

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1131831

Details

Other names ST NICHOLAS' PCC, BRIGHTON

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-09-25

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

Contact

Address St. Nicholas Church
Church Street
Brighton
BN1 3LJ

Phone 01273205360

Email parishoffice@stnicholasbrighton.org.uk

Website www.stnicholasbrighton.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Promoting facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the church offers; and Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

Classification

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

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Brighton And Hove

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£179,032	£195,784	-	-
2023-12-31	£155,959	£140,198	-	-
2022-12-31	£130,677	£118,379	-	-
2021-12-31	£120,567	£113,516	-	-
2020-12-31	£104,801	£120,607	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Aiko Sarah Abigail Somers-Harris		2022-05-15
Anne Cross		2026-05-17
Felicity Helen Stimpson		2022-05-15
Gavin James Kinsey Bennison		2025-05-18
Jane Anita Gray		2024-05-30
Jorre Jos Victor Janssens		2025-05-18
MARTIN HOUGHTON-BROWN		2025-05-18
MARTIN THOMAS AUTON-LLOYD		
Michael Fisher		2026-05-17
Nicholas Stephen Goldsmith		2023-05-14
Nigel Clive Nash MBE		2017-04-23
Paul Sawtell		2026-05-17
Rachel Chan		2023-05-14
Simon Brooksbank		2026-05-17
Veronica Jane Thomason		2020-10-25
Vivienne Linda McKay		2022-05-15

Accounts

The Parish of Brighton St Nicholas of Myra

Registered Charity No. 1131831

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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St Nicholas Church, Church Street, Brighton BN1 3LJ

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, St Nicholas' Vicarage, 2 Windlesham Road, Brighton BN1 3AG

Independent Examiner: Mrs Tania Little, 1 Primrose Close, Littlehampton BN17 6US

Bankers: The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmesdale WN8 6WT

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas

Annual Report for 2024

Aim and Purposes

The Parish Church of St Nicholas of Myra, Brighton, exists to extend the mission of Christ's Church within its parish and city, by:

- Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in words of witness and acts of service
- Ministering the Word and Sacraments for the whole people of God
- Teaching the Christian faith to all who wish to follow the Way of Christ
- Ministering to those in need of healing, counsel and reconciliation; preparing couples for marriage, and caring for the dead and the bereaved
- Deepening the discipleship, prayer and fellowship of the congregation of St Nicholas' church
- Working with others to serve the vulnerable, and establish a just society
- Opening the church as a place of peace and prayer for all
- Offering the church as a space for the city's cultural, social and civic life

(PCC Mission Action Plan 2022)

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - more effectively; and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral and spiritual care, and moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian faith and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Mission and outreach to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and prayer

In 2024 St Nicholas' offered a full calendar of liturgical worship. The Eucharist was said or sung on all Sundays and feast days, and the daily Eucharist, and Morning and Evening prayer, were celebrated in church at various times during each week. Accompanying the in-person Parish Eucharist congregation, a faithful group of Zoom worshippers continued to join in prayer from home.

Sunday attendance has remained stable through the year, and has shown some signs of growth. At the end of 2024, attendance both in person and online at the 10.30am Parish Eucharist fluctuated between 60 and 90 people, including up to 8 children. The 8.00am Sunday celebration continued to be attended by between 10 and 15 people. Monthly visits to share Holy Communion at a complex of retirement flats in the parish continued, including up to 10 communicants.

Holy Week and Easter were celebrated with the traditional rites. Easter attendance at both the Vigil and the daytime Eucharist was 219, of whom 169 received Holy Communion. Christmas attendance, including the Crib and Carol Service, and the Night-time and Daytime Eucharist, totalled 409; the number of communicants at both Christmas celebrations was 125. Both the Christmas and Easter figures represent slight falls in all categories compared with 2023.

Two infants and eleven children (aged 5-11) received Holy Baptism at St Nicholas'. Two adult members of the congregation were baptised at Deanery services. 4 children were admitted to their First Holy Communion. There were no marriages. Three funerals were celebrated in church, and two in local crematoria; and there were two burials of cremated remains in the Gardens of Remembrance.

St Nicholas' continued its tradition of hosting civic acts of worship, including a Carol Service on the first Sunday of Advent sung by Brighton Chamber choir, in the presence of the city's Mayor and civic guests. The Patronal Festival was celebrated on the second Sunday of Advent, with a Sermon given by the Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, Ven. Martin Lloyd Williams.

Opportunities for prayer, worship and fellowship outside of the liturgy continued, including the offering of four Lent courses (one on Zoom). A monthly Sunday study group continued to meet after the Parish Eucharist. These have offered an opportunity for people to explore our faith, share our experiences, and learn from one another about what it means to love God and love our neighbours. Among the topics explored over the past year have been a series of sessions on the New Testament, a discussion of death and dying, an exploration of what politics and Christianity have to do with each other, and a reflection on the role that food plays in our lives. A Zoom fellowship group met intermittently through the year, attracting up to a dozen participants depending on the course of study or topic of discussion.

There were 157 persons on the church electoral roll. For the annual return, average Sunday attendance was calculated as 94, including 4 children; the worshipping

community, broadly considered, included 155 people. This represents a slight increase in the number of adults compared with 2023.

The church building remained open for visits and prayer for seven hours a week, in addition to its regular opening times for daily divine service, and the weekly music recital.

Deanery Synod

Four members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod, one of whom is the Synod Lay Chair; this provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

The Church and grounds

Maintenance of the fabric of our Grade 2* building continued throughout 2024. Works included repairs to high level lead flashings and slates following storm damage; ongoing maintenance of the underfloor heating boilers, the installation of an automatic urn. A survey was undertaken to assess storm damage to the wall paintings at the west end. The nave altar was redesigned and rebuilt by Edward Ng-Cordell. The PCC continued to work on its major project plans to adapt the servery and community room, in discussion with the Diocesan Advisory Committee, and latterly with architect Lap Chan.

The closed churchyard surrounding the church is maintained by Brighton and Hove City Council, and the PCC works closely in partnership with the City Council and members of the local community to contribute constructively to discussions about parks and open spaces in Brighton and Hove more generally. The Forestry Commission Urban Tree Challenge Fund project was completed in spring 2024, with the planting of the second tranche of twelve trees in the green spaces. During the year members of the Gardening Group continued their work in the Churchyard, the Rest Garden and the children's playground, contributing to their safety and beauty, as important spaces for rest and recreation in the local community. This group continues its affiliation with the Friends of St Nicholas', which holds funds for the use of the group, and supplying a member for the Friends' committee.

Evangelisation and community engagement

The relationship with the parish school 'St Paul's C E School' has continued to be close. The parish priest is ex-officio a Foundation Governor. Other members of St Nicholas' have sat on the governing body: Angie Fantis (Foundation Governor from January 2019, also Co-Chair from September 2021), and Samuel Damalie (Foundation Governor from January 2021). The parish priest continued to offer regular acts of collective worship in school, sharing this responsibility with the Assistant Curate and the clergy of the parish of St Paul, and St Michael and All Angels.

In 2024, the PCC maintained its commitment to charitable giving. Charities proposed and accepted by the congregation and PCC were: Clocktower Sanctuary, Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, Emmaus, and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). Each charity is prayed for at the Parish Eucharist over the course of the year.

A Summer Fair was held in the church and churchyard on the early May bank Holiday. As well as raising significant funds for the PCC, the event was supported and enjoyed by many people in the surrounding neighbourhood and wider city.

Throughout the year, the weekly Wednesday recitals have continued to flourish, attracting talented performers from across the country, and occasionally from mainland Europe. The recitals are a much appreciated and valuable element of the city's weekday cultural offer, and audience numbers have remained strong throughout 2024. The recitals remain a core part of St Nicholas' regular community outreach, providing high-quality music, homemade refreshments and hospitality, for a voluntary donation.

Inspired by a presentation on being an Eco Church at a Deanery Synod meeting, St Nicholas' was certified as a Bronze Eco Church in June 2024. The Bronze award was an opportunity to celebrate the things we were already doing, but it also meant making some changes. For instance, we have made recycling in church simpler, as well as offering opportunities to recycle items (like blister packs and ink cartridges) that are otherwise more difficult to recycle in the city. Through the generosity of the congregation, St Nicholas' also funded the building of toilets in Nepal, helping to prevent illness from sanitation-related diseases.

With a congregation of around 45 people (about half of which are children), Messy Church has continued to be a valued part of the life of the church, as well as our relationship to St Paul's School. This school year, Messy Church has explored three themes: community, creation, and care. Crafts have included building marshmallow and spaghetti buildings, decorating biscuits to look like flags, bird feeders, and wildflower seed bumble-bee planters.

Demand for the hire of St Nicholas' by both individuals and groups remained strong throughout the year. In addition to regular weekday hires, the church hosted a wide range of seasonal and occasional hires, giving space for variety of community and cultural events. The income generated by the use of the building by hirers is an essential element in the sustainability of the parish church in the medium to long term and is a valued part of our offering to the city and neighbourhood.

During the Fringe Festival, and on other occasions, a highly successful series of historical tours of the church was once again offered by a member of St Nicholas' congregation, attracting both old and new visitors keen to learn about the long history of the church and its many personalities.

After initial withdrawal, the city council's proposal to install new external lighting in the churchyard, using S106 monies, was resubmitted, and a new planning application process began in the second half of 2024. The PCC remained engaged as a key partner in this conversation.

Pastoral care

The work of the Pastoral Visiting team has remained a vital, though often unseen, element of St Nicholas' common life and flourishing throughout the year. The group of visitors, led by the Authorised Lay Minister, visits and keeps in touch with the sick, housebound and isolated; those who are Lay Ministers of Communion also take the Eucharist to those who wish to receive it at home.

Financial review

The total receipts on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds were £134,055, £10,715 and £34,262 respectively. A detailed breakdown of these receipts is included in the financial statements.

Unrestricted income from donations increased by £317 (0.3%) to £95,714 (representing 71.4% of the total unrestricted income). Unrestricted income from trading activities increased by £1843 (5.6%) to £34,918

We are very grateful for the grants we received from The Robertson Hall trust (£6000) for our administrator and The Forestry Commission (£2757) for new trees in the churchyard.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £68,000 paid as parish share towards our diocesan parish ministry costs of £81,445 . These costs include clergy stipend and pension, housing, training, ministry support, parish support and national church. For 2025 the diocesan parish ministry costs remain at £81,445. The PCC has decided to offer £72,000 towards those costs.

Charitable donations of £4790 (representing 5% of unrestricted donor income) were made directly by the PCC. In addition to that sum £508 was given indirectly through collections at services and sundry donations.

The net result for the year was an excess of payments over receipts of £475, £4,977 and £11,300 on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds respectively.

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is that the unrestricted General Fund should be maintained at a minimum level of one month's expenditure and up to a maximum of three months (excluding exceptional items). The PCC considers this sufficient to finance working capital and committed staff costs and provide for emergencies. As at the 31st December 2024 the General fund value was £19,430 representing 1.7 months of budgeted expenditure in 2025

Ministry Team, employees and volunteers

The Revd Dr Dominic Keech remains Vicar of the parish, sharing ministry with the Assistant Curate, Revd Dr Pete Leith. Our Assistant Clergy, Fr Anthony Ball, Fr Chris McDermott, Fr David Ingledew and Fr Robin Protheroe have continued to support the life of the parish throughout the year; their ministry is warmly appreciated and valued by the whole congregation.

Our churchwardens Nigel Nash and Rachel Chan have worked tirelessly on our behalf to maintain the good order of the church building, support our pastoral and common life, and provide wise leadership on behalf of the laity and in close partnership with the Incumbent. They have been ably assisted by Clemmie Leyland (until May 2024) and Vivienne McKay (from September 2024) in their respective terms as Treasurer, in which they have helped us to prepare and understand the church's accounts and its finances. Thanks are also due to Mike Jackson, the PCC finance officer, for his careful

stewardship of our banking, and financial recording. We are grateful to all the members of the PCC, who have made a valuable contribution to our mission and ministry through their careful discernment, deliberation and assistance in delivering our missional priorities through the year.

The PCC maintained two employments in 2024: an Organist and Director of Music post, paid fully by the PCC; and a Parish Administrator post, which was part-funded by the Robertson Hall Trust (RC 1073473). Andrew Dickson remained our Organist and Director of Music until September, and Joanne Morrell our Parish Administrator until October. Their committed, diligent and professional work to support the life of St Nicholas' in their different roles was highly valued and widely appreciated, and we were sad to lose two excellent postholders on the parish team. Both posts were reviewed in the winter by the PCC in light of rising costs and budget pressures, and a recruitment process was begun for the Organist and Director of Music post.

Our diverse team of volunteers, which numbers around 75, have persisted in their commitment to St Nicholas' throughout 2024, responding generously to changing needs as the year has progressed. We wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our common life and ministry in a voluntary capacity throughout the course of 2024. The willingness of many people to give time and skills to the parish church has enabled St Nicholas' to respond creatively and hopefully to the needs of both the church and local community.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, churchwardens), members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of gender, skills and experience where possible.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met six times during the year, with an average attendance of 80%. During the year the Council has considered issues relating to safeguarding, parish mission and ministry, health and safety, finance, maintaining the fabric of the building, partnership with the city council to develop the green spaces, and many other topics.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Nash, who was re-appointed to this role in May 2024. He advises the PCC on matters of compliance and good practice in all areas relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. He assists the PCC in ensuring that officers of the church and volunteers are appropriately monitored through Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and that they complete relevant safeguarding training. The PCC has received and approved the safeguarding policies and procedures recommended by the diocese during 2024 and keeps this important area under continuous review.

Administrative information

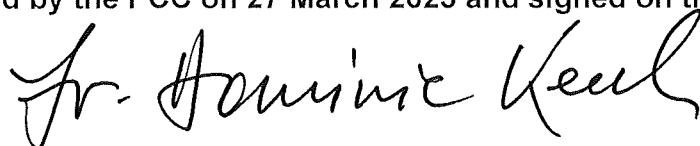
St Nicholas' Church is situated in the centre of Brighton. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton, BN1 3LJ. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1131831).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2024 until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	Revd Dr Dominic Keech	(Chair)
Assistant Curate	Revd Dr Pete Leith	
Churchwardens:	Rachel Chan Nigel Nash	
Deanery Synod:	Josephine Baker Thomas Elliott Frances Lindsay Hills Veronica Thomson	until November 2024
Diocesan Synod:	Martin Auton Lloyd Revd Dr Dominic Keech Thomas Elliott	
General Synod	Martin Auton Lloyd	
Elected members:		
	Sophie Allen	from May 2024 (Secretary)
	David Game	from May 2024
	Nicholas Goldsmith	
	Jane Gray	from May 2024
	Clemmie Leyland	(Treasurer until May 2024)
	Vivienne McKay	(Treasurer from Sep 2024)
	Amy Morrell	until May 2024
	Paul Misso	until Jan 2024
	Georgina Obeng	
	Aiko Somers-Harris	
	Felicity Stimpson	
	Heather Wyborn	until May 2024

Approved by the PCC on 27 March 2025 and signed on their behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2a	95,714	5,745	33,426		134,885	111,761
Other trading activities	2b	34,918				34,918	33,075
Investments	2c	2,747	4,970			7,717	7,185
Other income	2d	676		836		1,512	3,938
Total income and endowments		134,055	10,715	34,262		179,032	155,959
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3a	7,544				7,544	5,801
Charitable activities	3b	127,397	14,955	45,562		187,914	133,956
Other expenditure	3c	326				326	441
Total expenditure		135,267	14,955	45,562		195,784	140,198
Net income/(net expenditure)		(1,212)	(4,240)	(11,300)		(16,752)	15,761
Transfers between funds	5	737	(737)	-		-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of:							
Investment assets	6a				174	174	461
Net movement in funds		(475)	(4,977)	(11,300)	174	(16,578)	16,222
Total funds brought forward		19,905	126,920	31,229	6,578	184,632	168,410
Total funds carried forward		19,430	121,943	19,929	6,752	168,054	184,632

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6a	6,752	6,578
Tangible fixed assets	6b	400	1,362
Total fixed assets		<u>7,152</u>	<u>7,940</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	5,235	5,454
CBF Church of England deposit account		149,103	159,103
Bank and cash in hand		18,732	23,844
		<u>173,070</u>	<u>188,401</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	9	<u>12,168</u>	<u>11,709</u>
Net current assets		160,902	176,692
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u><u>168,054</u></u>	<u><u>184,632</u></u>
Funds			
Endowment funds	10	6,752	6,578
Restricted funds	10	19,929	31,229
Designated Funds	10	121,943	126,920
Unrestricted funds	10	19,430	19,905
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>168,054</u></u>	<u><u>184,632</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27 March 2025 and signed on its behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech
Chairman

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

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

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of recoverability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when due.

Income tax recoverable is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Other trading activities

Income from trading is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Charitable activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the commitment made by the PCC to Brighton Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected lives. The rate applicable is 25% (straight line).

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
a Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving - standing orders	59,701				59,701	58,577
Planned giving - weekly envelopes	5,434				5,434	5,257
Cash collections at all services	4,623		935		5,558	4,565
One off donations and appeals	8,729		9,647		18,376	16,872
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	17,227		1,824		19,051	16,779
Legacies		5,745			5,745	-
Grants			21,020		21,020	9,711
	95,714	5,745	33,426	-	134,885	111,761
b Income from other trading activities						
Coffee and tea	833				833	854
Social events	2,181				2,181	498
Fund raising	7,826				7,826	6,047
Music recitals	9,160				9,160	8,901
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	872				872	1,178
Sale cards/books & activities	4				4	403
Church hire	14,042				14,042	15,194
	34,918	-	-	-	34,918	33,075
c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	2,747	4,970			7,717	7,185
	2,747	4,970	-	-	7,717	7,185
d Other income						
Insurance claims			836		836	3,704
Other income	676				676	234
	676	-	836	-	1,512	3,938
Total income	134,055	10,715	34,262	-	179,032	155,959

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
a Expenditure on raising funds						
Social functions	1,946				1,946	756
Events	1,066				1,066	957
Music recitals	3,899				3,899	3,306
Direct costs re church hires	347				347	534
Stewardship costs	111				111	81
Bank charges	175				175	167
	<u>7,544</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,544</u>	<u>5,801</u>
b Expenditure on charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,790				4,790	4,772
Diocesan parish share	68,000				68,000	68,000
Ministry costs:						
Clergy costs - vicar	4,880				4,880	4,558
Clergy costs - curate	2,783		45		2,828	1,405
Clergy costs - visiting clergy					-	88
Mission and evangelism costs:						
Children's ministry		207	130		337	309
Church insurance	5,522				5,522	5,410
Church running expenses	3,256				3,256	2,982
Repairs and maintenance	8,149		4,546		12,695	10,161
Liturgical supplies	2,773		691		3,464	2,557
Flowers			1,775		1,775	1,663
Music/Choir	5,726		164		5,890	5,793
Administration	11,244		6,000		17,244	11,044
Printing and photocopying	780	961			1,741	1,754
Postage and telephone	851				851	735
Stationery	743				743	947
Sundry	314				314	372
Electricity	1,870				1,870	1,755
Gas	5,628		483		6,111	3,863
Devotional cards and books	88				88	-
Major fabric works		13,787	31,728		45,515	5,788
	<u>127,397</u>	<u>14,955</u>	<u>45,562</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>187,914</u>	<u>133,956</u>
c Other expenditure						
Coffee and tea	326				326	441
	<u>326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>441</u>
Total expenditure	<u>135,267</u>	<u>14,955</u>	<u>45,562</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>195,784</u>	<u>140,198</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
4 Staff costs						
a Remuneration - wages and salaries	11,586	-	3,570	-	15,156	16,564
Redundancy	3,000	-		-	3,000	-

During the year the PCC employed an organist and an administrator on a part time basis. Occasional organists were engaged on a self-employed basis.

b Payments to PCC members

There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected with them.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount
Between unrestricted and designated	Allocating monies for future expenditure	£500
Between designated and unrestricted	Release from fabric fund to cover over expenditure	£1,237
Between restricted and restricted	Transfer part of replacment grand piano fund back to altar fund	£192
Between restricted and restricted	Transfer part of replacment grand piano fund to liturgical fund	£385

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
6 Fixed Assets						
a Investments						
Market value 1 January	-	-	-	6,578	6,578	6,117
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation	-	-	-	174	174	461
Market value 31 December	-	-	-	6,752	6,752	6,578

b Tangible fixed assets

	Grand Piano £	Photo- copier £	Grand Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2024	4,500	4,802	9,302
Disposals	(4,500)	-	(4,500)
At 31 December 2024	-	4,802	4,802
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	4,499	3,441	7,940
Disposals	(4,499)		(4,499)
Charge for year	-	961	961
At 31 December 2024	-	4,402	4,402
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2024	-	400	400
At 31 December 2023	1	1,361	1,362

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £
7 Analysis of net assets by fund						
Investment fixed assets				6,752	6,752	6,578
Tangible fixed assets		400			400	1,362
Current assets	28,312	121,543	19,929		169,784	185,574
Current liabilities	(8,882)				(8,882)	(8,882)
	19,430	121,943	19,929	6,752	168,054	184,632
8 Debtors						
Income tax recoverable	4,318				4,318	5,297
Trade debtors	847				847	-
Sundry debtors	70				70	157
	5,235	-	-	-	5,235	5,454
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
Church hire deposits	200				200	200
Charitable giving	4,810				4,810	4,770
Parish retreat deposits					-	2,627
HMRC	658				658	290
Deferred income	643				643	643
Accruals	5,416				5,416	2,777
Sundry creditors	441				441	402
	12,168	-	-	-	12,168	11,709

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains and (losses) £	Transfers £	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds						
General fund	19,905	134,055	135,267		737	19,430
	19,905	134,055	135,267	-	737	19,430
Designated Funds						
Altar	5,960	5,745	8,987			2,718
Children's ministry	415		207			208
Diocesan parish share	9,650					9,650
Fabric	6,968				(1,237)	5,731
Hardship	598					598
Major project	99,570	4,970	4,800			99,740
Outreach	522					522
Photocopier	1,361		961			400
Vicarage re-decoration	1,876				500	2,376
	126,920	10,715	14,955	-	(737)	121,943
Restricted Funds						
Administration	-	6,000	6,000			-
Altar	-		192		192	-
Boiler	3,580					3,580
Choral Foundation	1,234		164			1,070
Churchyard trees (UTCF)	1,738	2,757	2,757			1,738
Curate support	715		45			670
Fabric	1,341	11,191	7,824			4,708
Flower	1,085	1,581	1,775			891
Gas	-	4,350	483			3,867
Homeless outreach	1,380					1,380
Liturgical	-	306	691		385	-
Maintenance of the grand piano	88		88			-
Organ	360					360
Outreach	1,161		543			618
Replacement grand piano	17,500	8,077	25,000		(577)	-
St Paul's CE School	427					427
Vicar's discretionary	70					70
Youth work	550					550
	31,229	34,262	45,562	-	-	19,929
Endowment Funds						
Hanbury Trust	3,142			95		3,237
Wagner Fund	3,436			79		3,515
	6,578	-	-	174	-	6,752
Total funds	184,632	179,032	195,784	174	-	168,054

Unrestricted fund - Assets held by the PCC for carrying out its general activities.

Designated funds - Funds the PCC has set aside for specific purposes falling within its normal activities.

Restricted funds - See breakdown on next page.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Statement of funds (continued)

Administration - Grant received from The Reverend Frederick W. Roberston trust to pay towards the parish administrator's salary.

Altar - Donation received in 2022 towards cost of new nave altar (or other capital project at discretion of Vicar).

Boiler - Donations received during 2021 for a replacement gas boiler and ongoing major repairs to both boilers.

Churchyard new trees - grants received from Forestry Commission (as part of UTCF project) and Friends of St Nicholas to planting new trees in the churchyard

Choral Foundation - Monies received in November 2018 from the St Nicholas Choral Foundation. At the end of 5 years any unspent monies in this fund become unrestricted. The fund can be used:

* To advance the education of the public in the arts and particular the art of music with a special regard to choral music.

*To further the education of young people aged 7-18 by providing grants and scholarships relating to musical education.

* To pay for general St Nicholas, Brighton choir expenditure.

Curate support - Monies transferred from Affirming Catholicism in 2018 on the provision that they are used to support the curate - current or future.

Fabric - Donations, grants and fundraising events for substantial repair of the church building and associated fabric.

Flower - Donations received for purchase of flowers.

Gas - Donation from utility broker under their "Make it Easy Guarantee" scheme

Homeless outreach - Donations received to pay towards running costs of the night shelter, Saturday welcome café or other project.

Liturgical - Donations received for liturgical items.

Maintenance of the grand piano - The amounts raised in this fund were originally for the purchase of a new grand piano. However, under a Charity Commission Scheme dated 21 October 2019 the monies can now be spent on the maintenance of a grand piano.

Organ - Donations and fundraising events for purchase and maintenance of new Eminent organ.

Outreach - Donation for any community outreach project.

Replacement grand piano - donations received in 2023 and 2024.

St Paul's CE School - The source of this fund is unknown.

Vicar's discretionary - Donation received In 2022.

Youth work - Fundraising event to support youth residential events plus sale of youth equipment.

Hanbury Trust - Income paid direct to the Diocese. The source of this fund was Miss Leslie Hanbury.

Wagner Fund - Income paid direct to the Diocese and goes towards Incumbent's stipend. The source of this fund is unknown.

11 Related charity

The Friends of St Nicholas Church (Charity Commission registered number 1046054) is a connected charity. The funds of this charity are not incorporated in these accounts.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicholas of Myra Brighton

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Nicholas of Myra Church Brighton on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 8 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

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

It is my responsibility:

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

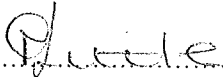
Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Signed..........

23 April 2025

Tania Little
1 Primrose Close
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 6US

Accounts

The Parish of Brighton St Nicholas of Myra

Registered Charity No. 1131831

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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St Nicholas Church, Church Street, Brighton BN1 3LJ

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, St Nicholas' Vicarage, 2 Windlesham Road, Brighton BN1 3AG

Independent Examiner: Mrs Tania Little, 1 Primrose Close, Littlehampton BN17 6US

Bankers: The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmesdale WN8 6WT

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas

Annual Report for 2023

Aim and Purposes

The Parish Church of St Nicholas of Myra, Brighton, exists to extend the mission of Christ's Church within its parish and city, by:

- Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in words of witness and acts of service
- Ministering the Word and Sacraments for the whole people of God
- Teaching the Christian faith to all who wish to follow the Way of Christ
- Ministering to those in need of healing, counsel and reconciliation; preparing couples for marriage, and caring for the dead and the bereaved
- Deepening the discipleship, prayer and fellowship of the congregation of St Nicholas' church
- Working with others to serve the vulnerable, and establish a just society
- Opening the church as a place of peace and prayer for all
- Offering the church as a space for the city's cultural, social and civic life

(PCC Mission Action Plan 2022)

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - more effectively; and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral and spiritual care, and moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian faith and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Mission and outreach to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and prayer

In 2023 St Nicholas' offered a full calendar of liturgical worship. The Eucharist was said or sung on all Sundays and feast days, in accordance with Canon; the weekday Eucharist was expanded to include Mondays in addition to other weekdays, and Morning and Evening prayer was celebrated in church at various times during each week. Attendance across both Sunday and weekday worship has shown both consolidation (more people attending more regularly) as well as some growth through the year. Accompanying the in-person Parish Eucharist congregation, a faithful group of Zoom worshippers continued to join in prayer from home.

At the end of 2023, attendance both in person and online at the 10.30am Parish Eucharist fluctuated between 60 and 80 people, including up to 8 children. The 8.00am Sunday celebration continued to be attended by between 10 and 20 people. Monthly visits to share Holy Communion at a complex of retirement flats in the parish continued, including up to 10 communicants.

Holy Week and Easter were celebrated with the traditional rites. Easter attendance at both the Vigil and the daytime Eucharist was 211, of whom 181 received Holy Communion. The parish was fortunate to welcome Br. Sam SSF as guest preacher on Palm Sunday and through the Triduum.

Christmas saw smaller attendance numbers than 2022: including the Crib and Carol Service, and the Night-time and Daytime Eucharist, this totalled 501; numbers of communicants at both Christmas celebrations was slightly higher than 2022, at 133.

Two infants received Holy Baptism at St Nicholas', and two adult members of the congregation were baptised at Deanery services. 13 children from St Paul's School were prepared for, and admitted, to their First Holy Communion, of whom 11 were also baptised, by the Bishop of Lewes in St Nicholas' church. Two couples were joined in Holy Matrimony.

St Nicholas' continued its tradition of hosting civic acts of worship, including a Carol Service on the first Sunday of Advent sung by Brighton Chamber choir, in the presence of the city's Mayor and civic guests. The Patronal Festival was celebrated on the second Sunday of Advent, with a homily given by Revd Canon Judith Egar, sometime Assistant Curate of the parish and currently Associate Vicar of St Anne, Lewes.

Opportunities for prayer, worship and fellowship outside of the liturgy continued, including the offering of four Lent courses (one on Zoom). A monthly Sunday study group resumed in the second half of 2023, after the Parish Eucharist. A regular Zoom fellowship group met each week throughout the year, attracting up to a dozen participants depending on the course of study or topic of discussion.

There were 133 persons on the church electoral roll. For the annual return, average Sunday attendance was calculated as 87, including 4 children; the worshipping community, broadly considered, included 146 people.

Following on from the 2022 'Warm Spaces' project, the church remained open for visits and prayer for four hours a week, in addition to its regular opening times for daily divine service, and the weekly music recital.

Deanery Synod

Four members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod, one of whom is the Synod Lay Chair; this provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. Discussion about St Nicholas' contribution to the Deanery MAP implementation continued through 2023.

The Church and grounds

Maintenance of the fabric of our Grade 2* building continued throughout 2023. Underfloor heating boilers have been repaired and maintained; the Lady Chapel window was restored after theft damage; the wooden floor in the nave was cleaned and conditioned; the tower fleche was repaired and repainted, and various other minor repairs were carried out.

The closed churchyard surrounding the church is maintained by Brighton and Hove City Council, and the PCC works closely in partnership with the City Council and members of the local community to contribute constructively to discussions about parks and open spaces in Brighton and Hove more generally.

Implementation of the Forestry Commission Urban Tree Challenge Fund project to plant 24 new trees in the green spaces began in spring 2023, with the PCC acting as the partner of Brighton and Hove City Council for the delivery of the project.

During 2023 members of the Gardening Group continued their work in the Churchyard, the Rest Garden and the children's playground, contributing to their safety and beauty, as important spaces for rest and recreation in the local community.

Evangelisation and community engagement

The relationship with the parish school 'St Paul's C E School' has continued to be close. The parish priest is ex-officio a Foundation Governor, and was also Co-Chair from September 2021 until March 2023. Other members of St Nicholas' have sat on the governing body: Angie Fantis (Foundation Governor from January 2019, also Co-Chair from September 2021), and Samuel Damalie (Foundation Governor from January 2021).

The parish priest continued to offer regular acts of collective worship in school, sharing this responsibility with the Assistant Curate and the clergy of the parish of St Paul.

In 2023, the PCC maintained its commitment to charitable giving. Charities proposed and accepted by the congregation and PCC were: Clocktower Sanctuary, Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, Emmaus, and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). Each charity is prayed for at the Parish Eucharist over the course of the year. Stand-alone collections have also been taken following ecological disasters.

A Gender, Sexuality and Faith group, which formerly met at St Nicholas' on the last Tuesday of each month, continued to meet on a more occasional basis through the year.

A Coronation Fair was held in the church and churchyard on the early May bank Holiday. As well as raising significant funds for the PCC, the event was supported and enjoyed by many people in the surrounding neighbourhood and wider city.

During July and August, the pop-up Café returned to the parish church for its third year, offering affordable lunches and teas for members of the local community in the church building and outside in the churchyard.

Throughout the year, the weekly Wednesday recitals have continued to flourish, attracting talented performers from across the country, and occasionally from mainland Europe. The recitals are a much appreciated and valuable element of the city's weekday cultural offer, and audience numbers have remained strong throughout 2023. The recitals remain a core part of St Nicholas' regular community outreach, providing high-quality music, homemade refreshments and hospitality, for a voluntary donation.

Demand for the hire of St Nicholas' by both individuals and groups remained strong throughout the year. In addition to regular weekday hires, the church hosted a wide range of seasonal and occasional hires, giving space for variety of community and cultural events. The income generated by the use of the building by hirers is an essential element in the sustainability of the parish church in the medium to long term and is a valued part of our offering to the city and neighbourhood.

During the Fringe Festival a highly successful series of historical tours of the church was once again offered by a member of St Nicholas' congregation, attracting both old and new visitors keen to learn about the long history of the church and its many personalities.

As part of the Open Church project detailed above, a weekly Needlework group run by a member of the congregation and open to all was revived in 2023, attracting sewing enthusiasts from across the city.

In 2023, the city council continued to develop plans to make the green spaces around the church more accessible and safe, principally through the planned provision of external lighting of the building, using Section 106 monies. The PCC remained engaged as a key partner in these conversations.

Pastoral care

The work of the Pastoral Visiting team has remained a vital, though often unseen, element of St Nicholas' common life and flourishing throughout the year. The group of visitors, led by the Authorised Lay Minister, visits and keeps in touch with the sick, housebound and isolated; those who are Lay Ministers of Communion also take the Eucharist to those who wish to receive it at home.

Financial review

The total receipts on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds were £131,537, £4,354 and £20,068 respectively. A detailed breakdown of these receipts is included in the financial statements.

Unrestricted income from donations increased by £12,245 (14.7%) to £95,397 (representing 72.5% of the total unrestricted income). Unrestricted income from trading activities increased by £7,066 (27.2%) to £33,075.

We are very grateful for the grants we received from The Robertson Hall trust (£5,000) for our administrator and The Forestry Commission (£1,623) and The Friends of St Nicholas (£1,738) for new trees in the churchyard.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £68,000 paid as parish share towards our diocesan parish ministry costs of £78,795. These costs include clergy stipend and pension, housing, training, ministry support, parish support and national church. For 2024 the diocesan parish ministry costs will increase by 3.4% to £81,445. The PCC has decided to offer £68,000 towards those costs though this may be increased.

Charitable donations of £4,772 (representing 5% of unrestricted donor income) were made directly by the PCC. In addition to that sum £795 was given indirectly through collections at services and sundry donations.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £4, £9,275 and £6,482 on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds respectively.

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is that the unrestricted General Fund should be maintained at a minimum level of one month's expenditure and up to a maximum of three months (excluding exceptional items). The PCC considers this sufficient to finance working capital and committed staff costs and provide for emergencies. As at the 31st December 2023 the General fund value was £19,905 representing 1.6 months of budgeted expenditure in 2024.

Ministry Team, employees and volunteers

The Revd Dr Dominic Keech remains Vicar of the parish. Our Assistant Clergy, Fr Anthony Ball, Fr Chris McDermott, Fr David Ingledew and Fr Robin Protheroe, have continued to support the life of the parish throughout the year; their ministry is warmly appreciated and valued by the whole congregation. In Advent 2022 Revd Dr Pete Leith was seconded to St Nicholas' from All Saints Hove, to support his curacy following the resignation of his training Incumbent. He was licensed as Assistant Curate of St Nicholas' in July 2023 and continues to complete his title post in the parish.

Our churchwardens Heather Wyborn (until May 2023), Nigel Nash (re-elected May 2022) and Rachel Chan (elected May 2023) have worked tirelessly on our behalf to maintain the good order of the church building, support our pastoral and common life,

and provide wise leadership on behalf of the laity and in close partnership with the Incumbent. They have been ably assisted by Mike Jackson (until May 2023) and thereafter by Clemmie Leyland (from May 2023) in their respective terms as Treasurer, in which they have helped us to prepare and understand the church's accounts and its finances. Thanks are also due to all the members of the PCC, who have made a valuable contribution to our mission and ministry through their careful discernment, deliberation and assistance in delivering our missional priorities through the year.

Two employees of the PCC have continued to provide professional support to the work of St Nicholas': Joanne Morrell, the Parish Administrator; and Andrew Dickson, the Organist and Director of Music. They have continued their widely appreciated work with diligence, professionalism, and commitment to the flourishing of St Nicholas' throughout the year.

Our diverse team of volunteers, which numbers around 75, have persisted in their commitment to St Nicholas' throughout 2023, responding generously to changing needs as the year has progressed. We wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our common life and ministry in a voluntary capacity throughout the course of 2023. The willingness of many people to give time and skills to the parish church has enabled St Nicholas' to respond creatively and hopefully to the needs of both the church and local community.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, churchwardens), members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of gender, skills and experience where possible.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met six times during the year, with an average attendance of 84.5%. The work of the PCC is assisted by its Standing Committee. During the year the Council has considered issues relating to safeguarding, parish mission and ministry, health and safety, finance, maintaining the fabric of the building, partnership with the city council to develop the green spaces, and many other topics.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Nash, who was re-appointed to this role in May 2023. He advises the PCC on matters of compliance and good practice in all areas relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. He assists the PCC in ensuring that officers of the church and volunteers are appropriately monitored through Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and that they complete relevant safeguarding training. The PCC has received and approved the safeguarding policies and procedures recommended by the diocese during 2023 and keeps this important area under continuous review.

Administrative information

St Nicholas' Church is situated in the centre of Brighton. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton, BN1 3LJ. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1131831).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2023 until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	Revd Dr Dominic Keech	(Chair)
Assistant Curate	Revd Dr Pete Leith	from July 2023
Churchwardens:	Rachel Chan	from May 2023
	Nigel Nash	
	Heather Wyborn	until May 2023
Deanery Synod:	Josephine Baker	from May 2023
	Thomas Elliott	from May 2023
	Frances Lindsay Hills	from May 2023
	Louise Roddon	until May 2023
	Veronica Thomason	
Diocesan Synod:	Martin Auton Lloyd	

Elected members:

Josephine Baker	until May 2023
Nicholas Goldsmith	from May 2023
Andrew Kemp	until May 2023
Clemmie Leyland	(Treasurer)
Vivienne McKay	
Paul Misso	from May 2023 until Jan 2024
Amy Morrell	
Georgina Obeng	
Aiko Somers-Harris	
Felicity Stimpson	
Matthew Suter	until May 2023
Heather Wyborn	(Secretary) from May 2023

Co-opted members:

Michael Jackson	until May 2023
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Approved by the PCC on 21 March 2024 and signed on their behalf

Reverend Dr Dominic Keech



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2a	95,397		16,364		111,761	102,596
Other trading activities	2b	33,075				33,075	26,009
Investments	2c	2,831	4,354			7,185	1,834
Other income	2d	234		3,704		3,938	238
Total income and endowments		131,537	4,354	20,068		155,959	130,677
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3a	5,726		75		5,801	3,722
Charitable activities	3b	115,566	4,879	13,511		133,956	114,449
Other expenditure	3c	441				441	208
Total expenditure		121,733	4,879	13,586		140,198	118,379
Net income/(net expenditure)		9,804	(525)	6,482		15,761	12,298
Transfers between funds	5	(9,800)	9,800	-		-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of:							
Investment assets	6a				461	461	(880)
Net movement in funds		4	9,275	6,482	461	16,222	11,418
Total funds brought forward		19,901	117,645	24,747	6,117	168,410	156,992
Total funds carried forward		19,905	126,920	31,229	6,578	184,632	168,410

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6a	6,578	6,117
Tangible fixed assets	6b	1,362	2,322
Total fixed assets		<u>7,940</u>	<u>8,439</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	5,454	4,517
Short term deposits with Central Board of Finance		159,103	152,103
Bank and cash in hand		23,844	12,233
		<u>188,401</u>	<u>168,853</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	9	11,709	8,882
Net current assets		176,692	159,971
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>184,632</u>	<u>168,410</u>
Funds			
Endowment funds	10	6,578	6,117
Restricted funds	10	31,229	24,747
Designated Funds	10	126,920	117,645
Unrestricted funds	10	19,905	19,901
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>184,632</u>	<u>168,410</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21 March 2024 and signed on its behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech
Chairman

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

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

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when due.

Income tax recoverable is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Other trading activities

Income from trading is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Charitable activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the commitment made by the PCC to Brighton Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected lives. The rate applicable is 25% (straight line).

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
a Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving - standing orders	58,577				58,577	51,274
Planned giving - weekly envelopes	5,257				5,257	3,602
Cash collections at all services	4,565				4,565	3,312
One off donations and appeals	10,219		6,653		16,872	22,843
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	16,779				16,779	17,232
Legacies					-	-
Grants			9,711		9,711	4,333
	<u>95,397</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,364</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,761</u>	<u>102,596</u>
b Income from other trading activities						
Coffee and tea	854				854	738
Social events	498				498	472
Fund raising	6,047				6,047	1,192
Music recitals	8,901				8,901	6,749
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	1,178				1,178	1,601
Sale cards/books & activities	403				403	177
Church hire	15,194				15,194	15,080
	<u>33,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,075</u>	<u>26,009</u>
c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	2,831	4,354			7,185	1,834
	<u>2,831</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,185</u>	<u>1,834</u>
d Other income						
Insurance claims			3,704		3,704	-
Other income	234				234	238
	<u>234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,938</u>	<u>238</u>
Total income	<u>131,537</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>20,068</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>155,959</u>	<u>130,677</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
a Expenditure on raising funds						
Social functions	681		75		756	830
Events	957				957	199
Music recitals	3,306				3,306	2,027
Direct costs re church hires	534				534	470
Online giving charges	167				167	125
Stewardship costs	81				81	71
	<u>5,726</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,801</u>	<u>3,722</u>
b Expenditure on charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,772				4,772	4,160
Diocesan parish share	68,000				68,000	61,000
Salaries and wages:						
Organist	5,520				5,520	4,846
Parish Administrator	6,044		5,000		11,044	9,365
Ministry costs:						
Clergy costs - vicar	4,558				4,558	5,908
Clergy costs - curate	1,405				1,405	(319)
Clergy costs - visiting clergy	88				88	-
Mission and evangelism costs:						
Children's work	62		247		309	300
Church insurance	5,410				5,410	4,471
Church running expenses	2,914		68		2,982	3,451
Repairs and maintenance	5,743	3,708	710		10,161	7,812
Liturgical supplies	2,355		202		2,557	1,960
Flowers			1,663		1,663	1,774
Music/Choir			273		273	388
Printing and photocopying	794	960			1,754	1,691
Postage and telephone	735				735	652
Stationery	947				947	775
Sundry	351		21		372	60
Advertising					-	244
Electricity	1,755				1,755	1,470
Gas	3,863				3,863	3,327
Devotional cards and books					-	365
Major fabric works	250	211	5,327		5,788	749
	<u>115,566</u>	<u>4,879</u>	<u>13,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>133,956</u>	<u>114,449</u>
c Other expenditure						
Coffee and tea	441				441	208
	<u>441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>208</u>
Total expenditure	<u>121,733</u>	<u>4,879</u>	<u>13,586</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140,198</u>	<u>118,379</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
4 Staff costs						
a Remuneration - wages and salaries	11,564	-	5,000	-	16,564	14,211

During the year the PCC employed an organist and an administrator on a part time basis. Occasional organists were engaged on a self-employed basis.

- b Payments to PCC members
There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected with them.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2023 surplus to parish share fund	£4,650
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2023 surplus to fabric fund	£4,650
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2023 surplus to vicarage redecoration fund	£500
Between restricted and restricted	Transfer altar fund to replacment grand piano fund	£12,500

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
6 Fixed Assets						
a Investments						
Market value 1 January	-	-	-	6,117	6,117	6,997
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation	-	-	-	461	461	(880)
Market value 31 December	-	-	-	6,578	6,578	6,117

b Tangible fixed assets

	Grand Piano £	Photo- copier £	Grand Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2023	4,500	4,802	9,302
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	4,500	4,802	9,302
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	4,499	2,481	6,980
Charge for year	-	960	960
At 31 December 2023	4,499	3,441	7,940
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2023	1	1,361	1,362
At 31 December 2022	1	2,321	2,322

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
7 Analysis of net assets by fund						
Investment fixed assets				6,578	6,578	6,117
Tangible fixed assets	1	1,361			1,362	2,322
Current assets	28,786	125,559	31,229		185,574	168,853
Current liabilities	(8,882)				(8,882)	(8,882)
	19,905	126,920	31,229	6,578	184,632	168,410
8 Debtors						
Income tax recoverable	5,297				5,297	4,316
Accrued income					-	107
Sundry debtors	157				157	94
	5,454	-	-	-	5,454	4,517
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
Church hire deposits	200				200	400
Charitable giving	4,770				4,770	4,173
Parish retreat deposits	2,628				2,628	-
Utilities	783				783	897
Deferred income	643				643	1,743
Accruals	1,994				1,994	1,172
Sundry creditors	691				691	497
	11,709	-	-	-	11,709	8,882

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains and (losses) £	Transfers £	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds						
General fund	19,901	131,537	121,733		(9,800)	19,905
	19,901	131,537	121,733	-	(9,800)	19,905
Designated Funds						
Altar	6,171		211			5,960
Children's ministry	415					415
Diocesan parish share	5,000				4,650	9,650
Fabric	6,026		3,708		4,650	6,968
Hardship	598					598
Major project	95,216	4,354				99,570
Outreach	522					522
Photocopier	2,321		960			1,361
Vicarage re-decoration	1,376				500	1,876
	117,645	4,354	4,879	-	9,800	126,920
Restricted Funds						
Administration	-	5,000	5,000			-
Altar	12,500				(12,500)	-
Boiler	3,580					3,580
Choral Foundation	1,507		273			1,234
Churchyard trees (UTCF)	-	3,361	1,623			1,738
Curate support	715					715
Fabric	531	4,704	3,894			1,341
Flower	1,095	1,653	1,663			1,085
Homeless outreach	1,380					1,380
Liturgical	202		202			-
Maintenance of the grand piano	608		520			88
Organ	360					360
Outreach	1,185	350	374			1,161
Replacement grand piano	-	5,000			12,500	17,500
St Paul's CE School	464		37			427
Vicar's discretionary	70					70
Youth work	550					550
	24,747	20,068	13,586	-	-	31,229
Endowment Funds						
Hanbury Trust	2,976			166		3,142
Wagner Fund	3,141			295		3,436
	6,117	-	-	461	-	6,578
Total funds	168,410	155,959	140,198	461	-	184,632

Unrestricted fund - Assets held by the PCC for carrying out its general activities.

Designated funds - Funds the PCC has set aside for specific purposes falling within its normal activities.

Restricted funds - See breakdown on next page.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Statement of funds (continued)

Administration - Grant received from The Reverend Frederick W. Roberston trust to pay towards the parish administrator's salary.

Altar - Donation received in 2022 towards cost of new nave altar (or other capital project at discretion of Vicar).

Boiler - Donations received during 2021 for a replacement gas boiler and ongoing major repairs to both boilers.

Churchyard new trees - grants received from Forestry Commission (as part of UTCF project) and Friends of St Nicholas to planting new trees in the churchyard

Choral Foundation - Monies received in November 2018 from the St Nicholas Choral Foundation. At the end of 5 years any unspent monies in this fund become unrestricted. The fund can be used:

* To advance the education of the public in the arts and particular the art of music with a special regard to choral music.

* To further the education of young people aged 7-18 by providing grants and scholarships relating to musical education.

* To pay for general St Nicholas, Brighton choir expenditure.

Curate support - Monies transferred from Affirming Catholicism in 2018 on the provision that they are used to support the curate - current or future.

Fabric - Donations, grants and fundraising events for substantial repair of the church building and associated fabric.

Flower - Donations received for purchase of flowers.

Homeless outreach - Donations received to pay towards running costs of the night shelter, Saturday welcome café or other project.

Liturgical - Donation received in 2022 towards 2023 costs

Maintenance of the grand piano - The amounts raised in this fund were originally for the purchase of a new grand piano. However, under a Charity Commission Scheme dated 21 October 2019 the monies can now be spent on the maintenance of a grand piano.

Organ - Donations and fundraising events for purchase and maintenance of new Eminent organ.

Outreach - Donation for any community outreach project.

Replacement grand piano - donation received in 2023.

St Paul's CE School - The source of this fund is unknown.

Vicar's discretionary - Donation received In 2022.

Youth work - Fundraising event to support youth residential events plus sale of youth equipment.

Hanbury Trust - Income paid direct to the Diocese. The source of this fund was Miss Leslie Hanbury.

Wagner Fund - Income paid direct to the Diocese and goes towards Incumbent's stipend. The source of this fund is unknown.

11 Related charity

The Friends of St Nicholas Church (Charity Commission registered number 1046054) is a connected charity. The funds of this charity are not incorporated in these accounts.

Independent examiner’s report to the PCC of St Nicholas of Myra Brighton

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Nicholas of Myra Church Brighton on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 8 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The PCC members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Charities Act”) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

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

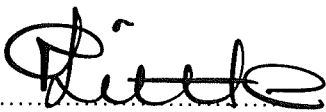
Basis of independent examiner’s report

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

Independent examiner’s statement

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

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

Signed.....

1 May 2024

Tania Little
1 Primrose Close
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 6US

Accounts

The Parish of Brighton St Nicholas of Myra

Registered Charity No. 1131831

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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St Nicholas Church, Church Street, Brighton BN1 3LJ

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, St Nicholas' Vicarage, 2 Windlesham Road, Brighton BN1 3AG

Independent Examiner: Mrs Tania Little, 1 Primrose Close, Littlehampton BN17 6US

Bankers: The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmesdale WN8 6WT

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas

Annual Report for 2022

Aim and Purposes

The Parish Church of St Nicholas of Myra, Brighton, exists to extend the mission of Christ's Church within its parish and city, by:

- Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in words of witness and acts of service
- Ministering the Word and Sacraments for the whole people of God
- Teaching the Christian faith to all who wish to follow the Way of Christ
- Ministering to those in need of healing, counsel and reconciliation; preparing couples for marriage, and caring for the dead and the bereaved
- Deepening the discipleship, prayer and fellowship of the congregation of St Nicholas' church
- Working with others to serve the vulnerable, and establish a just society
- Opening the church as a place of peace and prayer for all
- Offering the church as a space for the city's cultural, social and civic life

(PCC Mission Action Plan 2022)

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - more effectively; and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral and spiritual care, and moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian faith and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Mission and outreach to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and prayer

After the disruptions caused by the Covid pandemic, 2022 saw the parish church return to a more stable rhythm of prayer and worship. The Eucharist was said or sung on all Sundays and feast days, in accordance with Canon; the daily Eucharist proved to be more than 'sustainable'; Morning and Evening Prayer have been offered, and the occasional offices (though few) have also been celebrated. The re-establishment of a rich pattern of liturgical prayer has seen a gradual increase in those attending divine service through the course of the year, including both post-pandemic returnees, and new worshippers.

Accompanying the in-person Parish Eucharist congregation, a faithful group of Zoom worshippers continued to join in prayer from home throughout the year. At the end of 2022, attendance at the 10.30am Parish Eucharist fluctuated between 60 and 80 people, including up to ten children. The 8.00am Sunday celebration has proved particularly stable and robust, and at the end of 2022 was regularly attended by 12-20 people.

Holy Week and Easter were celebrated with the customary rites. Easter attendance at both the Vigil and the daytime Eucharist was 198, of whom 155 received Holy Communion. Christmas saw exceptional numbers of worshippers return to church: attendance at Christmas, including the Crib and Carol Service, and the Night-time and Daytime Eucharist, totalled 668; at the two celebrations of the Eucharist 128 people received Holy Communion.

3 children received Holy Baptism at St Nicholas', and 9 children from the St Paul's School were prepared for, and admitted, to their First Holy Communion. Two adults were confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes at St Andrew's church, Hove. One couple was joined in Holy Matrimony.

St Nicholas' continued its tradition of hosting civic acts of worship, including a Carol Service on the first Sunday of Advent sung by Brighton Chamber choir, in the presence of the city's Mayor and civic guests. A civic Service of Thanksgiving for the Platinum Jubilee of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was celebrated in June, in the presence of the Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex. The preacher was the Archdeacon of Brighton and Lewes, Ven Martin Lloyd Williams. The Patronal Festival was celebrated on the second Sunday of Advent, with a homily given by Revd Canon Rebecca Swyer, Diocesan Director of Apostolic Life.

Opportunities for prayer, worship and fellowship outside of the liturgy were re-established, including the offering of four Lent courses (one on Zoom) and two Advent courses (one on Zoom). A regular Zoom fellowship group met each week throughout the year, attracting up to a dozen participants depending on the course of study or topic of discussion.

There were 134 persons on the church electoral roll, of whom 27 live within the boundary of our small parish. For the annual return, average Sunday attendance was calculated as 77, including 3 children; the worshipping community, broadly considered, included 139 people.

In preparation for the winter energy price rises of 2022, the PCC committed to opening the church frequently during the week, to facilitate both private prayer and reflection, and to provide a 'warm space' in which hospitality could be offered and received. At the end of 2022, the church was open for this purpose for 14 hours per week, in addition to its existing open times for the Eucharist and weekly recital.

Deanery Synod

Four members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod, one of whom is the Synod Lay Chair; this provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church. As invited by the diocese, the PCC shared its springtime Mission Action Plan revision with the officers of the Deanery Synod, in order to facilitate the drafting of the Deanery MAP. Discussion about St Nicholas' contribution to the Deanery MAP implementation continued at the end of 2022.

The Church and grounds

Maintenance of the fabric of our Grade 2* building continued throughout 2022. The boiler in the community room was repaired; the nave floor has continued to be regularly maintained to alleviate wear and tear; external paintwork was renewed following vandalism, and diagnostic work preliminary to the reconditioning of the tower fleche was undertaken. Following a break-in in the autumn, a panel of one of the Lady Chapel windows was removed for repair.

The closed churchyard surrounding the church is maintained by Brighton and Hove City Council, and the PCC works closely in partnership with the City Council and members of the local community to contribute constructively to discussions about parks and open spaces in Brighton and Hove more generally.

In late 2022, the PCC Green Spaces Coordinator made a successful bid to the Forestry Commission Urban Tree Challenge Fund for the planting of 24 trees in the churchyards. This is due to be implemented in spring 2023, with the PCC acting as the partner of Brighton and Hove City Council for the delivery of the project.

During 2022 members of the Gardening Group continued their work in the Churchyard, the Rest Garden and the children's playground, contributing to their safety and beauty, as important spaces for rest and recreation in the local community.

Evangelisation and community engagement

The relationship with the parish school 'St Paul's C E School' has continued to be close. The parish priest is ex-officio a Foundation Governor, and was also Co-Chair from September 2021. Other members of St Nicholas' have sat on the governing body: Angie Fantis (Foundation Governor from January 2019, also Co-Chair from September 2021), Samuel Damalie (Foundation Governor from January 2021) and Revd Jessica Reid (Foundation Governor until February 2022).

The parish priest continued to offer regular acts of collective worship in school, sharing this responsibility with the clergy of the parish of St Paul.

In 2022, the PCC maintained its commitment to charitable giving. Charities proposed and accepted by the congregation and PCC were: Clocktower Sanctuary, Chichester

Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, Emmaus, and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). Each charity is prayed for at the Parish Eucharist over the course of the year.

A Gender, Sexuality and Faith group, which formerly met at St Nicholas' on the last Tuesday of each month, continued to meet on a more occasional basis through the year.

During July and August, the pop-up Café trialled in 2021 returned to the parish church, offering affordable lunches and teas for members of the local community in the church building and outside in the churchyard.

Throughout the year, the weekly Wednesday recitals have continued to flourish, attracting talented performers from across the country, and from as far afield as Milan. Audience numbers have remained strong throughout 2022, in spite of the re-establishment of concert series in other locations of the city after the pandemic. The recitals remain a core element of St Nicholas' community outreach, providing high-quality music, homemade refreshments and hospitality, for a voluntary donation.

The multi-purpose use of the church by groups and individuals fully returned to pre-pandemic levels through the course of 2022. In addition to regular weekday hires, the church hosted a wide range of seasonal and occasional hires, giving space for variety of community and cultural events. The income generated by the use of the building by hirers is an essential element in the sustainability of the parish church in the medium to long term and is a valued part of our offering to the city and neighbourhood.

During the Fringe Festival a highly successful series of historical tours of the church was offered by a member of St Nicholas' congregation, attracting both old and new visitors keen to learn about the long history of the church and its many personalities.

As part of the Open Church project detailed above, a weekly Needlework group run by a member of the congregation and open to all was established in winter 2022, attracting sewing enthusiasts from across the city.

In 2022, the city council continued to develop plans to make the green spaces around the church more accessible and safe, not least through the potential provision of external lighting of the building, using Section 106 monies. The PCC remained engaged as a key partner in these conversations.

Pastoral care

The work of the Pastoral Visiting team has remained a vital, though often unseen, element of St Nicholas' common life and flourishing throughout the year. The group of visitors, led by the Authorised Lay Minister, visits and keeps in touch with the sick, housebound and isolated; those who are Lay Ministers of Communion also take the Eucharist to those who wish to receive it at home. Through the course of 2022 this team has grown in both number and commitment, as pandemic restrictions have given way to more normal social and pastoral interaction.

Financial review

The total receipts on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds were £111,233, £522 and £18,922 respectively. A detailed breakdown of these receipts is included in the financial statements.

Unrestricted income from donations decreased by £6,561 to £83,152 (representing 74.8% of the total unrestricted income). Unrestricted income from trading activities increased by £12,365 (90.6%) to £26,009.

We are very grateful for the grant we received from The Robertson Hall trust (£4,333) for our administrator.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £61,000 paid as parish share towards our diocesan parish ministry costs. These costs include clergy stipend and pension, housing, training, ministry support, parish support and national church. For 2023 the diocesan parish ministry costs increase by 2.4% to £78,795. The PCC has decided to offer £65,000 (an increase of 6.6%) towards those costs.

Charitable donations of £4,160 (representing 5% of unrestricted donor income) were made directly by the PCC. In addition to that sum £798 was given indirectly through collections at services and sundry donations.

The net result for the year was a breakeven on unrestricted funds and an excess of receipts over payments of £1,426 and £10,872 on designated and restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is that the unrestricted General Fund should be maintained at a minimum level of one month's expenditure and up to a maximum of three months (excluding exceptional items). The PCC considers this sufficient to finance working capital and committed staff costs and provide for emergencies. As at the 31st December 2022 the General fund value was £19,901 representing 1.8 months of budgeted expenditure in 2023.

Ministry Team, employees and volunteers

The Revd Dr Dominic Keech remains Vicar of the parish. Our Assistant Clergy, Fr Anthony Ball, Fr Chris McDermott and Fr Robin Protheroe, have continued to support the life of the parish throughout the year; their ministry is warmly appreciated and valued by the whole congregation. In January we bade a very fond farewell to Revd Jessica Reid, on the completion of her curacy, and wished her well for the beginning of her first Incumbency at Fishbourne and Apuldram.

Our churchwardens Heather Wyborn (reelected May 2022) and Nigel Nash (reelected May 2022) have worked tirelessly on our behalf to maintain the good order of the church building, support our pastoral and common life, and provide wise leadership on behalf of the laity and in close partnership with the Incumbent. They have been ably assisted by Mike Jackson in his capacity as Treasurer, who has helped us to prepare and understand the church's accounts and its finances; and all the members of the PCC, who have made a valuable contribution to our mission and ministry through their

careful discernment, deliberation and assistance in delivering our missional priorities through the year.

Two employees of the PCC have continued to provide professional support to the work of St Nicholas': Joanne Morrell, the Parish Administrator; and Andrew Dickson, the Organist and Director of Music. They have continued their widely appreciated work with diligence, professionalism, and commitment to the flourishing of St Nicholas' throughout 2022.

Our diverse team of volunteers have persisted in their commitment to St Nicholas' throughout 2022, responding generously to the changing needs of the church as the year has progressed. We wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our common life and ministry throughout the course of 2022. The willingness of many people to give time and skills to the parish church has enabled our community to respond creatively and hopefully to this time of pandemic.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, churchwardens), members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of gender, skills and experience where possible.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met seven times during the year, with an average attendance of 80%. The work of the PCC is assisted by its Standing Committee. During the year Council has principally been occupied in returning the parish church to vigour, following the end of the Covid 19 pandemic. It has also considered issues relating to safeguarding, health and safety, finance, maintaining the fabric of the building, partnership with the city council to develop the green spaces.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Nash, who advises the PCC on matters of compliance and good practice in all areas relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. He assists the PCC in ensuring that officers of the church and volunteers are appropriately monitored through Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and that they complete relevant safeguarding training. The PCC has received and approved the safeguarding policies and procedures recommended by the diocese during 2022 and keeps this important area under continuous review.

Administrative information

St Nicholas' Church is situated in the centre of Brighton. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton, BN1 3LJ. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1131831).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2022 until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent:	Revd Dr Dominic Keech	(Chair)
Assistant Curate:	Revd Jessica Reid	until January 2022
Churchwardens:	Nigel Nash Heather Wyborn	
Deanery Synod:	Nigel Nash Louise Roddon Veronica Thomason	
Diocesan Synod:	Martin Auton Lloyd	

Elected members:

Josephine Baker	
Sharon Baxter	until May 2022
John Hodges	until May 2022
Andrew Kemp	
Clemmie Leyland	
Vivienne McKay	from May 2022
Amy Morrell	
Georgina Obeng	from May 2022
Carole Potter	until May 2022
Miranda Sinyard	until May 2022
Aiko Somers-Harris	from May 2022
Felicity Stimpson	from May 2022
Matthew Suter	

Co-opted members:

Michael Fisher	until May 2022
Michael Jackson	(Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 23 March 2023 and signed on their behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2a	83,152	522	18,922		102,596	106,267
Other trading activities	2b	26,009				26,009	13,644
Investments	2c	1,834				1,834	160
Other income	2d	238				238	496
Total income and endowments		111,233	522	18,922		130,677	120,567
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3a	3,670		52		3,722	1,953
Charitable activities	3b	103,355	3,096	7,998		114,449	111,482
Other expenditure	3c	208				208	81
Total expenditure		107,233	3,096	8,050		118,379	113,516
Net income/(net expenditure)		4,000	(2,574)	10,872		12,298	7,051
Transfers between funds	5	(4,000)	4,000			-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of:							
Investment assets	6a				(880)	(880)	201
Net movement in funds		-	1,426	10,872	(880)	11,418	7,252
Total funds brought forward		19,901	116,219	13,875	6,997	156,992	149,740
Total funds carried forward		19,901	117,645	24,747	6,117	168,410	156,992

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6a	6,117	6,997
Tangible fixed assets	6b	2,322	3,283
Total fixed assets		<u>8,439</u>	<u>10,280</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	4,517	4,898
Short term deposits with Central Board of Finance		152,103	122,103
Bank and cash in hand		<u>12,233</u>	<u>28,328</u>
		168,853	155,329
Current Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	9	<u>8,882</u>	<u>8,617</u>
Net current assets		159,971	146,712
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>168,410</u>	<u>156,992</u>
Funds			
Endowment funds	10	6,117	6,997
Restricted funds	10	24,747	13,875
Designated Funds	10	117,645	116,219
Unrestricted funds	10	19,901	19,901
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>168,410</u>	<u>156,992</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 March 2023 and signed on its behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech
Chairman

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

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

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when due.

Income tax recoverable is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Other trading activities

Income from trading is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Charitable activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the commitment made by the PCC to Brighton Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected lives. The rate applicable is 25% (straight line).

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
a Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving - standing orders	51,274				51,274	56,666
Planned giving - weekly envelopes	3,602				3,602	3,527
Cash collections at all services	3,312				3,312	2,962
One off donations and appeals	10,232	522	12,089		22,843	19,353
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	14,732		2,500		17,232	17,470
Legacies					-	1,000
Other grants			4,333		4,333	5,289
	83,152	522	18,922	-	102,596	106,267
b Income from other trading activities						
Coffee and tea	738				738	101
Social events	472				472	130
Fund raising	1,192				1,192	419
Music recitals	6,749				6,749	4,429
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	1,601				1,601	1,173
Sale cards/books & activities	177				177	42
Church hire	15,080				15,080	7,350
	26,009	-	-	-	26,009	13,644
c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	1,834				1,834	160
	1,834	-	-	-	1,834	160
d Other income						
Other income	238				238	496
	238	-	-	-	238	496
Total income	111,233	522	18,922	-	130,677	120,567

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
a Expenditure on raising funds						
Social functions	778		52		830	119
Events	199				199	233
Music recitals	2,027				2,027	957
Direct costs re church hires	470				470	304
Online giving charges	125				125	183
Stewardship costs	71				71	157
	3,670	-	52	-	3,722	1,953
b Expenditure on charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,160				4,160	4,420
Diocesan parish share	61,000				61,000	57,000
Salaries and wages:						
Organist	4,846				4,846	5,230
Parish Administrator	5,032		4,333		9,365	7,776
Ministry costs:						
Clergy costs - vicar	4,784	1,124			5,908	4,147
Clergy costs - curate	(319)				(319)	1,644
Mission and evangelism costs:						
Junior church		122	178		300	252
Church insurance	4,471				4,471	4,351
Church running expenses	3,451				3,451	2,289
Repairs and maintenance	6,632		1,180		7,812	5,370
Liturgical supplies	1,820	140			1,960	1,876
Flowers			1,774		1,774	1,630
Music/Choir			388		388	185
Printing and photocopying	730	961			1,691	1,394
Postage and telephone	652				652	858
Stationery	775				775	491
Sundry	60				60	108
Advertising	244				244	100
Electricity	1,470				1,470	1,254
Gas	3,327				3,327	3,487
Devotional cards and books	220		145		365	-
Major fabric works		749			749	7,620
	103,355	3,096	7,998	-	114,449	111,482
c Other expenditure						
Coffee and tea	208				208	81
	208	-	-	-	208	81
Total expenditure	107,233	3,096	8,050	-	118,379	113,516

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
4 Staff costs						
a Remuneration - wages and salaries	9,878	-	4,333	-	14,211	13,006

During the year the PCC employed an organist and an administrator on a part time basis. Occasional organists were engaged on a self-employed basis.

- b Payments to PCC members
There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected with them.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2022 surplus to parish share fund	£2,000
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2022 surplus to fabric fund	£2,000

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
6 Fixed Assets						
a Investments						
Market value 1 January	-	-	-	6,997	6,997	6,796
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation	-	-	-	(880)	(880)	201
Market value 31 December	-	-	-	6,117	6,117	6,997

b Tangible fixed assets

	Grand Piano £	Photo- copier £	Grand Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2022	4,500	4,802	9,302
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	4,500	4,802	9,302
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2022	4,499	1,520	6,019
Charge for year	-	961	961
At 31 December 2022	4,499	2,481	6,980
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2022	1	2,321	2,322
At 31 December 2021	1	3,282	3,283

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £
7 Analysis of net assets by fund						
Investment fixed assets				6,117	6,117	6,997
Tangible fixed assets	1	2,321			2,322	3,283
Current assets	28,782	115,324	24,747		168,853	155,329
Current liabilities	(8,882)				(8,882)	(8,617)
	19,901	117,645	24,747	6,117	168,410	156,992
8 Debtors						
Income tax recoverable	4,316				4,316	4,804
Accrued income	107				107	-
Sundry debtors	94				94	94
	4,517	-	-	-	4,517	4,898
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
Church hire deposits	400				400	600
Charitable giving	4,173				4,173	4,438
Utilities	897				897	594
Deferred income	1,743				1,743	643
Accruals	1,172				1,172	1,636
Sundry creditors	497				497	706
	8,882	-	-	-	8,882	8,617

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains and (losses) £	Transfers £	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds						
General fund	19,901	111,233	107,233		(4,000)	19,901
	19,901	111,233	107,233	-	(4,000)	19,901
Designated Funds						
Altar	6,919		748			6,171
Children's ministry	537		122			415
Diocesan parish share	3,000				2,000	5,000
Fabric	4,026				2,000	6,026
Hardship	598					598
Major project	95,216					95,216
Outreach	-	522				522
Photocopier	3,282		961			2,321
Servers' robes	141		141			-
Vicarage re-decoration	2,500		1,124			1,376
	116,219	522	3,096	-	4,000	117,645
Restricted Funds						
Administration	-	4,333	4,333			-
Altar	-	12,500				12,500
Boiler	4,260	100	780			3,580
Choral Foundation	1,895		388			1,507
Curate support	715					715
Fabric	531					531
Flower	1,312	1,557	1,774			1,095
Homeless outreach	1,380					1,380
Liturgical	-	202				202
Maintenance of the grand piano	1,008		400			608
Organ	360					360
Outreach	1,170	160	145			1,185
St Paul's CE School	694		230			464
Vicar's discretionary	-	70				70
Youth work	550					550
	13,875	18,922	8,050	-	-	24,747
Endowment Funds						
Hanbury Trust	3,438			(462)		2,976
Wagner Fund	3,559			(418)		3,141
	6,997	-	-	(880)	-	6,117
Total funds	156,992	130,677	118,379	(880)	-	168,410

Unrestricted fund - Assets held by the PCC for carrying out it's general activities.

Designated funds - Funds the PCC has set aside for specific purposes falling within it's normal activities.

Restricted funds - See breakdown on next page.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Statement of funds (continued)

Administration - Grant received from The Reverend Frederick W. Roberston trust to pay towards the parish administrator's salary.

Altar - Donation received in 2022 towards cost of new nave altar.

Boiler - Donations received during 2021 for a replacement gas boiler and ongoing major repairs to both boilers.

Choral Foundation - Monies received in November 2018 from the St Nicholas Choral Foundation. At the end of 5 years any unspent monies in this fund become unrestricted. The fund can be used:

* To advance the education of the public in the arts and particular the art of music with a special regard to choral music.

* To further the education of young people aged 7-18 by providing grants and scholarships relating to musical education.

* To pay for general St Nicholas, Brighton choir expenditure.

Curate support - Monies transferred from Affirming Catholicism in 2018 on the provision that they are used to support the curate - current or future.

Fabric - Donations, grants and fundraising events for substantial repair of the church building and associated fabric.

Flower - Donations received for purchase of flowers.

Homeless outreach - Donations received to pay towards running costs of the night shelter, Saturday welcome café or other project.

Liturgical - Donation received in 2022 towards 2023 costs

Maintenance of the grand piano - The amounts raised in this fund were originally for the purchase of a new grand piano. However, under a Charity Commission Scheme dated 21 October 2019 the monies can now be spent on the maintenance of a grand piano.

Organ - Donations and fundraising events for purchase and maintenance of new Eminent organ.

Outreach - Donation for any community outreach project.

St Paul's CE School - The source of this fund is unknown.

Vicar's discretionary - Donation received In 2022

Youth work - Fundraising event to support youth residential events plus sale of youth equipment.

Hanbury Trust - Income paid direct to the Diocese. The source of this fund was Miss Leslie Hanbury.

Wagner Fund - Income paid direct to the Diocese and goes towards Incumbent's stipend. The source of this fund is unknown.

11 Related charity

The Friends of St Nicholas Church (Charity Commission registered number 1046054) is a connected charity. The funds of this charity are not incorporated in these accounts.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicholas of Myra Brighton

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Nicholas of Myra Church Brighton on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 8 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

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

It is my responsibility:

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

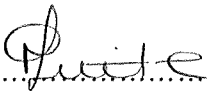
Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Signed..........

21 April 2023

Tania Little
1 Primrose Close
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 6US

Accounts

The Parish of Brighton St Nicholas of Myra

Registered Charity No. 1131831

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton BN1 3LJ

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, St Nicholas' Vicarage, 2 Windlesham Road, Brighton BN1 3AG

Independent Examiner: Mrs Tania Little, 1 Primrose Close, Littlehampton BN17 6US

Bankers: The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmesdale WN8 6WT

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas

Annual Report for 2021

Aim and Purposes

The Parish Church of St Nicholas of Myra, Brighton, exists to extend the mission of Christ's Church within its parish and city, by:

- Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in words of witness and acts of service
- Ministering the Word and Sacraments for the whole people of God
- Teaching the Christian faith to all who wish to follow the Way of Christ
- Ministering to those in need of healing, counsel and reconciliation; preparing couples for marriage, and caring for the dead and the bereaved
- Deepening the discipleship, prayer and fellowship of the congregation of St Nicholas' church
- Working with others to serve the vulnerable, and establish a just society
- Opening the church as a place of peace and prayer for all
- Offering the church as a space for the city's cultural, social and civic life

(PCC Mission Action Plan)

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - more effectively; and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral and spiritual care, and moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian faith and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Mission and outreach to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

Viewed as a whole, 2021 saw a gradual recovery of the worshipping life of the parish church, as pandemic conditions in England improved through the course of the year.

Although the country entered its third national lockdown on 6 January, churches were permitted to remain open for private prayer. A reduced schedule of worship was offered during January, giving people access to Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament on Sunday mornings, followed by Evensong on Zoom. Gathering for public worship was once again possible in February, which saw the reintroduction of one Sunday Eucharist alongside a Saturday Vigil Eucharist; and the reinstatement of the weekday daily mass. By April, the easing of pandemic restrictions permitted a return to St Nicholas' established pattern of two Eucharistic celebrations on Sundays, at 8.00am and 10.30am. From April to July a third celebration specifically for children and families was also offered at 9.00am each Sunday. From the end of July, Junior Church returned to the 10.30am Parish Eucharist, initially meeting in the churchyard and later inside the building. In August, the liturgical schedule of the church was further expanded by opening for silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament each Thursday evening. Zoom Evensong was discontinued at the end of September, but the provision of Zoom access to the 10.30am Sunday Eucharist remained in place.

Throughout the year, and depending on the national pandemic situation, and its accompanying restrictions, attendance at worship has fluctuated considerably. At Easter, across three celebrations of the Eucharist, there were 80 adults and 11 children; of these, 78 were communicants. In Advent, 220 adults and 12 children attended a Civic Advent Carol service. At Christmas celebrations of a crib and carol service, and two celebrations of the Eucharist, 278 adults and 67 children attended worship; 89 people were communicants. Sunday worship in the last quarter of the year saw between 6 and 15 adults attend the 8.00am Eucharist; at the 10.30am Eucharist, between 38 and 75 adults, and between 2 and 13 children, have attended. The number of those attending the Eucharist via Zoom has fluctuated considerably through the course of the year; in the final quarter, around 9 people regularly attended through this medium.

In spite of the ongoing challenges of the year, two children received Holy Baptism at St Nicholas', and eleven children from St Paul's School began their preparation for First Holy Communion in September. The parish clergy officiated at 2 marriages, one funeral and two interments of cremated remains.

In 2021, there were 135 persons on the church electoral roll.

Deanery Synod

Until the resignation of one member in July 2021, four members of the PCC sat on the Deanery Synod; a further member of the PCC was a member of the Synod *ex-officio*. Membership of the Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish, other churches in the city of Brighton and Hove, and the wider life of the diocese.

The Church and Grounds

Maintenance of the fabric of our Grade 2* building continued throughout 2021. Works have included the renewal of external smartwater protection; upgrading the security alarm system; the repair and redecoration of external doors, and sacristy wall; the restoration of the sacristy floor; and the replacement of one of two boilers for the underfloor heating system, following a fundraising appeal.

The closed churchyard surrounding the church is maintained by Brighton and Hove City Council, and the PCC works closely in partnership with the City Council and members of the local community to contribute constructively to discussions about parks and open spaces in Brighton and Hove more generally.

During 2021 members of the local community within the Friends of St Nicholas' gardening group continued their work in the Churchyard, the Rest Garden and the children's playground, to enhance the beauty of these spaces for rest, reflection and recreation.

Evangelisation and Community Engagement

The relationship with the parish school 'St Paul's C E School' has continued to be close. The parish priest is ex-officio a Foundation Governor; in 2021 other members of St Nicholas' have also sat on the governing body: Angela Fantis (Foundation Governor from January 2019), Revd Jessica Reid (Foundation Governor from October 2019 until January 2022); and Samuel Damalie (Foundation Governor from January 2021).

During the year the Vicar and Assistant Curate have led weekly acts of Collective Worship in school, in class bubbles and latterly in Key Stage groups, as regulations have permitted. Marking Harvest Festival in church, children from KS1 attended non-Eucharistic worship; and children in KS2 attended a Harvest Festival School Eucharist. Pandemic conditions made in-church Christmas worship for the school unviable; a combined Nativity play and blessing of Christingles took place in the school playground in its place.

During 2021, the Assistant Curate remained part of the Chaplaincy team which operates at the YMCA Downslink House, on Dyke Road.

In 2021, the PCC maintained its commitment to charitable giving. Charities proposed and accepted by the congregation and PCC were: Clocktower Sanctuary, Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, Emmaus, YMCA Downslink and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). Each charity was prayed for at the Parish Eucharist over the course of the year.

A Gender, Sexuality and Faith group, which formerly met at St Nicholas' on the last Tuesday of each month, continued to meet on a more occasional basis on Zoom; its first in-person meeting took place on 9 December 2021, welcoming John Bell of the Iona Community as a special guest speaker.

In June, the programme of Wednesday recitals resumed at the new time of 2.00pm. The strong recovery of these weekly concerts has been notable, attracting a growing number of attendees from across the city, and a wide variety of performers.

These have ranged from advanced students and young professionals at the start of their careers, to more established artists, based in the UK and abroad.

The second half of 2021 also saw a gradual, and much hoped-for, recovery of church hire bookings and other uses of the building by local community groups. The return of these activities is much to be welcomed, both as part of St Nicholas' wider mission and outreach, and also for their contribution to the financial sustainability of the parish church.

Planning for the future due to increased ministry costs and the removal of subsidies now places a huge financial responsibility on parishes. In spite of the financial impact of the pandemic we were able at the end of 2021 to contribute 76.7% of our Parish Ministry Costs to the diocese, an increase of 14.8% on our initial pledge at the beginning of the year. This increase in our contribution attests to the generosity of all who continue to support the parish church financially, notwithstanding the difficulties of the pandemic.

In 2021, the city council continued to develop plans to make the green spaces around the church more accessible, using Section 106 monies. The PCC remained engaged as a key partner in these conversations.

Pastoral Care

Adapting our ministry of pastoral care remained a core priority in 2021. The lay-led Pastoral Visiting Team have shared responsibility for keeping in touch with members of the congregation by remote means, and in the latter part of the year increasingly by face to face visiting and interaction. This ministry has been integral to the cohesion of St Nicholas' worshipping community as pandemic conditions have improved, and some aspects of normal socialisation have been restored.

Financial Review

The total receipts on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds were £104,019, £1,000 and £15,548 respectively. A detailed breakdown of these receipts is included in the financial statements.

Unrestricted income from donations decreased by £3,203 (3.4%) to £89,719 (representing 86.3% of the total unrestricted income). Unrestricted income from trading activities increased by £9,647 (241.3%) to £13,644.

We are very grateful for the grant we received from The Robertson Hall trust (£4,000) for our administrator. £819 was claimed as a grant under the government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £57,000 paid as parish share towards our diocesan parish ministry costs. These costs include clergy stipend and pension, housing, training, ministry support, parish support and national church. For 2022 the diocesan parish ministry costs increase by 3.6% to £76,967. The PCC has decided to offer £61,000 (an increase of 7%) towards those costs.

Charitable donations of £4,420 (representing 5% of unrestricted donor income) were made directly by the PCC. In addition to that sum £88 was given indirectly through collections at services and sundry donations.

The net result for the year was excess of receipts over payments of £6,948 on unrestricted funds and £2,709 on restricted funds with an excess of payments over receipts of £2,606 on designated funds.

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is that the unrestricted General Fund should be maintained at a minimum level of one month's expenditure and up to a maximum of three months (excluding exceptional items). The PCC considers this sufficient to finance working capital and committed staff costs and provide for emergencies. As at the 31st December 2021 the General Fund value was £19,901 representing 1.9 months of budgeted expenditure in 2022.

Ministry Team, Employees and Volunteers

The Revd Dr Dominic Keech remains Vicar of the parish, and the Assistant Curate was Revd Jessica Reid until January 2022. Our Assistant Clergy, Fr Anthony Ball, Fr Chris McDermott and Fr Robin Protheroe, and our Reader Dominic Desouza-Campbell (until July 2021), have continued to support the ministry of the parish throughout this difficult year.

Our churchwardens Mike Jackson (until May 2021) and Veronica Thomason (until May 2021), and Heather Wyborn (from May 2021) and Nigel Nash (from August 2021), have worked tirelessly on our behalf in challenging circumstances, not least to ensure the safe use of the church building. Mrs Thomason, Mrs Wyborn and Mr Nash have been ably assisted by Mike Jackson in his capacity as Treasurer, who has helped us to prepare and understand the church's accounts and its finances; and all the members of the PCC, who have made a valuable contribution to our mission and ministry.

Two employees of the PCC have continued to provide professional support to the work of St Nicholas', throughout the changing conditions of the pandemic: Joanne Morrell, the Parish Administrator; and Andrew Dickson, the Organist and Director of Music.

Our diverse team of volunteers have persisted in their commitment to St Nicholas' throughout 2021, responding generously to the changing needs of the church as the year has progressed.

We wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our common life and ministry throughout the course of 2021. The willingness of many people to give time and skills to the parish church has enabled our community to respond creatively and hopefully in this challenging period, as we have begun to emerge from the worst conditions of the pandemic.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, curate, churchwardens), members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of gender, skills and experience where possible.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met eight times during the year, with an average attendance of 88.5%. The work of the PCC is assisted by its Standing Committee.

During the year Council has principally been occupied in overseeing St Nicholas' response to the pandemic, and recovering from the destabilisation this has caused. It has also considered issues relating to safeguarding, health and safety, finance, maintaining the fabric of the building, partnership with the city council to develop the green spaces.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Nash, who advises the PCC on matters of compliance and good practice in all areas relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. He assists the PCC in ensuring that officers of the church and volunteers are appropriately monitored through Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and that they complete relevant safeguarding training. The PCC has received and approved the safeguarding policies and procedures recommended by the diocese during 2021 and keeps this important area under continuous review.

Administrative information

St Nicholas' Church is situated in the centre of Brighton. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton, BN1 3LJ.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (registered charity number 1131831).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:

Incumbent:	Revd Dr Dominic Keech	(Chair)
Assistant Curate:	Revd Jessica Reid	until January 2022
Churchwardens:	Nicholas Goldsmith	from May 2021 until July 2021
	Michael Jackson	until May 2021
	Nigel Nash	from August 2021
	Veronica Thomason	until May 2021
	Heather Wyborn	from May 2021
Deanery Synod:	Martin Auton Lloyd	
	Dominic Desouza-Campbell	until July 2021
	Nigel Nash	
	Louise Roddon	
	Veronica Thomason	from May 2021

Elected Members:

Josephine Baker	
Sharon Baxter	
Michael Fisher	until May 2021 (Secretary)
John Hodges	
Andrew Kemp	
Clemmie Leyland	
Amy Morrell	from May 2021
Carole Potter	
Miranda Sinyard	
Matthew Suter	

Co-opted Members:

Michael Fisher	from May 2021 (Secretary)
Michael Jackson	from May 2021 (Treasurer)

Approved by the PCC on 15 March 2022 and signed on their behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2a	89,719	1,000	15,548		106,267	99,975
Other trading activities	2b	13,644				13,644	3,997
Investments	2c	160				160	725
Other income	2d	496				496	104
Total income and endowments		104,019	1,000	15,548		120,567	104,801
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3a	1,928		25		1,953	902
Charitable activities	3b	95,062	3,606	12,814		111,482	119,631
Other expenditure	3c	81				81	74
Total expenditure		97,071	3,606	12,839		113,516	120,607
Net income/(net expenditure)		6,948	(2,606)	2,709		7,051	(15,806)
Transfers between funds	5	(6,500)	6,500			-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of:							
Investment assets	6a				201	201	325
Net movement in funds		448	3,894	2,709	201	7,252	(15,481)
Total funds brought forward		19,453	112,325	11,166	6,796	149,740	165,221
Total funds carried forward		19,901	116,219	13,875	6,997	156,992	149,740

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6a	6,997	6,796
Tangible fixed assets	6b	3,283	4,243
Total fixed assets		<u>10,280</u>	<u>11,039</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	4,898	6,413
Short term deposits with Central Board of Finance		122,103	122,103
Bank and cash in hand		28,328	17,569
		<u>155,329</u>	<u>146,085</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	9	8,617	7,384
Net current assets		146,712	138,701
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>156,992</u>	<u>149,740</u>
Funds			
Endowment funds	10	6,997	6,796
Restricted funds	10	13,875	11,166
Designated Funds	10	116,219	112,325
Unrestricted funds	10	19,901	19,453
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>156,992</u>	<u>149,740</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 15 March 2022 and signed on its behalf



Reverend Dr Dominic Keech
Chairman

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

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

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of receivability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when due.

Income tax recoverable is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Other trading activities

Income from trading is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Charitable activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the commitment made by the PCC to Brighton Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected lives. The rate applicable is 25% (straight line).

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
a Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving - standing orders	56,666				56,666	54,081
Planned giving - weekly envelopes	3,527				3,527	4,712
Cash collections at all services	2,962				2,962	2,364
One off donations and appeals	9,025		10,328		19,353	12,511
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid	16,250		1,220		17,470	16,936
Legacies		1,000			1,000	-
Grants from Friends of St Nicholas					-	1,168
Other grants	1,289		4,000		5,289	8,203
	89,719	1,000	15,548	-	106,267	99,975
b Income from other trading activities						
Coffee and tea	101				101	334
Social events	130				130	-
Fund raising	419				419	40
Music recitals	4,429				4,429	1,080
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	1,173				1,173	462
Sale cards/books & activities	42				42	79
Church hire	7,350				7,350	1,980
Baby café/Nippers toddler group					-	22
	13,644	-	-	-	13,644	3,997
c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	160				160	725
	160	-	-	-	160	725
d Other income						
Other income	496				496	104
	496	-	-	-	496	104
Total income	104,019	1,000	15,548	-	120,567	104,801

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
a Expenditure on raising funds						
Social functions	119				119	-
Events	233				233	-
Music recitals	957				957	525
Direct costs re church hires	304				304	-
Online giving charges	158		25		183	187
Stewardship costs	157				157	190
	<u>1,928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,953</u>	<u>902</u>
b Expenditure on charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,420				4,420	4,500
Welcome café					-	229
Diocesan parish share	57,000				57,000	74,035
Salaries and wages:						
Organist	5,230				5,230	4,265
Parish Administrator	3,249		4,527		7,776	6,996
Ministry costs:						
Clergy costs - vicar	4,147				4,147	4,073
Clergy costs - curate	1,644				1,644	1,873
Mission and evangelism costs:						
Junior church		252			252	82
Church insurance	4,351				4,351	4,344
Church running expenses	2,289				2,289	2,027
Repairs and maintenance	4,370	654	346		5,370	7,142
Liturgical supplies	1,876				1,876	1,278
Flowers			1,630		1,630	522
Music/Choir			185		185	124
Printing and photocopying	434	960			1,394	2,052
Postage and telephone	620		238		858	647
Stationery	491				491	212
Sundry	100		8		108	145
Advertising	100				100	-
Electricity	1,254				1,254	1,105
Gas	3,487				3,487	3,066
Devotional cards and books					-	55
Major fabric works		1,740	5,880		7,620	859
	<u>95,062</u>	<u>3,606</u>	<u>12,814</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,482</u>	<u>119,631</u>
c Other expenditure						
Coffee and tea	81				81	74
	<u>81</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>74</u>
Total expenditure	<u>97,071</u>	<u>3,606</u>	<u>12,839</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>113,516</u>	<u>120,607</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
4 Staff costs						
a Remuneration - wages and salaries	8,479	-	4,527	-	13,006	10,261

During the year the PCC employed an organist and an administrator on a part time basis. Occasional organists were engaged on a self-employed basis.

- b Payments to PCC members
There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected with them.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2021 surplus to vicarage redecoration fund	£500
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2021 surplus to parish share fund	£3,000
Between unrestricted and designated	Transfer part of 2021 surplus to fabric fund	£3,000

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
6 Fixed Assets						
a Investments						
Market value 1 January	-	-	-	6,796	6,796	6,471
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation	-	-	-	201	201	325
Market value 31 December	-	-	-	6,997	6,997	6,796

b Tangible fixed assets

	Grand Piano £	Photo- copier £	Grand Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2021	4,500	4,802	9,302
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 December 2021	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,802</u>	<u>9,302</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	4,499	560	5,059
Charge for year	-	960	960
At 31 December 2021	<u>4,499</u>	<u>1,520</u>	<u>6,019</u>
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2021	<u>1</u>	<u>3,282</u>	<u>3,283</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>1</u>	<u>4,242</u>	<u>4,243</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2021 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £
7 Analysis of net assets by fund						
Investment fixed assets				6,997	6,997	6,796
Tangible fixed assets	1	3,282			3,283	4,243
Current assets	28,517	112,937	13,875		155,329	146,085
Current liabilities	(8,617)				(8,617)	(7,384)
	19,901	116,219	13,875	6,997	156,992	149,740
8 Debtors						
Income tax recoverable	4,804				4,804	5,098
Grants receivable					-	1,315
Sundry debtors	94				94	-
	4,898	-	-	-	4,898	6,413
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
Church hire deposits	600				600	600
Charitable giving	4,438				4,438	4,518
Utilities	594				594	583
Deferred income	643				643	580
Accruals	1,636				1,636	759
Sundry creditors	706				706	344
	8,617	-	-	-	8,617	7,384

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains and (losses) £	Transfers £	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2021 £
Unrestricted Fund						
General fund	19,453	104,019	97,071		(6,500)	19,901
	19,453	104,019	97,071	-	(6,500)	19,901
Designated Funds						
Altar	7,659	1,000	1,740			6,919
Children's ministry	789		252			537
Diocesan parish share	-				3,000	3,000
Fabric	1,680		654		3,000	4,026
Hardship	598					598
Major project	95,216					95,216
Photocopier	4,242		960			3,282
Servers' robes	141					141
Vicarage re-decoration	2,000				500	2,500
	112,325	1,000	3,606	-	6,500	116,219
Restricted Funds						
Administration	527	4,000	4,527			-
Boiler	-	10,165	5,905			4,260
Choral Foundation	2,080		185			1,895
Curate support	715					715
Fabric	527	100	96			531
Flower	1,659	1,283	1,630			1,312
Homeless outreach	1,380					1,380
Maintenance of the grand piano	1,258		250			1,008
Organ	360					360
Outreach	1,416		246			1,170
St Paul's CE School	694					694
Youth work	550					550
	11,166	15,548	12,839	-	-	13,875
Endowment Funds						
Hanbury Trust	3,682			(244)		3,438
Wagner Fund	3,114			445		3,559
	6,796	-	-	201	-	6,997
Total funds	149,740	120,567	113,516	201	-	156,992

Unrestricted fund - Assets held by the PCC for carrying out its general activities.

Designated funds - Funds the PCC has set aside for specific purposes falling within its normal activities.

Administration - Grant received from The Reverend Frederick W. Roberston trust to pay towards the parish administrator's salary.

Boiler - Donations received during 2021 for a replacement gas boiler and ongoing major repairs to both boilers.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Statement of funds (continued)

Choral Foundation - Monies received in November 2018 from the St Nicholas Choral Foundation. At the end of 5 years any unspent monies in this fund become unrestricted. The fund can be used:

* To advance the education of the public in the arts and particular the art of music with a special regard to choral music.

* To further the education of young people aged 7-18 by providing grants and scholarships relating to musical education.

* To pay for general St Nicholas, Brighton choir expenditure.

Curate support - Monies transferred from Affirming Catholicism in 2018 on the provision that they are used to support the curate - current or future.

Fabric - Donations, grants and fundraising events for substantial repair of the church building and associated fabric. Some funds designated for particular use, e.g. defibrillator.

Flower - Donations received for purchase of flowers.

Homeless outreach - Donations received to pay towards running costs of the night shelter, Saturday welcome café or other project.

Maintenance of the grand piano - The amounts raised in this fund were originally for the purchase of a new grand piano. However, under a Charity Commission Scheme dated 21 October 2019 the monies can now be spent on the maintenance of a grand piano.

Organ - Donations and fundraising events for purchase and maintenance of new Eminent organ.

Outreach - Donation for any community outreach project.

St Paul's CE School - The source of this fund is unknown.

Youth work - Fundraising event to support youth residential events plus sale of youth equipment.

Hanbury Trust - Income paid direct to the Diocese. The source of this fund was Miss Leslie Hanbury.

Wagner Fund - Income paid direct to the Diocese and goes towards Incumbent's stipend. The source of this fund is unknown.

11 Related charity

The Friends of St Nicholas Church (Charity Commission registered number 1046054) is a connected charity. The funds of this charity are not incorporated in these accounts.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicholas of Myra Brighton

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Nicholas of Myra Church Brighton on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 set out on pages 8 to 17.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

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

It is my responsibility:

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

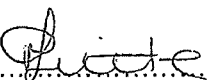
Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Signed 

11 April 2022

Tania Little
1 Primrose Close
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 6US

Accounts

The Parish of Brighton St Nicholas of Myra

Registered Charity No. 1131831

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2020

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St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton BN1 3LJ

Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, St Nicholas' Vicarage, 2 Windlesham Road, Brighton BN1 3AG

Independent Examiner: Mrs Tania Little, 28 Faulkner Gardens, Littlehampton BN17 6GS

Bankers: The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmesdale WN8 6WT

Parochial Church Council of St Nicholas

Annual Report for 2020

Aim and Purposes

The Parish Church of St Nicholas of Myra, Brighton, exists to extend the mission of Christ's Church within its parish and city, by:

- Communicating the good news of Jesus Christ in words of witness and acts of service
- Ministering the Word and Sacraments for the whole people of God
- Teaching the Christian faith to all who wish to follow the Way of Christ
- Ministering to those in need of healing, counsel and reconciliation; preparing couples for marriage, and caring for the dead and the bereaved
- Deepening the discipleship, prayer and fellowship of the congregation of St Nicholas' church
- Working with others to serve the vulnerable, and establish a just society
- Opening the church as a place of peace and prayer for all
- Offering the church as a space for the city's cultural, social and civic life

(PCC Mission Action Plan)

St Nicholas' Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Dr Dominic Keech, in promoting the ecclesiastical parish for the whole mission of the Church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical - more effectively; and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral and spiritual care, and moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian faith and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship, prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
- Mission and outreach to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

The established pattern of liturgical prayer, described in the 2019 report, continued in the parish church until the first lockdown of the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. During this period, devotions were streamed online and the clergy continued to offer the liturgy in church each week, including at Easter. Sunday and weekday celebrations of the Eucharist (in church) and Evensong (in the churchyard) returned in the summer months, alongside online provision for those remaining at home. In the November lockdown public worship was once again legally prohibited, but the church remained open for private prayer twice a week, including Sunday mornings. December saw public worship return, allowing for the liturgical celebration of the Lord's Nativity; in church services ran in parallel with Sunday Evensong celebrated on Zoom. 208 people attended worship in church at Christmas.

The church has been opened intermittently at other times during the year for private prayer, supported by our team of church welcome stewards.

In spite of the challenging conditions of the year, seven children received Holy Baptism at St Nicholas', and nine children from the St Paul's School were admitted to Holy Communion in December. The Bishop of Lewes visited the parish church in the same month, baptising one adult and confirming four. The parish clergy officiated at five funeral services.

There were 135 persons on the church electoral roll. Average Sunday attendance across the year is almost impossible to calculate; the worshipping community, broadly considered, remained stable at around 155 people.

Deanery Synod

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

The Church and Grounds

Maintenance of the fabric of our Grade 2* building continued throughout 2020.. Works to upgrade the kitchen were completed at the beginning of the year.

The closed churchyard surrounding the church is maintained by Brighton and Hove City Council, and the PCC works closely in partnership with the City Council and members of the local community to contribute constructively to discussions about parks and open spaces in Brighton and Hove more generally.

During 2020 members of the community continued their gardening work in the Churchyard, the Rest Garden and the children's playground as far as lockdown regulations permitted.

Evangelisation and Community Engagement

The relationship with the parish school 'St Paul's C E School' has continued to be close. The parish priest is ex-officio a Foundation Governor; in 2020 other members of St Nicholas' have sat on the governing body: Angie Fantis (Foundation Governor from January 2019) and Revd Jessica Reid (Foundation Governor from October 2019).

During the year the Vicar and Assistant Curate have led acts of Collective Worship in school, in class bubbles, as regulations have permitted. All the children from the school attended worship in church, in their classes, before Christmas.

During 2020, the Assistant Curate remained part of the Chaplaincy team which operates at the YMCA Downslink House, on Dyke Road.

In 2020, the PCC maintained its commitment to charitable giving. Charities proposed and accepted by the congregation and PCC were: Clocktower Sanctuary, Chichester Diocesan Association for Family Support Work, Emmaus, YMCA Downslink and United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG). Each charity is prayed for at the Parish Eucharist over the course of the year.

A Gender, Sexuality and Faith group, which formerly met at St Nicholas' on the last Tuesday of each month, continued to meet on a more occasional basis on Zoom.

Two significant outreach projects were unfortunately forced into suspension by the pandemic: our weekly Baby Café, for new parents and their children; and our Welcome Café, offering open hospitality and warm food one Saturday each month. It is hoped that in-person ministries of this nature will resume when the pandemic subsides.

Until March, the lunchtime recitals each Wednesday of the year continued to be popular and attract performers from throughout the UK and further afield. These have ranged from advanced students and young professionals at the start of their careers, to more established artists.

The marked expansion in the use of the building for concerts and events, and by local community groups, first noted in 2019 continued into spring 2020. It is likewise hoped that the multi-purpose use of the space will revive post-pandemic.

Planning for the future due to increased ministry costs and the removal of subsidies now places a huge financial responsibility on parishes. In spite of the financial impact of the pandemic we fulfilled our pledge to pay 100% of our Parish Ministry Costs to the diocese.

In 2020, the city council continued to develop plans to make the green spaces around the church more accessible, using Section 106 monies. The PCC remained engaged as a key partner in these conversations.

Pastoral Care

Adapting our ministry of pastoral care was a core priority in 2020. The existing Pastoral Visiting Team, consisting of laity, the licensed Reader and the clergy, have shared responsibility for keeping in touch with members of the congregation by telephone, by email and by post. This ministry has been integral to the cohesion of St Nicholas' worshipping community in a period of rapid change.

Financial Review

The total receipts on unrestricted, designated and restricted funds were £97,748, £nil and £7,053 respectively. A detailed breakdown of these receipts is included in the financial statements.

Unrestricted income from donations decreased by £1,821 (1.9%) to £92,922 (representing 95.1% of the total unrestricted income). Unrestricted income from trading activities decreased by £21,096 (84.1%) to £3,997.

We are very grateful for the grant we received from The Robertson Hall trust (£4,000) for our administrator. £4,203 was claimed as a grant under the government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £74,035 paid as parish contribution for our diocesan parish ministry costs. These costs include clergy stipend and pension, housing, church insurance, training, ministry support, parish support and national church. For 2021 the diocesan parish ministry costs increase by 0.4% to £74,300. The PCC has decided to offer £46,000 towards those costs though this amount will be reviewed regularly as the year progresses and will hopefully increase.

Charitable donations of £4,500 (representing 5% of unrestricted donor income) were made directly by the PCC. In addition to that sum £105 was given indirectly through collections at funerals and sundry donations.

The net result for the year was excess of payments over receipts of £3,446 on unrestricted funds, £11,889 on designated funds and £471 on restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The PCC's policy is that the unrestricted General Fund should be maintained at a minimum level of one month's expenditure and up to a maximum of three months (excluding exceptional items). The PCC considers this sufficient to finance working capital and committed staff costs and provide for emergencies. As at the 31st December 2020 the General Fund value was £19,453 representing 1.9 months of budgeted expenditure in 2021.

Ministry Team, Employees and Volunteers

The Revd Dr Dominic Keech remains Vicar of the parish, and the Assistant Curate is Revd Jessica Reid. Our Assistant Clergy, Fr Anthony Ball, Fr Chris McDermott and Fr Robin Protheroe, and our Reader Dominic Desouza-Campbell, have continued to support the ministry of the parish throughout this difficult year.

Our churchwardens Stephen Tucker (until June 2020) and Amanda Ogilvie (until October 2020), and Veronica Thomason and Mike Jackson (from October 2020), have worked tirelessly on our behalf in challenging circumstances, not least to ensure the safe use of the church building. They have been ably assisted by Mike Jackson in his capacity as Treasurer, who has helped us to prepare and understand the church's accounts and its finances; and all the members of the PCC, who have made a valuable contribution to our mission and ministry.

Two employees of the PCC have continued to provide professional support to the work of St Nicholas', notwithstanding periods of closure and various kinds of restriction: Joanne Morrell, the Parish Administrator; and Andrew Dickson, the Organist and Director of Music.

Our diverse team of volunteers have persisted in their commitment to St Nicholas' throughout 2020, responding generously to the changing needs of the church as the year has progressed.

We wish to record our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our common life and ministry throughout the course of 2020. The willingness of many people to give time and skills to the parish church has enabled our community to respond creatively and hopefully to this time of pandemic.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, curate, churchwardens), members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of gender, skills and experience where possible.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent.

The full PCC met eight times during the year, with an average attendance of 85%. The work of the PCC is assisted by its Standing Committee.

During the year Council has principally been occupied in overseeing St Nicholas' response to the conditions of the pandemic. It has also considered issues relating to safeguarding, health and safety, finance, maintaining the fabric of the building, partnership with the city council to develop the green spaces.

Safeguarding

The PCC has a Safeguarding Officer, Nigel Nash, who advises the PCC on matters of compliance and good practice in all areas relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. He assists the PCC in ensuring that officers of the church and volunteers are appropriately monitored through Disclosure and Barring Service checks, and that they complete relevant safeguarding training. The PCC has received and approved the safeguarding policies and procedures recommended by the diocese during 2020 and keeps this important area under continuous review.

Administrative information

St Nicholas' Church is situated in the centre of Brighton. It is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Nicholas' Church, Church Street, Brighton, BN1 3LJ.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission (registered charity number 1131831).

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2020 until the date of this report was approved are:

Ex Officio Members:

Incumbent:	Revd Dr Dominic Keech	(Chair)
Assistant Curate:	Revd Jessica Reid	
Churchwardens:	Stephen Tucker	until June 2020
	Amanda Ogilvie	until October 2020
	Michael Jackson	from October 2020
	Veronica Thomason	from October 2020
Deanery Synod:	Martin Auton-Lloyd	
	Dominic Desouza-Campbell	from October 2020
	Amy Morrell	until October 2020
	Nigel Nash	from October 2020
	Jonathan Ockenden	until October 2020
	Louise Roddon	from October 2020

Elected Members:

Mark Alderson	until October 2020
Josephine Baker	from October 2020
Sharon Baxter	
Jenni Davies	deceased June 2020
Hazel Finnis	until October 2020
Michael Fisher	(Secretary)
John Hodges	
Michael Jackson	until October 2020
Andrew Kemp	from October 2020
Clemmie Leyland	from October 2020
Nigel Nash	until October 2020
Carole Potter	
Miranda Sinyard	from October 2020
Matthew Suter	from October 2020

Approved by the PCC on 23 March 2021 and signed on their behalf

Reverend Dr Dominic Keech



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2a	92,922		7,053		99,975	111,751
Other trading activities	2b	3,997				3,997	25,093
Investments	2c	725				725	1,155
Other income	2d	104				104	650
Total income and endowments		97,748		7,053		104,801	138,649
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	3a	898		4		902	3,527
Charitable activities	3b	100,222	11,889	7,520		119,631	131,740
Other expenditure	3c	74				74	515
Total expenditure		101,194	11,889	7,524		120,607	135,782
Net income/(net expenditure)		(3,446)	(11,889)	(471)		(15,806)	2,867
Transfers between funds	5					-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of:							
Investment assets	6a				325	325	537
Net movement in funds		(3,446)	(11,889)	(471)	325	(15,481)	3,404
Total funds brought forward		22,899	124,214	11,637	6,471	165,221	161,817
Total funds carried forward		19,453	112,325	11,166	6,796	149,740	165,221

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6a	6,796	6,471
Tangible fixed assets	6b	4,243	1
Total fixed assets		<u>11,039</u>	<u>6,472</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	8	6,413	6,217
Short term deposits with Central Board of Finance		122,103	151,103
Bank and cash in hand		<u>17,569</u>	<u>13,347</u>
		146,085	170,667
Current Liabilities			
Creditors - amounts falling due in one year	9	<u>7,384</u>	<u>11,918</u>
Net current assets		138,701	158,749
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>149,740</u>	<u>165,221</u>
Funds			
Endowment funds	10	6,796	6,471
Restricted funds	10	11,166	11,637
Designated Funds	10	112,325	124,214
Unrestricted funds	10	19,453	22,899
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>149,740</u>	<u>165,221</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 March 2021 and signed on its behalf

Reverend Dr Dominic Keech
Chairman



The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. Accounting policies

a Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current (2015) Statement Of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

b Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

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

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment.

c Income and endowments

All income and endowments are accounted for without deduction for any costs of recoverability, are recognised when there is evidence of entitlement, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised when due.

Income tax recoverable is recognised when the income to which it is attached is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Other trading activities

Income from trading is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

d Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and accounted for gross.

Charitable activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for on an annual basis, reflecting the commitment made by the PCC to Brighton Deanery. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected but are not included in the financial statements. For other property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected lives. The rate applicable is 25% (straight line).

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

2 Analysis of income and endowments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
a Income from donations and legacies						
Planned giving - standing orders	54,081				54,081	54,697
Planned giving - weekly envelopes	4,712				4,712	5,763
Cash collections at all services	2,364				2,364	5,779
One off donations and appeals	11,981		530		12,511	17,560
Income tax recoverable under Gift Aid	16,936				16,936	19,354
Legacies					-	3,598
Grants from Friends of St Nicholas	1,168				1,168	-
Other grants	1,680		6,523		8,203	5,000
	92,922	-	7,053	-	99,975	111,751
b Income from other trading activities						
Coffee and tea	334				334	1,572
Social events					-	706
Fund raising	40				40	3,576
Music recitals	1,080				1,080	4,337
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	462				462	2,156
Sale cards/books & activities	79				79	207
Church hire	1,980				1,980	12,520
Baby café/Nippers toddler group	22				22	19
	3,997	-		-	3,997	25,093
c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	725				725	1,155
	725	-	-	-	725	1,155
d Other income						
Other income	104				104	650
	104	-	-	-	104	650
Total income	97,748		7,053	-	104,801	138,649

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
a Expenditure on raising funds						
Social functions					-	777
Events					-	575
Music recitals	525				525	1,965
Online giving charges	183		4		187	-
Stewardship costs	190				190	210
	898		4		902	3,527
b Expenditure on charitable activities						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,500				4,500	4,740
Winter night shelter					-	505
Welcome café			229			
Diocesan parish contribution	68,735	5,300			74,035	67,500
Salaries, wages and honoraria:						
Organist	3,821		444		4,265	5,175
Secretarial support		1,000	5,996		6,996	6,960
Ministry costs:						
Clergy costs - vicar	4,073				4,073	4,187
Clergy costs - curate	1,873				1,873	1,615
Lay Reader expenses					-	100
Mission and evangelism costs:						
Junior church	82				82	238
Baby café					-	56
Church insurance	4,344				4,344	4,241
Church running expenses	2,027				2,027	2,426
Repairs and maintenance	4,172	2,820	150		7,142	11,451
Liturgical supplies	1,278				1,278	2,135
Flowers			522		522	1,760
Music/Choir			124		124	243
Printing and photocopying	142	1,910			2,052	5,748
Postage and telephone	647				647	1,021
Stationery	212				212	612
Sundry	145				145	506
Advertising					-	581
Electricity	1,105				1,105	1,533
Gas	3,066				3,066	3,831
Devotional cards and books			55		55	12.00
Major fabric works		859			859	4,564
	100,222	11,889	7,520	-	119,402	131,740
c Other expenditure						
Coffee and tea	74				74	515
	74	-		-	74	515
Total expenditure	101,194	11,889	7,524	-	120,378	135,782

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
4 Staff costs						
a Remuneration - wages and salaries	3,821	-	6,440	-	10,261	12,135

During the year the PCC employed an organist and an administrator on a part time basis. Occasional organists were engaged on a self-employed basis.

- b Payments to PCC members
There were no disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, nor persons closely connected with them.

5 Analysis of transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount
Between designated and designated	Creation of new altar fund from excess in photocopier fund	£7,659

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
6 Fixed Assets						
a Investments						
Market value 1 January	-	-	-	6,471	6,471	5,934
Net gains/(losses) on revaluation		-	-	325	325	537
Market value 31 December	-	-	-	6,796	6,796	6,471

b Tangible fixed assets

	Grand Piano £	Photo- copier £	Grand Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2020	4,500	-	4,500
Additions	-	4,802	4,802
At 31 December 2020	4,500	4,802	9,302
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	4,499	-	4,499
Charge for year	-	560	560
At 31 December 2020	4,499	560	5,059
Net book amounts			
At 31 December 2020	1	4,242	4,243
At 31 December 2019	1	-	1

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2020 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2019 £
7 Analysis of net assets by fund						
Investment fixed assets				6,796	6,796	6,471
Tangible fixed assets	1	4,242			4,243	1
Current assets	26,761	108,083	11,241		146,085	167,800
Current liabilities	(7,309)		(75)		(7,384)	(11,918)
	19,453	112,325	11,166	6,796	149,740	162,354
8 Debtors						
Income tax recoverable	5,098				5,098	5,296
Grants receivable	1,315				1,315	-
Sundry debtors					-	921
	6,413	-	-	-	6,413	6,217
9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year						
Church hire deposits	600				600	400
Charitable giving	4,518				4,518	4,743
Utilities	583				583	1,292
Deferred income	580				580	570
Accruals	759				759	4,138
Sundry creditors	269		75		344	775
	7,309	-	75	-	7,384	11,918

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Other gains and (losses) £	Transfers £	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2020 £
Unrestricted Fund						
General fund	22,899	97,748	101,194			19,453
	<u>22,899</u>	<u>97,748</u>	<u>101,194</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,453</u>
Designated Funds						
Administration	1,000		1,000			-
Altar	-				7,659	7,659
Children's ministry	789					789
Diocesan parish contribution	5,300		5,300			-
Fabric	4,500		2,820			1,680
Hardship	598					598
Major project	95,216					95,216
Photocopier	13,811		1,910		(7,659)	4,242
Servers' robes	1,000		859			141
Vicarage re-decoration	2,000					2,000
	<u>124,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,325</u>
Restricted Funds						
Administration	-	6,523	5,996			527
Choral Foundation	2,648		568			2,080
Curate support	770		55			715
Fabric	525	2				527
Flower	1,823	358	522			1,659
Homeless outreach	1,609		229			1,380
Maintenance of the grand piano	1,408		150			1,258
Organ	360					360
Outreach	1,250	170	4			1,416
St Paul's CE School	694					694
Youth work	550					550
	<u>11,637</u>	<u>7,053</u>	<u>7,524</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,166</u>
Endowment Funds						
Hanbury Trust	3,557			125		3,682
Wagner Fund	2,914			200		3,114
	<u>6,471</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,796</u>
Total funds	<u>165,221</u>	<u>104,801</u>	<u>120,607</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>149,740</u>

Unrestricted fund - Assets held by the PCC for carrying out its general activities.

Designated funds - Funds the PCC has set aside for specific purposes falling within its normal activities.

Administration - Grant received from The Reverend Frederick W. Roberston trust to pay towards the parish administrator's salary.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA, BRIGHTON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

10 Statement of funds (continued)

Choral Foundation - Monies received in November 2018 from the St Nicholas Choral Foundation. At the end of 5 years any unspent monies in this fund become unrestricted. The fund can be used:

* To advance the education of the public in the arts and particular the art of music with a special regard to choral music.

* To further the education of young people aged 7-18 by providing grants and scholarships relating to musical education.

* To pay for general St Nicholas, Brighton choir expenditure.

Curate support - Monies transferred from Affirming Catholicism in 2018 on the provision that they are used to support the curate - current or future.

Fabric - Donations, grants and fundraising events for substantial repair of the church building and associated fabric. Some funds designated for particular use, e.g. defibrillator.

Flower - Donations received for purchase of flowers.

Homeless outreach - Donations received to pay towards running costs of the night shelter, Saturday welcome café or other project.

Maintenance of the grand piano - The amounts raised in this fund were originally for the purchase of a new grand piano. However, under a Charity Commission Scheme dated 21 October 2019 the monies can now be spent on the maintenance of a grand piano.

Organ - Donations and fundraising events for purchase and maintenance of new Eminent organ.

Outreach - Donation for any community outreach project.

St Paul's CE School - The source of this fund is unknown.

Youth work - Fundraising event to support youth residential events plus sale of youth equipment.

Hanbury Trust - Income paid direct to the Diocese. The source of this fund was Miss Leslie Hanbury.

Wagner Fund - Income paid direct to the Diocese and goes towards Incumbent's stipend. The source of this fund is unknown.

11 Related charity

The Friends of St Nicholas Church (Charity Commission registered number 1046054) is a connected charity. The funds of this charity are not incorporated in these accounts.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicholas of Myra Brighton

This is my report to the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish (PCC) of St Nicholas of Myra Church Brighton on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 set out on pages 7 to 16.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

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

It is my responsibility:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

Signed.....

24 March 2021

Tania Little
28 Faulkner Gardens
Littlehampton
West Sussex
BN17 6GS