

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1131783

Details

Other names ST LAURENCE CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-09-23

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

Contact

Address School Lane
Alvechurch
Birmingham
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Website www.alvechurch-stlaurence.org

Activities

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

Activities: The charity is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of the parish community of St Laurence. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

Classification

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

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£198,000	£386,000	-	-
2024-12-31	£129,587	£137,624	-	-
2023-12-31	£135,775	£164,537	-	-
2022-12-31	£135,205	£110,907	-	-
2021-12-31	£127,585	£130,327	-	-
2020-12-31	£101,804	£116,427	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew John Notley		2015-04-21
Colin Michael Bennett		2024-05-05
Dr MARTIN PAUL ALLEN		
Gloria Wilson		2023-05-14
Helen Ayling		2017-04-23
Helena Allen		2025-05-11
Jeremy Peter Freeman		2021-04-23
Linda Ruth Helmore		2023-05-14
Lysandre Notley		2025-05-11
Mark Linton		2023-05-14
Michael Davenport		2023-05-14
Michael Fletcher		2024-05-05
Rev Gail Rogers		2021-12-03
Roger Wardle		2023-05-14
SUSAN VALERIE PHILLIPS-WARDLE		
Sarah Elizabeth Langlands Linton		2021-04-23
Stephen Pritchett		2025-05-11
Sue Lambert		2017-04-23
Susan Nicola Jane Sperring		2023-05-14

Accounts

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH
a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2025

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Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council 2025

St Laurence Church, Alvechurch

Objectives and Activities

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at St Laurence Church and regularly reviews how our services and activities can engage with the diverse communities that live within our parish.

During 2025 the church launched a renewed vision statement which expresses the heart of our ministry and mission:

“Here, everyone is welcome, valued and loved.”

This vision shapes the life of the church and guides our approach to worship, pastoral care, community engagement and mission. We seek to be a church that offers hospitality, encourages spiritual growth and serves the wider community with generosity and compassion.

We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament, creating opportunities for people to explore and deepen their relationship with God.

In particular, we aim to support people in living out their faith within our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning from the Gospel, and growing in knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- the provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, alongside missionary and outreach work
- the use of our church hall, The Ark, which continues to be an important asset in enabling many of these activities to take place.

In planning activities for the year, the PCC has had due regard to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit, including specific guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

Achievements and Performance

Worship, Prayer and Community Life

The PCC seeks to offer a varied pattern of worship throughout the week and across the church year, recognising that people engage with faith in different ways. Our services range from quieter, reflective forms of worship to more interactive and outward-looking gatherings.

TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

During the year our relationship with St Leonard's, Beoley continued to grow. Four joint "All Together" services were held across the two churches, alongside a shared Harvest social event which included a talent show. Discipleship groups during Lent and Advent were also shared across both congregations.

This relationship has now entered a new stage as we begin conversations, at the request of the Diocese, about the possibility of becoming one parish with two churches. The intention of this would be to simplify governance and create greater opportunities to share gifts, skills and resources across both congregations. These discussions remain at an early stage and are being approached through careful consultation.

During the year we also continued to explore how our new vision of welcome, value and belonging can be expressed practically within worship. One example of this has been the introduction of Be Space, a flexible area within the church designed for those who prefer a more interactive or reflective way of engaging during services. Alongside this we introduced a basket of items intended to support those with neurodiversity or sensory needs, helping ensure that worship is accessible for as many people as possible.

Café Church has now become firmly embedded within our pattern of worship. With its intergenerational focus, the service continues to experiment with creative elements, including the introduction of iSingPop songs alongside familiar favourites, which has brought a renewed sense of energy and participation.

Our monthly toddler service has continued to provide a gentle and welcoming environment for children aged 0–4 and their parents or carers, helping young families begin to explore faith together.

Beyond Sunday worship, Places of Welcome continues to provide hospitality and companionship within the community. Activities such as jigsaws and table-based conversations have proved particularly popular and have helped create a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

At the end of 2025 there were 96 people on the Electoral Roll, with the wider worshipping community estimated to be around 148 people, including approximately 32 children and young people.

During the year the church celebrated:

- 3 baptisms
- 2 funerals at church
- 3 funerals at the crematorium
- 3 burials in the churchyard
- 17 interments of ashes

Attendance at Advent and Christmas services increased by approximately 21% compared with 2024, reflecting encouraging growth in participation.

Prayer continues to remain central to the life of the church. Alongside public worship, a confidential prayer chain supports those requesting prayer, and prayers are regularly offered for individuals named in the Prayer Tree and Prayer Folder.

Stewardship of Buildings and Resources

The PCC continues to take responsibility for the care and maintenance of the church building and churchyard.

During 2025 major restoration work was completed on the church tower, funded through a £189,000 grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The project also included the electrification of the tower clock, meaning it no longer needs to be manually wound twice each week.

The churchyard continues to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, whose work ensures that it remains a peaceful and well cared for space for the community. We were pleased that the volunteer team grew during the year. The loss of support from the Probation Service part way through the year required adjustments to how some areas are maintained, particularly within the older section of the churchyard. However, our new contractor has settled well and we have been pleased with the standard of their work.

Fundraising for the Organ Fund, which will support essential future work on the church organ, continues. The “Sponsor a Pipe” appeal has received steady support.

Pastoral Care

St Laurence continues to seek to be a caring and attentive community, offering support to those in times of need.

The Mother and Toddler Group remains an active and well-attended gathering for local families.

The Children’s Sunday Club, which had run alongside the Sunday morning family service for several years, was paused during the autumn due to volunteer availability and changing numbers as children grew older. However, volunteers have adapted this ministry by offering activities within Be Space each week, ensuring that children remain included within worship.

All volunteers working with children are appropriately DBS checked.

Members of the Pastoral Care Team, together with other volunteers, continue to visit or remain in contact with those who are unable to attend church because of illness or infirmity.

Regular services are also held in local residential homes including The Lawns, The Leys, Grosvenor House and Hopwood House, maintaining pastoral connection with residents and staff.

Mission and Community Engagement

The Growing Mission and Ministry Group completed the Myriad New Worshipping Communities Pathway during the year and continues to engage with the Diocesan Mission Accompanier Scheme to support new forms of church life and outreach.

St Laurence also continues to support the wider mission of the church through partnerships and charitable giving. This includes ongoing support for churches in Peru, the Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, and Faith at Work in Worcestershire, where members of the congregation serve as workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch.

A Zimbabwean Day was organised during the year, incorporating elements into worship and followed by a shared meal and stalls raising funds to support ministry overseas.

The church also continues to support the NewStarts Food Bank in Bromsgrove, with regular donations from members of the congregation.

Community hospitality remains an important part of the church's mission. Ark Community Lunches, including a free Christmas Day lunch, continue to bring people together and offer companionship, particularly to those who might otherwise be alone.

Communication with the wider village is supported through the parish magazine The Grapevine, which continues to be distributed free of charge and has seen increasing readership.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence remains an active member of Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green (CTARG).

During the year this included shared Advent and Lent courses, participation in the Good Friday service, Picnic in the Park, and an ecologically themed service in Rowney Green. A Service for Peace was also held, followed by a shared meal at a local café.

Members of St Laurence also continue to support the Alvechurch Larder, an ecumenical food support initiative serving the local community.

Safeguarding

The PCC has due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding.

DBS checks and safeguarding training are up to date for those working with vulnerable groups.

Safeguarding compliance is monitored through the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard, which provides a colour-coded overview of compliance and any required actions. These are reviewed regularly by the PCC.

There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Risk Review

The PCC has reviewed the major risks to which the church may be exposed. These include:

- financial sustainability of ministry and mission
- maintaining sufficient volunteer capacity
- the ongoing maintenance of the church building and facilities.

Income and expenditure are monitored regularly and the PCC continues to explore future funding opportunities to support the church's mission.

Deanery Synod

The parish is represented on the Deanery Synod, which forms an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church of England.

Through the Synod, matters of mission, ministry and church life across the deanery are shared and discussed, and information is communicated back to the PCC. This helps ensure that the parish remains connected to the wider work of the church locally and across the diocese.

Revd Gail Rogers, Revd Martin Allen and one PCC member currently represent St Laurence on the Deanery Synod.

Financial Review

Income for Unrestricted Funds in 2025 was £110,191 (2024: £108,951).

Income for Restricted Funds was £87,825 (2024: £115,259).

Expenditure from Unrestricted Funds in 2025 was £119,961 (2024: £118,566).

Ministry Share paid in 2025 was £35,598 and £35,213 in 2024.

Expenditure from Restricted Funds in 2025 was £266,049 (Includes Tower, Porch and Clock works of £238,873 Adjusted to £27,176) (2024: £19,058).

Cash reserves of General Unrestricted Funds stood at £17,825 at the end of 2025, and £50,130 at the end of 2024.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund equivalent to approximately six months' expenditure, excluding Ministry Share payments.

TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Administrative Information

The PCC continue to employ:

- Mrs Charlotte Palethorpe: Ark and Building Administrator
- Mrs Michelle Read: Finance Officer
- Mrs Penny Walker continues in her shared role as Ministry Support Administrator for St Laurence and St Leonard's
- Ms Helen Cran: Cleaner

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the APCM in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge	Revd Gail Rogers
Churchwarden	Mr Michael Davenport
	Mr Mick Fletcher
Assistant Curate	Revd Martin Allen
Lay Readers	Mrs Sue Philips-Wardle
	Mrs Helen Ayling
Treasurer	Mrs Michelle Read (from May)
Secretary	Mrs Sarah Grainger
Members	Mr Andrew Notley
	Mr Roger Wardle
	Mr Peter Freeman
	Mrs Lysandre Notley
	Mrs Sue Lambert
	Mrs Sarah Linton
	Mr Mark Linton
	Mrs Linda Helmore
	Mr Stephen Pritchett
	Mr Colin Bennett
	Ms Sue Sperring
	Ms Gloria Wilson
	Mrs Helena Allen

Aims and Purposes

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Laurence Church has responsibility for promoting the whole mission of the Church—pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical—within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch.

The PCC seeks to support the spiritual life of the congregation, encourage the growth of faith and discipleship, and develop opportunities for mission and service within the wider community.

Structure, Governance and Management

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

All members of the congregation are encouraged to join the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC as part of the shared leadership of the church.

The PCC carries out much of its work through a number of committees which meet between full PCC meetings.

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has the authority to transact PCC business between meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

The committee oversees the financial life of the parish, including monitoring income and expenditure, preparing budgets and reviewing planned giving.

Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the care, maintenance and development of church property, including the church building, The Ark, and the churchyard.

It oversees both maintenance and capital projects, including work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan, ensuring that the church buildings remain safe, well maintained and suitable for the mission and ministry of the parish.

Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee oversees activities which support the development of faith among children and young people within the church and community. It also considers the wider work of the church with families and younger members of the parish.

Mission Committee

This committee supports the church's engagement in mission locally and internationally. It fosters links with partner organisations including churches in Peru, the Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre

in Zimbabwe, and Faith at Work in Worcestershire, while also encouraging wider mission awareness within the congregation.

Statement of Responsibilities of Members of the PCC

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to:

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

The PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations.

The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Conclusion

The PCC remains deeply grateful for the dedication and generosity of the many volunteers who give their time, gifts and energy to the life of St Laurence Church. Their commitment sustains our worship, pastoral care, community activities and mission throughout the year.

As we look ahead, we do so with hope and gratitude, continuing to shape the life of the church around our shared vision that “Here, everyone is welcome, valued and loved.” Through prayer, service and partnership with our community, we seek to grow in faith and to share God’s love in Alvechurch and beyond.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch

Accounts for the year ended

31 December 2025

Charity no

1183360

Set out on pages

12-18

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Church") for the year ended **31 December 2025**.

As the Church's trustees, 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 Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Matthew John Elmes

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Chartered Accountant
ICAEW / ACCA

Address:

11 Swan Street

Alcester

Warwickshire B49 5DP

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Prior Year Total Funds £
<u>Income from:</u>						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned giving		47,022	-	7,804	54,826	48,070
Collections at services		5,987	180	657	6,644	6,660
Other voluntary receipts	2	367	-	58,348	58,895	100,116
Gift aid recovered		13,563	12	386	13,949	11,752
Activities for generating funds	3	4,081	-	717	4,810	5,316
Investment income	4	476	23,723	12,727	13,203	11,767
Church activities	5	14,780	-	7,186	45,689	40,529
Total income		£ 86,276	23,915	87,825	198,016	224,210
<u>Expenditure on:</u>						
Church activities						
Diocesan ministry share		35,598	-	-	35,598	35,213
Clergy and staffing costs	6	18,533	15,615	-	34,148	32,473
Church running expenses	7	20,362	1,243	11,669	33,274	32,576
Tower, porch and clock works		-	-	238,873	238,873	-
Utilities	8	6,210	7,374	--	13,584	14,624
The Ark running costs			6,342	367	6,709	9,270
Mission giving and donations		3,273	-	1,130	4,403	4,082
Cost of generating funds		1,576	13	3,480	5,069	1,722
Other expenses	9	1,163	-	10,530	11,693	7,664
Depreciation	10	2,659	-	-	2,659	-
Total Expenditure		£ 89,374	30,587	266,049	386,010	137,624
Net income/(expenditure)		£ (3,098)	(6,672)	(178,224)	(187,994)	86,854
<u>Transfers</u>						
Gross transfers between funds - in	11	-	6822	22,385	29,207	1,660
Gross transfers between funds - out	11	(29,207)	-	-	(29,207)	(1,660)
Net movement in funds		£ (32,305)	150	(155,839)	(187,994)	86,586
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>						
Total funds brought forward	12	50,130	-	564,884	615,014	528,428
Total funds carried forward	12	£ 17,825	150	409,045	427,020	615,014

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	7,976	-
Investments		199,764	199,764
Total fixed assets		£ 207,740	£ 199,764
<u>Current assets</u>			
Investments		193,932	266,848
Cash at bank and in hand		28,678	149,579
Total current assets		£ 222,610	£ 416,427
<u>Current liabilities</u>			
Agency Collections		3,330	1,177
Net current assets/(liabilities)		£ 219,280	£ 415,250
Total assets less current liabilities		£ 427,020	£ 615,014
<u>Funds of the Church</u>			
General Fund - Unrestricted	12	17,825	43,127
Flower Fund - Designated	12	150	-
Restricted Funds	12	409,045	571,887
Total Church Funds		£ 427,020	£ 615,014

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 31st March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev Gail Rogers
Chair of the Parochial Church Council

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Church, which is a public benefit entity, in the preparation of the accounts are as follows.

1.2 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the inclusion of charitable properties and fixed asset investments and investment properties at valuation.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

These accounts are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

1.3 Going concern

The Trustees have prepared financial projections, taking into consideration the current economic conditions and have, at the time of approving these accounts, a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.4 Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings – 25% straight line.

Computer equipment – 25% straight line.

2 Other Voluntary Receipts

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	2,121	5,492
National Lottery grant	56,774	94,623
	£ 58,895	£ 110,116

3 Activities for Generating Funds

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Fundraising	3,405	3,406
Grapevine magazine	1,405	1,910
	£ 4,810	£ 5,316

4 Investment Income

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Dividends	1,279	8,650
Interest	11,924	3,117
	£ 13,203	£ 11,767

5 Church Activities

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Weddings and funerals	7,254	7,342
Ark lettings and events	26,478	21,333
Other receipts	11,957	11,854
	£ 45,689	£ 40,529

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

6 Staffing Costs

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Clergy expenses	2,945	2,374
Administration and ministry	31,203	30,099
	£ 34,148	£ 32,473

St Leonard's Beoley District Church Council contributes towards 50% of clergy expenses and 50% of the administration and ministry costs. Amounts received are included in other income.

7 Church Running Expenses

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Insurance	7,321	6,801
Repairs and maintenance	15,389	14,201
Worship resources	1,691	805
Administration	5,297	3,495
Independent examiners fee	1,236	1,176
Other running costs	2,340	6,098
	£ 33,274	£ 32,576

8 Utilities

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Electricity	5,951	6,822
Gas	5,825	6,594
Water	328	-
IT & telephone	1,480	1,208
	£ 13,584	£ 14,624

9 Other Expenses

Analysis	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Audio visual system installation	-	5,624
Professional fees	11,647	2,040
Small equipment	45	-
	£ 11,693	£ 7,664

10 Tangible Fixed Assets

Analysis	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Additions	10,020	615	10,635
Depreciation	2,505	154	2,659
Value at 31 st December 2025	£ 7,515	461	7,976

11 Church Funds Transfers

Details of funds held and movements during the previous reporting period

Year ended 31 December 2024	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Movement £
General fund	(1,660)			(1,660)
Ark fund		1,449		1,449
Churchyard maintenance			211	211
Total Movement	£ (1,660)	1,449	211	0

Details of funds held and movements during the current reporting period

Year ended 31 December 2025	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Movement £
General fund	(29,207)			(29,207)
Clock fund			8,636	8,636
Tower fund			26,399	26,399
Churchyard maintenance			320	320
Ark		6,822		6,822
Fabric			8,630	8,630
Arkff			(1,600)	(1,600)
Caprep			(20,000)	(20,000)
Total Movement	£ (29,207)	6,822	22,385	0

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

12 Church Funds

	1 Jan 25	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31 Dec 25
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General	£ 50,130	86,274	89,372	(29,207)	17,825
Designated funds					
The Ark	-	23,740	30,562	6,822	-
Flowers	-	175	25	-	150
£	-	23,915	30,587	6,822	150
Restricted funds					
Ark community	859	4,793	4,056	-	1,596
Ark fixtures & fittings*	1,630	-	30	(1,600)	-
Ark recoupment	58,881	-	-	-	58,881
Ark tots & toddlers	3,395	1,146	290	-	4,251
Bells	2,337	458	128	-	2,667
Capital repairs	343,469	15,785	82,000	(20,000)	257,254
Churchyard Capital	40,883	-	-	-	40,883
Churchyard Maintenance	91	3,479	2,178	320	1,712
Clock	3,111	-	11,747	8,636	-
Fabric	3,563	9,936	971	8,630	21,158
Music	166	-	-	-	166
Organ restoration	4,574	724	83	-	5,215
Others	3,941	4,818	1,130	-	7,629
Tower Project	90,292	195,547	312,238	26,399	-
Youth	7,692	-	59	-	7,633
£	564,884	236,686	414,910	22,385	409,045
£	615,014	346,875	534,869	-	427,020

*The Ark fixtures and fittings fund has been amalgamated with the general fabric fund.

The "Others" fund is various donations held on behalf of other organisations, gift aid refunds and other small donations.

Accounts

**Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Charity Registration Number: 1131783**

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2024

Annual Report 2024

Objectives and Activities

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and regularly reviews how our services can appeal to and involve the many groups that live within our parish. We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament.

In particular, we aim to support people in living out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and deepening their knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, and missionary and outreach work
- The church hall (The Ark) is an important asset in achieving our objectives.

In planning activities for the year, the PCC has had due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, including specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer a range of services each week, and over the course of the year, that our community finds both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For that reason, we continue to offer a full pattern of Sunday services, including both intimate and reflective worship, and more outgoing forms of worship.

We continue to grow in relationship with St Leonard's, Beoley. Two "all-together" services were held—one at each church—as well as a joint Harvest Social. We also shared discipleship groups across both parishes during Lent and Advent.

We committed to exploring welcome and hospitality using Inclusive Church resources, integrating these into our worship, and offering opportunities for deeper engagement through midweek groups.

In May, we launched a new monthly café-style worshipping community at 9:15am, which takes an intergenerational approach. A monthly toddler service was also introduced as a new worshipping community, focusing on children aged 0–4 and their parents/carers.

Places of Welcome continues to offer valuable support to attendees. New activities, including jigsaws, have proved especially popular.

Revd Martin Allen was ordained priest in 2024, and presided for the first time at an All-Together Communion Service with St Leonard's. A joint celebratory lunch followed.

Everyone is welcome at our regular services. At the end of 2024, 90 parishioners were on the Electoral Roll. Our worshipping community numbers approximately 148, including around 30 children and young people.

We celebrated 10 baptisms, conducted 7 funeral services at church, 5 at the crematorium, and held 15 interments of ashes.

Advent and Christmas attendance increased by 9% compared to 2023. Alongside our public worship, we maintain a confidential prayer chain, and continue to pray for individuals named in the Prayer Tree and Prayer Folder.

Risk Review

The PCC has reviewed the major risks to which the church is exposed. The main areas identified include the financial sustainability of ministry and mission, maintaining adequate volunteer capacity, and the upkeep of the church building and associated facilities. The PCC monitors income and expenditure regularly and will continue to explore future sources of funding to protect against any significant reduction. The PCC is actively involved in, and oversees, the delivery of its activities to ensure both safety and quality are maintained across all areas of ministry.

Deanery Synod

One PCC member and our Vicar sit on the Deanery Synod, providing a vital link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church.

The Fabric of the Church

We have carried out essential repairs as they have arisen and most of the remedial work arising from the Quinquennial Review has been completed except that on the tower. In the summer of 2024, we were awarded £189,000 from the National Lottery Heritage fund for work on the tower. As part of this work, we are having the tower clock electrified too. Work will start on this in May 2025. The churchyard continues to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, and we had the lower churchyard extended by having some ground levelling work done.

Our Organ Fund which is raising money for essential works to our church organ is still on going, this year we launched sponsor a pipe appeal, which has been going steady.

The Audio-Visual work was completed at the beginning of 2024 and has been used successfully, enhancing our worship experience.

Pastoral Care

The Mother and Toddler Group continues to operate. The children's Sunday Club has run during the Sunday morning Family Service and remains popular, with adult helpers bringing considerable skill and imagination to this activity. All who work with children have been DBS checked.

St Laurence's is a caring community. The pastoral care group and others endeavour to visit or keep in contact with those who are no longer able to come to church due to sickness or infirmity or covid restrictions. Regular services continue to be held in local residential homes at The Lawns, The Leys, Grosvenor House and Hopwood House.

Mission and Evangelism

The Growing Mission and Ministry Group enrolled in the Myriad New Worshipping Communities Pathway. As additional support and commitment to expanding our mission, we also joined the Diocesan Mission Accompanier Scheme.

Support was provided to the churches in Peru through financial, practical, and prayer contributions. Assistance was also extended to the Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe and Faith at Work in Worcestershire, where four members of the congregation serve as workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch. A Peruvian day was organized, integrated into worship, and followed by an event featuring stalls selling Peruvian goods and a shared meal with Peruvian foods. Proceeds supported various areas of ministry in Peru. Regular contributions continue to be made to the food bank run by New Starts in Bromsgrove.

For the second consecutive year, a free Christmas Day Community lunch was organized, operated entirely by volunteers, with 70 attendees. Seasonal Ark Lunches continued to be well attended, and links with the church school included the school choir providing entertainment at the Christmas Ark lunch, which was enjoyed by participants.

The monthly parish magazine, The Grapevine, remains free of charge and has grown in readership. It provides information about the village of Alvechurch, addresses matters affecting the church, informs readers of activities, and aims to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence is a member of Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green (CTARG) with joint events held during the year including Advent and Lent courses, and the Christmas light switch-on service.

St Laurence members continue to be active in the operation of the ecumenical Alvechurch Larder.

As part of CTARG St Laurence participated in the village Picnic in the Park in May, and with an ecologically-oriented service in Rowney Green in June.

A joint Service for Peace was held followed by a shared meal.

Safeguarding

The PCC has due regard to the House of Bishop's guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checks are up to date, as is mandatory safeguarding training for those who deal with vulnerable parishioners. The yearly Toolkit for the Archdeacon is now an online dashboard which is coloured red, orange, green depending on whether or not we are compliant with the requirements and if not our action plan. There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Financial Review

Income for Unrestricted Funds in 2024 was £108,951 and in 2023 was £119,439.
Income for Restricted Funds was £115,259 and in 2023 was £16,336.

Expenditures from Unrestricted Funds in 2024 was £118,566 and in 2023 was £152,752.

Ministry Share paid in 2024 was £35,213 and £50,000 in 2023.

Expenditures from Restricted funds in 2024 was £19,058 and in 2023 was £11,786.
Cash reserves of General Unrestricted funds stood at £50,130 at the end of 2024 and £59,956 at the end of 2023, representing less than 6 months' expenditure.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund which equates approximately six months' expenditures, excluding Ministry Share payments.

Administrative information

There have been significant administrative changes this year. During the year the Parish Administrator, Mrs Lynda Lewis retired. Following a restructure of roles we now have, have Mrs Charlotte Palethorpe as Ark and Building Administrator, and Mrs Michelle Read as Finance Officer. Mrs Penny Walker continues in the shared role as Ministry Support Administrator between St Laurence and St Leonard's. Ms Helen Cran transferred from self-employed to an employee too.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge	Rev Gail Rogers
Churchwarden	Mr Graham Clark (until May) Mr Mick Fletcher (From May) Mr Michael Davenport
Curate	Rev Martin Allen
Lay Readers	Mrs Sue Philips-Wardle, Mrs Helen Ayling
Treasurer	Mr Mark Blamire-Brown (until May) Mrs Michelle Read (from May)
Secretary	Mrs Lysandre Notley
Members	Mr Andrew Notley Mr Roger Wardle Mr Peter Freeman Mrs Sue Lambert Mrs Sarah Linton Mr Mark Linton Mrs Linda Helmore Mr Andrew Edwards

Mr Colin Bennett

Ms Sue Sperring

Ms Gloria Wilson

Mrs Helena Allen

Aims and purposes

St Laurence PCC has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical - within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch and seeking ways to grow mission and ministry locally.

Structure, governance and management

Appointment of members to the PCC conforms with the Church Representation Rules. Everyone attending church is encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC Committees.

The PCC operates through several committees, which meet between full PCC meetings:

1) Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has powers to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. It oversees the general financial dimension of the work of St Laurence by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the review of planned giving.

2) Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of church property (the church, the Ark, and the churchyard). It also now plans, co-ordinates and budgets both capital and maintenance projects. It is also responsible for work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan.

3) Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee is responsible for overseeing Church groups which are dedicated to helping children develop faith. It also considers the wider work of the church and community in relation to children and young people. 4) Mission Committee

This committee fosters the links with the Anglican Church and Christians in Peru, and the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in

Zimbabwe, and other missionary work, including Faith at Work in Worcestershire.

Statement of Responsibilities of members of the PCC

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.
- the PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that they comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations
- The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the assets and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**The Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch**

Charity Registration Number: 1131783

**Accounts for the year ended
31st December 2024**

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024**

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**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024**

**Independent examiner's report to the members of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical
Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2024.**

I report on accounts of the Parochial Church Council ('PCC') of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 2 to 8 .

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

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.

M.A. Edwards Date 15/5/25

M.A. Edwards

For and on behalf of :-

M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,
Chartered Accountants,
26, The Green,
Kings Norton,
Birmingham,
B38 8SD.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned giving		46,576	0	1,494	48,070	48,184
Collections at services		4,818	0	1,842	6,660	7,357
Other voluntary receipts	2(a)	1,235	50	98,831	100,116	13,045
Gift aid tax recovered		10,863	13	876	11,752	12,865
Total Voluntary receipts		63,492	63	103,043	166,598	81,451
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,600	248	468	5,316	5,145
Investment receipts	2(c)	7,657	0	4,110	11,767	7,944
Church activities	2(d)	12,526	20,365	7,638	40,529	41,235
Total Receipts		88,275	20,676	115,259	224,210	135,775
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan Ministry Share contributions		35,213	0	0	35,213	50,000
Clergy & staffing costs	3(a)	22,477	9,996	0	32,473	20,713
Church running expenses	3(b)	22,191	568	9,817	32,576	21,332
Utilities expenses	3(c)	7,602	7,022	0	14,624	7,877
The Ark running costs		0	6,196	3,074	9,270	7,452
Mission giving & donations		97	0	3,985	4,082	6,204
Cost of generating funds		680	0	1,042	1,722	725
Other expenses	3(d)	900	5,624	1,140	7,664	50,235
Total Payments		89,160	29,406	19,058	137,624	164,538
Excess/(Deficit) off Receipts over Payments		(885)	(8,730)	96,201	86,586	(28,763)
Transfers between funds	4	(1,660)	1,449	211	0	0
Net movement in funds	5	(2,545)	(7,281)	96,412	86,586	(28,763)
Reconciliation of funds						
Accumulated funds b/f		52,675	7,281	468,472	528,428	557,191
Accumulated funds c/f		50,130	0	564,884	615,014	528,428

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
Cash funds						
Bank		33,644	0	115,137	148,781	69,896
Cash in hand		798	0		798	1,321
Deposit funds		15,688	0	251,160	266,848	259,194
		<u>50,130</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>366,297</u>	<u>416,427</u>	<u>330,411</u>
Investment assets						
Investment fund shares at cost	7	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>199,764</u>	<u>199,764</u>	<u>199,764</u>
Liabilities						
Agency Collections		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(1,177)</u>	<u>(1,177)</u>	<u>(1,747)</u>
		<u>50,130</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>564,884</u>	<u>615,014</u>	<u>528,428</u>

These accounts were approved by the Parochial Church Council on
and signed on its behalf by:

G. Rogers
Rev'd Gail Rogers
Chair of the Parochial Church Council

14/5/25

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

- 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 RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
2(a) <u>Other voluntary receipts</u>					
Other donations	735	50	3,709	4,494	2,159
Legacies	500	0	500	1,000	10,338
Grants	0	0	94,623	94,623	548
	1,235	50	98,831	100,116	13,045
A sum of £94,623 was received from the National Lotteries Fund on 29/07/24, being the first tranche of a grant towards the costs of refurbishing the church tower. These works are due to start in Spring 2025.					
2(b) <u>Activities for generating funds</u>					
Fund raising events	2,690	248	468	3,406	2,325
Grapevine magazine advertising	1,910	0	0	1,910	2,820
	4,600	248	468	5,316	5,145
2(c) <u>Investment receipts</u>					
Dividends	7,401	0	1,249	8,650	1,230
Deposit interest	256	0	2,861	3,117	6,714
	7,657	0	4,110	11,767	7,944
2(d) <u>Church activities</u>					
Fees - weddings & funerals	4,470	0	2,872	7,342	12,462
The Ark lettings & events	0	19,894	1,439	21,333	22,482
Other receipts	8,056	471	3,327	11,854	6,290
	12,526	20,365	7,638	40,529	41,235

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

3 PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
3(a) <u>Clergy & staffing costs</u>					
Clergy expenses	2,374	0	0	2,374	2,181
Staff costs - administration & ministry support	20,103	9,996	0	30,099	18,532
	22,477	9,996	0	32,473	20,713
St Leonard's Beoley District Church Council contributes towards 50% of clergy expenses and 50% of the ministry support administrator's salary costs, the receipts for which are shown in church activities, other receipts.					
3(b) <u>Church running expenses</u>					
Fees - weddings & funerals	0	0	0	0	774
Insurance	6,801	0	0	6,801	6,302
Repair & maintenance	5,029	125	9,047	14,201	8,096
Worship resources	805	0	0	805	1,299
Administration	3,470	0	25	3,495	3,034
Independent Examiner's Fee	1,176	0	0	1,176	1,128
Other expenses	4,910	443	745	6,098	698
	22,191	568	9,817	32,576	21,332
3(c) <u>Utilities expenses</u>					
Gas	3,808	3,014	0	6,823	4,069
Electricity	3,297	3,297	0	6,594	3,225
IT & Telecommunications	497	711	0	1,208	582
	7,602	7,022	0	14,624	7,877
3(d) <u>Other expenses</u>					
Audio visual system installation	0	5,624	0	5,624	50,212
Professional fees	900	0	1,140	2,040	0
Small equipment purchases				0	23
	900	5,624	1,140	7,664	50,235

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

4 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £
<u>2024</u>			
From General Fund to The Ark fund	(1,449)	1,449	0
From General Fund to Churchyard Maintenance Fund	(211)	0	211
	<u>(1,660)</u>	<u>1,449</u>	<u>211</u>
<u>2023</u>			
From General Fund to Audio Visual Fund	(43,835)	43,835	0
From Others Fund to Audio Visual Fund	0	12,000	(12,000)
From General Fund to Ark Fixtures & Fittings Fund	(505)	0	505
From General Fund to Churchyard Maintenance	(788)	0	788
From Others Fund to General Fund	632	0	(632)
From General Fund to Clock Fund	(41)	0	41
	<u>(44,537)</u>	<u>55,835</u>	<u>(11,298)</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

5 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	01/01/24 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	31/12/24 £
<u>Unrestricted Fund</u>					
General Fund	52,675	88,275	(89,160)	(1,660)	50,130
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Audio Visual	5,623	0	(5,623)	0	0
The Ark	1,658	20,676	(23,783)	1,449	0
	7,281	20,676	(29,406)	1,449	0
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Ark Community Fund	0	2,086	(1,227)	0	859
Ark Fittings & Fixtures	1,890	75	(335)	0	1,630
Ark Tots & Toddlers	2,132	1,482	(219)	0	3,395
Bells Fund	2,360	29	(52)	0	2,337
Capital Repair Fund	343,469	0	0	0	343,469
Churchyard Maintenance (Capital)	40,883	0	0	0	40,883
Churchyard Maintenance Fund	0	4,621	(4,741)	211	91
Clock Fund	3,111	0	0	0	3,111
Fabric Fund	4,582	2,861	(3,880)	0	3,563
Music	0	166	0	0	166
Organ Restoration Fund	1,110	3,466	(2)	0	4,574
Others	2,362	5,850	(4,271)	0	3,941
The Ark Recoupment Fund	58,881	0	0	0	58,881
Tower Project Fund	0	94,623	(4,331)	0	90,292
Youth Fund	7,692	0	0	0	7,692
	468,472	115,259	(19,058)	211	564,884
TOTAL FUNDS	528,428	224,210	(137,624)	0	615,014

The 'Others' Fund holds donations, on a short term basis, raised for specific church and charity uses .

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

6 INVESTMENT ASSETS

Investment Funds

The Worcester Diocesan Board of Finance manages on the PCC's behalf the following CBF Church of England Investment Funds:

Fund Name	Note	Market Value	
		31/12/24 £	31/12/23 £
Alvechurch Black Paddock (Recoup)	(a)	74,150	70,549
Alvechurch Black Paddock Ch'yard Maint	(b)	46,032	45,002
Alvechurch PCC	(c)	119,534	113,728
		<u>239,716</u>	<u>229,279</u>

(a) Part of the land held by the PCC and known as the 'Black Paddock' was sold in 2003. Part of the proceeds, amounting to £978,710, was used to build The Ark community centre, being an extension to the existing church building. This land had previously been held as a permanent endowment by the PCC as a trustee in a separate charity 'for burial purposes and extension of the churchyard'. By order of the Charity Commission, the PCC placed £42,000 in an accumulated investment fund, permitting dividends accruing therefrom to be accumulated over 60 years. At the end of the 60 years the investment is to be treated as a permanent endowment.

(b) £40,000 of the proceeds from the sale of 'Black Paddock' land was invested in Income shares, whereby the dividends are paid into the Churchyard Maintenance Fund.

(c) £100,000 from the land sale proceeds in 2022 was invested in an Accumulation Fund.

Deposit Funds

Deposit savings are held on the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and in bank deposit accounts held on the CAF Charity Deposits Platform.

7 TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Clergy expenses amounting to £2,374 (2023 £2,181) were paid in the year.

Accounts

**Parochial Church
Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Charity Registration Number: 1131783**

**Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for
2023**

Annual Report 2023

Objectives and Activities

The Parochial Church Council ('PCC') is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and regularly reviews how our services can appeal to and involve the many groups that live within our parish. We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and deepening their knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, and missionary and outreach work.

The church hall (The Ark) is an important asset to us in achieving our objectives. When planning its activities, the PCC has regard to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit, and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer a range of services each week, and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For that reason, the PCC is keen to continue the full range of Sunday services which provide both intimate and reflective worship, and more outgoing forms of worship.

We continue to grow in relationship with St Leonard's Beoley. We held two "all-together" services, one at each church, and we held a joint Harvest Social.

The coronation of King Charles III was celebrated together at St Laurence.

A joint Confirmation service was conducted by Bishop Martin for 11 candidates from St Laurence and St Leonard (which included 2 baptisms).

A new monthly worshipping community, a café-style service, entitled Church@4 was started in April. Places of Welcome continues to grow and provides a valuable service to those who attend.

We welcomed Rev Martin Allen as a new curate member of our Ministry Team.

Everyone is welcome to attend our regular services. At the end of 2023, there were 98 parishioners on our Electoral Roll. Our worshipping community numbers some 140 including 30 children and young people.

We celebrated 7 baptisms, 7 weddings, and held 16 funeral services in our church and conducted 9 interments of ashes.

In addition to praying for those mentioned on our Prayer Board, there is a confidential prayer chain for private prayer requests.

Deanery Synod

Two members of the PCC, together with our Vicar, sit on the Redditch and Bromsgrove Deanery Synod. This provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Fabric of the Church

We have carried out essential repairs as they have arisen, and most of the remedial work arising from the Quinquennial Review has been completed except that on the tower which is expected to be started in 2024. The churchyard continues to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, and tree surgery has been performed to deal with any trees that might have presented a hazard to visitors or the general public.

The experience of broadcasting recorded services whilst we were unable to meet in person during the Covid pandemic gave the impetus to continue this activity. Thanks to donations and legacies we raised the necessary funds for the installation of a new audio-visual presentation system which was commenced in December (and completed in 2024). This will be used to enhance the worship experience during services at St Laurence and will enable us to live stream or record services in the future.

Pastoral Care

The Tots and Toddler Group continues to operate. The children's Sunday Club has run during the Sunday morning Family Service and remains popular, with adult helpers bringing considerable skill and imagination to this activity. All who work with children have been DBS checked.

St Laurence's is a caring community. The pastoral care group and others endeavour to visit, or keep in contact with, those who are no longer able to come to church due to sickness or infirmity or Covid restrictions. Regular services continue to be held in local residential homes at The Lawns, The Leys, Grosvenor House and Hopwood House. We have commissioned 7 Pastoral Care Ministers to enable them to administer communion in these premises and in the homes of other local residents.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is also a demonstration of our faith in action. Financial, practical and prayer support was once again given to those we are linked with in the churches in Peru. We have also supported the work of the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, together with Faith at Work in Worcestershire - four members of our congregation are workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch. We

continue to give on a regular basis to the food bank run by New Starts in Bromsgrove, with donations also to Birmingham City Mission.

Our monthly parish magazine, The Grapevine, has been available free of charge across the parish. This has continued through the Covid pandemic after the first month of the initial restrictions. As well as giving information about the village of Alvechurch, the magazine deals with matters affecting the church, and reminds readers of our activities, as well as seeking to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ. Special services, including our recorded services, are advertised across the parish. During the year the printing of this magazine was brought inhouse with a considerable saving in cost.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence is a member of Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green (CTARG) with joint events held during the year including Advent and Lent courses, and the Christmas light switch-on service.

St Laurence members continue to be active in the operation of the ecumenical, Alvechurch Larder. This service provides near sell-by food at a greatly reduced cost to local people, thereby reducing food waste and helping those in financial need and continues to satisfy a growing local need.

As part of CTARG, St Laurence participated in the village Picnic in the Park in May, and with an ecologically-oriented service in Rowney Green in June.

A joint Service for Peace was held followed by a Ukrainian themed+ meal.

Safeguarding

The PCC has due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checks are up to date, as is mandatory safeguarding training for those who deal with vulnerable parishioners. The yearly Toolkit for the Archdeacon is now an online dashboard which is coloured red, orange, green depending on whether or not we are compliant with the requirements and if not our action plan. There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Financial Review

The overall value of PCC funds fell by £28,762 in 2023, compared with a rise of £24,298 in 2022 (excluding an extraordinary profit of £275,991 on the sale of land).

The fall in overall funds in 2023 is mainly due to payments being made for the installation of new audio-visual equipment in St. Laurence's Church building, amounting to £50,212. This has been funded from legacies and, individual donations received in previous years, and a transfer made from

The Ark Café Fund following the closure of the café during the Covid pandemic, together with a transfer from the General Fund.

Receipts exceeded payments by £15,321 on the unrestricted, General Fund in 2023. This compares with a surplus in 2022 of £23,126 (excluding an extraordinary profit of £34,991 on the sale of land).

The balance on the General Fund at the end of 2023 is £52,675. This equates to approximately 8 months' normal expenditures, including Ministry Share payments. In view of the current geopolitical uncertainties, creating a cost-of-living crisis in the UK, together with potential continued loss of income from regular giving, the PCC considers that this level of General Fund reserve is necessary.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund which equates approximately to six months' normal expenditures, including Ministry Share payments.

Administrative information

During the year the work of the Parish Administrator, Mrs Lynda Lewis, was augmented by the employment of a part-time Ministry Support Assistant, Mrs Penny Walker. This post is shared with St Leonard's Beoley.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge Rev Gail Rogers

Churchwardens Mr Graham Clark, Mr Mick Fletcher (until April)
Michael Davenport (from April)

Curate Rev Martin Allen

Lay Readers Mrs Sue Philips-Wardle, Mrs Helen Ayling

Treasurer Mr Mark Blamire-Brown (from May)

Members Mr Andrew Notley

Mr Roger Wardle

Mr Michael Davenport

Mr Peter Freeman

Mrs Sue Lambert

Mrs Sarah Linton

Mr Mark Linton

Mrs Lysandre Notley (Secretary)

Mrs Linda Helmore

Mrs Jane Edwards

Ms Sue Sperring

Ms Gloria Wilson

Aims and purposes

St Laurence PCC is responsible for promoting the whole mission of the church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical - within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch, and for seeking ways to grow mission and ministry in the parish.

Structure, governance and management

Appointment of members to the PCC conforms with the Church Representation Rules. Everyone attending church is encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC Committees.

The PCC operates through several committees and groups, which meet between full PCC meetings, and which met as necessary on Zoom following the start of the Covid pandemic:

1) Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has powers to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. It oversees the general financial dimension of the work of St Laurence by monitoring receipts and payments, budgeting and co-ordinating the review of planned giving.

2) Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of church property (the church building, the Ark, and the churchyard). It also plans, co-ordinates and budgets both capital and maintenance projects. It is responsible for work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan.

3) Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee is responsible for overseeing Church groups which are dedicated to helping children and young people develop faith. It also considers the wider work of the church and community in relation to children and young people.

4) Wider Mission Group

This committee fosters links with the Anglican Church and Christians in Peru, and the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, and other missionary work, including Faith at Work in Worcestershire.

Other groups include, Pastoral Group, Growing Mission & Ministry, Churches Together and Eco Church. These groups represent the whole mission and ministry of the church.

Statement of Responsibilities of members of the PCC

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.
- the PCC is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that they comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations.
- The PCC is also responsible for safeguarding the assets and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**The Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch**

Charity Registration Number: 1131783

**Accounts for the year ended
31st December 2023**

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023**

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**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023**

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the members of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2023.

I report on accounts of the Parochial Church Council ('PCC') of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 8 .

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's report

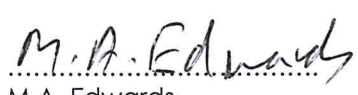
I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

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.

 Date 25/4/23

M.A. Edwards

For and on behalf of :-

M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,
Chartered Accountants,
26, The Green,
Kings Norton,
Birmingham,
B38 8SD.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned giving		47,354	0	830	48,184	55,652
Collections at services		6,082	0	1,275	7,357	7,019
Other voluntary receipts	2(a)	10,705	40	2,300	13,045	16,785
Gift aid tax recovered		12,163	0	702	12,865	12,115
Total Voluntary receipts		76,304	40	5,107	81,451	91,571
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,102	83	960	5,145	2,682
Investment receipts	2(c)	43	0	7,901	7,944	1,825
Church activities	2(d)	16,385	22,482	2,368	41,235	39,127
Total Receipts		96,834	22,605	16,336	135,775	135,205
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan Ministry Share contributions		45,411	0	4,589	50,000	50,000
Clergy & staffing costs	3(a)	11,887	8,826	0	20,713	13,165
Church running expenses	3(b)	16,368	1,006	3,958	21,332	23,369
Utilities expenses	3(c)	3,695	4,182	0	7,877	9,028
The Ark running costs		0	7,013	439	7,452	5,948
Mission giving & donations		3,594	0	2,610	6,204	6,323
Cost of generating funds		535	0	190	725	2,961
Other expenses	3(d)	23	50,212	0	50,235	113
Total Payments		81,513	71,239	11,786	164,538	110,907
Excess/(Deficit) off Receipts over Payments		15,321	(48,634)	4,550	(28,763)	24,298
Profit on sale of land	4					275,991
Transfers between funds	5	(44,537)	55,835	(11,298)	0	0
Net movement in funds	6	(29,216)	7,201	(6,748)	(28,763)	300,289
Reconciliation of funds						
Accumulated funds b/f		81,891	80	475,220	557,191	256,902
Accumulated funds c/f		52,675	7,281	468,472	528,428	557,191

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Cash funds						
Bank		43,370	7,281	19,245	69,896	111,864
Cash in hand		1,271	0	50	1,321	0
Deposit funds		8,034	0	251,160	259,194	241,000
		<u>52,675</u>	<u>7,281</u>	<u>270,455</u>	<u>330,411</u>	<u>352,864</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift aid tax recoverable		<u>997</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>1,332</u>	<u>0</u>
Investment assets						
Investment fund shares at market value	7	0	0	229,279	229,279	204,686
Liabilities						
Agency Collections		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,747</u>	<u>1,747</u>	<u>0</u>

These accounts were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27th February 2024
and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Revd Gail Rogers
Chair of the Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

- 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 RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
2(a) <u>Other voluntary receipts</u>					
Other donations	567	40	1,552	2,159	1,358
Legacies	10,138	0	200	10,338	14,927
Grants	0	0	548	548	500
	<u>10,705</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>13,045</u>	<u>16,785</u>
2(b) <u>Activities for generating funds</u>					
Fund raising events	1,282	83	960	2,325	1,612
Grapevine magazine advertising	2,820	0		2,820	1,070
	<u>4,102</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>5,145</u>	<u>2,682</u>
2(c) <u>Investment receipts</u>					
Dividends	0	0	1,230	1,230	608
Deposit interest	43	0	6,671	6,714	1,068
Rent from field	0	0	0	0	149
	<u>43</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,901</u>	<u>7,944</u>	<u>1,825</u>
2(d) <u>Church activities</u>					
Fees - weddings & funerals	12,350	0	112	12,462	15,336
The Ark lettings & events	0	22,482	0	22,482	23,746
Other receipts	4,034	0	2,256	6,290	45
	<u>16,385</u>	<u>22,482</u>	<u>2,368</u>	<u>41,235</u>	<u>39,127</u>

Change to accounts disclosure: Fees - weddings & funerals in 2022 included fees received from wedding couples and funeral directors that are due to third parties such as organists, vergers, bellringers and the diocese. Third party fees have been excluded from the figures for 2023 Fees - weddings & funerals.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

3 PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
3(a) <u>Clergy & staffing costs</u>					
Clergy expenses	2,181	0	0	2,181	1,109
Administrators staff costs	9,706	8,826	0	18,532	12,056
	<u>11,887</u>	<u>8,826</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,713</u>	<u>13,165</u>

Redditch Holy Trinity PCC contribute towards 50% of clergy expenses. In 2022, the receipts were netted off against payments. In 2023, the receipts are included in Church Activities, Other Receipts

3(b) Church running expenses

Fees - weddings & funerals	774	0	0	774	4,781
Insurance	6,302	0	0	6,302	5,629
Repair & maintenance	3,705	711	3,681	8,096	8,395
Worship resources	1,274	0	26	1,299	900
Administration	2,800	80	154	3,034	2,333
Independent Examiner's Fee	1,128	0	0	1,128	948
Other expenses	385	215	98	698	382
	<u>16,368</u>	<u>1,006</u>	<u>3,958</u>	<u>21,332</u>	<u>23,369</u>

Change to accounts disclosure: Fees - weddings & funerals in 2022 included fees paid to third parties such as organists, vergers, bellringers and the diocese. Third party fees have been excluded from the figures for 2023 Fees - weddings & funerals.

3(c) Utilities expenses

0

Gas	1,957	2,112	0	4,069	4,539
Electricity	1,613	1,613	0	3,225	3,243
IT & Telecommunications	124	458	0	582	1,246
	<u>3,694</u>	<u>4,182</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,877</u>	<u>9,028</u>

3(d) Other expenses

Audio visual system installation	0	50,212	0	50,212	0
Small equipment purchases	23	0	0	23	113
	<u>23</u>	<u>50,212</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,235</u>	<u>113</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

4 PROFIT ON SALE OF LAND

Land in School Lane, Alvechurch, upon which the former Parish Room stood, was sold in May 2022 for £395,000. Net proceeds, after deducting professional charges, amounted to £375,991. As the land was not designated as endowment, there are no restrictions on the use of the proceeds, whether capital or income earned from investments, provided they are "for the ecclesiastical purposes of the charity 1131783: the Parish Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch". However, the PCC has decided that the funds should be classified as Restrictive and used in perpetuity for the maintenance and repairs of St. Laurence church buildings and its churchyard. This decision can be modified by the PCC provided they satisfy the Charities Commission stipulation.

5 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £
<u>2023</u>			
From General Fund to Audio Visual Fund	(43,835)	43,835	
From Others Fund to Audio Visual Fund		12,000	(12,000)
From General Fund to Ark Fixtures & Fittings Fund	(505)		505
From General Fund to Churchyard Maintenance	(788)		788
From Others Fund to General Fund	632		(632)
From General Fund to Clock Fund	(41)		41
	(44,537)	55,835	(11,298)
<u>2022</u>			
From General Fund to Clock Fund	(100)		100
From Ark/Church Car Park Fund to Capital Repair Fund			(100,000) 100,000
	(100)	0	100

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

6 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	01/01/23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	31/12/23 £
<u>Unrestricted Fund</u>					
General Fund	81,891	96,834	(81,513)	(44,537)	52,675
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Audio Visual	0	0	(50,212)	55,835	5,623
The Ark	80	22,605	(21,027)	0	1,658
	80	22,605	(71,239)	55,835	7,281
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Ark Fixtures & Fittings	1,824	0	(439)	505	1,890
Ark Recoupment	58,881	0	0	0	58,881
Ark Tots & Toddlers	0	2,256	(124)	0	2,132
Bells	1,594	786	(20)	0	2,360
Capital Repair	341,000	2,572	(103)	0	343,469
Churchyard Capital	40,883	0	0	0	40,883
Churchyard Maintenance	683	1,778	(3,249)	788	0
Clock Fund	2,776	756	(462)	41	3,111
Fabric	711	3,871	0	0	4,582
Others	14,803	2,992	(2,800)	(12,632)	2,363
Organ Restoration Fund	0	1,110	0	0	1,110
Stipend	4,562	27	(4,589)	0	0
Youth	7,503	188	0	0	7,691
	475,220	16,336	(11,786)	(11,298)	468,472
TOTAL FUNDS	557,191	135,775	(164,538)	0	528,428

During the year the PCC decided to create a new designated fund for a major project to install a new audio visual system in the church. This project had not been completed at the year-end.

The 2022 the General Fund receipts and payments include those in respect of the The Ark community centre. The PCC required greater visibility of The Ark receipts and payments, so in 2023 these were recorded in a separate designated fund for The Ark.

Prior to Jul 2023, the receipts and payments for Tots & Toddlers Group, which meets weekly in term time, were excluded from the PCC accounts. However, now that the Group is led by church members a new restricted fund has been created to collect fees and pay expenses for the Group.

The 'Others' Fund holds donations, on a short term basis, raised for specific church and charity uses .

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

7 INVESTMENT ASSETS

Investment Funds

The Worcester Diocesan Board of Finance manages on the PCC's behalf the following CBF Church of England Investment Funds:

Fund Name	Note	Market Value	
		31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
Alvechurch Black Paddock (Recoup)	(a)	70,549	62,627
Alvechurch Black Paddock Ch'yard Maint	(b)	45,002	41,102
Alvechurch PCC	(c)	113,728	100,957
		<u>229,279</u>	<u>204,686</u>

(a) Part of the land held by the PCC and known as the 'Black Paddock' was sold in 2003. Part of the proceeds, amounting to £978,710, was used to build The Ark community centre, being an extension to the existing church building. This land had previously been held as a permanent endowment by the PCC as a trustee in a separate charity 'for burial purposes and extension of the churchyard'. By order of the Charity Commission, the PCC placed £42,000 in an accumulated investment fund, permitting dividends accruing therefrom to be accumulated over 60 years. At the end of the 60 years the investment is to be treated as a

(b) £40,000 of the proceeds from the sale of 'Black Paddock' land was invested in Income shares, whereby the dividends are paid into the Churchyard Maintenance Fund.

(c) £100,000 from the land sale proceeds (see Note 4) was invested, in May 2022, in an Accumulation Fund.

Deposit Funds

Deposit savings are held on the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and in bank deposit accounts held on the CAF Charity Deposits Platform.

At the start of the year, the Worcester Diocesan Trust held £4,563 in a CBF Church of England Deposit Fund account named 'Alvechurch Stipends Trust' as Custodian Trustee for the PCC. The account was closed in February 2023 and the proceeds used to pay part of the PCC's Ministry Share for 2023.

**The Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch**

Charity Registration Number: 1131783

**Accounts for the year ended
31st December 2023**

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023**

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**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023**

Independent Examiner's Report

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Basis of independent examiner's report

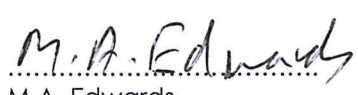
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I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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 Date 25/4/23

M.A. Edwards
For and on behalf of :-
M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,
Chartered Accountants,
26, The Green,
Kings Norton,
Birmingham,
B38 8SD.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

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Reconciliation of funds						
Accumulated funds b/f		81,891	80	475,220	557,191	256,902
Accumulated funds c/f		52,675	7,281	468,472	528,428	557,191

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Note	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Cash funds						
Bank		43,370	7,281	19,245	69,896	111,864
Cash in hand		1,271	0	50	1,321	0
Deposit funds		8,034	0	251,160	259,194	241,000
		<u>52,675</u>	<u>7,281</u>	<u>270,455</u>	<u>330,411</u>	<u>352,864</u>
Other monetary assets						
Gift aid tax recoverable		<u>997</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>1,332</u>	<u>0</u>
Investment assets						
Investment fund shares at market value	7	0	0	229,279	229,279	204,686
Liabilities						
Agency Collections		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,747</u>	<u>1,747</u>	<u>0</u>

These accounts were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27th February 2024
and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Revd Gail Rogers
Chair of the Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

- 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 RECEIPTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
2(a) <u>Other voluntary receipts</u>					
Other donations	567	40	1,552	2,159	1,358
Legacies	10,138	0	200	10,338	14,927
Grants	0	0	548	548	500
	<u>10,705</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>2,300</u>	<u>13,045</u>	<u>16,785</u>
2(b) <u>Activities for generating funds</u>					
Fund raising events	1,282	83	960	2,325	1,612
Grapevine magazine advertising	2,820	0		2,820	1,070
	<u>4,102</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>5,145</u>	<u>2,682</u>
2(c) <u>Investment receipts</u>					
Dividends	0	0	1,230	1,230	608
Deposit interest	43	0	6,671	6,714	1,068
Rent from field	0	0	0	0	149
	<u>43</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,901</u>	<u>7,944</u>	<u>1,825</u>
2(d) <u>Church activities</u>					
Fees - weddings & funerals	12,350	0	112	12,462	15,336
The Ark lettings & events	0	22,482	0	22,482	23,746
Other receipts	4,034	0	2,256	6,290	45
	<u>16,385</u>	<u>22,482</u>	<u>2,368</u>	<u>41,235</u>	<u>39,127</u>

Change to accounts disclosure: Fees - weddings & funerals in 2022 included fees received from wedding couples and funeral directors that are due to third parties such as organists, vergers, bellringers and the diocese. Third party fees have been excluded from the figures for 2023 Fees - weddings & funerals.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

3 PAYMENTS	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
3(a) <u>Clergy & staffing costs</u>					
Clergy expenses	2,181	0	0	2,181	1,109
Administrators staff costs	9,706	8,826	0	18,532	12,056
	<u>11,887</u>	<u>8,826</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,713</u>	<u>13,165</u>

Redditch Holy Trinity PCC contribute towards 50% of clergy expenses. In 2022, the receipts were netted off against payments. In 2023, the receipts are included in Church Activities, Other Receipts

3(b) Church running expenses

Fees - weddings & funerals	774	0	0	774	4,781
Insurance	6,302	0	0	6,302	5,629
Repair & maintenance	3,705	711	3,681	8,096	8,395
Worship resources	1,274	0	26	1,299	900
Administration	2,800	80	154	3,034	2,333
Independent Examiner's Fee	1,128	0	0	1,128	948
Other expenses	385	215	98	698	382
	<u>16,368</u>	<u>1,006</u>	<u>3,958</u>	<u>21,332</u>	<u>23,369</u>

Change to accounts disclosure: Fees - weddings & funerals in 2022 included fees paid to third parties such as organists, vergers, bellringers and the diocese. Third party fees have been excluded from the figures for 2023 Fees - weddings & funerals.

3(c) Utilities expenses

0

Gas	1,957	2,112	0	4,069	4,539
Electricity	1,613	1,613	0	3,225	3,243
IT & Telecommunications	124	458	0	582	1,246
	<u>3,694</u>	<u>4,182</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,877</u>	<u>9,028</u>

3(d) Other expenses

Audio visual system installation	0	50,212	0	50,212	0
Small equipment purchases	23	0	0	23	113
	<u>23</u>	<u>50,212</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50,235</u>	<u>113</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

4 PROFIT ON SALE OF LAND

Land in School Lane, Alvechurch, upon which the former Parish Room stood, was sold in May 2022 for £395,000. Net proceeds, after deducting professional charges, amounted to £375,991. As the land was not designated as endowment, there are no restrictions on the use of the proceeds, whether capital or income earned from investments, provided they are "for the ecclesiastical purposes of the charity 1131783: the Parish Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch". However, the PCC has decided that the funds should be classified as Restrictive and used in perpetuity for the maintenance and repairs of St. Laurence church buildings and its churchyard. This decision can be modified by the PCC provided they satisfy the Charities Commission stipulation.

5 TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Funds £
<u>2023</u>			
From General Fund to Audio Visual Fund	(43,835)	43,835	
From Others Fund to Audio Visual Fund		12,000	(12,000)
From General Fund to Ark Fixtures & Fittings Fund	(505)		505
From General Fund to Churchyard Maintenance	(788)		788
From Others Fund to General Fund	632		(632)
From General Fund to Clock Fund	(41)		41
	(44,537)	55,835	(11,298)
<u>2022</u>			
From General Fund to Clock Fund	(100)		100
From Ark/Church Car Park Fund to Capital Repair Fund			(100,000) 100,000
	(100)	0	100

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

6 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	01/01/23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	31/12/23 £
<u>Unrestricted Fund</u>					
General Fund	81,891	96,834	(81,513)	(44,537)	52,675
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Audio Visual	0	0	(50,212)	55,835	5,623
The Ark	80	22,605	(21,027)	0	1,658
	80	22,605	(71,239)	55,835	7,281
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Ark Fixtures & Fittings	1,824	0	(439)	505	1,890
Ark Recoupment	58,881	0	0	0	58,881
Ark Tots & Toddlers	0	2,256	(124)	0	2,132
Bells	1,594	786	(20)	0	2,360
Capital Repair	341,000	2,572	(103)	0	343,469
Churchyard Capital	40,883	0	0	0	40,883
Churchyard Maintenance	683	1,778	(3,249)	788	0
Clock Fund	2,776	756	(462)	41	3,111
Fabric	711	3,871	0	0	4,582
Others	14,803	2,992	(2,800)	(12,632)	2,363
Organ Restoration Fund	0	1,110	0	0	1,110
Stipend	4,562	27	(4,589)	0	0
Youth	7,503	188	0	0	7,691
	475,220	16,336	(11,786)	(11,298)	468,472
TOTAL FUNDS	557,191	135,775	(164,538)	0	528,428

During the year the PCC decided to create a new designated fund for a major project to install a new audio visual system in the church. This project had not been completed at the year-end.

The 2022 the General Fund receipts and payments include those in respect of the The Ark community centre. The PCC required greater visibility of The Ark receipts and payments, so in 2023 these were recorded in a separate designated fund for The Ark.

Prior to Jul 2023, the receipts and payments for Tots & Toddlers Group, which meets weekly in term time, were excluded from the PCC accounts. However, now that the Group is led by church members a new restricted fund has been created to collect fees and pay expenses for the Group.

The 'Others' Fund holds donations, on a short term basis, raised for specific church and charity uses .

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

7 INVESTMENT ASSETS

Investment Funds

The Worcester Diocesan Board of Finance manages on the PCC's behalf the following CBF Church of England Investment Funds:

Fund Name	Note	Market Value	
		31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
Alvechurch Black Paddock (Recoup)	(a)	70,549	62,627
Alvechurch Black Paddock Ch'yard Maint	(b)	45,002	41,102
Alvechurch PCC	(c)	113,728	100,957
		<u>229,279</u>	<u>204,686</u>

(a) Part of the land held by the PCC and known as the 'Black Paddock' was sold in 2003. Part of the proceeds, amounting to £978,710, was used to build The Ark community centre, being an extension to the existing church building. This land had previously been held as a permanent endowment by the PCC as a trustee in a separate charity 'for burial purposes and extension of the churchyard'. By order of the Charity Commission, the PCC placed £42,000 in an accumulated investment fund, permitting dividends accruing therefrom to be accumulated over 60 years. At the end of the 60 years the investment is to be treated as a

(b) £40,000 of the proceeds from the sale of 'Black Paddock' land was invested in Income shares, whereby the dividends are paid into the Churchyard Maintenance Fund.

(c) £100,000 from the land sale proceeds (see Note 4) was invested, in May 2022, in an Accumulation Fund.

Deposit Funds

Deposit savings are held on the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and in bank deposit accounts held on the CAF Charity Deposits Platform.

At the start of the year, the Worcester Diocesan Trust held £4,563 in a CBF Church of England Deposit Fund account named 'Alvechurch Stipends Trust' as Custodian Trustee for the PCC. The account was closed in February 2023 and the proceeds used to pay part of the PCC's Ministry Share for 2023.

Accounts

**Parochial Church Council
of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch
Charity Registration Number: 1131783**

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for 2022

Annual Report 2022

Objectives and Activities

The Parochial Church Council ('PCC') is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and regularly reviews how our services can appeal to and involve the many groups that live within our parish. We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music, and sacrament. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and deepening their knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, and missionary and outreach work.

The church hall (The Ark) is an important asset to us in achieving our objectives. When planning its activities, the PCC has regard to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit, and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer a range of services each week, and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For that reason, the PCC is keen to continue the full range of Sunday services which provide both intimate and reflective worship, and more outgoing forms of worship.

Rev Gail Rogers, who was appointed to St Laurence at the end of 2021 is also vicar of St Leonard's Beoley. Many of the activities of 2022 were aimed at facilitating her time sharing between the two churches and helping the two church communities to work and worship together. Sunday worship times at both churches were adjusted (for a trial period) to enable Rev Gail to attend both churches every week. Eucharist was held on the first Sunday of the month at 9.15am and on the second and third Sunday of the month at 11.15am at St Laurence. Joint services were held for both churches at each site at Easter, Pentecost and Christmas.

Everyone is welcome to attend our regular services. At the end of 2022, there were 95 parishioners on our Electoral Roll. Our worshipping community numbers some 140 including 25 children and young people.

We celebrated 2 baptisms, 7 weddings, and held 12 funeral services in our church (and 2 at the local Crematorium), 2 graveside burials and 14 interments of ashes.

In addition to praying for those mentioned on our Prayer Board, there is a confidential prayer chain for private prayer requests.

Deanery Synod

Two members of the PCC, together with our Vicar, sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Fabric of the Church

Phase Two of our Capital Projects — repairs and refurbishment of the church tower and clocks was granted a faculty in 2021 and work will start once we have secured sufficient funds, from a combination of asset sales and grants, for which we shall shortly be applying. The sale of land in School Lane Alvechurch to provide some of the funds, was finally completed during the year.

We have carried out essential repairs as they have arisen and most of the remedial work arising from the Quinquennial Review has been completed except that on the tower as mentioned above. The churchyard continues to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, and tree surgery has been performed to deal with any trees that might have presented a hazard to visitors or the general public. A dead tree stump was carved into an angel by a local artist to serve as a place of memorial for still born or neo-natal babies.

Pastoral Care

The Mother and Toddler Group continues to operate. The children's Sunday Club has run during the Sunday morning Family Service and remains popular, with adult helpers bringing considerable skill and imagination to this activity. All who work with children have been DBS checked.

A Baby Loss Awareness service was held in October when The Angel was dedicated to the memory of those lost locally.

St Laurence's is a caring community. The pastoral care group and others endeavour to visit or keep in contact with those who are no longer able to come to church due to sickness or infirmity or covid restrictions. Regular services in local residential homes at The Lawns and The Leys have resumed after they were suspended during the pandemic.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is also a demonstration of our faith in action. Financial, practical and prayer support was once again given to those we are linked with in the churches in Peru. We have also supported the work of the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, together with Faith at Work in Worcestershire - four members of our congregation are workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch. We give on a regular basis to the food bank run by New Starts in Bromsgrove, with donations also to Birmingham City Mission.

A "Places of Welcome" was introduced in The Ark to provide a warm place where people could meet informally over light refreshment. The church itself is also open during this time for private prayer and contemplation.

Our monthly parish magazine, The Grapevine, has been available free of charge across the parish this has continued through the pandemic after the first month of the initial restrictions. As well as giving information about the village of Alvechurch, the magazine deals with matters affecting the church, and reminds readers of our activities, as well as seeking to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ. Special services, including our recorded services, are advertised across the parish. During the year the printing of this magazine was brought in-house with a considerable saving in cost.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence is a member of Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green with joint events held during the year including Advent and Lent courses, reading of St Mark's Gospel, Christmas light switch service.

St Laurence members were active in the setting up and operating of the ecumenical Alvechurch Larder which provides near sell-by food at a greatly reduced cost to local people, thereby reducing food waste and helping those in financial need.

Safeguarding

The PCC has due regard to the House of Bishop's guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checks are up to date, as is mandatory safeguarding training for those who deal with vulnerable parishioners. The yearly Toolkit for the Archdeacon is now an online dashboard which is coloured red, orange, green depending on whether or not we are compliant with the requirements and if not our action plan. We are green in all areas. There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Financial Review

Income for Unrestricted Funds in 2022 was £127,813 (2021 £111,720). Income for Restricted Funds was £7,392 (2021 £10,682).

Expenditures from Unrestricted Funds in 2022 were £104,687 (2021 £117,264). Ministry Share of £50,000 was paid, equalling that paid for Parish Share in 2021. Expenditures from Restricted funds in 2022 were £6,220 (2021 £9,011). Cash reserves of General Unrestricted funds stood at £46,980 at the end of 2022, representing less than 6 months' expenditure.

During the year the Parish Room (disused since 2006) and the land on which it stood were sold. The £275,991 which this raised is to be used for future maintenance of the church building.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund which equates approximately six months' expenditures, excluding Ministry Share payments.

Administrative information

During the year Mr Ian Price, the Parish Administrator, resigned his post and was replaced by Mrs Lynda Lewis. We thank Ian for his many years' work for us and wish Lynda every success in the role.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Rector	Rev Gail Rogers
Churchwardens	Mr Graham Clark, Mr Mick Fletcher
Lay Readers	Mrs Sue Philips-Wardle, Mrs Helen Ayling
Members	Mr Colin Bennett
	Mr Andrew Notley
	Mr Roger Wardle
	Mr Michael Davenport
	Mrs Janet Wright (Treasurer and Electoral Roll Officer)
	Dr Martin Allen
	Mr Peter Freeman
	Mrs Sue Lambert
	Mrs Sarah Linton
	Mr Mark Linton
	Mrs Lysandre Notley (Secretary)

Aims and purposes

St Laurence PCC has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical - within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch and seeking ways to grow mission and ministry locally.

Structure, governance and management

Appointment of members to the PCC conforms with the Church Representation Rules. Everyone attending church is encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC Committees.

The PCC operates through several committees, which meet between full PCC meetings, and which met as necessary on Zoom following the start of the pandemic:

1) Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has powers to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. It oversees the general financial dimension of the work of St Laurence by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the review of planned giving.

2) Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of church property (the church, the Ark, and the churchyard). It also now plans, co-ordinates and budgets both capital and maintenance projects. It is also responsible for work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan.

3) Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee is responsible for overseeing Church groups which are dedicated to helping children develop faith. It also considers the wider work of the church and community in relation to children and young people.

4) Mission Committee

This committee fosters the links with the Anglican Church and Christians in Peru, and the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, and other missionary work, including Faith at Work in Worcestershire.

Statement of Responsibilities of members of the PCC

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to:

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

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

Annual Accounts 2022

Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
<u>Incoming Resources</u>					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		86,807	4,884	91,691	86,378
Activities for generating funds		1,115	-	1,115	2,755
Investment income		29	1,676	1,705	5,545
		87,951	6,560	94,511	94,678
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
		39,862	832	40,694	32,907
Total incoming resources	2	127,813	7,392	135,205	127,585
<u>Resources Expended</u>					
Charitable activities		104,687	6,220	110,907	130,327
Total resources expended		104,687	6,220	110,907	130,327
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains and losses	3	23,126	1,172	24,298	(2,742)
Profit on sale of land		34,991	241,000	275,991	-
Adjustments				-	-
Transfers		(100)	100	-	-
Net movement in funds		58,017	242,272	300,289	(2,742)
Accumulated funds b/f		23,954	232,948	256,902	259,644
Accumulated funds c/f	5	81,971	475,220	557,191	256,902

There were no recognised gains or losses except as shown above.

Balance Sheet

	Notes	2022	2021
<u>Fixed Assets</u>			
Tangibles	4	-	100,000
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash at bank and in hand		111,864	23,954
Investments - restricted funds		445,327	132,948
		<u>557,191</u>	<u>156,902</u>
Net Current Assets		557,191	156,902
Net Assets		<u>557,191</u>	<u>256,902</u>
<u>Reserves</u>			
Unrestricted funds	6	81,971	23,954
Restricted funds	6	475,220	232,948
Total church funds	6	<u>557,191</u>	<u>256,902</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by :-



Rev Gail Rogers Chair of the PCC

Notes to the Accounts

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the the Charities Act 2011, on the receipts and payments basis.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received, and the church has fulfilled all conditions for its receipt. Investment income is included when it is received.

Outgoing Resources

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which they are paid.

Funds

The Unrestricted fund are incoming resources which are used for the objects of the church, without any specified purpose or further restriction. Restricted funds can only be used for the specific purposes as decided by the donor, within the objects of the church. Designated funds are unrestricted funds, which have been earmarked by the PCC for particular purposes.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind are excluded from the accounts by the Charities Act 2011. Freehold properties are stated in the balance sheet at cost.

The depreciation rates used are :-

Freehold property	Nil.
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Investments

Investments are stated at cost.

2 <u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	2022	2021
<u>Voluntary incoming resources</u>		
Planned giving	54,040	58,216
Collections	20,007	18,115
Donations and legacies	16,517	8,027
Worcs. CC grant for churchyard	500	1,500
National Churches Trust grant	-	-
Alvechurch Parish Council grant	-	-
Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	627	520
Fundraising	-	-
	<u>91,691</u>	<u>86,378</u>
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities</u>		
Ark café	958	608
Fees for special services	15,336	20,298
Church and annex lettings	22,788	12,001
Fund raising	1,612	-
	<u>40,694</u>	<u>32,907</u>
<u>Investment income</u>		
Rent from field	29	80
Dividends and interest	1,676	890
	<u>1,705</u>	<u>970</u>
<u>Others</u>		
VAT recovered	-	205
Model railway exhibition	-	-
Grapevine and website	1,115	2,550
	<u>1,115</u>	<u>2,755</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>135,205</u>	<u>123,010</u>

3 <u>NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES</u>	2022	2021
Depreciation	-	-
Independent examiner's remuneration	900	900
Salaries		14,528
Average number of employees	1	1
Council members' expenses	-	-
Council members' remuneration	-	-

There were no related party transactions.

4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

For charitable use

<u>Cost or valuation</u>	Freehold Property	Total
Balance b/f	100,000	100,000
Additions	-	-
Disposals	(100,000)	(100,000)
Balance c/f	-	-
<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>		
Balance b/f	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Balance c/f	-	-
Net book value b/f	100,000	100,000
Net book value c/f	-	-

5 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	B/F at the Start of year	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Adjustments	C/F at the End of The year
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>						
General Unrestricted Fund	23,874	162,804	(104,687)	(100)	-	81,891
Ark Café Designated	80	-	-	-	-	80
	23,954	162,804	(104,687)	(100)	-	81,971
<u>Restricted Funds</u>						
Churchyard	305	1,843	(1,465)	-	-	683
Ark Fittings	2,441	100	(717)	-	-	1,824
Youth Fund	7,764	121	(382)	-	-	7,503
Fabric Fund	260	451	-	-	-	711
Bells Fund	1,300	583	(389)	100	-	1,594
Clock Fund	2,242	594	(60)	-	-	2,776
Others	14,310	3,700	(3,207)	-	-	14,803
	28,622	7,392	(6,220)	100	-	29,894
<u>Restricted Funds Invested</u>						
Capital Repair		241,000		100,000		341,000
Stipend	4,562	-	-	-	-	4,562
Recoupment	58,881		-		-	58,881
Churchyard Maintenance	40,883	-	-	-	-	40,883
	104,326	241,000	-	100,000	-	445,326
<u>Restricted Assets</u>						
Ark/Church Car Park	100,000	-	-	(100,000)	-	-
	100,000	-	-	(100,000)	-	-
	256,902	411,196	(110,907)	-	-	557,191

The 'Others' Fund holds donations restricted to specific church and charity uses on a short term basis

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN THE FUNDS

	Invest- ments	Fixed Assets	Cash at Bank	Total
General unrestricted fund	-	-	81,891	81,891
Designated funds	-	-	80	80
Restricted funds	445,326	-		445,326
Restricted investments	29,894	-	-	29,894
Restricted assets	-	-	-	-
	475,220	-	81,971	557,191

7 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	2022	2021
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Planned giving	54,040	58,216
Collections	20,007	18,115
Donations and legacies	16,517	8,027
Worcs. CC grant for churchyard	500	1,500
Alvechurch Parish Council grant	-	-
Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	627	520
Ark café	958	608
Fees for special services	15,336	20,298
Church and annex lettings	22,788	12,001
Fund raising	1,612	-
Rent from field	29	80
Dividends and interest	1,676	890
VAT recovered	-	205
Grapevine and website	1,115	2,550
Total incoming resources	135,205	123,010
Profit on sale of land	275,991	-
	411,196	123,010
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Fundraising	1,793	124
Ark administration/Diocesan Fees	5,882	3,692
Charitable giving	6,323	10,992
Diocesan parish share	50,000	50,000
Church and annex running costs	20,785	17,342
Church and Ark maintenance	537	2,091
Major repairs	-	13,432
Worship	900	514
Churchyard upkeep	5,465	8,998
Grapevine	1,168	4,753
Administration	14,771	16,074
Equipment repairs	984	36
Organists', Choir, Bells fees	615	945
Other expenses	-	42
Ark café	736	344
Independent examiner	948	948
	110,907	130,327
Available Surplus/Deficit for the year	300,289	(7,317)
Interest received not yet available		-
Recoupment fund		-
Churchyard Maintenance fund		-
	-	-
Overall surplus/deficit for the year	300,289	(7,317)

Independent examiner's report to the members of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2022.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

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.

M.A. Edwards Date *31/5/2023*

M.A. Edwards

For and on behalf of :-

M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,
Chartered Accountants,
26, The Green,
Kings Norton,
Birmingham,
B38 8SD.

Accounts

Annual Report

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and regularly reviews how our services can appeal to and involve the many groups that live within our parish. We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and deepening their knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, and missionary and outreach work.

The church hall (The Ark) is an important asset to us in achieving our objectives. When planning its activities, the PCC has regard to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Following the beginning of the pandemic restrictions, a weekly bulletin was sent out by e-mail to church members, with a fortnightly newsletter by post to church members who were not online. This proved to be an invaluable way of maintaining communication and contact and so was continued until in-person services resumed in 2021.

Achievements and Performance

The two most significant events during the year were the continuing effects of and restrictions due to the Covid pandemic and the retirement of the Rector Rev Richard Bubbers.

The covid-19 pandemic from 23 March 2020

The pandemic which started in March 2020 has continued to disrupt the normal activities of St Laurence Church and The Ark. However the on-line recorded services, which were started in 2020, continued until July 2021 when in-person services resumed. We are grateful to those church members who continued to assist the Rector and our lay leadership in producing the weekly recorded service. In-person services were presented on 42 Sundays throughout 2021.

Retirement of Rev Richard Bubbers

In February Richard announced his intention to retire in July 2021. This gave the PCC and the Diocese sufficient time to plan his replacement. It was decided that the definition and scope of the post would be changed from 50% Rector of Alvechurch and 50% Chaplain with Faith at Work in Worcestershire, as had been fulfilled by Richard, to 50% Vicar of Alvechurch and 50% Priest in Charge at Beoley in the Holy Trinity Team at Redditch. A joint Parish Profile was compiled by members of St Laurence Alvechurch and St Leonard's Beoley to enable the post to be advertised. Rev Gail Rogers was appointed to the post and was licensed by Bishop John Inge on 8th December 2021.

During the relatively short interregnum the officers of St Laurence were supported in the running of the church and the provision of services by Rural Dean Rev Paul Lawlor and his team of priests.

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer a range of services each week, and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For that reason, the PCC is keen to continue the full range of Sunday services which provide both intimate and reflective worship, and more outgoing forms of worship. On the cessation of lockdown restrictions two Sunday services were re-introduced – an informal family service at 9.30am and a more traditionally liturgical service at 11.15am. Eucharist was held on the first Sunday of the month at 9.30am and at 11.15am on the third Sunday of the month.

Everyone is welcome to attend our regular services. At the end of 2021, there were 93 parishioners on our Electoral Roll. Typical weekly attendance is returning to normal as people venture out after Covid. Our worshipping community numbers some 130 including 25 children and young people.

In addition to our regular services, and as permitted by government restrictions and in accordance with government and Church of England regulations, in the best way permitted by the restrictions, we welcome members of our community as we enable them to come together before God at key points in their lives through baptisms, thanksgivings, weddings and funerals. We celebrated 7 baptisms, 0 thanksgivings, 8 weddings, and held 14 funeral services in our church, with 17 interments of ashes,

In addition to praying for those mentioned on our Prayer Board, there is a confidential prayer chain for private prayer requests.

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC, together with our Rector, sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Fabric of the Church

Phase Two of our Capital Projects — repairs and refurbishment of the church tower and clocks — has been granted a faculty and work will start once we have secured sufficient funds, from a combination of asset sales and grants, for which we shall shortly be applying. The sale of land in School Lane Alvechurch, the site of the former parish rooms, took much longer than anticipated, mainly due to affects of the Covid restrictions on the various parties concerned. It is now expected that this sale will be completed early in 2022.

Although we have carried out essential repairs as they have arisen, most of the remedial work arising from the Quinquennial Review has been put on hold during the pandemic as both the church and The Ark have been closed for long periods. However, the churchyard continued to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, and tree surgery performed to deal with any trees that might have presented a hazard to visitors or the general public.

Pastoral Care

The Thursday Ark Cafe which had provided a place to meet and eat has not restarted post-Covid. The Mother and Toddler Group re-started in September and is slowly returning to

normal numbers. The children's Sunday Club has run during the Sunday morning Family Service and remains popular, with adult helpers bringing considerable skill and imagination to this activity. All who work with children have been DBS checked.

St Laurence's is a caring community. The pastoral care group and others endeavour to visit or keep in contact with those who are no longer able to come to church due to sickness or infirmity or covid restrictions. Regular services in local residential homes at The Lawns and The Leys have not yet resumed after the start of the pandemic.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need is also a demonstration of our faith in action. Financial, practical and prayer support was once again given to those we are linked with in the churches in Peru. We have also supported the work of the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, together with Faith at Work in Worcestershire — four members of our congregation are workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch. We give on a regular basis to the food bank run by New Starts in Bromsgrove, with donations also to Birmingham City Mission.

Our monthly parish magazine, The Grapevine, has been available free of charge across the parish — this has continued through the pandemic after the first month of the initial restrictions. As well as giving information about the village of Alvechurch, the magazine deals with matters affecting the church, and reminds readers of our activities, as well as seeking to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ. Special services, including our recorded services, are advertised across the parish.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence is a member of Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green but no events were held during 2021 due to the pandemic restriction. Ecumenical Lent Groups will re-start in 2022

Safeguarding

The PCC has due regard to the House of Bishop's guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checks are up-to-date, as is mandatory safeguarding training for those who deal with vulnerable parishioners. The yearly Toolkit for the Archdeacon is now an online dashboard which is coloured red, orange, green depending on whether or not we are compliant with the requirements and if not our action plan. We are green in all areas. There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Financial Review

Income for Unrestricted Funds in 2021 was £111,720(2020- £95,568), which reflected a reduction in cash donations while the church was closed for in-person services due to pandemic restrictions. 33 members of the congregation now donate to the church through the Parish Giving Scheme. Income for Restricted Funds was £10,682 (2020 £4,137), including £5,000 donated by the now closed, Ark Café, towards the proposed upgrade to the church Audio/Visual system together with £1,700 transferred to the Ark Fixtures & Fittings Fund. Expenditures from Unrestricted Funds in 2021 were £117,264 (2020 £99,162). A Parish Share of £50,000 was paid, equalling that paid in 2020. Expenditures from Restricted funds in 2021 were £9,011, which included some repairs left over from the major renovations of 2020. Cash

reserves of General Unrestricted funds stood at £23,874 at the end of 2021, representing less than 6 months' expenditure.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund which equates to approximately six months' expenditures, excluding Parish Share payments.

Administrative information

Please see above for the suspension of services as a result of the covid restrictions. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

Rector	Rev Richard Bubbers	(retired July 2021)
	Rev Gail Rogers	(from Dec 2021)
Churchwardens	Michael Fletcher	(Lay chair)
	Graham Clark	
Lay Readers	Mrs Sue Philips-Wardle	
	Mrs Helen Ayling	
Lay members	Mr Colin Bernett	
	Mr Andrew Notley	
	Mr David Richmond	
	Mr Roger Wardle	
	Mr Michael Davenport	
	Mrs Janet Wright (Treasurer and Electoral Roll Officer)	
	Dr Martin Allen	
	Dr Kate Birchall	
	Mr Tom Birchall	
	Mrs Lynne Clark	
	Mr Robert Dale	
	Mr Peter Freeman	
	Mrs Sue Lambert	
	Mrs Sarah Linton	
	Mrs Lysandre Notley (Secretary)	
	Mr Gordon Parsons	
	Mrs Elizabeth Richmond	

Aims and purposes

St Laurence Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical - within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch.

Structure, governance and management

Appointment of members to the PCC conforms with the Church Representation Rules. Everyone attending church is encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between full PCC meetings, and which met as necessary on Zoom following the start of the pandemic:

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has powers to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. It oversees the general financial dimension of the work of St Laurence by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the review of planned giving.

Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of church property (the church, the Ark and the churchyard). It also now plans, co-ordinates and budgets both capital and maintenance projects. It is also responsible for work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan.

Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee is responsible for overseeing church groups which are dedicated to helping children develop faith. It also considers the wider work of the church and community in relation to children and young people.

Mission Committee

This committee fosters the links with the Anglican Church and Christians in Peru, and the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, and other missionary work, including Faith at Work in Worcestershire.

Statement of Responsibilities of members of the PCC

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to: • select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently • make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent • state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements • prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
<u>Incoming Resources</u>					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		77,386	8,992	86,378	80,108
Activities for generating funds		2,755	-	2,755	1,310
Investment income		80	5,465	5,545	1,414
		<u>80,221</u>	<u>14,457</u>	<u>94,678</u>	<u>82,832</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities		32,107	800	32,907	18,972
Total incoming resources	2	<u>112,328</u>	<u>15,257</u>	<u>127,585</u>	<u>101,804</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>					
Charitable activities		121,316	9,011	130,327	116,427
Total resources expended		<u>121,316</u>	<u>9,011</u>	<u>130,327</u>	<u>116,427</u>
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains and losses	3	(8,988)	6,246	(2,742)	(14,623)
Adjustments				-	-
Transfers		(5,000)	5,000	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(13,988)</u>	<u>11,246</u>	<u>(2,742)</u>	<u>(14,623)</u>
Accumulated funds b/f		37,942	221,702	259,644	274,267
Accumulated funds c/f	5	<u>23,954</u>	<u>232,948</u>	<u>256,902</u>	<u>259,644</u>

There were no recognised gains or losses except as shown above.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	2021	2020
<u>Fixed Assets</u>			
Tangibles	4	100,000	100,000
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash at bank and in hand		23,954	37,942
Investments - restricted funds		132,948	121,702
		<u>156,902</u>	<u>159,644</u>
Net Current Assets		156,902	159,644
Net Assets		<u><u>256,902</u></u>	<u><u>259,644</u></u>
<u>Reserves</u>			
Unrestricted funds	6	23,954	37,942
Restricted funds	6	232,948	221,702
Total church funds	6	<u><u>256,902</u></u>	<u><u>259,644</u></u>

These financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on
and signed on its behalf by :-


Michael Fletcher, PCC Chairman

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021

APCM22/2

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, on the receipts and payments basis.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received, and the church has fulfilled all conditions for its receipt. Investment income is included when it is received.

Outgoing Resources

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which they are paid.

Funds

The Unrestricted fund are incoming resources which are used for the objects of the church, without any specified purpose or further restriction. Restricted funds can only be used for the specific purposes as decided by the donor, within the objects of the church. Designated funds are unrestricted funds, which have been earmarked by the PCC for particular purposes.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind are excluded from the accounts by the Charities Act 2011. Freehold properties are stated in the balance sheet at cost.

The depreciation rates used are :-

Freehold property	Nil.
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Investments

Investments are stated at cost.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021

2	<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	2021	2020
	<u>Voluntary incoming resources</u>		
	Planned giving	58,216	59,541
	Collections	18,115	16,201
	Donations and legacies	8,027	3,663
	Worcs. CC grant for churchyard	1,500	-
	Alvechurch Parish Council grant	-	500
	Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	520	203
		<u>86,378</u>	<u>80,108</u>
	<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities</u>		
	Ark café	608	1,677
	Fees for special services	20,298	10,961
	Church and annex lettings	12,001	6,334
		<u>32,907</u>	<u>18,972</u>
	<u>Investment income</u>		
	Rent from field	80	990
	Dividends and interest	890	2
		<u>970</u>	<u>992</u>
	<u>Others</u>		
	VAT recovered	205	250
	Grapevine and website	2,550	1,060
		<u>2,755</u>	<u>1,310</u>
	Total incoming resources	<u>123,010</u>	<u>101,382</u>
3	<u>NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES</u>	2021	2020
	Depreciation	-	-
	Independent examiner's remuneration	900	900
	Salaries	14,528	14,543
	Average number of employees	1	1
	Council members' expenses	-	-
	Council members' remuneration	-	-

There were no related party transactions.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

For charitable use

Cost or valuation

	Freehold Property	Total
Balance b/f	100,000	100,000
Additions	-	-
Correction	-	-
Scrapped	-	-
Balance c/f	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

Accumulated depreciation

Balance b/f	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Scrapped	-	-
Balance c/f	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value b/f	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Net book value c/f	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021

5 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	B/F at the Start of The year	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Adjustments	C/F at the Year end Total
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>						
General Unrestricted Fund	29,418	111,720	(117,264)	-	-	23,874
Ark Café Designated	8,524	608	(4,052)	(5,000)	-	80
	37,942	112,328	(121,316)	(5,000)	-	23,954
<u>Restricted Funds</u>						
Churchyard	12	2,515	(2,222)	-	-	305
Ark Fittings	1,175	1,707	(441)	-	-	2,441
Youth Fund	8,596	5	(837)	-	-	7,764
Fabric Fund	260	-	-	-	-	260
Bells Fund	1,143	883	(726)	-	-	1,300
Clock Fund	1,810	432	-	-	-	2,242
Others	8,955	5,140	(4,785)	5,000	-	14,310
	21,951	10,682	(9,011)	5,000	-	28,622
<u>Restricted Funds Invested</u>						
Stipend	4,562					4,562
Recoupment	58,873	8	-	-	-	58,881
Churchyard Maintenance	40,878	5	-	-	-	40,883
	104,313	13	-	-	-	104,326
<u>Restricted Assets</u>						
Ark/Church Car Park	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
	264,206	123,023	(130,327)	-	-	256,902

The 'Others' Fund is used to hold donations restricted to specific church and charity uses on a short term basis. The Recoupment Fund total shown is correct at the time in early January 22 when the Fund was moved to a shares-based investment. The Mid-Market value at 31st December 21 is £68,998

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN THE FUNDS

	Invest- ments	Fixed Assets	Cash at Bank	Total
General unrestricted fund	-	-	23,874	23,874
Designated funds	-	-	80	80
Restricted funds	28,622	-	-	28,622
Restricted investments	104,326	-	-	104,326
Restricted assets	-	100,000	-	100,000
	132,948	100,000	23,954	256,902

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

7 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	2021	2020
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Planned giving	58,216	59,541
Collections	18,115	16,201
Donations and legacies	8,027	3,663
Worcs. CC grant for churchyard	1,500	-
Alvechurch Parish Council grant	-	500
Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	520	203
Ark café	608	1,677
Fees for special services	20,298	10,961
Church and annex lettings	12,001	6,334
Rent from field	80	990
Dividends and interest	890	2
VAT recovered	205	250
Grapevine and website	2,550	1,060
Total incoming resources	<u>123,010</u>	<u>101,382</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Fundraising	124	800
Ark administration/Diocesan Fees	3,692	4,274
Charitable giving	10,992	6,822
Diocesan parish share	50,000	50,000
Church and annex running costs	17,342	14,238
Church and Ark maintenance	2,091	6,225
Major repairs	13,432	4,449
Worship	514	986
Churchyard upkeep	8,998	4,724
Grapevine	4,753	3,804
Administration	16,074	16,035
Equipment repairs	36	1,150
Organists', Choir, Bells fees	945	325
Other expenses	42	-
Ark café	344	1,611
Independent examiner	948	984
	<u>130,327</u>	<u>116,427</u>
Available Deficit for the year	<u>(7,317)</u>	<u>(15,045)</u>
Interest received not yet available		
Recoupment fund	-	249
Churchyard Maintenance fund	-	173
	<u>-</u>	<u>422</u>
Overall deficit for the year	<u><u>(7,317)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,623)</u></u>

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE
ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

Independent examiner's report to the members of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2021.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 6 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

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.

M.A. Edwards Date 7/7/22

M.A. Edwards
For and on behalf of :-
M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,
Chartered Accountants,
26, The Green,
Kings Norton,
Birmingham,
B38 8SD.

Accounts

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2020

Annual Report

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and regularly reviews how our services can appeal to and involve the many groups that live within our parish. We strive to put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- * worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and deepening their knowledge and trust as disciples of Jesus Christ
- * provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish, and
- * missionary and outreach work.

The church hall (The Ark) is an important asset to us in achieving our objectives. When planning its activities, the PCC has regard to the Charity Commissioners' guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The covid-19 pandemic from 23 March 2020

This report is subject to the effects of the covid-19 pandemic from the government announcement on 23 March 2020. Two lockdowns were required and any services in church were subject to the restrictions of the current pandemic restrictions. The same restrictions have severely limited the activities in the Ark during the pandemic. The precise restrictions and their duration are a matter of government record and public knowledge, and therefore will not be recited in this report.

We are grateful to those church members who very quickly mobilised to assist the Rector and our lay leadership in producing a weekly recorded service on YouTube; our recorded services have continued throughout the pandemic, together with special recorded services for Ascension Day, Remembrance Sunday, and Christmas Carol Service, Christmas Eve Nativity Service and Christmas Morning Service. We are very grateful to all those who have contributed to these services online, particularly Mark Linton and Martin Allen who edit and produce the services.

Following the beginning of the pandemic restrictions, a weekly bulletin was sent out by e-mail to church members, with a fortnightly newsletter by post to church members who were not online. This has proved to be an invaluable way of maintaining communication and contact. Network groups were also established amongst members of the various congregations so as to encourage the maintaining of connection as far as possible during this very unusual and difficult period.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer a range of services each week and over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. For that reason, the PCC is keen to continue the full range of Sunday services which provide both intimate and reflective worship, and more outgoing forms of worship. Up until the imposition of the coronavirus lockdown family service at 9.30am continued to attract young families, especially with an active Sunday Club which provided teaching for the children and young people. Up until the start of the covid restrictions, The Parish Eucharist was at 11.15am, and the two main Sunday morning congregations had the opportunity for fellowship over refreshments in the Ark between the two services. Up until the first lockdown, as regards Sunday evening worship, Evensong was available on the first, third and fifth Sundays, with a United Service (with Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green) on the second Sunday of the month (alternating round the 4 denominations in the parish), and on the fourth Sunday of the month there was a more reflective service called Sacred Space: it was not possible for this service to take place following the imposition of the first lockdown. 8am Sunday BCP communions took place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, until the first lockdown prohibited this. Through the range of talks and sermon series, both online and in person services in church we aim to offer teaching which connects with those present and encourages a deepening of discipleship.

Everyone is welcome to attend our regular services. At the end of 2020, there were 98 parishioners on our Electoral Roll. Typical weekly attendance was 73 adults plus 12 children, but this reduced following the imposition of the Covid restrictions: from the start of the first lockdown our weekly online service was watched on average by approximately 100 households. Our worshipping community numbered 130 including 25 children and young people.

In addition to our regular services, and as permitted by government restrictions and in accordance with government and Church of England regulations, in the best way permitted by the restrictions, we welcome members of our community as we enable them to come together before God at key points in their lives through baptisms, thanksgivings, weddings and funerals. This year we were subject to covid restrictions and we celebrated 1 baptism, 0 thanksgivings, 1 wedding, and held 5 funeral services in our church, with 15 interments of ashes.

In addition to praying for those mentioned on our weekly Pew Leaflet (when in person services are permitted) and on our Prayer Board, there is a confidential prayer chain for private prayer requests. At the major festivals we hold services especially for the whole of Alvechurch Middle School, subject to what is permitted by the coronavirus regulations.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2020

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC, together with our Rector, sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Fabric of the Church

Phase Two of our Capital Projects – repairs and refurbishment of the church tower and clocks – has now been granted a faculty and work will start once we have secured sufficient funds, from a combination of asset sales and grants, for which we shall shortly be applying. The sale of land in School Lane Alvechurch, the site of the former parish rooms, is at an advanced stage.

Although we have carried out essential repairs as they have arisen, most of the remedial work arising from the Quinquennial Review has been put on hold during the pandemic as both the church and The Ark have been closed for long periods. However, the churchyard continued to be maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers, and tree surgery has also been arranged to deal with any trees that might present a hazard to visitors or the general public.

Pastoral Care

The Thursday Ark Café continued to provide a valuable meeting place for those living on their own and the elderly, as well as an excellent lunch at a very reasonable price. Up to 60 people attended each week, and the whole event was run by church volunteers. Very regrettably this had to come to an end at the start of the pandemic. The Ark Café also contributed towards the cleaning and maintenance of the Ark facilities. During 2020 funds from the Ark Café paid over £750 for a new refrigerator and towards cleaning costs.

The Mother and Toddler Group met in The Ark on Thursday mornings and special “Tiny Tots” Services were held in the church for members of this group, until the covid restrictions prevented such activities. The children’s Sunday Club ran during the Sunday morning Family Service and remained popular, with adult helpers bringing considerable skill and imagination to this activity, until this also was no longer possible under the covid requirements. All who work with children have been DBS checked.

St Laurence’s is a caring community. The pastoral care group and others endeavour to visit or keep in contact with those who are no longer able to come to church due to sickness or infirmity or covid restrictions. Regular services in local residential homes at The Lawns and The Leys have had to be suspended after the start of the pandemic.

Mission and Evangelism

Up until the start of the pandemic, we had a regular stream of visitors on a Sunday morning, and the talks and sermons sought to connect with those who do not necessarily have a church background.

Helping those in need is also a demonstration of our faith in action. Financial, practical and prayer support was once again given to those we are linked with in the churches in Peru. We have also supported the work of the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, together with Faith at Work in Worcestershire – four members of our congregation are workplace chaplains in Alvechurch and Redditch. We give on a regular basis to the food bank run by Newstarts in Bromsgrove, with donations also to Birmingham City Mission.

Our monthly parish magazine, The Grapevine, has been available free of charge across the parish – this has continued through the pandemic after the first month of the initial restrictions. As well as giving information about the village of Alvechurch, the magazine deals with matters affecting the church, and reminds readers of our activities, as well as seeking to develop knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ. Special services, including our recorded services, are advertised across the parish.

Ecumenical Relationships

St Laurence is a member of *Churches Together in Alvechurch and Rowney Green*, and until the start of the pandemic we continued to hold joint monthly services in each of our four member churches. The ecumenical house groups were a joint church initiative during Lent, most of which were able to take place before the start of the pandemic. Over Easter at the start of the pandemic our recorded services were appreciated by other members of CTARG

Safeguarding

The PCC has had due regard to the House of Bishop’s guidance in relation to safeguarding. DBS checks are up-to-date, as is mandatory safeguarding training for those who deal with vulnerable parishioners. The Mandatory CO course for members of the PCC is being undertaken currently. The yearly Toolkit for the Archdeacon is now an online dashboard which is coloured red, orange, green depending on whether or not we are compliant with the requirements and if not our action plan. We are green in all areas except for the training which is referred to above. There are no outstanding safeguarding issues.

Financial Review

Income for Unrestricted Funds in 2020 was £95,568 (2019- £124,472), which reflected a reduction in cash donations while the church was closed for in-person services due to pandemic restrictions and included a legacy of £1,000. 37 members of the congregation now donate to the church through the Parish Giving Scheme. Income for Restricted Funds was £4,137 (2019-£108,660), which, this year, largely represents donations made by the congregation in support of our charitable giving.

Expenditures from Unrestricted Funds in 2020 were £99,162 (2019- £111,002). A Parish Share of £50,000 was paid, equalling that paid in 2019. Expenditures from Restricted funds in 2020 were £14,355, which included some repairs left over from the major renovations of 2019 and the purchase of a new office computer which was funded from specific donations. Cash reserves of General Unrestricted funds stood at £29,418 at the end of 2020, representing less than 6 months’ expenditure which is the PCC reserves policy.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2020

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance in the General Unrestricted Fund which equates to approximately six months' expenditures, excluding Parish Share payments.

Administrative information

Please see above for the suspension of services as a result of the covid restrictions.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

During the year, the following served as members of the PCC:

<i>Rector</i>	Revd Richard Bubbers
<i>Licensed Lay Ministers</i>	Ms Susan Phillips Wardle Mrs Helen Ayling
<i>Church Wardens</i> Mr Graham Clark	Mr Michael Fletcher (Vice-chairman)
<i>Deputy Church Wardens</i> Mr Colin Bennett	Mr Andrew Notley Mr David Richmond Mr Roger Wardle Mr Michael Davenport
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mrs Janet Wright (and Electoral Roll Officer)
<i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod</i> Mrs Helen Ayling	Mr Robert Dale (retired October 2020) Mrs Alison Smith (retired October 2020) Mr Mark Linton (elected October 2020)
<i>Elected Members</i> Dr Martin Allen	Dr Kate Birchall Mr Tom Birchall Mrs Lynne Clark Mr Robert Dale Mr Peter Freeman Mrs Sue Lambert Mrs Sarah Linton Mrs Lysandre Notley (Secretary) Mr Gordon Parsons Mrs Elizabeth Richmond

Aims and purposes

St Laurence Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical - within the ecclesiastical parish of Alvechurch.

Structure, governance and management

Appointment of members to the PCC conforms with the Church Representation Rules. Everyone attending church is encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2020

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees, which meet between full PCC meetings, and which meet as necessary on Zoom following the start of the pandemic:

Finance and Standing Committee

This is the only committee required by law. It has powers to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. It oversees the general financial dimension of the work of St Laurence by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting and co-ordinating the review of planned giving.

Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard for Mission Committee

This committee is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep of church property (the church, the Ark and the churchyard). It also now plans, co-ordinates and budgets both capital and maintenance projects. It is also responsible for work arising from the Quinquennial Inspection and the Asset Management Plan.

Children and Youth Work Committee

This committee is responsible for overseeing church groups which are dedicated to helping children develop faith. It also considers the wider work of the church and community in relation to children and young people.

Mission Committee

This committee fosters the links with the Anglican Church and Christians in Peru, and the orphanage at Montgomery Heights Christian Care Centre in Zimbabwe, and other missionary work, including Faith at Work in Worcestershire.

Statement of Responsibilities of members of the PCC

The PCC is responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the PCC is required to:

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

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

Approved by the PCC on
23/3/2021

and signed on their behalf by:



Mr Michael J Fletcher: PCC Vice-chairman

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

Year ended 31 December 2020

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
<u>Incoming Resources</u>					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		76,464	3,644	80,108	152,301
Activities for generating funds		1,073	237	1,310	43,023
Investment income		990	424	1,414	1,793
		<u>78,527</u>	<u>4,305</u>	<u>82,832</u>	<u>197,117</u>
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
		18,718	254	18,972	36,755
Total incoming resources	2	<u>97,245</u>	<u>4,559</u>	<u>101,804</u>	<u>233,872</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>					
Charitable activities		102,072	14,355	116,427	351,443
Total resources expended		<u>102,072</u>	<u>14,355</u>	<u>116,427</u>	<u>351,443</u>
Net incoming resources before other recognised gains and losses	3	(4,827)	(9,796)	(14,623)	(117,571)
Adjustments				-	(3,294)
Transfers		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(4,827)</u>	<u>(9,796)</u>	<u>(14,623)</u>	<u>(120,865)</u>
Accumulated funds b/f		42,769	231,498	274,267	395,132
Accumulated funds c/f	5	<u>37,942</u>	<u>221,702</u>	<u>259,644</u>	<u>274,267</u>

There were no recognised gains or losses except as shown above.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

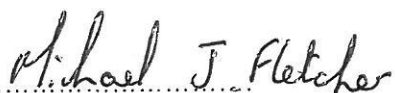
Year ended 31 December 2020

BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020	2019
<u>Fixed Assets</u>			
Tangibles	4	100,000	100,000
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Cash at bank and in hand		37,942	42,769
Investments - restricted funds		121,702	131,498
		<u>159,644</u>	<u>174,267</u>
Net Current Assets		159,644	174,267
Net Assets		<u>259,644</u>	<u>274,267</u>
<u>Reserves</u>			
Unrestricted funds	6	37,942	42,769
Restricted funds	6	221,702	231,498
Total church funds	6	<u>259,644</u>	<u>274,267</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Parochial Church Council on
and signed on its behalf by :-

23/3/2021


Michael Fletcher, PCC Chairman

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH

Year ended 31 December 2020

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, on the receipts and payments basis.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are received, and the church has fulfilled all conditions for its receipt. Investment income is included when it is received.

Outgoing Resources

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which they are paid.

Funds

The Unrestricted fund are incoming resources which are used for the objects of the church, without any specified purpose or further restriction. Restricted funds can only be used for the specific purposes as decided by the donor, within the objects of the church. Designated funds are unrestricted funds, which have been earmarked by the PCC for particular purposes.

Fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind are excluded from the accounts by the Charities Act 2011. Freehold properties are stated in the balance sheet at cost. Depreciation is provided so as to write off the cost of the assets in equal instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

The depreciation rates used are :-

Freehold property	Nil.
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Investments

Investments are stated at cost.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	2020	2019
<u>Voluntary incoming resources</u>		
Planned giving	59,541	52,816
Collections	16,201	29,086
Donations and legacies	3,663	6,255
Heritage Lottery Fund grant	-	56,850
National Churches Trust grant	-	5,000
Alvechurch Parish Council grant	500	500
Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	203	268
Fundraising	-	1,526

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
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Year ended 31 December 2020

	<u>80,108</u>	<u>152,301</u>
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities</u>		
Ark café	1,677	7,537
Fees for special services	10,961	12,627
Church and annex lettings	<u>6,334</u>	<u>16,591</u>
	<u>18,972</u>	<u>36,755</u>
<u>Investment income</u>		
Rent from field	990	1,005
Dividends and interest	<u>2</u>	<u>48</u>
	<u>992</u>	<u>1,053</u>
<u>Others</u>		
VAT recovered	250	39,571
Model railway exhibition	-	902
Grapevine and website	<u>1,060</u>	<u>2,550</u>
	<u>1,310</u>	<u>43,023</u>
Total incoming resources	<u><u>101,382</u></u>	<u><u>233,132</u></u>
<u>3 NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES</u>	2020	2019
Depreciation	-	-
Independent examiner's remuneration	900	900
Salaries	14,543	14,187
Average number of employees	1	1
Council members' expenses	-	-
Council members' remuneration	-	-
There were no related party transactions.		
<u>4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS</u>		
<u>For charitable use</u>		
<u>Cost or valuation</u>	Freehold Property	Total
Balance b/f	100,000	100,000
Additions	-	0
Correction	-	-
Scrapped	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance c/f	<u><u>100,000</u></u>	<u><u>100,000</u></u>
<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>		
Balance b/f	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-
Scrapped	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance c/f	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
Net book value b/f	<u><u>100,000</u></u>	<u><u>100,000</u></u>
	0	0

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

Year ended 31 December 2020

Net book value c/f

100,000

100,000
0

5 MOVEMENT ON ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	B/F at the Start of The year	Incoming Resource s	Outgoing Resource s	Transfer s	Adjustment s	Total
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>						
General Unrestricted Fund	33,812	95,568	(99,962)			29,418
Ark Café Designated	8,957	1,677	(2,110)			8,524
	42,769	97,245	(102,072)	-	-	37,942
<u>Restricted Funds</u>						
Churchyard	3,476	100	(3,564)			12
Ark Fittings	595	580	-			1,175
Youth Fund	8,747	39	(190)			8,596
Fabric Fund	7,385	369	(7,494)			260
Bells Fund	994	275	(126)			1,143
Clock Fund	1,790	20				1,810
Others	9,182	2,754	(2,981)			8,955
	32,169	4,137	(14,355)	-	-	21,951
<u>Restricted Funds/Invested</u>						
Recoupment	58,624	249	-	-	-	58,873
Churchyard Maintenance	40,705	173	-	-	-	40,878
	99,329	422	-	-	-	99,751
<u>Restricted Assets</u>						
Ark/Church Car Park	100,000					100,000
	0	-	-	-	-	0
	100,000					100,000
	0	-	-	-	-	0
	274,267	101,804	(116,427)	-	-	259,644

The 'Others' Fund is used to hold donations restricted to specific church and charity uses on a short term basis. Some of the Fund Names have been amended to clarify their use.

6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN THE FUNDS

	Invest- ments	Fixed Assets	Cash at Bank	Total
General unrestricted fund	-	-	29,418	29,418
Designated funds	-	-	8,524	8,524
Restricted funds	21,951	-	-	21,951
Restricted investments	99,751	-	-	99,751
Restricted assets	-	100,000	-	100,000

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

Year ended 31 December 2020

121,702	100,000	37,942	259,644
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7 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

	2020	2019
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Planned giving	59,541	52,816
Collections	16,201	29,086
Donations and legacies	3,663	6,255
Heritage Lottery Fund grant	-	56,850
National Churches Trust grant	-	5,000
Alvechurch Parish Council grant	500	500
Advent purses/Bibles for Schools	203	268
Fundraising	-	1,526
Ark café	1,677	7,537
Fees for special services	10,961	12,627
Church and annex lettings	6,334	16,591
Rent from field	990	1,005
Dividends and interest	2	48
VAT recovered	250	39,571
Model railway exhibition	-	902
Grapevine and website	1,060	2,550
Total incoming resources	101,382	233,132
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Fundraising	800	936
Ark administration/Diocesan Fees	4,274	3,317
Charitable giving	6,822	10,104
Diocesan parish share	50,000	50,000
Church and annex running costs	14,238	17,387
Church and Ark maintenance	6,225	5,103
Major repairs	4,449	226,309
Worship	986	984
Churchyard upkeep	4,724	4,141
Grapevine	3,804	4,105
Administration	16,035	15,109
Equipment repairs	1,150	1,462
Organists', Choir, Bells fees	325	3,105
Other expenses	-	279
Ark café	1,611	8,202
Independent examiner	984	900
	116,427	351,443
Available Deficit for the year	(15,045)	(118,311)
Interest received not yet available		
Recoupment fund	249	437

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ALVECHURCH**

Year ended 31 December 2020

Churchyard Maintenance fund

173

303

422

740

Overall Deficit for the year

(14,623)

(117,571)

Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2020.

I report on the accounts of the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Alvechurch for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of PCC and the examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

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.

M.A. Edwards Date *17/4/21*

M.A. Edwards

For and on behalf of :-

M. A. Edwards Accountants Limited,

Chartered Accountants,

26, The Green,

Kings Norton,

Birmingham,

B38 8SD.

