



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF
ST MARK'S, BREDBURY**

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S BREDBURY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish of St Mark's Bredbury, Diocese of Chester (Church of England)

Church Office

St Mark's Church Hall, Redhouse Lane, Bredbury, Stockport SK6 1BX Tel: 0161 4306617

Bankers

Lloyds Bank, 60/62 Merseyway Shopping Centre, Stockport SK1 1PL

Independent Examiner for the accounts

Julie Howard, 38 Crosland Edge, Helme, Holmfirth HD9 5RS

Legal officer

The Diocesan Registrar, Church House 5500 Daresbury Park, Daresbury, Warrington, WA4 4GE

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARK'S BREDBURY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and as a charity is registered with the Charity Commission; charity number 1132326. The PCC has no other charities under its control.

The PCC pays Parish Share, at a level set by the Diocesan Synod, to the Chester Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd (Registered Charity) to provide the stipends for the clergy, support other parishes in the diocese, pay for vicarage repairs, pay for the central work of the Chester Diocese and the national work of the Church of England.

The Parochial Church Council - (PCC)

These are either ex-officio or elected according to Church Representation rules at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The Churchwardens are chosen by the Vicar and those present at a Meeting of Parishioners, held immediately before the APCM.

Vicar: Revd Andy Bull (Chair)

Churchwardens: John McNeil
Les Cope

Elected members: Marina Berry
Victoria Cope
Eric Green
Richard Hall (Secretary)
Simon Owen
Sue Pocock
Trevor Williams
Christine Wrenn (Treasurer)

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church of England Representation Rules.

- Members are elected for a term of three years after which they may not stand for re-election for one year.

- Members elected to fill casual vacancies may stand for re-election for a further term of three years at the end of their two or one year term.
- Deanery Synod members are elected for a three-year term and may stand for re-election immediately. However, in line with the updated 2020 Church Representation Rules, the 2020 APCM voted that henceforth, individuals may not serve for more than two successive terms on Deanery Synod.
- The PCC may co-opt up to two more electoral roll members if they wish to.

Standing Committee

This sub-committee is required by church law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings. This is composed of the clergy licensed to the parish, the churchwardens and treasurer, and the PCC secretary, appointed at the first meeting of the PCC following the APCM.

Safeguarding

The PCC oversees safeguarding in the life of the church, along with the church's designated Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Kevin McKeown and the deputy Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Julie Green. The PCC conducts an annual review of all its procedures, and each year approves amended safeguarding policies for work amongst children and adults. All leaders in children's and youth groups have undergone DBS checks and have signed confidential Declarations of Criminal Offences prior to taking on leadership roles. Safer recruitment procedures are carried out with regards to volunteers working with adults, in line with the church's policies.

Contact details for our Safeguarding Co-ordinator along with the Diocesan Vulnerability and Safeguarding Officer are displayed prominently in the church premises. If there are any matters of concern to you, please contact them. As always, our aim is that all of the children, young people, and adults who have contact with the church should be kept safe from harm, and to this end, the most important factor that we can all contribute is to maintain a culture of informed vigilance.

Health and Safety

The PCC has delegated responsibility for Health and Safety to the churchwardens, who makes regular reports to the PCC.

Aims of the Church

The official aim of the PCC is to "cooperate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical". (PCC (Powers) Measure 1956).

Trustees' Annual Report

1. Introduction

There has been a worshipping community meeting in St Mark's Church ever since it was built in 1849, but in recent years things have been especially growing. Our youth and kids' work has developed; we've been joined by people who had given up on God and church but have since rediscovered faith and community; we've welcomed new people who are brand new to faith; and we've welcomed people who have no faith in Jesus, but simply enjoy being part of the life of St Mark's. Alongside this, all sorts of new ministries have begun from within the church family that seek to be a blessing to our wider community.

The journey so far has been a lot of fun — and we believe the best is yet to come. The vision of St Mark's Church is simple: to see God loved, the Church alive, and society transformed.

Loving God: We believe that God changes lives, and we long to see others come to know that life-changing friendship with Jesus.

The Church Alive: Healthy things grow. We want to see a church that is alive, thriving, and growing — a place where people of all ages find belonging and purpose.

Society Transformed: We seek to prioritise those who are marginalised within society, creating safe spaces where people are known, loved, and valued.

This past year, we've seen that vision come alive across every part of church life.

People have deepened their faith, served others generously, and shared hope with our local community in new and creative ways.

2. Highlights from the Year

It's been another year of growth, community and hope at St Mark's as we've seen people take steps of faith, serve their neighbours, and find belonging.

175th Anniversary Celebrations

October was a significant month in the life of St Mark's as we celebrated 175 years of worship and witness. Over the celebration weekend, more than 400 people came through the doors to enjoy historic tours, bell ringing, crafts, a treasure hunt and quiz, refreshments and a prayer zone. The atmosphere was one of joy, gratitude and community.

On the Sunday, we re-enacted the laying of the first stone, worshipped with a specially formed choir, and gave thanks for God's goodness and faithfulness through the generations. The evening gathering was a powerful time of worship and prayer, with a deep sense of God's presence and a fresh expectancy for the future. It was a weekend that reminded us that the same God who has been faithful for 175 years is still at work among us today.

Growth Groups

Our Growth Groups have continued to be at the heart of church life — small gatherings where people open the Bible, pray, and share life together. Many have joined a group this year, finding encouragement, friendship and spiritual depth as they've grown in faith.

Schools Work

Every Friday, the children from St Mark's School, along with some parents, come to church for their weekly Collective Worship — a joyful connection between church and school life. At Easter, we again hosted a full week of visits where each class experienced an interactive retelling of the Easter story — always one of the most memorable weeks of our year!

Alpha

Alpha continues to be one of the easiest ways for people to explore life, faith and meaning. In the spring term, around 20 people completed the ten-week course — some regulars, others brand new to church. It's been inspiring to see faith come alive around the dinner table and in honest conversation.

Drop-In Café

Our new Tuesday Drop-In Café has become a warm and welcoming space where anyone can grab a soup or a brew and chat to others. We're passionate not only about serving tasty refreshments, but also about creating a community where all are welcome and know that they are loved, seen and belong. As well as the free refreshments, there are games and activities for all ages. The café runs every Tuesday, 2:30–4:30pm, and continues to be a simple but powerful way of connecting with our local community.

CAP Life Skills

We've continued to run CAP Life Skills courses — eight-week programmes that help people gain confidence, learn practical budgeting and cooking skills, and build supportive friendships. Lives have been changed through simple acts of kindness, community and empowerment.

Foodbank

Our Foodbank continues to respond to growing local need. Open every Tuesday, it provides emergency food and support to individuals and families in crisis. Behind the scenes, an incredible volunteer team keeps it all running with care, compassion and dignity.

Prayer

Prayer has remained central to all we do. Our weekly Monday Morning Prayers have become a steady rhythm of hope and worship. During *Thy Kingdom Come*, we transformed a space into a community prayer room — a creative, peaceful environment open for anyone to encounter God.

Graveyard Gang

Our “Graveyard Gang” has continued to be very active this year. Meeting every Monday and Tuesday, this faithful team keeps our church grounds beautiful and has become a genuine community of care. Increasingly, the group has extended its reach by responding to practical needs in the wider community too.

Toddler Group – Minis at St Mark’s

Every Thursday morning during term time, our hall is full of energy and laughter as 30–35 children and their carers gather for “Minis.” With crafts, play, songs and refreshments, it’s become a safe and joyful space for families to connect and grow.

Youth and Children’s Ministry

This year has seen huge progress in our youth and children’s work. We now have four Sunday groups running for ages 0–18, plus a midweek kids’ club for the wider community. A major step forward was the recruitment of James and Meg as our Children and Youth Workers, joining the team in a job-share capacity. Their energy, creativity and care have already begun to shape this ministry for the future, and we’re excited about all that’s to come as we invest in the next generation.

Seniors Ministry

“Primetime” has gathered regularly to bring together those in their retirement years for fun, friendship and community. It continues to be a valued space for connection and pastoral care.

Community Hall Use

Our church hall remains a vital community resource, hosting both regular and one-off bookings. These not only support our church’s income but also strengthen our role as a welcoming hub for the wider community.

3. Occasional Offices

In 2023, it was a privilege to walk alongside many at key life moments:

- **Baptisms:** 22
- **Weddings:** 4
- **Funerals:** 27
- **Interment of Ashes:** 8

Each service represented a chance to celebrate, comfort, and share the love of Christ in real and tangible ways.

4. Looking Ahead

As we look to the year ahead, we're full of faith and expectation. With our new youth and children's team in place, a growing culture of prayer, and deepening community relationships, we sense that God is preparing us for more. Our heart remains to see God loved, the Church alive, and society transformed — here in our community and beyond.

I am so grateful for the church members at St Mark's who have done so much to contribute to another amazing year.

The trustees' report was approved by the PCC on 20th March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Bull". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Andy Bull
Vicar



Report to the trustees

Charity Name
St Marks Parochial Church Council

On accounts for the year
ended

December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1132326

Set out on pages

1 - 1, 1 - 1, 1 - 2, 1 - 1, 1 - 3 As attached to this report (8 pages)

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2024**

Responsibilities and basis
of report

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

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

Independent examiner's
statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

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

Signed:

Julie Howard

Date:

18.6.25

Name:

Julie Howard

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

AAT.

Address:

38 CRASHALL ROAD, HELME, H09 5RS

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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1102 Bredbury St Marks 2023
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts					
Donations and legacies	136,920.15	9,037.33	-	145,957.48	207,281.14
Income from charitable activities	10,211.52	720.00	-	10,931.52	10,059.15
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	7,254.87	-	-	7,254.87	1,116.78
Other income	9,905.86	-	-	9,905.86	-
Total income	164,292.40	9,757.33	-	174,049.73	218,457.07
Payments					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	100,856.35	712.99	-	101,569.34	127,697.31
Other expenditure	28,907.93	1,578.39	-	30,486.32	2,682.27
Total expenditure	129,764.28	2,291.38	-	132,055.66	130,379.58
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	34,528.12	7,465.95	-	41,994.07	88,077.49
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	69,740.58	117,584.44	26.45	187,351.47	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	(95,645.25)	(91,674.77)	(31.45)	(187,351.47)	-
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	22.00	(22.00)	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	8,645.45	33,353.62	(5.00)	41,994.07	88,077.49
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	223,850.00	10,197.83	5.00	234,052.83	145,975.34
Total funds carried forward	232,495.45	43,551.45	-	276,046.90	234,052.83

1102 Bredbury St Marks 2023

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2023
Fixed assets			
	30101: Parish Hall	200,000.00	200,000.00
	Total Fixed assets	200,000.00	200,000.00
Current assets			
	30201: Current Account/Lloyds TSB	10,396.96	55,012.54
	30202: HMRC	9,738.60	24,127.58
	30203: CBF Investment Account	175,231.56	75,718.31
	30206: Petty Cash	510.52	510.19
	6505: Bank deposit account	10.05	-
	6510: CLOSED CCLA CLOSED account	-	-
	Total Current assets	195,887.69	155,368.62
Liabilities			
	6699: Agency collections	3,535.55	5,010.55
	Z04: Accounts Payable	116,305.24	116,305.24
	Total Liabilities	119,840.79	121,315.79
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	276,046.90	234,052.83
Reserves			
	Excess/(deficit) to date	41,994.07	88,077.49
	Z01: Starting balances	234,052.83	145,975.34
	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	-	-
	Total Reserves	276,046.90	234,052.83

Represented by Funds

General (Unrestricted)	229,813.42	193,687.76
Designated	2,682.03	30,162.24
Restricted	43,551.45	10,197.83
Endowment	-	5.00
Total	276,046.90	234,052.83

1102 Bredbury St Marks 2023

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Receipts						
Donations and legacies						
0101 - Standing Order to bank - Gift Aided	32,614.00	-	-	-	32,614.00	39,201.00
0110 - Gift Aid - Envelopes	4,846.27	-	-	-	4,846.27	5,230.22
0201 - standing orders to bank - not gift aided	4,093.50	-	1,034.00	-	5,127.50	87.50
0301 - Loose plate collections	4,330.61	-	-	-	4,330.61	4,776.38
0303 - Other funds generated	465.08	-	-	-	465.08	3,216.16
0304 - Christians Against Poverty	-	-	600.00	-	600.00	-
0305 - Organ Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
0306 - Care of Church Yard	-	-	-	-	-	-
0307 - Restoration Fund	-	-	500.00	-	500.00	100.00
0308 - Willatts Charity	9,166.63	-	833.33	-	9,999.96	6,666.64
0309 - Rock Solid	-	-	-	-	-	-
0310 - Parish Hall	6,445.00	1,067.50	800.00	-	8,312.50	-
0311 - Church Boiler	-	-	-	-	-	-
0313 - Food Bank	200.00	-	870.00	-	1,070.00	50.00
0314 - Church Reordering Project	-	-	-	-	-	-
0315 - Friends of + Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-	-
0316 - Other Restricted Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
0317 - Votive Candles Etc	-	-	-	-	-	-
0318 - Hall Donations & Gift Aid	50.00	-	1,900.00	-	1,950.00	-
0410 - Giving through church boxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
0501 - One-off Gift Aid gifts	14,932.70	-	-	-	14,932.70	28,023.60
0550 - Donations appeals etc	460.00	-	-	-	460.00	5,959.09
0601 - Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-	27,381.11
0701 - Legacies	48,939.66	-	-	-	48,939.66	49,933.33
0801 - Recurring grants	-	-	-	-	-	4,603.32
08A1 - Non-recurring one-off grants	4,932.20	-	2,500.00	-	7,432.20	19,247.29
1230 - Church hall lettings - objectives	-	-	-	-	-	4,858.00
1240 - Church hall lettings - fund raising	3,982.00	395.00	-	-	4,377.00	7,947.50
Donations and legacies Totals	135,457.65	1,462.50	9,037.33	-	145,957.48	207,281.14
Income from charitable activities						
0302 - Income Collected by Sum up Machine	1,815.77	-	-	-	1,815.77	-
1101 - Fees for weddings and funerals	5,757.45	-	-	-	5,757.45	10,059.15
1102 - Funeral + Church Yard Fees	760.00	-	720.00	-	1,480.00	-
1103 - Additional Church Yard Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
1104 - Memorial Pathway	1,878.30	-	-	-	1,878.30	-
Income from charitable activities Totals	10,211.52	-	720.00	-	10,931.52	10,059.15
Other trading activities						
1220 - Bookstall sales - fund raising	-	-	-	-	-	-
1250 - Magazine income - advertising	-	-	-	-	-	-
1260 - Parish magazine sales	-	-	-	-	-	-

					Total	
	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Other trading activities Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments						
1001 - Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-
1020 - Bank and building society interest	7,254.87	-	-	-	7,254.87	1,116.78
Investments Totals	7,254.87	-	-	-	7,254.87	1,116.78
Other income						
0312 - Other Income	289.33	-	-	-	289.33	-
0401 - Community Workers Fund	6,689.45	-	-	-	6,689.45	-
0502 - One-Off Donation NOT giftaided	215.00	-	-	-	215.00	-
1030 - Memorial Tablets	-	-	-	-	-	-
1031 - Memorial Tablet Carriage	-	-	-	-	-	-
1032 - Memorial Tablet Letters	-	-	-	-	-	-
1210 - Social Action Funds NEW 2024	2,712.08	-	-	-	2,712.08	-
1310 - Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-	-
1320 - Surplus - sales of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other income Totals	9,905.86	-	-	-	9,905.86	-
Receipts Grand totals	162,829.90	1,462.50	9,757.33	-	174,049.73	218,457.07

Payments

Raising funds

1750 - Memorial Pathway Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
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Raising funds Totals

-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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Expenditure on charitable activities

1830 - Giving - relief and development agencies	-	-	-	-	-	(1,204.33)
1850 - Home mission	65.00	-	-	-	65.00	-
1910 - Ministry parish share etc	63,600.00	-	-	-	63,600.00	60,000.00
2001 - Assistant staff costs	-	-	712.99	-	712.99	9,010.89
2050 - Salary of parish administrator	-	-	-	-	-	468.75
2101 - Working expenses of incumbent	-	-	-	-	-	12,696.78
2120 - Council tax	-	-	-	-	-	1,287.12
2130 - Parsonage house expenses	3,791.39	-	-	-	3,791.39	4,573.62
2140 - Water rates - vicarage	-	-	-	-	-	-
2145 - Parsonage - water	-	-	-	-	-	-
2150 - Vicar's telephone	356.00	-	-	-	356.00	104.00
2201 - Parish training and mission	-	-	-	-	-	-
2301 - Church running - insurance	4,557.93	-	-	-	4,557.93	4,150.73
2310 - Church office - telephone	659.11	-	-	-	659.11	356.56
2320 - Organ / piano tuning	-	-	-	-	-	-
2330 - Church maintenance	5,969.49	-	-	-	5,969.49	6,225.86
2331 - Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	-
2340 - Upkeep of services	-	-	-	-	-	841.57
2360 - Administration	2,955.31	-	-	-	2,955.31	3,857.86
2370 - Visiting speakers / locums	-	-	-	-	-	-
2401 - Church running - electric	1,874.90	-	-	-	1,874.90	4,155.16
2410 - Church running - gas	2,506.01	-	-	-	2,506.01	1,550.24

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
2420 - Church running - water	-	-	-	-	-	126.00
2430 - Church running - oil	-	-	-	-	-	-
2440 - Church running - heating and lighting	-	-	-	-	-	-
2501 - Magazine expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
2510 - Bookstall costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
2520 - Hall running - oil	-	-	-	-	-	-
2530 - Hall running - electricity	2,263.88	-	-	-	2,263.88	811.33
2540 - Hall running - gas	4,802.14	-	-	-	4,802.14	8,655.67
2550 - Hall running - insurance	2,465.51	-	-	-	2,465.51	2,075.58
2560 - Hall running - maintenance	3,532.22	-	-	-	3,532.22	3,934.70
2570 - Hall running - telephone	-	-	-	-	-	-
2580 - Hall running - water	1,457.46	-	-	-	1,457.46	1,869.30
2590 - Hall running - heating and lighting	-	-	-	-	-	529.92
2601 - Governance costs examination/audit fee	-	-	-	-	-	-
2701 - Church major repairs - structure	-	-	-	-	-	-
2710 - Church major repairs - installation	-	-	-	-	-	1,620.00
2720 - Church interior and exterior decorating	-	-	-	-	-	-
2801 - Hall + major repairs - structure	-	-	-	-	-	-
2820 - Hall + major repairs - installation	-	-	-	-	-	-
2830 - Hall + interior and exterior decorating	-	-	-	-	-	-
2840 - Other PCC property upkeep	-	-	-	-	-	-
2901 - New building parsonage house	-	-	-	-	-	-
2910 - New building house for curate	-	-	-	-	-	-
2920 - New building Church	-	-	-	-	-	-
2930 - New building Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	100,856.35	-	712.99	-	101,569.34	127,697.31
Other expenditure						
1701 - Cap Subscriptions	480.00	-	240.00	-	720.00	60.00
1710 - HMRC Shipley	2,897.64	-	-	-	2,897.64	-
1720 - Staff Pension Costs	1,782.50	-	-	-	1,782.50	-
1730 - Sum Up Fees	28.06	-	-	-	28.06	-
1740 - Salary Payments	18,305.98	-	963.39	-	19,269.37	-
1801 - Service Expenses	1,036.93	-	-	-	1,036.93	2,622.27
1851 - Other Mission 10% Tithe	-	-	-	-	-	-
1870 - Memorial Pathway Expenses	1,838.40	-	-	-	1,838.40	-
1871 - Inscription for tablet costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
2170 - Transforming Lives for Good	600.00	-	375.00	-	975.00	-
2332 - General Expenditure	1,938.42	-	-	-	1,938.42	-
2350 - CAP Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other expenditure Totals	28,907.93	-	1,578.39	-	30,486.32	2,682.27
Payments Grand totals	129,764.28	-	2,291.38	-	132,055.66	130,379.58