u>(2,280)</u>

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

St Helens Stapleford PCC

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1131777

Set out on pages

1 to 19)

**Respective responsibilities
of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

R A J Bowes

Date:

29/10/2021

Name:

REBECCA BOWES FCCA
