

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

England & Wales · Charity number 1132389

Details

Other names	ST PETER & ST PAUL PCC, WADHURST
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-10-29
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Church Office Carillon Cottage High Street Wadhurst East Sussex
Phone	01892544757
Email	wadhurst.church.office@gmail.com
Website	www.wadhurstparishchurch.org

Activities

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

Activities: Religious activities. St Peter & St Paul, Wadhurst

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£290,413	£298,720	-	-
2023-12-31	£241,419	£210,351	-	-
2022-12-31	£237,789	£269,312	-	-
2021-12-31	£226,859	£241,751	-	-
2020-12-31	£188,761	£197,345	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Dr Paul Ronald Ratcliff	Chair	2019-01-23
Anne Brignell		2022-12-09
Anthony Dunnett		2022-01-24
CHRISTINE Patricia BITHELL		2012-07-18
Dr Heather Jane Ratcliff		2021-11-28
John Leonard William Fuller		2024-05-16
John Michael Hardcastle		2025-05-19
Lynda Joy Wight		2013-04-13
Mary Everdell Burstow		2022-08-28
PAUL ADRIAN STEPHENS		
Penny Dobson		2019-09-30
Peter Barrie Thompson		2025-05-19
Right Honourable Paul Kenneth Burstow		2022-08-28
Ruth Elizabeth Dunnett		2021-11-28
Theodore Alex David Farrington		2024-05-16

Accounts

Charity number: 1132389

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF
WADHURST



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED
31 DECEMBER
2024

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Church of St Peter and St Paul: Church Street, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6AA



The parish is part of the United Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate. The benefice is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.

Incumbent: Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Correspondence address: Church Office
Carillon Cottage
High Street
Wadhurst
TN5 6AA
East Sussex

Charitable status: Wadhurst PCC is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission (charity number 1132389) and is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules, as amended in 2020.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its report, together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 income and expenditure (accruals) basis for 2024, with a restatement of the 2023 accounts on the same basis.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are the trustees of the Charity. The PCC consists of the Vicar, the *ex officio* members, plus those elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), co-opted or otherwise appointed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

All members of the electoral roll are encouraged to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The PCC is 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 PCC will perform a review of its operation against the Charity Governance Code.

PCC Members

During the year January to December 2024 the following served as members of the Wadhurst PCC:

Ex-officio members

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff	Incumbent and Chair
Ruth Dunnett	Churchwarden
Vanessa Sharman	Churchwarden (until July 2024)
Chris Bithell	Deanery Synod Rep
Heather Ratcliff	Deanery Synod Rep
Penny Dobson	Deanery Synod Rep Lead Recruiter
Anne Brignell	Deputy Warden Chair of Carillon Cottage

Elected members

Anthony Dunnett	Fabric Chair
Mary Burstow	Member
Paul Burstow	Member
Theo Farrington	Member (elected May 2024)
John Fuller	Member (elected May 2024)
Paul Stephens	Honorary Treasurer
Vanessa Sharman	Member (elected by the PCC July 2024)
Lynda Wight	PCC Secretary

A vacancy remained for the second Churchwarden from July 2024 for the remainder of the year.

Revd Andrew Goy, Associate Vicar, is also entitled to attend Wadhurst PCC meetings.

Patrons of the benefice may attend PCC meetings as observers.

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Executive Committee

The PCC's Standing Committee, known as the Executive Committee, comprises the Vicar, the Churchwarden(s), the Honorary Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and in 2024, two other representatives of the PCC (Chris Bithell and Anthony Dunnett). This committee sets the agenda for PCC meetings and is permitted to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, which includes the PCC Chair, the Honorary Treasurer, Church Warden(s) and at least two other members, reviews the forecasts, ongoing financial data and upcoming annual budget. In 2024, Peter Thompson and Paul Burstow served as the 'other members' on this committee. The PCC Secretary is in attendance.

Patrons

The Patronage Board of the benefice consists of the following members:

Michael Hardcastle (chair of the Patronage Board)
Caroline Reid
John Bateup

PCC Meetings

In the year January to December 2024 six PCC meetings were held (January, February, March, July, September, November) with an average attendance of 87%. A brief PCC meeting was also held after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May to confirm appointments.

In 2024 PCC members considered supporting information and voted on special resolutions by email on three occasions.

In 2024 an additional Working Group was established to oversee the significant work which will be required to investigate, evaluate, budget and implement a church re-ordering project, (including the installation of air source heat pumps for heating and solar panel technology for energy generation) to be undertaken in 2025. Initial work on this project in 2024 involved sub-groups of PCC members evaluating the potential options and making recommendations to the Working Group based on the needs of the church family, the wider community and heritage factors. As the project progresses, the Working Group will make regular reports to the PCC and its key decision points will be assessed and agreed by the PCC.

The PCC delegates responsibility for the running of certain aspects of Parish life to committees, which report to the PCC and provide written summaries of their activities to each PCC meeting for oversight. These groups include the Fabric Committee and Carillon Cottage. The PCC also receives a report from the Pastoral Assistant for Children and Youth at each meeting.

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Items of business covered at every PCC meeting include financial reports, fabric reports and governance reports (Deanery Synod reports, safeguarding, health and safety, and serious incidents).

Each PCC meeting also has a focus topic: January, Youth and Children; March, year-end financials and annual report; May, APCM and appointments; July, review and update of policies; September, Mission Action Plan objectives for the coming year; November, budget for the forthcoming year.

EMPLOYEES

Jemma Johnson has been employed as the Church Administrator since April 2023.

The PCC employs Kat Fisher as the Pastoral Assistant for Children and Youth. In early 2024 the previous full-time contract for this post expired and at Easter 2024 the School Pastors scheme ended. Thus, a new part-time contract was agreed.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The church Electoral Roll, as reported at the annual meeting in May 2024, stood at 180 members.

Seven new names were added; however, 14 members had moved away or sadly died since the previous electoral roll.

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OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Objectives

The PCC works with the Vicar to promote the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical – in the ecclesiastical parish of Wadhurst.

Vision: Worshipping God in every part of life

Mission Statement:

*Using the gifts God gives us, we:
bring others to Christ
deepen our faith in Him
develop the life of the church family
serve each other and the wider community
and so express our worship to God in every part of life*

In furtherance of this mission, during 2024, the PCC:

- maintained the fabric of the parish church
- was the beneficial owner of, and responsible for the activities conducted from, Carillon Cottage, the church community resource centre in Wadhurst High Street
- had oversight of the publication of *Focus* – the parish and community magazine
- was the employer of the Parish Administrator
- was the employer of a Pastoral Assistant for Families and Youth and has oversight of the ministry undertaken by the person in that role
- was the beneficial owner and managing trustee of St George's Hall in Sparrows Green

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the PCC has given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to 'public benefit'.

Responsibilities

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Since October 2023 Dominic Bolas has served as Safeguarding Officer for St Peter and St Paul, reporting to the PCC.

The PCC has due regard for its Health and Safety responsibilities and for its responsibilities under the GDPR.

The PCC has approved a suite of policies to contribute to good governance and management of people, premises and finances. These are reviewed on an annual basis and made publicly available on the church website.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2024

Mission and Evangelism

Mission Action Plan

The PCC has a Mission Action Plan which outlines its priorities for activities in the areas of Prayer and Worship, Discipleship, Pastoral Care and Evangelism.

The MAP defines the mission priorities for the church, is addressed at each PCC meeting, and is updated annually by the PCC.

Study and Homegroups

The church has a network of homegroups which meet weekly, through which collective prayer and study are promoted in a mutually supportive environment.

Two groups specifically for men meet monthly and there have been separate *ad hoc* discussion groups under the banner 'Men Behaving Acceptably'.

Regular Worship

The church offers different styles of service to enable as many people as possible from the local community to experience accessible worship that is spiritually fulfilling for them in their parish church.

During 2024, these services have included a traditional Prayer Book Communion at 8am each Sunday, an All-Age service on the first Sunday of the month and two Parish Holy Communion services each month. There has also been a monthly mid-week communion service. Evensong services were presented for significant occasions such as the Patronal Festival and Harvest.

The Wadhurst congregation joined together with those in Tidebrook and Stonegate from time to time for '3 as 1' services.

During the year attendances have decreased in some areas and increased in others. Adult attendance at services was down 2% and children by 7%, (a major factor being the closure of local Brownie pack which used to attend on a regular basis). Whilst attendance at Easter was slightly down on last year, attendance on Christmas Day 2024 was almost double the previous year.

Special Services

During the year 13 baptisms, and 11 weddings or marriage blessings were celebrated. There were ten funerals and memorial services and eight burials of ashes.

Special services were offered at major festivals (Christmas, Easter) and for national events (such as Remembrance) and these attracted attendance from across the village. On Christmas Eve members of the community were invited to dress up and take part in the annual Nativity Service.

The church also joined with the local Roman Catholic Church for *Churches Together in Wadhurst* activities, including the Service of Christian Unity, the Good Friday Walk of Witness and an Advent Carol Service.

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The local primary school held services in the church for Easter, for its School Leavers in July, at Harvest and at Christmas.

Prayer

Confidential prayer ministry continued to be offered after all the morning (10.30 am) services.

Benefice-wide Saturday morning prayer meetings were held in Carillon Cottage or at Tidebrook Church throughout the year.

Prayer to support those in our Children's and Youth Ministry restarted fortnightly in 2024 over 'Zoom'.

Children and Young People

The church provides teaching for children in the church family aged 3-10 years at Sunday J Club and for older children at a Sunday Youth club (known as WhY).

Provision for children across the community has been supplied through the weekday after-school 'J Club'. Younger children and their carers were supported at 'Jellybeans' babies and toddlers' group.

The church hosts 'Dads on Saturdays' monthly – an opportunity for male carers and their children to meet up in an informal way.

The Vicar makes regular visits to the local Church of England Primary school. The Vicar and his wife lead weekly assemblies. The Children and Families worker delivered 'Moving Up' talks to year 6 children and provided printed resources to assist with their transition to senior school. The church supplied Bibles to all Year 6 school-leavers.

In 2024, some young people in the church in years 5 and above participated in youth events in the local area and across the diocese, such as MayCamp and Youth for Christ events in Tunbridge Wells.

The church had a team of School Pastors who continued regular attendance at Uplands Academy until Easter 2024. A change in leadership at the school occasioned a re-evaluation of their future priorities so that approval could not be obtained for the continuation of this service for the immediate future.

Fellowship

A refreshments team ensured that refreshments were available after all 10.30am services and at special services. A Fellowship group is responsible for organising social events throughout the year.

The church has an active team which is responsible for the arrangement of flowers in church through the year and providing decorations for festivals and special services.

Pastoral Care

The Vicar continued to maintain contact with all parishioners through weekly emails and regular telephone calls and visits.

The volunteer activity co-ordinated by Carillon Cottage supports the church family and the local community with shopping, drives to hospital visits and a range of other services.

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A Pastoral Group oversees pastoral care given across the community. Volunteers visit those in need and the housebound, including those in the local care home, to deliver Holy Communion.

Deanery Synod

The church has four places on the Rotherfield Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Fabric and churchyard

The churchyard continued to be well-maintained, with a programme of grass cutting and hedge trimming alongside steps to conserve wildflowers and local wildlife.

Maintenance of the church fabric continued in line with the recommendations of the Quinquennial report.

During the year significant repairs were required to the roof.

As the existing heating system continued to be unreliable, the PCC undertook an investigation into alternate heating systems, with a focus on achieving 'net-zero' compliance in line with CofE objectives and reduced running costs.

The preferred option will necessitate the removal of the Victorian pews and lifting of the floor. Therefore, the PCC took this opportunity to contemplate a complete re-ordering of the church interior to increase flexibility of its use for the wider community whilst retaining important historical and traditional aspects of the building and the retention of internal fittings which have significance to local families.

A survey was conducted across the wider community in December 2024 which demonstrated strong support for the proposed changes.

St Peter and St Paul was selected by the Church of England to be one of two parishes in the Diocese to be a 'Demonstrator Church' for the installation of air source heat pump technology. Consequently, this project will benefit from grants towards the expert evaluation of the options available and consultancy on their implementation and will also be subject to additional external oversight.

Environmental Issues

The churchyard has been maintained with a focus on environmental concerns.

The reordering of the church will take place with environmental issues at the forefront of each decision taken. In the meantime, small steps have been taken with the installation of motion-sensor lighting in the lavatories and the choices for the purchases of consumables having due regard for environmental considerations.

All energy purchased is from renewable sources.

The church continues to hold an 'ECO Church Silver Award' awarded by A'Rocha, in recognition of its efforts on environmental matters.

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Communications

There has been active and regular use of the church Facebook page to publicise services and events, and regular posts on the village social media sites have been made. These posts have attracted a lot of attention from the local community, playing a significant role in attracting people to special services, such as the 'Remembering Loved Ones' service.

The PCC continued to maintain a dynamic presence on *A Church Near You* website during this year.

The IT infrastructure of the church and Carillon Cottage has been improved during 2024 to enable more secure working, assured back-up and to future-proof the IT provision.

Finances

The PCC has continued to have prudent management of the church's finances and has actively sought donations and grants from a variety of sources to help support its objectives.

Members of the congregation were kept informed of the financial position through presentations in services and direct emails from the Vicar.

A successful stewardship campaign was held in the autumn.

The church has been able to meet its commitments and continue with charitable giving locally, nationally and internationally, and offer support to members of the local community.

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BENEFIT TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Wadhurst church aspires to be at the heart of the local community and to manifest loving service to that community in numerous ways.

Churchyard

The PCC maintains St Peter and St Paul's churchyard in good order for the benefit of the wider community. The churchyard is a popular place for dog walkers and for people to sit away from the bustle of the High Street.

In 2024 the PCC approved plans for Churchyard path restoration and the establishment of a Quiet Area, with new benches and trees. This will be implemented as relevant permissions and funding allow.

During 2024 the PCC has approved works to encourage areas of re-wilding in the churchyard allowing wildflowers to thrive in the area east and west of the north path. Surveys of moths, invertebrates and mammals (including bats) have been performed with the involvement of local wildlife groups, children's groups and other interested parties. Records of the wild plant life, some invertebrates, and the presence of badgers and deer as transient visitors have been established.



Church building

The church building is open daily for quiet reflection and prayer, which is welcomed by visitors from the local community, from across the UK, and as far afield as the United States and New Zealand.

The 'Food Shelves' in the church, freely accessible during daylight hours to those in need in the local community, continued to have regular use in 2024. The church and Carillon Cottage are also locations for Nourish Foodbank collections.

The church is available for local arts initiatives, and for rehearsals and concerts by local choirs, (including 'Polyphony'), the Wadhurst Brass Band and others. In October 2024 members of the community enjoyed a 'Concert for Carillon' which brought together three local choirs, local solo performers and the Brass Band, for an evening of music-making in aid of Carillon Cottage.

The church building has also been used by local groups such as 'Brownies' for their regular meetings. In 2024, the church again took part in the annual 'Ride and Stride' event in Sussex. Members of the Youth Group and residents of Crittles Court and Wadhurst Manor Care Home contributed to the event and a rota of members of the congregation welcomed visitors to the church.

The church and village benefit from an active team of bellringers who practise weekly in church. They ring for several Sunday services each month and for special occasions.

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In 2024 the church increased its involvement with the Wadhurst community 'Late Night Shopping' event in early December, by holding a Christmas Tree Festival in the church. Businesses, schools and community associations took part by decorating trees and over 500 people came to the church building to admire them and enjoy the refreshments on offer over the weekend.

We absolutely loved the Christmas Tree Festival, the children loved making the decorations, the drama students loved recording the story, we enjoyed putting it all together and our families really loved visiting it. Local children's group leader

It was absolutely fabulous, the organisation, volunteering and community spirit was just so heartwarming. Thank you. Local Business

A 'prayer tree' proved very popular with over 100 people adding their prayers for world events, as well as for their personal needs, to the tree.

Carillon Cottage

For over 20 years the Wadhurst PCC has had responsibility for the activities run from this location on Wadhurst High Street.

The services supplied are wide-ranging and develop according to local needs. They are delivered by a team of around 100 volunteers.

The volunteers in the Cottage coordinate a driving service for healthcare appointments across Kent and Sussex and offer a monthly hearing aid clinic. The Cottage has a directory of useful local services and tourist information and sells tickets for local events run by community groups such as *Wadhurst Warriors* and local choirs. The jigsaw library is especially popular and the recycling collections in aid of local and national charities are very well supported.



The Cottage makes rooms available for committee meetings of local charities including The Rose Trust and Mullins Memorial Fund and supports fundraising for the latter by distributing and collecting donations for their annual quiz.

In 2024 the Cottage was used by district and county councillors for 'surgeries' at which local people could raise concerns or seek assistance. In addition, a regular 'Scams Clinic' is held for those who have worries about computer fraud.

A *Welcome Space* is held weekly at the Cottage for anyone to attend to enjoy good company and light refreshments. In 2024 this developed from a small group meeting during the winter months to a year-round activity attracting around 10 attendees a week. This is run by a separate team of volunteers.

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The annual Open Gardens weekend took place in 2024, with gardens across the parish open to all, and teas served in the church building. People from the local community, but also from across the country, and as far away as Spain attended to enjoy gardens in Wadhurst and the surrounding area, and a calendar was produced from photographs taken at the event.

Meeting rooms and the garden at the Cottage are available for local groups (book clubs, U3A groups, children's drama clubs etc) to hire for their own activities and meetings.

During the year free training courses were held for all volunteers to attend on *First Aid, Moving and Handling*, and *Communicating with People with Dementia*.

Children and Families

Jellybeans, a babies and toddlers' group, regularly attracts up to 60 babies and carers every week. They value the provision of a safe space, with a listening, caring ear and games, stories and activities for the youngest. It is supported by a team of volunteers across the age range.

" This is my favourite group. It's so chill. I look forward to it every week,
... I deliberately don't work on a Thursday so I can come to it. " *Jellybeans mum*

J-Club is a weekly after-school club hosted by the church during term time, attracting families that do not attend church. Volunteers supervise a 'walking bus' service from school to church, where activities and healthy snacks are provided.

Special events are also arranged for children in the community, including opportunities to be part of a Nativity event. A 'Light Party' in October had 'the heavens' as its theme and attracted 35 children and young people plus their parent or carer from a total of 21 families, many with little or no connection to other church activities, but who appreciated an alternative to 'trick or treat'.

Young people

During the year excursions to events for young people have been arranged and have been open to any young person in our community.

The team of School Pastors was in place for several years, up to Easter 2024. The PCC is currently considering options for how this team of 'listening ears' may most usefully support the young people in the local community in 2025.

Schools

The PCC actively supports the church-affiliated local primary school. Wadhurst CE Primary School governing body has three foundation governors from the church. The Vicar runs Religious Education coaching sessions for the staff, covering the subjects in the RE syllabus.

Some members of the church congregation support children with their reading.

Members of the Carillon Cottage volunteer team supported Uplands Academy Open Day for potential new students and their parents by serving tea and home-made cakes. It was commented by more than one parent that it was good to see the links the school had with the local community.

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Older people

Come And Meet Each Other, or *CAMEO*, is a weekly club for the elderly, with a hot meal followed by games, activities, or a guest speaker. The sessions include 'armchair exercises' for the attendees, musical entertainment, or crafting sessions. *CAMEO* is run by a team of volunteers and welcomes up to 30 members each week. Volunteer drivers collect the guests and take them home.

In addition, *Afternoon Fellowship* meets monthly for worship, fellowship and refreshments. A guest speaker is invited to talk on topics of interest to the group, which is mainly older people, although anyone in the community is invited to attend.

A 'Senior Lunch' is held twice a year for around 50-60 attendees.

Pastoral care

The Pastoral Care team makes regular visits to those in the village who feel lonely and isolated, to deliver Holy Communion or simply to talk.

Monthly Sunday services are held at Wadhurst Manor Care Home and residents are also visited in their room for conversation, or if requested, prayer.

Community engagement

Carillon Cottage participated in the Wadhurst traders' Christmas Late Night Opening event, distributing information, welcoming visitors and participating in the children's trail and colouring competitions.

In 2024 the church hosted a 'Clothes Swap' event drawing in a wide cross-section of the community to purchase high quality goods for adults and children at very reasonable prices.

Due to a long-standing relationship between Wadhurst church and Burundi, three members of the church joined the visit to Mwumba in 2024, at the culmination of the 'Food for the Hungry' development project that the church has supported. They identified a further need for specific support for sanitation works and for the Buye Lycée school. A sale was held in the church in October 2024, raising funds from the wider community. These enabled desperately needed repairs to the roof and windows of the school's dormitories to be done, and the purchase of a computer for the use of the students.



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Community magazine

Focus, the Wadhurst parish magazine, is distributed every month throughout the village by a team of volunteers and made available at Carillon Cottage. It offers a directory of services and support, an events diary and a means for local authorities (such as the Parish Council), the local MP, local clubs and societies, the two Wadhurst schools and Stonegate Primary School, to communicate with the wider community.

Charitable support

The church and PCC seek to contribute in financial terms to the Mission of God locally, nationally and globally. In 2023, the PCC gave a total of £22,445 to a range of local, national and international charities.

Special collections were made at many services to support other charities, including *The Royal British Legion* on Remembrance Sunday, *The Children's Society* at Christingle and *Crisis* at the Carol Service.

A collection of toys, gifts and money was made for *Diocesan Family Support Work* to support families across the Diocese over the Christmas period.

Harvest Festival parcels were distributed to the elderly and those in need across the village. In addition, vouchers were distributed at Christmas to local families, and there is a *Vicar's Discretionary Fund* to allow rapid response to immediate crises.

St George's Hall

This Church-owned community hall in the Sparrows Green area of the village has been a resource for the community since 1927. The property has been designated an 'Asset of Community Value' by the local council.

The Hall was closed during the Covid pandemic in 2020, and due to deterioration in its condition the decision was made to extend the closure, pending a decision on the most suitable way forward.

During 2023 and 2024 the PCC held discussions with Wadhurst Parish Council (WPC) on the terms by which WPC could purchase the property and use it as a facility for the people of Wadhurst. These negotiations were concluded in early 2025.

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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total income from unrestricted general funds were £181,969 (2023: £186,398).

Expenditure on unrestricted activities was £203,090 (2023: £167,925). This includes the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £63,370 (2023: £61,440).

The year showed a deficit (excluding gains on investments) of £21,121 on unrestricted activities (2023: surplus of £18,473).

With the exception of the School Pastors & Youth Worker role, all restricted funds were self-financing.

RESERVES POLICY

At 31 December 2024 the unrestricted free reserves stood at £137,252 (2023: £155,031).

The PCC aims to retain three months of annual general unrestricted funds expenditure in free reserves.

DECLARATION

The PCC trustees declare that they have approved the PCC annual report above.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Chair of Wadhurst PCC
Vicar of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate

Date: 8 May 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wadhurst ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 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 Charity'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

Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do 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; and
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

James Mathieson FCA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited
Chartered Accountants
North House, 198 High Street
Tonbridge,
Kent
TN9 1BE
Date: 12 May 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	147,702	74,036	221,738	186,584
Charitable activities	4	30,163	34,408	64,571	54,060
Investments		4,104	-	4,104	3,052
Total Income		<u>181,969</u>	<u>108,444</u>	<u>290,413</u>	<u>243,696</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	203,090	95,630	298,720	216,705
Total expenditure		<u>203,090</u>	<u>95,630</u>	<u>298,720</u>	<u>216,705</u>
Net gains on investments		2,046	-	2,046	5,248
Transfers between funds		756	(756)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(18,319)	12,058	(6,261)	32,239
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>464,632</u>	<u>39,666</u>	<u>504,298</u>	<u>472,059</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>446,313</u></u>	<u><u>51,724</u></u>	<u><u>498,037</u></u>	<u><u>504,298</u></u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		309,061		309,601
Investments	9		73,981		71,935
			<u>383,042</u>		<u>381,536</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	9	28,263		5,570	
Cash at bank and in hand		108,133		121,306	
		<u>136,396</u>		<u>126,876</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(21,401)		(4,114)	
			<u>114,995</u>		<u>122,762</u>
Net current assets					
			<u>498,037</u>		<u>504,298</u>
Total net assets			<u>498,037</u>		<u>504,298</u>
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds			446,313		464,632
Restricted funds			51,724		39,666
Total charity funds	12		<u>498,037</u>		<u>504,298</u>

These financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 8 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Chair

Paul Stephens
Honorary Treasurer

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

1 Status

Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Wadhurst is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. Its registered address is Church Office, Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst.

2 Accounting policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and The Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Wadhurst meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue, and so the going concern basis of accounting has been adopted.

2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. For donations, including related Gift Aid recoverable, this is usually on receipt. Investment income is recognised when it is receivable.

Grants are recognised when communicated to the charity in writing, and are only deferred where there are terms and conditions outside the charity's control which must be met before the charity is entitled to the income, or the funder has specified that the grant is to be used in a future accounting period.

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

2.2 Income continued

Income from legacies is recognised when the charity is entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. It is normally considered probable when there has been a grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy, and any conditions attached are within the control of the charity or have already been met.

Income from church activities and other trading activities is recognised when the related service has been performed or the event has taken place.

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a present legal or constructive obligation exists at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount can be measured or estimated reliably. It is inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered.

Grants payable are recognised when communicated to the recipient without further conditions, or where conditions are outside the control of the charity.

2.4 Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

Freehold land is not depreciated. Depreciation is provided on other tangible fixed assets, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings - 1% on cost

Equipment, sound systems and furnishings - 25% on the reducing balance

The St. George's Hall freehold property is not depreciated as the PCC considers that the net realisable value exceeds its cost.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

2.5 Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Gains and losses on revaluation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.6 Other financial instruments

Other than investments, the PCC only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as short term basic financial instruments. These financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2.7 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds include general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. Designated funds include monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds include all money and assets given for a particular purpose e.g. a special appeal or a specific legacy.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	2024 £	2023 £
Planned giving and parish giving	91,229	82,234
Collections	7,559	20,658
Donations	63,985	62,825
Gift Aid recovered	9,808	14,315
Grants	49,157	6,552
	<u>221,738</u>	<u>186,584</u>

In the prior year restricted income from donations and legacies was £28,458.

4 Income from church activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees for weddings, funerals etc.	7,336	8,259
Diocesan fees	5,745	5,086
Organist, choir and bells	4,090	2,045
Carillon Cottage income	29,236	24,062
Cameo income	5,172	4,778
Other	12,992	9,830
	<u>64,571</u>	<u>54,060</u>

Restricted income from church activities relates to Carillon Cottage and Cameo and amounted to £34,408 (2023: £28,840).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs:		
Staff costs	25,997	27,208
Grants and donations (see note 5)	23,396	21,152
Diocesan parish contribution	63,370	61,440
Other clergy costs	10,927	3,490
Church running expenses	27,849	27,095
Church maintenance & repairs	25,847	2,690
Repairs to roof and north transept	39,422	-
Vicarage	-	4,776
Upkeep of churchyard	5,834	7,760
Upkeep of services	21,345	14,054
Training and education	1,038	717
Outreach	4,506	694
Carillon Cottage	21,969	19,306
Cameo	5,330	7,248
Stonegate vicarage garden	2,424	-
Depreciation	4,906	4,294
Support costs:		
Staff costs	10,546	9,981
Governance costs:		
Independent examination	4,014	4,800
	<u>298,720</u>	<u>216,705</u>

In the prior year expenditure of £48,780 was applied to restricted funds.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

6	Charitable giving	2024	2023
		£	£
	<i>The following donations to missions and charities were made in the year:</i>		
	Local Charities		
	Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ	850	850
	Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors	850	850
	Nourish Community Foodbank	625	625
	UK Charities		
	Diocesan Family Support Work	1,200	1,200
	The Children's Society	850	850
	Church Army	1,800	1,800
	Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,200	1,200
	Bible Society	700	700
	Ride & Stride	1,045	1,064
	Overseas Charities		
	Burundi	8,565	6,279
	Church Mission Society	1,200	1,200
	Crosslinks	1,500	1,500
	Tearfund	800	800
	Release International	800	800
	School Leavers' Bibles	711	844
	Christmas vouchers	700	590
		<u>23,396</u>	<u>21,152</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

7	Staff costs	2024	2023
		£	£
	Staff costs comprise:		
	Gross wages and salaries	35,180	35,945
	Employer's pension contributions	1,363	1,244
		36,543	37,189

The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2023: 5).

No employees earned more than £60,000.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

8 Tangible fixed assets

	<i>Freehold property £</i>	<i>Fixtures, fittings, equipment £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	357,493	10,236	367,729
Additions	-	4,366	4,366
At 31 December 2024	357,493	14,602	372,095
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	53,650	4,478	58,128
Charge for the year	2,375	2,531	4,906
At 31 December 2024	56,025	7,009	63,034
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	301,468	7,593	309,061
At 31 December 2023	303,843	5,758	309,601

The fixed assets of the PCC include two freehold properties - St. George's Hall and Carillon Cottage.

Carillon Cottage was purchased in 1999 and is held for continuing use in the work of the PCC. It was opened as a Church community centre during 2001. The cost of this property includes the historic purchase cost plus the cost of the subsequent building works for its refurbishment.

The Parochial Church Council is the beneficial owner and Managing Trustee of a Charitable Trust – the St. George's Hall (Sparrows Green) – the owner of the freehold of St. George's Hall.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

9 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Market value at 1 January 2024	71,935	66,687
Change in market value	2,046	5,248
Market value at 31 December 2024	<u>73,981</u>	<u>71,935</u>

All investments are held in CBF Church of England Funds. Trust funds are invested through the Diocesan Board of Finance and include the Watson-Smyth Trust and Parish General Fund. They also include the Laurens / Watson-Smyth Churchyard Fund. The capital represented by these holdings is freely available to the PCC and is therefore unrestricted.

Other funds (not included in accounts)

Chancel Trusts: The Diocese maintains, as a permanent trust for the Parish under the Tithe Act, a holding of 196.74 CBF Investment Fund - Income Shares with a value at 31 December 2024 of £4,549 (2023: £4,447) accumulated income from which may be used to defray the cost of repairs to the fabric of the chancel and the Church. The Diocese has confirmed that the accumulated income is held by CBF as custodian trustee and is freely available to the PCC.

10 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Gift Aid Recoverable	6,871	5,276
Accrued Income	19,926	-
Other Debtors	1,466	294
	<u>28,263</u>	<u>5,570</u>

11 Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Taxation	667	1,309
Accruals	19,631	2,460
Other Creditors	1,103	345
	<u>21,401</u>	<u>4,114</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

12 Statement of movement in funds

Current year:	<i>Brought forward £</i>	<i>Income and gains on investments £</i>	<i>Expend- iture £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>Carried forward £</i>
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds					
Capital fund	309,601	-	(4,906)	4,366	309,061
Fabric fund	23,366	-	(4,000)	-	19,366
General funds	131,665	184,015	(194,184)	(3,610)	117,886
	<u>464,632</u>	<u>184,015</u>	<u>(203,090)</u>	<u>756</u>	<u>446,313</u>
Restricted funds:					
Carillon cottage	22,706	29,236	(21,969)	(3,200)	26,773
Burundi fund	1,946	12,502	(8,565)	-	5,883
Communications fund	255	-	-	-	255
Cameo	3,243	5,172	(5,330)	-	3,085
Fabric Fund	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Choir Fund	1,516	-	-	-	1,516
Upkeep of church yard	-	3,500	(3,500)	-	-
North Transept	-	43,114	(39,422)	-	3,692
Net Zero Carbon Fund	-	14,400	(16,844)	2,444	-
Churchyard Project	-	520	-	-	520
	<u>39,666</u>	<u>108,444</u>	<u>(95,630)</u>	<u>(756)</u>	<u>51,724</u>
Total funds	<u>504,298</u>	<u>292,459</u>	<u>(298,720)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>498,037</u>

Designated funds

The fabric fund is for the quinquennial cyclical maintenance of the church premises.

The capital fund represents the net book value of the tangible fixed assets.

12 Statement of movement in funds (continued)

Restricted funds

Carillon Cottage

The Carillon Cottage fund represents the income and expenditure account for the activities run from Carillon Cottage. This property was purchased by the church in 1999 and in addition to the church administration office and meeting rooms, provides the base for a range of support services for the local community. Income is derived from fund-raising activities and donations made by users of the services.

Burundi fund

The Burundi fund includes donations received for the specific purpose of furthering the aims of the Wadhurst-Burundi link.

Communications fund

The communications fund includes donations towards improvements to church communications and marketing.

Cameo

The Cameo fund provides the finances for weekly lunches and other social activities for senior citizens at the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Wadhurst.

Fabric Fund

These relate to specific donations and legacies towards the repair and maintenance of the church.

Choir Fund

During previous years payments to choir members who sang for weddings and funerals were collected and donated to the PCC to be used for much needed storage for the choir music archive.

Upkeep of church yard

A grant was received from Wadhurst Parish Council in the year towards the upkeep of the churchyard. This was fully expensed.

North Transept

The North Transept Fund is to fund two roof repairs. This includes retiling the North Transept and replacing the flat roof over the North Aisle. Grants have been received from several donors.

Net Zero Carbon Fund

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Wadhurst is part of the Church Demonstrators Project. Funds have been received to support the repairs needed to achieve Net Zero. This includes Air Source Heat Pumps for underfloor heating, solar roof panels, secondary glazing and draft proofing doors and windows.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST

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

12 Statement of movement in funds continued

Prior year:	<i>Brought forward £</i>	<i>Income and gains on investments £</i>	<i>Expend- iture £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>Carried forward £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Capital Fund	313,895	-	(4,294)	-	309,601
Fabric Fund	27,366	-	(4,000)	-	23,366
General funds	99,650	191,646	(159,631)	-	131,665
	<u>440,911</u>	<u>191,646</u>	<u>(167,925)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>464,632</u>
Restricted funds:					
Carillon Cottage	17,950	24,062	(19,306)	-	22,706
Burundi fund	1,686	5,660	(5,400)	-	1,946
Communications fund	255	-	-	-	255
Cameo	5,713	4,778	(7,248)	-	3,243
School Pastors and Youth Worker	3,963	3,050	(7,013)	-	-
Fabric Fund	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Families and Children's worker	-	1,680	(1,680)	-	-
Upkeep of church yard	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Energy grant	1,581	-	(1,581)	-	-
Listed places of worship	-	552	(552)	-	-
Choir Fund	-	1,516	-	-	1,516
	<u>31,148</u>	<u>57,298</u>	<u>(48,780)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,666</u>
Total funds	<u>472,059</u>	<u>248,944</u>	<u>(216,705)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>504,298</u>

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

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	<i>Total funds £</i>
Current year:			
Tangible assets	309,061	-	309,061
Investments	73,981	-	73,981
Current assets	84,672	51,724	136,396
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(21,401)	-	(21,401)
	<u>446,313</u>	<u>51,724</u>	<u>498,037</u>
	<i>Unrestricted funds £</i>	<i>Restricted funds £</i>	<i>Total funds £</i>
Prior year:			
Tangible assets	309,601	-	309,601
Investments	71,935	-	71,935
Current assets	87,210	39,666	126,876
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(4,114)	-	(4,114)
	<u>464,632</u>	<u>39,666</u>	<u>504,298</u>

14 Funds held as agent

These include special collections received on behalf of other charities totalling £4,870 (2023: £3,434). At the year end the full amount had not been paid over with £407 included in other creditors (2023: £345 included in other creditors).

It also includes receipts received by Carillion Cottage who have acted as a booking office on behalf of other organisations. Receipts totalled £6,209 (2023: £3,263) of which £6,012 were paid over at the year end (2023: £3,290). The final balance of £197 is included in other creditors (2023: £27 other debtors).

15 Related party transactions

Key management personnel are considered to be the PCC members. No PCC members received remuneration or were reimbursed expenses in their capacity as PCC members during the year.

During the year donations amounting to £22,131 were received from 12 trustees (2023: £23,845 from 9 trustees).

There are no other related party transactions to disclose (2023: None).

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

16 Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

The Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish Of Wadhurst participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF) for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers. It has a section known as Pension Builder 2014 which is described below.

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund includes the Pension Builder 2014, which is classed as a defined benefit scheme. There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and therefore the contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable.

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2022.

For the Pension Builder 2014 scheme, the valuation revealed a surplus of £2m on the ongoing assumptions used.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, the Parochial Church Council Of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Wadhurst could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

17 Post Balance Sheet Events

On the 22nd January 2025 the sale of St Georges Hall was completed and proceeds were received of £135,000, the majority of which will be used for repairs, restoration and net carbon zero/demonstrator church projects.

Accounts

Charity number: 1132389

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



**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
INCLUDING PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR
ENDED
31 DECEMBER
2023**

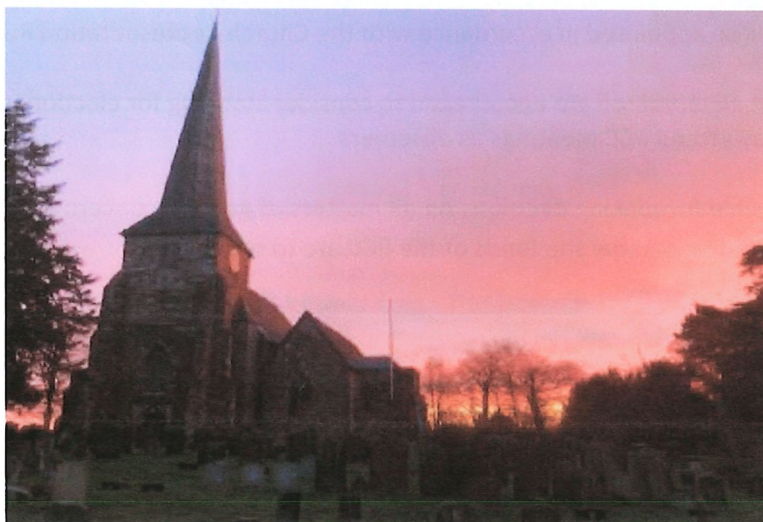
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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Church of St Peter and St Paul: Church Street, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6AA



The parish is part of the United Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate. The benefice is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.

Incumbent: Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Correspondence address: Carillon Cottage
High Street
Wadhurst
TN5 6AA
East Sussex

Charitable status: Wadhurst PCC is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission (charity number 1132389) and is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules, as amended in 2020.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its report, together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are the trustees of the Charity. The PCC consists of the Vicar, the *ex officio* members, plus those elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), co-opted or otherwise appointed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

All members of the electoral roll are encouraged to consider standing for election to the PCC. Patrons of the benefice may attend PCC meetings as observers.

The PCC is 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.

PCC Members

During the year January to December 2023 the following served as members of the Wadhurst PCC:

Ex-officio members

<i>Incumbent and Chair</i>	
Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff	Vicar
Ruth Dunnett	Churchwarden
Vanessa Sharman	Churchwarden
Chris Bithell	Deanery Synod Rep
Heather Ratcliff	Deanery Synod Rep
Penny Dobson	Deanery Synod Rep and Lead Recruiter
Peter Thompson	Reader (retired May 2023)
Michael Hardcastle	Chair of Carillon Cottage (retired September 2023)
Anne Brignell	Deputy Warden Chair of Carillon Cottage from October 2023

Elected members

Lesley Wardrop	Safeguarding Officer (retired May 2023)
Miquela Walsh	Member (retired May 2023)
Martin Lindsay	Member (retired May 2023)
Anthony Dunnett	Fabric Chair
Mary Burstow	Member
Paul Burstow	Member
Paul Stephens	Honorary Treasurer
Lynda Wight	Secretary

Revd Andrew Goy, Associate Vicar, is also entitled to attend Wadhurst PCC meetings.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

Executive Committee

The PCC's Standing Committee, known as the Executive Committee, comprises the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Honorary Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and one other representative of the PCC. In 2023 this was Chris Bithell. This committee sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the power to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, which includes the PCC Chair, the Honorary Treasurer, Church Warden(s) and two other members, reviews the forecasts, ongoing financial data and upcoming annual budget. In 2023, Peter Thompson and Anthony Dunnett served as the 'other members' on this committee. The PCC Secretary is in attendance.

Patrons

Michael Hardcastle (chair of the Patronage Board)
Caroline Reid
John Bateup

Patrons may attend PCC meetings as observers if they wish.

PCC Meetings

In the year January to December 2023 six PCC meetings were held (January, February, March, July, September, November) with an average attendance of 84%.

In addition, PCC members considered supporting information and voted on special resolutions by email on six occasions.

The PCC delegates responsibility for the running of certain aspects of Parish life to committees, which report to the PCC and provide written summaries of their activities to each PCC meeting for discussion and oversight. These groups include the Pastoral team, the Fellowship Committee, Carillon Cottage and the Fabric Committee. The PCC also receives a report from the Pastoral Assistant at each meeting.

EMPLOYEES

The PCC employed Jean Sermon as Church Administrator to April 2023, when she retired after 16 years of loyal service. Following a recruitment and interview process, Jemma Alderson was appointed Church Administrator from April 2023.

The PCC employs Kat Fisher as the Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

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Robert Fuller is the church Organist and Choir Director for Sunday services. In November 2023, Philippa Kirby was appointed Choral Director for special services.

On 15 May 2023 Andrew Goy was licensed as Associate Vicar for the benefice, employed by the Diocese of Chichester.

In 2023 Hollie Butler completed her curacy training as part of the Wadhurst church ministry team, with special responsibilities for supporting the Pastoral team, and left the parish in June 2023.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The church Electoral Roll, as at the annual meeting in May 2023, stood at 187 members. Four names were added, two left the area and sadly five members had died since the previous electoral roll.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC works with the Vicar to promote the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical – in the ecclesiastical parish of Wadhurst.

Mission Statement

*Using the gifts God gives us, we:
bring others to Christ
deepen our faith in Him
develop the life of the church family
serve each other and the wider community
and so express our worship to God in every part of life*

In furtherance of this mission, the PCC:

- maintains the fabric of the parish church
- is the beneficial owner of, and responsible for the activities conducted from, Carillon Cottage, the church community centre in Wadhurst High Street
- is the beneficial owner and managing trustee of St George's Hall in Sparrows Green
- has oversight of the publication of *Focus* – the parish and community magazine
- is the employer of the Parish Administrator
- is the employer of a Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children and has oversight of the ministry undertaken by the person in that role
- is the employer of a School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the PCC has given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to 'public benefit'.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC has due regard for its Health and Safety responsibilities and for its responsibilities under the GDPR.

The PCC has approved a suite of policies to contribute to good governance and these are reviewed on an annual basis, and most are made available on the church website.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2023

Mission and Evangelism

Mission Action Plan

The PCC has a Mission Action Plan which outlines its priorities for activities in the areas of Prayer and Worship, Discipleship, Pastoral Care and Evangelism. An element of the MAP is highlighted and discussed at each PCC meeting. These areas are underpinned by Finance, Fabric and Communications which are reviewed at every meeting and discussed as necessary as are matters of governance such as Health and Safety and Safeguarding.

The MAP is reviewed by the PCC annually to set objectives for the year ahead.

Study and Homegroups

The church has a network of homegroups which meet weekly, through which the gospel is proclaimed, and collective prayer and study are promoted. Two groups for men meet monthly.

A successful *Alpha* course was held on 12 Wednesday evenings and one Saturday in 2023 with 32 regular attendees, who enjoyed fellowship, teaching and mutual support.

Children and Young People

The church provides teaching for children in the church family aged 3-10 years at Sunday J Club and for older children at a Sunday Youth club (known as WhY). In addition, provision for children across the community is supplied through activities at Jellybeans Babies and Toddlers group and the weekday after-school 'J Club'.

The Vicar makes regular visits to the local Church of England Primary school. The Vicar and his wife lead weekly assemblies. The Youth Worker delivers 'Moving Up' talks to year 6 children.

In 2023, young people in the church in years 5 and above participated in youth events in the local area and across the diocese, such as MayCamp and Youth for Christ events in Tunbridge Wells.

The church has a team of School Pastors who have continued their regular attendance at Uplands Academy during the year.

Regular Worship

The PCC aims to offer different styles of service each Sunday to enable as many people as possible from the local community to experience accessible worship that is spiritually fulfilling for them. In 2023, these services have included a traditional Prayer Book Communion at 8am each Sunday, and an All-Age service on the first Sunday of the month. The appointment of the Associate Vicar has allowed Wadhurst Church to offer two Parish Holy Communion services each month. There is also a monthly mid-week communion service. Evensong services were presented for significant occasions such as Harvest.

All-Age services and services of Morning Worship are led by members of the worship leadership team.

The Wadhurst congregation joins together with those in Tidebrook and Stonegate from time to time for '3 as 1' services.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

During the year attendances have increased overall. Whilst attendance at the 8am service fell by 5%, at the mid-morning service attendance of adults on a normal Sunday rose by 20% and of children rose by 13%.

Special Services

During the year ten baptisms, and five weddings and marriage blessings were celebrated, and 12 funerals and memorial services were held in the church. In addition, there were eight burials of ashes in the churchyard.

Special services were offered at major festivals (Christmas, Easter) and national events (such as Remembrance) and these attracted attendance from across the village.

The church also joined with the local Roman Catholic Church for *Churches Together in Wadhurst* services, including the Service of Christian Unity, the Good Friday Walk of Witness and an Advent Carol Service.

The local primary school held services in the church for Easter, for its School Leavers in July, at Harvest and at Christmas.

The church has an active and growing team which is responsible for the arrangement of flowers in church through the year and decorations for festivals and special services.

Prayer

Confidential prayer ministry continued to be offered after all the morning services.

Benefice-wide Saturday morning prayer meetings were held in Carillon Cottage or at Tidebrook Church. There is also a church Prayer for Healing group.

Fellowship

The congregation joined together in special fellowship events during 2023, including refreshments at the licensing of Andrew Goy, a bring-and-share picnic to say farewell to Hollie Butler and her family, a cake decorating session and a Harvest lunch. The group has also ensured that refreshments were available after the 10.30am services and at special services throughout the year.

Pastoral Care

The Vicar continued to maintain contact with all parishioners through weekly email and regular telephone calls and visits.

The volunteer activity co-ordinated by Carillon Cottage supports the church family and the local community with shopping, drives to hospital visits and a range of other services.

A Pastoral Group oversees pastoral care given across the community. Volunteers visit those in need and the housebound to deliver Holy Communion. A particular relationship has been established with Wadhurst Manor Care Home. The training materials developed by Wadhurst church for this initiative are being used by other churches in the Deanery who wish to set up similar teams.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

Deanery Synod

The church has four places on the Rotherfield Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Fabric and churchyard

Maintenance of the church fabric continued in line with the recommendations of the Quinquennial report. Attention has been paid over the year to ensure an ethical green energy supply.

Plans for the churchyard have evolved in 2023, with proposals to create a garden space with views over Bewl Water and rebuild the main path through the churchyard with a border for burials of ashes and new trees. The whole churchyard will also be managed in an ecologically friendly way.

The PCC is also considering options for the replacement of the aging gas-fired heating system with an air source heat pump solution in line with a commitment to achieving Carbon Zero (CO) by 2030.

Environmental Issues

The ECO-CO Working Group consists of representatives of the three churches in the benefice plus Carillon Cottage. In 2023 Wadhurst church was awarded a Silver ECO Award from A Rocha.



The group has met with the local Catholic church to share ideas and best practice.

Communications

There has been active and regular use of the Facebook page to publicise services and events. These posts have attracted a lot of attention from the local community, playing a significant role in attracting people to Christmas and other special services, such as the 'Remembering Loved Ones' service.

The PCC has had an increased presence on *A Church Near You* website during this year.

Finances

The PCC has continued to have prudent management of the church's finances.

A special PCC meeting was held in February to discuss a programme of cost containment and ways to increase income. The PCC has actively sought donations and grants from a variety of sources to help support its objectives.

Members of the congregation were kept informed of the financial position through presentations and leaflets and a successful stewardship campaign was held in the autumn.

The church has been able to turn a projected £45k deficit into a £31k surplus and so has been able to meet its commitments and continue with charitable giving and support to members of the local community.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

BENEFIT TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Wadhurst church aspires to be at the heart of the local community and to manifest loving service to that community in numerous ways.

Church building and churchyard

The PCC maintains St Peter and St Paul's churchyard in good order for the benefit of the wider community. The churchyard is a popular place for dog walkers and for people to sit away from the bustle of the High Street. The PCC has worked with local nature and environmental groups to develop 'wild' areas, to encourage the swift population and to open up views from the churchyard towards Bewl Water, for the greater enjoyment of visitors.



In 2023, the church took part in the annual 'Ride and Stride' event in Sussex. This is a national initiative which encourages participants to get sponsorship to walk or ride (bike, horse, car, electric buggy) to churches across their county. Funds raised are shared between Sussex Historic Churches Trust and the local church. Both our Youth Group and residents of Crittles Court contributed to the event and a rota of members of the congregation welcomed visitors to the church.

The church building is open daily for quiet reflection and prayer, which is welcomed by visitors from the local community, from across the UK, and as far afield as the United States and New Zealand:

'Much needed moment to breathe, thank you' M, Wadhurst

'A special place of peace. Great to see involvement in the community' RD, Bucks

'Thank you for your welcome' A&N, Brussels

'Lovely to be able to come into God's house to find strength and consolation' AM, Wadhurst

The 'Food Shelves' in the church, freely accessible during daylight hours to those in need in the local community, saw increased use in 2023. The church and Carillon Cottage are also locations for Nourish foodbank collections.

The church building hosts 'Dads on Saturdays' monthly – an opportunity for male carers and their children to meet up in an informal way. It also hosts Jellybeans babies and toddlers' group weekly, and the J Club after-school club weekly during term time.

The church is also available for local arts initiatives and concerts by local choirs, the Wadhurst Brass Band and other musicians. It has also been used by local groups such as 'Brownies' for their regular meetings.

The church and village benefit from an active team of bellringers who practise weekly in church. They ring for several Sunday services each month and for special occasions. They train new recruits and offer hospitality to other bellringing groups who visit.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

Carillon Cottage

For over 20 years the Wadhurst PCC has had responsibility for the activities run from this location on Wadhurst High Street.

The volunteers in the Cottage coordinate a driving service for healthcare appointments across Kent and Sussex and offer a monthly hearing aid clinic. The Cottage team issues a Welcome Pack to newcomers to the area, has a directory of tourist and local information services and sells tickets for local events run by community groups such as *Wadhurst Warriors* and local choirs.

Meeting rooms and the garden at the Cottage are available for local groups to hire and have seen increased use during 2023, for groups as diverse as U3A interest groups, training sessions, the *Cygnets to Swans* drama group, and committee meetings of local charities including The Rose Trust and Mullins Memorial Fund.

An open *Welcome Space* is made available at the Cottage for anyone to attend during the winter months, for company and light refreshments.

Conversation classes for refugees from Ukraine have continued in 2023 and serve an additional useful purpose in bringing members of this community together socially.

The annual Open Gardens weekend took place in 2023 and is a highlight of the village calendar, with gardens across the parish open to all, and teas served in the church building. It raised over £7,000 to support the maintenance and running costs of the Cottage.

Children's work

Jellybeans, a babies and toddlers' group regularly attracts up to 60 people every week. They value the provision of a safe space, with a listening, caring ear and games, stories and activities for the youngest. It is supported by a team of volunteers across the age range.

J-Club is a weekly after-school club hosted by the church during term time, attracting families that do not attend church. Volunteers supervise a 'walking bus' service from school to church, where activities and healthy snacks are provided.

Special events are also arranged for children in the community, including opportunities to be part of a Nativity event. A 'Light Party' in October had 'lighthouses' as its theme and attracted around 90 attendees from the local community – as well as the Bishop of Musinga (in Burundi) who was visiting at the time.

Young people

During the year excursions to events for young people have been arranged and have been open to any young person in our community.

A team of School Pastors is in place, supported by a Prayer Pastors group. They attend Uplands Academy in break times to be a non-judgemental listening ear for pupils (and staff members).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

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Schools

The church actively supports the church-affiliated local primary school. Wadhurst CE Primary School governing body has three foundation governors from the church. The church also helps to run a Christian lunch club called *Stargazers*. Leavers are presented with Bibles in the summer.

The Vicar runs Religious Education coaching sessions for the staff, covering the subjects in the RE syllabus.

Each child at both schools in the village (primary and secondary) in receipt of free school meals was given a £10 supermarket voucher for Easter. This was entirely funded by donations from church members.

Older people

Come And Meet Each Other, or CAMEO, is a weekly club for the elderly, with a hot meal followed by games, activities, or a guest speaker. The sessions include 'armchair exercises' for the attendees, musical entertainment, or crafting sessions. CAMEO is run by a team of volunteers and welcomes up to 25 members each week. Volunteer drivers collect the guests and take them home.

In addition, Afternoon Fellowship meets monthly for worship, fellowship and refreshments. A guest speaker is invited to talk on topics of interest to the group, which is mainly older people, although anyone in the community is invited to attend.

A 'Senior Lunch' is held twice a year for around 50 -60 attendees.

Pastoral care

The Pastoral Care team makes regular visits to those in the village who feel lonely and isolated, to deliver Holy Communion or simply to talk.

Monthly Sunday services are held at Wadhurst Manor Care Home and residents are also visited in their room for prayer or just conversation.



Community magazine

Focus, the Wadhurst parish magazine, is distributed by a team of volunteers throughout the village. It offers a directory of services and support, an events diary and a means for local authorities (such as the Parish Council), the local MP, local clubs and societies, the two Wadhurst schools and Stonegate Primary School to communicate with the wider community.

Community engagement

The church and Carillon Cottage had a presence at the village Coronation celebrations, providing information and a creche for younger children.

Copies of *Crowned King* book were made available to the church family and anyone visiting the church premises at the time of the Coronation, as a memento of the occasion.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

To mark the King's Coronation, the church organised a Barn Dance in the local Commemoration Hall for everyone in the local community to attend, which was a great success.



Carillon Cottage participated in the Wadhurst traders' Christmas Late Night Opening event, distributing information, welcoming visitors and participating in the children's trail and colouring competitions. The young people from the church made and sold tree decorations and bracelets in support of a 'toilet twinning' initiative with toilets in Nepal and South Sudan.

Charitable support

The church and PCC seek to contribute in financial terms to the Mission of God locally, nationally and globally. In 2023, the PCC gave a total of £15,752 to a range of local, national and international charities.

Special collections were also made at many services to support charities, including *The Children's Society* at Christingle and *Crisis* at the Carol Service.

Due to a long-standing relationship between Wadhurst church and Burundi, the church family responded generously to a plea for donations to help repair the roof of the church in Burundi, sending £2,000 to pay for roofing materials.

In addition to financial gifts, the church supports charities in many other ways.

A collection of toys, gifts and money was made for Diocesan *Family Support Work* to support needy families in the wider community over the Christmas period.

Harvest Festival parcels were distributed to the needy across the village.

In addition, vouchers were distributed to local families in need, and there is a 'Vicar's Discretionary Fund' to allow rapid response to crises.

Carillon Cottage co-ordinated a collection of candle stubs from the local community which were taken to the '*Ray of Hope*' charity for making into trench candles for Ukraine.

The Cottage is also a centre for collection of other items which are recycled in aid of various charities, such as ink cartridges and plastic bottle tops.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

St George's Hall

This Church-owned community hall in the Sparrows Green area of the village has been a resource for the community since 1927. The property has been designated an 'Asset of Community Value' by the local council.

The Hall was closed during the Covid pandemic in 2020, and due to deterioration in its condition the decision was made to extend the closure, pending a decision on the most suitable way forward. During 2023 the PCC held discussions with Wadhurst Parish Council (WPC) on the terms by which WPC could purchase the property and use it as a facility for the people of Wadhurst. These negotiations are expected to conclude in 2024.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statements are presented using the Receipts and Payments basis, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

Total income from unrestricted general funds were £184,121 (2022: £163,122).

Expenditure on unrestricted activities was £161,571 (2022: £159,521). This includes the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £61,440 (2022: £56,038).

The year showed a surplus of £22,550 on unrestricted activities (2022: surplus of £3,601).

With the exception of the School Pastors & Youth Worker role, all Restricted funds were self-financing.

RESERVES POLICY

At 31 December 2023 the unrestricted free cash reserves stood at £81,325 (2022: £58,775).

The PCC aims to retain three months of annual general unrestricted funds expenditure in free reserves.

DECLARATION

The PCC trustees declare that they have approved the PCC annual report above.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:



Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Chair of Wadhurst PCC
Vicar of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate

Date: 03/05/2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX

ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wadhurst ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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').

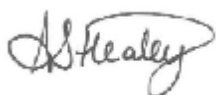
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



.....
Amy Healey FCA CTA DChA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited
Chartered Accountants
North House, 198 High Street
Tonbridge,
Kent
TN9 1BE

Date: 8 May 2024

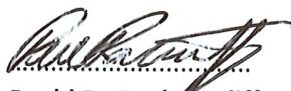
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Receipts from:					
Donations and legacies	2	161,371	11,516	172,887	157,374
Church Activities		19,698	-	19,698	13,946
Investments		3,052	-	3,052	2,421
Grants		-	6,552	6,552	16,854
Families and Children's Worker		-	1,680	1,680	1,223
Carillon Cottage income		-	24,062	24,062	18,161
Burundi donations		-	5,660	5,660	6,520
Cameo income		-	4,778	4,778	4,215
School Pastors and Youth Worker		-	3,050	3,050	17,075
Gross income		184,121	57,298	241,419	237,789
Asset and investment sales:					
Insurance claims - capital		-	-	-	19,461
Total income		184,121	57,298	241,419	257,250
Payments on:					
Church Activities	3	161,571	48,780	210,351	259,076
Asset and investment purchases (purchase of sound system)		-	-	-	10,236
Total payments		161,571	48,780	210,351	269,312
Surplus / (deficit) for the year		22,550	8,518	31,068	(12,062)
Cash balances brought forward		58,775	31,148	89,923	101,985
Cash balances carried forward	10	81,325	39,666	120,991	89,923

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds 2023 £</u>	<u>Restricted Funds 2023 £</u>	<u>Total Funds 2023 £</u>	<u>Total Funds 2022 £</u>
Bank current accounts		44,239	39,666	83,905	55,121
Deposit accounts		37,277	-	37,277	35,100
Less monies held as agent	5	(191)	-	(191)	(298)
Cash funds		81,325	39,666	120,991	89,923
 Other Monetary assets	 6	 5,570	 -	 5,570	 3,711
 Investment assets	 7	 71,934	 -	 71,934	 66,686
 Assets retained for church use	 8	 347,729	 20,000	 367,729	 367,729
 Liabilities	 9	 (1,309)	 -	 (1,309)	 (2,155)

The receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the members on 03 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


 Rev'd Dr Paul Katcliff

Vicar and Chair of the Wadhurst PCC


 Paul Stephens - Honorary Treasurer

Member of the Committee

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis. The accounts are presented in pound sterling and rounded to the nearest £1.

2 Donations	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Collections	20,658	5,623
Planned giving and parish giving	82,234	82,959
Donations	47,245	43,345
Legacies	10,000	15,000
Income tax recovered	12,750	10,447
	172,887	157,374

3 Payments	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£	£	£
Charitable giving & vouchers (note 4)	15,752	-	15,752	14,083
Diocesan parish contribution	61,440	-	61,440	56,038
Other clergy costs	3,490	-	3,490	3,008
Church running expenses	24,685	1,581	26,266	14,316
Church maintenance & repairs	2,138	552	2,690	53,247
Vicarage	4,775	-	4,775	3,848
Upkeep of churchyard	1,760	6,000	7,760	6,736
Upkeep of services	14,180	-	14,180	10,062
Training and education	717	-	717	7,135
Outreach	694	-	694	3,887
Focus Magazine expenditure	-	-	-	620
Salaries	29,600	8,693	38,293	40,313
St. George's Hall	-	-	-	6,855
Carillon Cottage	-	19,306	19,306	23,879
Burundi fund charitable giving (note 4)	-	5,400	5,400	7,000
Cameo	-	7,248	7,248	3,895
School Pastor and Youth Worker's expenses	-	-	-	794
Governance costs: Independent examiner's fee	2,340	-	2,340	3,360
Total payments	161,571	48,780	210,351	259,076

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Charitable Giving

The following donations to missions and charities were made in the year

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
<i>Local Charities</i>		
Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ	850	850
Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors	850	850
Nourish Community Foodbank	625	625
<i>UK Charities</i>		
Diocesan Family Support Work	1,200	1,200
The Children's Society	850	850
Church Army	1,800	1,800
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,200	1,200
Bible Society	700	700
Ride & Stride	1,064	-
<i>Overseas Charities</i>		
Burundi	879	-
Church Mission Society	1,200	1,200
Crosslinks	1,500	1,500
Tearfund	800	800
Release International	800	800
	14,318	12,375
School Leavers' Bibles	844	988
Christmas vouchers	590	720
	15,752	14,083

In addition, donations were made from Restricted funds to Burundi of £5,400 (2022: £7,000).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Monies held as agent

These include fees collected on behalf of the Diocese by St Peter and St Paul, Stonegate and Tidebrook churches at weddings and funerals, and special collections.

6 Other monetary assets

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	5,276	3,711
Other debtors	294	-
	<u>5,570</u>	<u>3,711</u>

7 Investments

	<u>2023</u>
	£
Market value at 1 January 2023	66,686
Revaluation	5,248
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>71,934</u>

All investments are held in CBF Church of England Funds and are stated at market value. Trust funds are invested through the Diocesan Board of Finance and include the Watson-Smyth Trust and Parish General Fund. They also include the Laurens/Watson-Smyth Churchyard Fund. The capital represented by these holdings is freely available to the PCC and is therefore unrestricted.

Other funds (not included in accounts)

Chancel Trusts: The Diocese maintains, as a permanent trust for the Parish under the Tithe Act, a holding of 196.74 CBF Investment Fund - Income Shares (value at 31 December 2023, £4,447 (2022: £4,065)) accumulated income from which may be used to defray the cost of repairs to the fabric of the chancel and the Church. The Diocese has confirmed that the accumulated income is held by CBF as custodian trustee and is freely available to the PCC.

8 Assets retained for church use

Assets retained for church use include the freehold property at Carillon Cottage purchased in 1999 and St. George's Hall at cost.

9 Liabilities

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Taxation and social security	1,309	2,155

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Statement of cash funds held

	<i>Brought forward</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Carry forward</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted cash funds</u>					
Designated cash funds:					
Fabric fund	27,366	-	(4,000)	-	23,366
Unrestricted cash funds	31,409	184,121	(157,571)	-	57,959
	58,775	184,121	(161,571)	-	81,325
<u>Restricted cash funds:</u>					
Carillon Cottage	17,950	24,062	(19,306)	-	22,706
Burundi fund	1,686	5,660	(5,400)	-	1,946
Communications fund	255	-	-	-	255
Cameo	5,713	4,778	(7,248)	-	3,243
School Pastors and Youth Worker	3,963	3,050	(7,013)	-	-
Fabric Fund	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Families and Children's worker	-	1,680	(1,680)	-	-
Upkeep of church yard grant	-	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Energy grant	1,581	-	(1,581)	-	-
Listed places of worship grant	-	552	(552)	-	-
Choir Fund	-	1,516	-	-	1,516
	31,148	57,298	(48,780)	-	39,666
	89,923	241,419	(210,351)	-	120,991

Designated Funds:

Fabric fund:

This fund is for the Quinquennial, five-year cyclical maintenance of the church premises.

Restricted funds:

Carillon Cottage:

The Carillon Cottage fund represents the income and expenditure account for the activities run from Carillon Cottage. This property was purchased by the church in 1999 and in addition to the church administration office and meeting rooms, provides the base for a range of support services for the local community. Income is derived from fund-raising activities and donations made by users of the services.

Burundi fund:

The Burundi fund includes donations received for the specific purpose of furthering the aims of the Wadhurst-Burundi link.

Communications fund:

The communications fund includes donations towards improvements to church communications and marketing.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
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10 Statement of cash funds held (continued)

Cameo:

The PCC took over the responsibility for this fund from the Wadhurst Methodist Church Council in May 2015, following the closure of Wadhurst Methodist Church. The Cameo fund provides the finances for weekly lunches and other social activities for senior citizens at the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Wadhurst.

School Pastors and Youth Worker :

This fund was set up to provide for the appointment of a School Pastor and Youth Worker, who leads a team of volunteer school pastors who visits the local Community College. The position was part funded by a Diocesan Mission grant received in the previous two years. This grant has now been fully expensed.

Fabric Fund

These relate to specific donations and legacies towards the repair and maintenance of the church. These are fully covered by expenditure in the year.

Families and Children's Worker

A number of donations were received to fund the role of the Families and Children's Worker. This income has been fully expensed on salaries for the year.

Upkeep of church yard grant

A grant was received from Wadhurst Parish Council in the year towards the upkeep of the churchyard. This was fully expensed.

Energy grant

During the previous year a grant was provided to assist with heat and light costs within the church. This was fully spent in the year.

Listed Place of Worship grant

A grant was received in the year towards the VAT paid on repairs to the Church which was fully spent in the year.

Choir Fund

During the year payments to choir members who sang for weddings and funerals were collected and donated to the PCC to be used for much needed storage for the choir music archive.

Accounts

Charity number: 1132389

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
WADHURST



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
INCLUDING PAYMENT AND RECEIPTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2022

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Church of St Peter and St Paul: Church Street, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6AA

The parish is part of the United Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate. The benefice is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.



Incumbent: Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Correspondence address: Carillon Cottage
High Street
Wadhurst
TN5 6AA

Charitable status: Wadhurst PCC is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission (charity number 1132389) and is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules, as amended in 2020.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its report, together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are the trustees of the Charity. The PCC consists of the Vicar, the *ex officio* members, plus those elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), co-opted or otherwise appointed in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

All members of the electoral roll are encouraged to consider standing for election to the PCC. Patrons of the benefice may attend PCC meetings as observers.

The PCC is 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.

PCC Members

During the year January to December 2022 the following served as members of the Wadhurst PCC:

Ex-officio members

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff	Vicar and Chair of the PCC
Peter Thompson	Reader
Vanessa Sharman	PCC member; Churchwarden from August 2022
Ruth Dunnett	Churchwarden
Chris Bithell	Deanery Synod Representative
Heather Ratcliff	Deanery Synod Representative
Michael Bradford	Deputy Warden (resigned February 2023)
Michael Hardcastle	Carillon Cottage Chair, Chair and member of the Patronage Board
Anne Brignell	Deputy Warden (appointed December 2022)

Elected members (appointed by the APCM unless stated otherwise)

Anthony Dunnett	Fabric Chairman (elected by PCC January 2022, elected at APCM May 2022)
Lesley Wardrop	Safeguarding Officer
Penny Dobson	Lead Recruiter
Martin Lindsay	
Miquela Walsh	
Lynda Wight	PCC Secretary (co-opted from January 2022, elected by APCM May 2022)
Mary Burstow	Elected by PCC from August 2022
Paul Burstow	Elected by PCC from August 2022
Paul Stephens	Honorary Treasurer

Executive Committee

The PCC's Standing Committee, known as the Executive Committee, comprises the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and one other representative of the PCC. In 2022 this was Chris Bithell. This committee sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the power to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

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Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, which includes the PCC Chair, Hon. Treasurer, Church Warden(s) and two Trustees reviews the forecasts, ongoing financial data and upcoming annual budget.

Patrons

Michael Hardcastle
Caroline Reid
John Bateup

PCC Meetings

In the year January to December 2022 five PCC meetings were held (January, March, July, September, November) with an average attendance of 65%.

In addition, PCC members considered supporting information and voted on special resolutions by email on six occasions.

The PCC delegates responsibility for the running of certain aspects of Parish life to committees, which report to the PCC and provide written summaries of their activities to each PCC meeting for discussion and oversight.

EMPLOYEES

The PCC employs Jean Sermon as Church Administrator.

The PCC employs Kat Fisher as the Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker.

Robert Fuller is employed by the PCC for his services as organist and choir master.

During 2022 approval was granted for the appointment of an Associate Vicar and advertising commenced. A suitable candidate was identified in 2022 who will take up his role in Spring 2023.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The church Electoral Roll, as at the annual meeting in May 2022, stood at 190 members. Three names were added, two left the area and sadly two members died since the previous electoral roll.

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OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC works with the Vicar to promote the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical – in the ecclesiastical parish of Wadhurst.

Mission Statement

*Using the gifts God gives us, we:
bring others to Christ
deepen our faith in Him
develop the life of the church family
serve each other and the wider community
and so express our worship to God in every part of life*

In furtherance of this mission, the PCC:

- maintains the fabric of the parish church
- is the beneficial owner of, and responsible for the activities conducted from, Carillon Cottage, the church community centre in Wadhurst High Street
- is the beneficial owner and managing trustee of St George's Hall in Sparrows Green
- has oversight of the publication of *Focus* – the parish and community magazine
- is the employer of the Parish Administrator
- is the employer of a Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children and has oversight of the ministry undertaken by the person in that role
- is the employer of the School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the PCC has given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to 'public benefit'.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC has due regard for its Health and Safety responsibilities and for its responsibilities under the GDPR.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2022

Mission and Evangelism

Mission Action Plan

The PCC has a Mission Action Plan which outlines its priorities for activities in the areas of Prayer and Worship, Discipleship, Pastoral Care and Evangelism. An element of the MAP is highlighted and discussed at each PCC meeting. These areas are underpinned by Finance, Fabric and Communications which are discussed at every meeting.

Homegroups

The church has a network of active homegroups, through which the gospel is proclaimed, and private and collective prayer and study are promoted.

Two thriving groups for men have been set up, which each meet monthly.

Children and Young People

The church provides teaching for children in the church family aged 3-12 years at Sunday J Club. In addition, provision for children across the community is supplied through activities at Jellybeans and the weekday after-school 'J Club'.

The Vicar and Children's worker make regular visits to the local Primary school. The Vicar and his wife lead weekly assemblies.

Young people in years 5 and above have participated in youth events in the local area and across the diocese, such as MayCamp and Youth for Christ events in Tunbridge Wells.

School Pastors recommenced regular attendance at Uplands Academy in 2022.

Worship

The PCC aims to offer different styles of service each Sunday to enable as many people as possible from the local community to experience accessible worship that is spiritually fulfilling for them as follows:

- 8:00am Communion service on the first three weeks of the month
- 10:30am All-Age Service on the first Sunday of the month
- 10:30am service on 2nd, 3rd (Morning Worship) and 4th Sunday (Communion)

All-Age services and services of Morning Worship are led by members of the worship leadership team.

The Wadhurst congregation joins together with those in Tidebrook and Stonegate from time to time for '3 as 1' services.

Special Services

During the year 11 baptisms, and 13 weddings and marriage blessings were celebrated and 12 funerals and memorial services were held in the church. In addition, there were nine burials of ashes in the churchyard. Wadhurst church was pleased to host the deanery confirmation service this year at which seven people were confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes, six of whom were from the benefice.

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Special services were offered at major festivals (Christmas, Easter) and national events (Remembrance, for The Queen's Jubilee and at her passing) and these attracted attendances from across the village.

The church also joined with the local Roman Catholic Church for *Churches Together in Wadhurst* services, including the Service of Christian Unity, the Good Friday Walk of Witness and an Advent Carol Service.

The local primary school held services in the church for Easter, for School Leavers in July, at Harvest and at Christmas.

Prayer

Confidential prayer ministry continues to be offered after all the morning services. Benefice-wide Saturday morning prayer meetings were held in Carillon Cottage or at Tidebrook Church.

Fellowship

The congregation has joined together in special fellowship events such as a 'bring and share' lunch for the Jubilee, a Harvest Lunch and evening picnics at Scotney Castle.

Pastoral Care

The Vicar continued to maintain contact with all parishioners through weekly email and regular telephone calls and visits.

The volunteer activity co-ordinated by Carillon Cottage supports the local community with shopping, hospital visits and a range of other services. Carillon Cottage celebrated 20 years of service to the community in 2022, with a special service in the church.

A Pastoral Group was commissioned in January 2022 to expand the pastoral care given across the community. Volunteers visit those in need and the housebound to deliver Holy Communion. A particular relationship has been established with Wadhurst Manor Care Home.

Deanery Synod

The church has four places on the Rotherfield Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Fabric and churchyard

The churchyard continued to be maintained in good order. Maintenance of the church fabric continued in line with the recommendations of the Quinquennial report. Redecoration and repurposing of the vestries was also completed this year, including the provision and furnishing of a creche.

The church roof sustained damage from Storm Eunice. The costs of the repairs were covered by the church's insurance.

During the year repairs were required to the church heating system on several occasions. The PCC is considering options for its replacement in line with a commitment to environmental issues.

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A contactless giving station became fully functional in 2022.

Financial Support

The church and PCC seek to contribute in financial terms to the Mission of God locally, nationally and globally. The PCC gave a total of £14,083 to a range of local, national and international charities.

In addition, vouchers were distributed to local families in need at Easter and Christmas, and there is a 'Vicar's Discretionary Fund' to allow rapid response to crises.

Special collections were made at many services to support charities, including The British Legion on Remembrance Sunday, The Children's Society at Christingle and Crisis at the Carol Service.

Environmental Issues

The ECO-CO Working Group consists of representatives of the three churches in the benefice plus Carillon Cottage and has commenced work on a baseline audit of all four entities and the implementation of initial recommendations, including working towards being carbon zero by 2030.

Communications

During 2022 the PCC commissioned a new logo for the benefice and Carillon Cottage, and a new website with increased functionality and regularly refreshed information.

In December, active and regular use of the Facebook page to publicise services and events commenced. These posts have attracted a lot of attention from the local community, playing a significant role in attracting people to Christmas services.

The sound system in the church was updated to improve the experience for all those attending.

A Communications group has been set up to improve the church's communications through various channels.

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BENEFIT TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Wadhurst church aspires to be at the heart of the local community and to manifest loving service to that community in numerous ways. The church engages with community-led events such as Christmas Late Night Opening, and the Party on the Field where both Carillon Cottage and the children's groups had stalls.

Church building and churchyard

The church building is open daily for quiet reflection and prayer, which was especially valuable when the nation mourned the passing of HM the Queen Elizabeth II.

Toward the end of 2022 the church established 'Food Shelves' in the church, freely accessible during daylight hours to those in need in the local community. The church is also a location for Nourish foodbank collections.

The church building hosts 'Dads on Saturdays' monthly – an opportunity for male carers and their children to meet up in an informal way. It also hosts Jellybeans babies and toddlers' group weekly, and the J Club after-school club weekly during term time.

The church is also available for local arts initiatives and concerts by local choirs and music groups.

The church and village benefit from an active team of bellringers who practise weekly in church, providing a joyful backdrop to village life. They ring for several Sunday services and special occasions. They train new recruits and offer hospitality to other bellringing groups who visit.

The PCC maintains St Peter and St Paul's churchyard in good order for the benefit of the wider community. The churchyard is a popular place for dog walkers and for people to sit away from the bustle of the High Street. The PCC has worked with local nature and environmental groups to develop 'wild' areas, to encourage the swift population and to open up views from the churchyard towards Bewl Water, for the greater enjoyment of visitors.

Carillon Cottage

For over 20 years the Wadhurst PCC has had responsibility for the activities run from this location on Wadhurst High Street. In 2022 it developed the descriptor:

Carillon Cottage is a volunteer-led service offering help and support to everyone, of any faith or none, in the villages of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate. It is owned and managed by Wadhurst Parish Church, for the benefit of the whole community.

The volunteers in the Cottage coordinate a driving service for hospital appointments across Kent and Sussex and offer a monthly hearing aid clinic and citizens' advice sessions. The Cottage team issues a Welcome Pack to newcomers to the area, has a directory of tourist and local information services and keeps the Village Diary, selling tickets and advertising local events. Wheelchairs may be hired, and the Cottage is a location for collections for the Nourish foodbank and several recycling initiatives. Its meeting rooms and garden are made available for local groups for consultations, advice sessions and community engagement, or for private hire. At the end of 2022 the PCC decided that the Cottage would be made available as a 'Warm Space' for anyone to enjoy from December 2022.

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The annual Open Gardens weekend returned in 2022 after a pause due to the pandemic and is a highlight of the village calendar, with gardens across the parish open to all and teas served in the church building.

Support for refugees

In 2022 Carillon Cottage initiated support services for refugees who had fled the conflict in Ukraine to live in the area. Social events were held to help build networks of hosts and Ukrainian families and general support and advice was offered to assist with the integration of this group into the local community. Conversation classes were set up and run on two evenings every week. Children were supported to attend summer holiday clubs and diocesan events both financially and with transport where needed.

Children's work

Jellybeans, a babies and toddlers' group regularly attracts up to 50 people every week. They value the healthy snacks provided as well as the provision of a safe space, with a listening, caring ear and games, stories and activities for the youngest. It is supported by a team of volunteers across the age range.

J-Club is a weekly after-school club hosted by the church during term time, attracting families that do not attend church. Volunteers supervise a 'walking bus' service from school to church, where activities and healthy snacks are provided.

Special events are also arranged for children in the community, including an Easter Egg hunt, a Nativity event and a 'Light Party' in October.

Young people

During the year excursions to events for young people have been arranged and a Youth Group meets on Sunday mornings.

School Pastors

A team of School Pastors is in place, supported by a Prayer Pastors group. They attend Uplands Academy in break times to be a non-judgemental listening ear for pupils (and staff members).

School Pastors were able to visit the primary school to speak to Year 6 leavers about their moves to secondary schools and provide Bibles and written resources.

School Pastors have been a big part of our school community, providing invaluable support to our students. They provide a service to the school that encourages students to interact with one another and with adults....our students and staff benefit greatly from this.

Uplands Senior Leadership Team

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Schools

The church actively supports the church-affiliated local primary school. Wadhurst CE Primary School governing body has three foundation governors from the church. The church also helps to run a lunch club called *Stargazers*. Leavers are presented with Bibles in the summer.

Each child at both schools in the village (primary and secondary) in receipt of free school meals was given a £10 supermarket voucher for Easter and Christmas. This was entirely funded by donations from church members.

Due to a long-standing relationship between Wadhurst church and Burundi, the church family responded generously to a plea for donations to help provide mattresses at Buye Lycée secondary school in Burundi.

Older people

Come And Meet Each Other, or CAMEO, is a weekly club for the elderly, with a hot meal followed by games, activities, or a guest speaker. The sessions include 'armchair exercises' for the attendees. CAMEO is run by a team of volunteers and welcomes up to 25 members each week. Volunteer drivers collect the guests and take them home.



Pastoral care

The Pastoral Care team makes regular visits to those in the village who feel lonely and isolated, to deliver Holy Communion or simply to talk. Regular Sunday services are held at Wadhurst Manor Care Home and residents are also visited in their room for prayer.

A highlight of 2022 was the candlelight Carol Service at the care home which was greatly appreciated by residents, their relatives and staff.

Our residents thoroughly enjoy this pastoral support from Wadhurst church.... We are very grateful for the time [the volunteers] are able to spend with our residents, as it greatly improves their wellbeing.

Activity Lead, Wadhurst Manor Care Home

Community Magazine

Focus, the Wadhurst parish magazine, is distributed by a team of volunteers throughout the village. It offers a directory of services and support, an events diary and a means for local authorities (such as the Parish Council), the local MP, local clubs and societies, the two Wadhurst schools and Stonegate Primary School to communicate with the wider community.

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Charitable support

A collection of toys, gifts and money was made for Diocesan *Family Support Work* to support needy families in the wider community over the Christmas period. In addition, a collection of toiletries and school stationery essentials was made in the autumn to support families who were struggling to obtain these.

Harvest Festival parcels are distributed to the needy across the village; this year pupils for Uplands Academy assisted with this work.

St George's Hall

This Church-owned community hall in the Sparrows Green area of the village has been a resource for the community since 1927. It was closed during the Covid pandemic, since when it has become clear that significant repairs will be necessary to allow it to re-open safely for public use. The PCC is in discussion with the Parish Council to determine the best way forward to make this facility available for the people of Wadhurst once again.

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REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2022

In undertaking active stewardship of the church building and finances, and in sharing in the leadership of the church's worship and mission, the Wadhurst PCC has:

- continued to review its Mission Action Plan to assess performance and set priorities for the future
- complied with section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. It has reviewed and confirmed policies on Safeguarding and received regular reports from the Safeguarding Officer
- received regular finance reports from the Treasurer and had oversight of the financial position of the church; it has continued to review its financial policies to ensure they are fit for purpose and reflect the introduction of on-line giving and banking during 2022
- reviewed and approved updated policies for health and safety and the GDPR
- received regular reports from the Fabric Chairman, Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, the Pastoral team and the Chairman of Carillon Cottage
- continued to maintain the churchyard to a high standard for the enjoyment of the village as a whole and continued to ensure that the church is a welcoming environment, available for anyone to use for quiet reflection or prayer
- celebrated the continuing links with local schools and given Bibles to school leavers
- continued to offer Sunday services every week, catering for the spiritual needs of the congregation and wider community
- maintained income at a level that has enabled the PCC to meet its obligations to the Diocese and maintain all its services locally
- supported local and national charities financially and through the provision of goods such as toys and food
- supported the local community with services and information via Carillon Cottage and *Focus* magazine.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The financial statements are presented using the Receipts and Payments basis, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006.

Total income from unrestricted general funds were £163,122 (2021: £186,329).

Expenditure on unrestricted activities was £159,521 (2021: £183,756). This includes the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £56,038 (2021: £63,962).

The year showed a surplus of £3,601 on unrestricted activities (2021: surplus of £2,573).

RESERVES POLICY

At 31 December 2022 the unrestricted free cash reserves stood at £58,775 (2021: £57,678).

The PCC aims to retain three months of annual general unrestricted funds expenditure in free reserves.

DECLARATION

The PCC trustees declare that they have approved the PCC annual report above.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Chair of Wadhurst PCC
Vicar of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate

Date: 24 April 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 DECEMBER
2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wadhurst ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022.

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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Amy Healey FCA CTA DChA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited
Chartered Accountants
North House, 198 High Street
Tonbridge,
Kent
TN9 1BE

Date: 26 April 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted Funds <u>2022</u> £	Restricted Funds <u>2022</u> £	Total Funds <u>2022</u> £	Total Funds <u>2021</u> £
	<u>Note</u>				
Receipts from:					
Donations and legacies	2	127,294	30,080	157,374	117,740
Church Activities		13,946	-	13,946	12,849
Investments		2,421	-	2,421	1,983
Grants		-	16,854	16,854	6,501
Families and Children's Worker			1,223	1,223	16,505
St. George's Hall income		-	-	-	2,086
Carillon Cottage income		-	18,161	18,161	16,472
Burundi donations		-	6,520	6,520	8,122
Caring and Sharing donations		-	-	-	432
Cameo income		-	4,215	4,215	1,418
School Pastors and Youth Worker		-	17,075	17,075	12,000
Gross income		<u>143,661</u>	<u>94,128</u>	<u>237,789</u>	<u>196,108</u>
Asset and investment sales:					
Insurance claims - capital		19,461	-	19,461	30,751
Total income		<u>163,122</u>	<u>94,128</u>	<u>257,250</u>	<u>226,859</u>
Payments on:					
Church Activities	3	159,521	99,555	259,076	241,751
Asset and investment purchases (purchase of sound system)		-	10,236	10,236	-
Total payments		<u>159,521</u>	<u>109,791</u>	<u>269,312</u>	<u>241,751</u>
(Deficit)/surplus for the year		<u>3,601</u>	<u>(15,663)</u>	<u>(12,062)</u>	<u>(14,892)</u>
Transfers between funds	10	(2,504)	2,504	-	-
Cash balances brought forward		57,678	44,307	101,985	116,877
Cash balances carried forward		<u>58,775</u>	<u>31,148</u>	<u>89,923</u>	<u>101,985</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<u>Note</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>2022</u> £	Restricted Funds <u>2022</u> £	Total Funds <u>2022</u> £	Total Funds <u>2021</u> £
Bank current accounts		23,973	31,148	55,121	55,520
Deposit accounts		35,100	-	35,100	48,456
Less monies held as agent	5	(298)	-	(298)	(1,991)
Cash funds		<u>58,775</u>	<u>31,148</u>	<u>89,923</u>	<u>101,985</u>
Other Monetary assets	6	3,711	-	3,711	2,332
Investment assets	7	66,686	-	66,686	76,543
Assets retained for church use	8	347,729	20,000	367,729	357,493
Liabilities	9	(2,155)	-	(2,155)	(1,870)

The receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the members on 24 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Paul Stephens - Honorary Treasurer

Vicar and Chair of the Wadhurst PCC

Member of the Committee

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis. The accounts are presented in pound sterling and rounded to the nearest £1.

2 Donations	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Collections	5,623	6,902
Planned giving and parish giving	82,959	87,872
Donations	43,345	17,236
Legacies	15,000	-
Income tax recovered	10,447	5,730
	<u>157,374</u>	<u>117,740</u>

3 Payments	Unrestricted funds <u>2022</u> £	Restricted funds <u>2022</u> £	Total funds <u>2022</u> £	Total funds <u>2021</u> £
Charitable giving & vouchers (note 4)	14,083	-	14,083	13,197
Diocesan parish contribution	56,038	-	56,038	63,962
Other clergy costs	3,008	-	3,008	2,653
Church running expenses	9,398	4,918	14,316	13,198
Church maintenance & repairs	26,063	27,184	53,247	39,816
Contactless & Broadband	-	-	-	3,285
Vicarage	3,848	-	3,848	3,797
Upkeep of churchyard	3,721	3,015	6,736	6,031
Upkeep of services	10,062	-	10,062	4,209
Training and education	640	6,495	7,135	990
Outreach	3,887	-	3,887	1,138
St. George's Hall - PCC contribution	-	-	-	2,000
Focus Magazine expenditure	620	-	620	592
Salaries	24,793	15,520	40,313	35,023
St. George's Hall	-	6,855	6,855	3,064
Carillon Cottage	-	23,879	23,879	20,487
Burundi fund charitable giving (note 4)	-	7,000	7,000	18,500
Caring & Sharing charitable giving (note 4)	-	-	-	990
Cameo	-	3,895	3,895	733
Reorganisation of churchyard	-	-	-	3,600
Return of grant	-	-	-	600
School Pastor and Youth Worker's expenses	-	794	794	274
Governance costs: Independent examiner's fee	3,360	-	3,360	3,612
<u>Total payments</u>	<u>159,521</u>	<u>99,555</u>	<u>259,076</u>	<u>241,751</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

4 Charitable Giving

The following donations to missions and charities were made in the year

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<i>Local Charities</i>		
Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ	850	850
Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors	850	850
Nourish Community Foodbank	625	-
<i>UK Charities</i>		
Diocesan Family Support Work	1,200	1,200
The Children's Society	850	850
Church Army	1,800	1,800
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,200	1,200
Bible Society	700	700
<i>Overseas Charities</i>		
Church Mission Society	1,200	1,200
Crosslinks	1,500	1,500
Tearfund	800	800
Release International	800	800
	<u>12,375</u>	<u>11,750</u>
School Leavers' Bibles	988	687
Christmas vouchers	720	760
	<u>14,083</u>	<u>13,197</u>

In addition, donations were made from Restricted funds to Burundi of £7,000 (2021: £18,500) and to Nakuru (Caring and Sharing) £nil (2021: £990).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5 Monies held as agent

These include fees collected on behalf of the Diocese by St Peter and St Paul, Stonegate and Tidebrook churches at weddings and funerals, and special collections.

6 Other monetary assets	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	3,711	1,943
Other debtors	-	389
	<u>3,711</u>	<u>2,332</u>

7 Investments

	<u>2022</u>
	£
Market value at 1 January 2022	76,543
Revaluation	(9,857)
Market value at 31 December 2022	<u>66,686</u>

All investments are held in CBF Church of England Funds and are stated at market value. Trust funds are invested through the Diocesan Board of Finance and include the Watson-Smyth Trust and Parish General Fund. They also include the Laurens/Watson-Smyth Churchyard Fund. The capital represented by these holdings is freely available to the PCC and is therefore unrestricted.

Other funds (not included in accounts)

Chancel Trusts: The Diocese maintains, as a permanent trust for the Parish under the Tithe Act, a holding of 196.74 CBF Investment Fund - Income Shares (value at 31 December 2022, £4,065 (2021: £4,607)) accumulated income from which may be used to defray the cost of repairs to the fabric of the chancel and the Church. The Diocese has confirmed that the accumulated income is held by CBF as custodian trustee and is freely available to the PCC.

8 Assets retained for church use

Assets retained for church use include the freehold property at Carillon Cottage purchased in 1999 and St. George's Hall at cost.

9 Liabilities	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Taxation and social security	2,155	1,870

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Statement of cash funds held

	<i>Brought forward</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Transfer</i> £	<i>Carry forward</i> £
<u>Unrestricted cash funds</u>					
Designated cash funds:					
Fabric fund	27,366	-		-	27,366
Focus magazine fund	620	-	(620)	-	-
Families and Children's Worker	14,180	-	(12,236)	(1,944)	-
Unrestricted cash funds	15,512	163,122	(146,665)	(560)	31,409
	57,678	163,122	(159,521)	(2,504)	58,775
<u>Restricted cash funds:</u>					
St. George's Hall	4,351	-	(6,855)	2,504	-
Carillon Cottage	23,668	18,161	(23,879)	-	17,950
Burundi fund	2,166	6,520	(7,000)	-	1,686
Communications fund	6,750	-	(6,495)	-	255
Cameo	5,393	4,215	(3,895)	-	5,713
School Pastors and Youth Worker	1,979	17,075	(15,091)	-	3,963
Fabric Fund	-	19,844	(19,844)	-	-
Families and Children's worker	-	1,223	(1,223)	-	-
New sound system	-	10,236	(10,236)	-	-
Upkeep of church yard grant	-	3,015	(3,015)	-	-
Energy grant	-	6,500	(4,919)	-	1,581
Listed places of worship grant	-	7,339	(7,339)	-	-
	44,307	94,128	(109,791)	2,504	31,148
	101,985	257,250	(269,312)	-	89,923

Designated Funds:

Fabric fund:

This fund is for the Quinquennial, five-year cyclical maintenance of the church premises.

Focus magazine fund:

The Focus magazine is administered by a separate committee under the overall control of the PCC. It seeks to raise sufficient income from advertising revenues and from sales to cover its costs of production and distribution. The print and production of the magazine is managed by an external company "Hucksters" and therefore the balance on this fund has been transferred.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Statement of cash funds held (continued)

Families and Children's Worker (previously known as the Pastoral assistant fund):

The goal of this fund is to grow the church and serve the community through the appointment, funding and support of a pastoral assistant for families and to develop flexible fellowship space and improve the amenities of the church. This fund has been fully written down this year.

Restricted funds:

St. George's Hall:

St. George's Hall (Sparrows Green) is administered by a committee under the control of the PCC and managed within the general purposes of the PCC. The statement of cash funds above relates only to the cash funds held. A transfer of £2,504 is shown as expenditure exceeded the restricted income in the year.

Carillon Cottage:

The Carillon Cottage fund is for the operation of the Church Community Centre at Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst, a property purchased by the PCC in 1999. The figures include Social Action Project and Friends Across Wadhurst receipts and payments, although Friends Across Wadhurst closed its operation in 2021 because of the Covid restrictions.

Burundi fund:

The Burundi fund includes donations received for the specific purpose of furthering the aims of the Wadhurst-Burundi link.

Communications fund:

The communications fund includes donations towards improvements to church communications and marketing. Some of this fund has been spent on the new website.

Cameo:

The PCC took over the responsibility for this fund from the Wadhurst Methodist Church Council in May 2015, following the closure of Wadhurst Methodist Church. The Cameo fund provides the finances for weekly lunches and other social activities for senior citizens at the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Wadhurst.

School Pastors and Youth Worker :

This fund was set up to provide for the appointment of a School Pastor and Youth Worker, who leads a team of volunteer school pastors who visits the local Community College. The position is part funded by a Diocesan Mission grant of £20,000. £12,000 of this was received in 2021 and the remaining £8,000 has been received in this year, alongside other donations.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

10 Statement of cash funds held (continued)

Fabric Fund

These relate to specific donations and legacies towards the repair and maintenance of the church. These are fully covered by expenditure in the year.

Families and Children's Worker

A number of donations were received to fund the role of the Families and Children's Worker. This fund has been fully covered by salaries in the year.

New sound system

Specific donations were received in the year towards the purchase of a new sound system, which was purchased in the year

Upkeep of church yard grant

A grant was received from Wadhurst Parish Council in the year towards the upkeep of the churchyard. This was fully expensed.

Energy grant

During the year a grant was provided to assist with heat and light costs within the church. Not all of the grant was fully utilised this year and will be spent in 2023.

Listed Place of Worship grant

A grant was received in the year towards the VAT paid on repairs to the Church which was fully spent in the year.

Accounts

Charity number: 1132389

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
WADHURST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
INCLUDING RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2021

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PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Church of St Peter and St Paul

Church Street
Wadhurst
East Sussex
TN5 6AA

Incumbent

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
The Vicarage
High Street
Wadhurst
East Sussex
TN5 6AA

Independent Examiner

A S Healey FCA, CTA, DChA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Ltd
Chartered Accountants
North House
198 High St
Tonbridge
Kent TN9 1BE

Bankers

National Westminster Bank plc
Tunbridge Wells (B) Branch
89 Mount Pleasant Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent TN1 1QJ

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its report, together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Church of St Peter and St Paul is on Church Street in the heart of the village of Wadhurst.

The parish has been part of the United Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate since June 2020.

The benefice is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England.

Correspondence address:

Carillon Cottage
High Street
Wadhurst
TN5 6AA

Wadhurst PCC is an unincorporated charity registered with the Charity Commission (charity number 1132389) and is governed by the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules, as amended in 2020.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are trustees of the Charity.

St Peter and St Paul's PCC consists of the Vicar, the *ex officio* members, plus those elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend services regularly are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC. Other PCC members may be co-opted.

Patrons of the benefice may attend by invitation. Church members tasked by the PCC with leading church activities (eg fabric oversight, work with children and young people) submit written reports to each meeting and may also attend by invitation to discuss their activities.

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.

Executive Committee

The PCC's Standing Committee, which is required by law and is known as the Executive Committee, comprises the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer, the PCC Secretary and, if appropriate, one other representative of the PCC. From June 2021 this was Chris Bithell.

This committee sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the power to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

Patrons

For over 35 years and until his death in 2020, Mr Michael Toynbee was a Patron of Wadhurst Church.

Following the creation of the United Benefice, a Patronage Board of three was set up to cover all three parishes. The Board consulted with the PCCs of all three parishes before appointing John Bateup as the third Patron on the Board. The full membership of the Patronage Board was certified by the Diocese in November 2021 to be:

Michael Hardcastle
Caroline 'Nima' Reid
John Bateup

Patrons play no role in the governance of the church but have the right to appoint a new incumbent to the benefice when it is necessary.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Membership

St Peter and St Paul's PCC consists of the Vicar, Churchwardens (and occasionally deputy wardens), Readers, Deanery Synod representatives and the Chair of Carillon Cottage (the *ex officio* members), plus those elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Additional members may be co-opted, such as the Treasurer and Secretary.

Appointment

Members of the PCC are appointed at the Annual Meeting (APCM) and Annual Vestry Meeting (AVM) which appoints the Churchwardens. The AVM and APCM were both held on 20 May 2021, in the church.

In addition, an Extraordinary Meeting of Parishioners was held on 28 November 2021, following the resignation of John Bateup as Churchwarden. Ruth Dunnett was elected Churchwarden and Heather Ratcliff elected as Deanery Synod Representative at that meeting.

Members in 2021

During the year January to December 2021 the following served as members of the Wadhurst PCC:

Ex-officio members

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff	Priest-in-Charge to May 2020 and Vicar from June 2020 to present Chair of the PCC
David Payne*	Reader
Peter Thompson	Reader
Vanessa Sharman	Churchwarden from October 2020 to May 2021 Churchwarden from May 2021
John Bateup	Churchwarden from October 2020 to September 2021
Ruth Dunnett	Churchwarden from November 2021
Chris Bithell	Deanery Synod Representative from October 2020
Heather Ratcliff	Deanery Synod Representative from November 2021
George Pulman (<i>deceased</i>)	Deanery Synod Representative from October 2020 to January 2021
Peter Dwyer*	Deputy Warden from October 2020 to May 2021 Deputy Warden from May 2021
Michael Bradford	Deputy Warden from October 2020 to May 2021 Deputy Warden from May 2021
Michael Hardcastle	Carillon Cottage Chair (and Chairman and member of the Patronage Board)

*entitled to attend PCC but choose not to do so and not trustees of the charity

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

Elected members

Sue Hill	Elected Member to May 2021
Lesley Wardrop	Elected Member and Safeguarding Officer from 2021
Penny Dobson	Elected Member and Lead Recruiter from 2019
Martin Lindsay	Elected member from October 2020
Miquela Walsh	Elected Member from October 2020

Co-opted Members

Paul Stephens	Honorary Treasurer
Lynda Wight	PCC Secretary

Resigned during the year

John Bateup resigned as Churchwarden for personal reasons in September 2021.

The PCC noted with great sadness the sudden passing in January 2021 of long-serving and faithful member George Pulman.

PCC Meetings

In the year January to December 2021 four full PCC meetings were held; one online and three face to face.

Date of Meeting	Number attending (% of those entitled to do so at the time of the meeting)
22 March 2021 (by virtual meeting)	11/14 (79%)
28 June 2021	12/13 (92%)
20 September 2021	9/12 (75%)
6 December 2021	10/14 (71%)

In addition, during times when meetings in person were discouraged, PCC members considered supporting information and voted on special resolutions by email on six occasions.

Date	Topic	Result
Jan 21	Cancellation of services due to Covid	14/15 approved; 1 objected
Jan 21	Appointment of Pastoral Assistant	14/14 approved
Apr 21	Approval for filming in churchyard	13/14 approved; 1 objected
October 21	Approval for work to commence on vestries	12/12 approved
Nov 21	Approval for implementation of contactless giving	12/12 approved
Dec 21	Approval for a benefice-wide GDPR policy	14/14 approved

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

Employees of the PCC

The PCC employs Jean Sermon as Church Administrator.

The PCC has employed Kat Fisher as the Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker since February 2021.

Robert Fuller is employed by the PCC for his services as organist and choir master.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The PCC works with the Vicar to promote the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelical, social, and ecumenical – in the ecclesiastical parish of Wadhurst.

Mission Statement

Using the gifts God gives us, we:

bring others to Christ
deepen our faith in Him
develop the life of the church family
serve each other and the wider community
and so express our worship to God in every part of life

In furtherance of this mission, the PCC:

- maintains the fabric of the parish church
- is the beneficial owner of, and responsible for the activities conducted from, Carillon Cottage, the church community centre in Wadhurst High Street
- is the beneficial owner and managing trustee of St George's Hall in Sparrows Green
- has oversight of the publication of *Focus* – the parish and community magazine
- is the employer of the Parish Administrator
- is the employer of a Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children and has oversight of the ministry undertaken by the person in that role
- is the employer of the School Pastors Coordinator and Youth Worker

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the PCC has given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to 'public benefit'.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

The PCC has due regard for its Health and Safety responsibilities and for its responsibilities under the GDPR.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2021

Electoral Roll

The church Electoral Roll, as at the annual meeting in May 2021, stood at 191 members. Six names were added, three left the area and sadly four members died since the previous electoral roll.

Mission and Evangelism

Mission Action Plan

During 2021 the PCC developed a Mission Action Plan outlining its priorities for future activities in the areas of:

- Prayer and worship
- Discipleship
- Pastoral care
- Evangelism

Initial work on the MAP involved a community audit to identify ways in which the church interacts with different age groups, those with special needs, businesses and other institutions in the local community, as well as within the worshipping church family.

Homegroups

The church has a network of homegroups, through which the gospel is proclaimed, and private and collective prayer and study are promoted. These have continued to meet virtually during the pandemic to offer support to their members in those tough times. Most are now back to having face-to-face meetings.

Children and Young People

The church was in receipt of a Diocesan Mission Grant to employ a Church Youth Worker and School Pastors' Coordinator. Following the interview process Kat Fisher was appointed to both posts and as the Children and Families worker, and commenced work in February 2021, initially part-time and then full time.

The church has continued to provide teaching for children in the church family aged 3-12 years, either on-line or latterly face to face at Sunday J Club. In addition, provision for children across the community is supplied through activities at Jellybeans and the weekday J Club (see later).

A Youth Group for young people of secondary school age has been set up meeting on Sunday after the morning services.

Children participated in the virtual 'May Camp'.

Prayer and Worship

Worship

In general, the PCC aims to offer different styles of service each Sunday to enable as many people as possible from the local community to experience worship that is spiritually fulfilling for them.

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The church leadership responded to the challenge of the COVID pandemic by providing weekly on-line services from March 2020. Services over Christmas 2020 and into 2021 were again cancelled due to rising infection rates.

On-line provision of services on the church website and Facebook page continued in 2021 and archive recordings remained on-line throughout the year so they could be accessed at any time. Sermons were recorded and made available on CD, as email attachments or as hard copy for those unable to access the internet.

'Live' services in church began from March 2021, initially with one service weekly, at which everyone who came could be comfortably accommodated whilst maintaining strict social distancing. Even after face-to-face services were possible, online provision continued, including online Q&A sessions after services with guest speakers eg from Tearfund. This was supplemented by occasional special events for children held outdoors eg on Mothering Sunday and at Easter.

A full programme for Easter was held with in-person services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, plus an online all-age service on Easter Day and a 'virtual' walk of witness on Good Friday.

In June, Covid restrictions were lifted completely, and the following service pattern was established in Wadhurst to allow the incumbent to preside at services across the benefice:

- 8am communion service on the first three weeks of the month
- 10:30am All Age Service on the first Sunday of the month
- 10:30am service on 2nd, 3rd (morning worship) and 4th Sunday (communion)

All-Age services and services of Morning Worship are led by members of the worship leadership team.

Special Services

The number of special services offered was initially impacted by the pandemic with many cancellations. However, numbers increased as restrictions lifted.

We have celebrated 9 baptisms and 10 weddings, held 7 funerals in the church in 2021, and 2 services at local crematoria, all in line with the Covid restrictions in force at the time. In addition, there were 16 burials of ashes in the churchyard.

Memorial services were held for a number of members of the church family who died during the year, with recordings available online for those unable to attend.

Special services to mark Remembrance Sunday, Harvest Festival and the Nativity attracted attendances from across the village. The church also joined with the local Roman Catholic Church for *Churches Together in Wadhurst* services, including an Advent Carol Service and a Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols involving representatives of local community organisations such as the Parish Council.

The local primary school also held services in the church for Harvest and Christmas. Unfortunately, Uplands Community college carol concert had to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions.

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Prayer

Confidential prayer ministry has continued to be offered after all the morning services, either by telephone or in person when possible.

Saturday morning prayer meetings recommenced in September 2021.

The benefice participated in the nationwide CofE initiative *#PrayerfortheNation* by Zoom meetings every evening in February 2021.

A special weekend on prayer was held on 9/10 October 2021, with sessions run by guest speakers.

Pastoral Care

The COVID pandemic impacted on the social and pastoral life of the community and the church, which nonetheless continued to offer care and service to the local community throughout 2021.

The volunteer base co-ordinated by Carillon Cottage supported the local community with shopping, prescriptions, hospital visits and similar. A further *Wealden Hero* award for this work was received from the MP for Wealden, Nus Ghani, in August 2021.

The Vicar continued to maintain contact with all parishioners through weekly email and regular telephone calls and visits.

During 2021, formal training in Pastoral Care was offered to all interested church members, and as a result a Pastoral Group has been established which will be commissioned in January 2022 to expand the pastoral care given across the community.

Deanery Synod

By virtue of the number on the Electoral Roll, the church has four places on the Deanery Synod. This Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Fabric and churchyard

A new Chair of Fabric, Anthony Dunnett, was appointed in 2021.

Maintenance of the church fabric continued as far as possible in line with COVID limitations, following the recommendations of the Quinquennial report.

During 2021, the opportunity was taken to redecorate and re-purpose the Vestry area to provide for better meeting spaces, improved crèche facilities and alternative storage.

Wifi was installed in the church building during the latter part of 2021 to improve connectivity, offer opportunities for live streaming in the future and support a contactless donation facility.

During the year repairs were required to the church heating system on several occasions. The PCC is considering options for its replacement in line with a commitment to environmental issues.

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The churchyard continues to be maintained in good order.

Financial Support

The church and PCC seek to contribute in financial terms to the Mission of God locally, nationally and globally. The PCC gave a total of £11,750 to a range of local, national and international charities. Donations were made from Restricted funds to Burundi £18,500 and to Nakuru (£990).

In addition, vouchers were distributed to local families in need, and there is a 'Vicar's Discretionary Fund' to allow rapid response to crises.

Becoming Carbon Neutral

In response to the Archbishop of Canterbury's call for the Church of England to become Carbon Neutral by 2030, a working group was established. This is known as the ECO-CO Working Group, reflecting both the carbon-neutral aims, and the work of *A'Rocha* in providing the framework for churches to audit and then improve.

The working group consists of representatives of the three churches in the benefice plus Carillon Cottage and has commenced work on a baseline audit of all four entities.

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BENEFIT TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Wadhurst church aspires to be at the heart of the local community and to manifest loving service in numerous ways. The church has sought to continue as many activities as possible in line with Covid safety advice.

These services include:

Carillon Cottage

Since 1999 the Wadhurst PCC has had responsibility for the activities run from this location on Wadhurst High Street. The volunteers in the Cottage provide tourist and local information services and keep the Village Diary. They advertise and sell tickets for local events, coordinate a volunteer driving service for hospital appointments across Kent and Sussex, and offer a monthly hearing aid clinic. Wheelchairs may be hired, and meeting rooms are made available for local groups for consultations, advice and community engagement.

'Carillon Cottage is a great asset to residents in the Wadhurst area. Many thanks to the whole team at Carillon Cottage for making an enormous contribution to the community and helping hundreds of Wealden residents along the way'
Nusrat Ghani, MP

In 2021 the Cottage volunteers took local residents for initial COVID vaccinations and boosters to clinics in Ticehurst, Crowborough and Flimwell.

A Wealden Hero award was received from the MP for Wealden, Nus Ghani, in August 2021.

Churchyard and Church building

The PCC maintains St Peter and St Paul's churchyard in good order not only for the benefit of the worshipping community but for the wider community. The churchyard is a popular place for dog walkers and for people to sit away from the bustle of the High Street. The church building has been open for quiet reflection and prayer.

The church has been used for children's groups and activities, including:

Jellybeans - a Babies' and Toddlers' group hosted by the church. Since it reopened after lockdown, it regularly attracts up to 50 people every week. Families have valued the healthy snacks that have been provided as well as the provision of a safe space, with a listening, caring ear for all and games, stories and activities for the youngest. It is supported by a team of volunteers across the age range.

J-Club – a weekly after-school club hosted by the church during term time. J Club attracts families that do not attend church. It is supported by an enthusiastic team of volunteers who supervise a 'walking bus' service from school to church, where activities and healthy snacks are provided.

An outdoor Summer J Club was held in the garden of Carillon Cottage.

The church is also available for local arts initiatives and concerts although these have been limited during the pandemic. In December 2021 a sell-out concert was held with local performers.

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St George's Hall

This building in the Sparrows Green area of Wadhurst has been used by various local community groups for many decades and is available for private hire.

The building closed at the start of the pandemic and the opportunity was taken to undertake a full survey of the building prior to a strategic review of its use, aimed at optimising the benefit of this asset for the local community in the future.

Focus

This magazine for the parishes of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate is distributed throughout the village and is available in Carillon Cottage. It offers a directory of services and support, an events diary and a means for local authorities (such as the Parish Council and police service), local clubs and societies, the two Wadhurst schools and Stonegate Primary School to communicate with the wider community. During 2021 work has been done to improve the design of the publication and the usefulness of the directory pages. The production of the publication and the management of income through advertising is the responsibility of an external company (Hucksters).

CAMEO

Come And Meet Each Other, or CAMEO, is a weekly club for the elderly, with a hot meal followed by games, activities, or a guest speaker. It is run by a team of volunteers and welcomes up to 25 members each week. Volunteer drivers collect the guests and take them home. This service was suspended during the pandemic but restarted in 2021 at the Commemoration Hall in the heart of the village.

'To the cooks, carers and drivers and all who care for us – my heartfelt thanks. Much appreciated.'

'Thank you for letting me part of CAMEO, it is a wonderful club to be part of.'

CAMEO clients

School Pastors

The church has been awarded a Mission Grant by the Diocese to employ a part-time professional coordinator to grow the ministry. There is a team of School Pastors in place, supported by a Prayer Pastors group. Due to COVID limitations, School Pastors were not able to go into the local secondary school for much of 2021, although a good relationship remains. School Pastors were able to visit the primary school to speak to Year 6 leavers about their moves to secondary schools.

Who Let the Dads Out? was a monthly Saturday morning opportunity for fun and fellowship for dads and their children. It was not possible for WLTDO to meet during the COVID crisis, but it restarted in November 2021 with a new name – *Dads on Saturdays*.

Schools

The church actively supports our local schools. Wadhurst CE Primary School governing body has three foundation governors from the church. Leavers are presented with Bibles in the summer. The Vicar and Heather Ratcliff lead weekly assemblies in the Primary School.

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Each child at both schools who is in receipt of Free School Meals was given a £10 supermarket voucher for Easter. This was entirely funded by donations from church members.

The church also helps to run a lunch club at Wadhurst CE Primary School called *Stargazers*.

Nourish

From time to time the church and Carillon Cottage are collection points for this local community food bank.

Family Support Work

Once again in 2021, a collection of toys, gifts and money was made for Diocesan Family Support Work to support needy families in the wider community over the Christmas period.

In addition, a collection of toiletries and school stationery essentials was made in the autumn to support families who were struggling to obtain these.

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REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2021

In undertaking active stewardship of the church building and finances and in sharing in the leadership of the church's worship and mission, the Wadhurst PCC has:

- conducted a strategic review and developed a Mission Action Plan to set priorities for the future
- led by our Safeguarding Officer, complied with section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). It has reviewed and confirmed policies on Safeguarding and received regular reports from the Safeguarding Officer. It has been informed of improved processes for recruitment of volunteers
- received regular finance reports from the Treasurer and had oversight of the financial position of the church; in addition, the PCC has reviewed and approved an updated financial policy to ensure good financial practices and agreed a new accounting system. It has also implemented a new contactless giving station in the church
- reviewed and approved updated policies for health and safety and GDPR
- received regular reports from the Fabric Chairman, Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, and the Chairman of Carillon Cottage
- continued to maintain the churchyard to a high standard for the enjoyment of the village as a whole and continued to ensure that the church is a welcoming environment, available for anyone to use for quiet reflection or prayer
- celebrated the continuing links with Wadhurst CE Primary School and given Bibles to school leavers
- continued to offer Sunday services every week on-line and live services when possible, catering for the spiritual needs of the congregation and wider community
- maintained its income at a level that has enabled the PCC to meet its obligations to the Diocese and maintain all its services locally
- supported local and national charities financially and through the provision of goods such as toys and food
- supported the local community with services and information via Carillon Cottage and *Focus* magazine.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

During 2021 the PCC decided to present the financial statements using the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The 2020 comparative figures have been adjusted to reflect the same basis.

Total receipts from unrestricted general funds were £186,329 (2020: £147,746). This included an insurance claim of £30,751 following the theft of lead from the vestry roof and the resulting internal damage.

Payments on unrestricted activities were £183,756 (2020: £150,729). This includes the contribution to the diocesan parish share of £63,962 (2020: £60,997).

The expenditure also includes the cost of the work to repair the vestry roof, making good the resulting damage and improving the facilities within the vestries area.

The year showed a surplus on unrestricted activities of £2,573 (2020: deficit of £2,983).

RESERVES POLICY

At 31 December 2021 the unrestricted cash balances were £57,678.

The PCC Trustees review the Reserves Policy from time to time at PCC meetings. In 2020, the PCC approved a free Unrestricted Reserves Policy target of three months of annual general (Unrestricted Funds) expenditure.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2021

The PCC trustees declare that they have approved the PCC annual report above.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Chair of Wadhurst PCC

Vicar of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate

Date: 9 May 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 DECEMBER
2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wadhurst ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2021.

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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Amy Healey FCA CTA DChA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited
Chartered Accountants
North House, 198 High Street
Tonbridge,
Kent
TN9 1BE

Date: 10 May 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	<u>Note</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>2021</u> £	Restricted Funds <u>2021</u> £	Total Funds <u>2021</u> £	Total Funds <u>2020</u> £
Receipts from:					
Donations	2	117,740	-	117,740	117,850
Church Activities		12,849	-	12,849	6,278
Other trading activities		-	-	-	12,919
Investments		1,983	-	1,983	2,389
Insurance claim		30,751	-	30,751	-
Grants		6,501	-	6,501	10,500
Pastoral assistant income		16,505	-	16,505	3,513
St. George's Hall income		-	2,086	2,086	5,827
Carillon Cottage income		-	16,472	16,472	17,353
Burundi donations		-	8,122	8,122	10,648
Caring and Sharing donations		-	432	432	576
Cameo income		-	1,418	1,418	718
School Pastor and Youth Worker grant		-	12,000	12,000	-
		<u>186,329</u>	<u>40,530</u>	<u>226,859</u>	<u>188,571</u>
Payments on:					
Church Activities	3	<u>183,756</u>	<u>57,995</u>	<u>241,751</u>	<u>189,505</u>
(Deficit)/surplus for the year		<u>2,573</u>	<u>(17,465)</u>	<u>(14,892)</u>	<u>(934)</u>
Cash balances brought forward		55,105	61,772	116,877	117,811
Cash balances carried forward		<u>57,678</u>	<u>44,307</u>	<u>101,985</u>	<u>116,877</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	<u>Note</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>2021</u> £	Restricted Funds <u>2021</u> £	Total Funds <u>2021</u> £	Total Funds <u>2020</u> £
Bank current accounts		11,290	44,230	55,520	72,162
Deposit accounts		48,379	77	48,456	47,199
Less monies held as agent	5	(1,991)	-	(1,991)	(2,484)
Cash funds		<u>57,678</u>	<u>44,307</u>	<u>101,985</u>	<u>116,877</u>
Other Monetary assets	6	2,332	-	2,332	3,473
Investment assets	7	76,543	-	76,543	73,262
Assets retained for church use	8	337,493	20,000	357,493	357,493
Liabilities	9	(1,870)	-	(1,870)	(2,246)

The receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the members on 9 May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev'd Dr Paul Ratcliff

Paul Stephens - Honourary Treasurer

Vicar and Chair of the Wadhurst PCC

Member of the Committee

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Preparation of accounts

The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis. The accounts are presented in pound sterling and rounded to the nearest £1. The 2020 accounts have been amended to reflect the comparatives on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2 Donations	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Collections	6,902	6,027
Planned giving and parish giving	87,872	84,805
Donations	17,236	20,860
Income tax recovered	5,730	6,158
	<u>117,740</u>	<u>117,850</u>

3 Payments	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Charitable giving & vouchers (note 4)	13,197	13,384
Diocesan parish contribution	63,962	60,997
Other clergy costs	2,653	2,229
Church running expenses	13,198	11,748
Church maintenance & repairs	39,816	5,797
Contactless & Broadband	3,285	-
Vicarage	3,797	4,215
Upkeep of churchyard	6,031	3,642
Upkeep of services	4,209	2,013
Training and education	990	325
Outreach	1,138	102
St. George's Hall - PCC contribution	2,000	1,500
Focus Magazine expenditure	592	14,351
Salaries	25,276	26,532
Pension costs	-	354
Governance costs: Independent examiner's fee	3,612	3,540
<u>Unrestricted payments</u>	<u>183,756</u>	<u>150,729</u>
St. George's Hall	3,064	6,334
Carillon Cottage	20,487	13,442
Burundi fund charitable giving (note 4)	18,500	13,100
Caring & Sharing charitable giving (note 4)	990	2,000
Cameo	733	900
Reorganisation of churchyard	3,600	3,000
Return of grant	600	-
School Pastor and Youth Worker's salary	9,747	-
School Pastor and Youth Worker's expenses	274	-
<u>Restricted payments</u>	<u>57,995</u>	<u>38,776</u>
<u>Total payments</u>	<u>241,751</u>	<u>189,505</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

4 Charitable Giving

The following donations to missions and charities were made in the year

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<i>Local Charities</i>		
Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ	850	680
Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors	850	680
<i>UK Charities</i>		
Diocesan Family Support Work	1,200	1,190
The Children's Society	850	680
Church Army	1,800	1,700
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,200	1,190
Bible Society	700	680
Chichester Cathedral Trust	-	400
St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy	-	200
<i>Overseas Charities</i>		
Church Mission Society	1,200	1,190
Crosslinks	1,500	1,700
Tearfund	800	-
Release International	800	-
Eurasia Education Foundation	-	680
Open Doors	-	680
	<u>11,750</u>	<u>11,650</u>
School Leavers' Bibles	687	944
Christmas vouchers	760	790
	<u>13,197</u>	<u>13,384</u>

In addition, donations were made from Restricted funds to Burundi of £18,500 (2020: £13,100) and to Nakuru (Caring and Sharing) £990 (2020: £2,000).

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5 Monies held as agent

These include fees collected on behalf of the Diocese by St Peter and St Paul, Stonegate and Tidebrook churches at weddings and funerals, and special collections.

6 Other monetary assets	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Gift aid recoverable	1,943	3,473
Other debtors	389	-
	<u>2,332</u>	<u>3,473</u>

During the year the charity was notified of a grant of £20,000 towards the work of the pastoral assistant. During the year £12,000 was received with the final £8,000 expected to be received in 2022.

7 Investments

All investments are held in CBF Church of England Funds and are stated at market value. Trust funds are invested through the Diocesan Board of Finance and include the Watson-Smyth Trust and Parish General Fund. They also include the Laurens/Watson-Smyth and thus is considered unrestricted. Churchyard Fund. The capital represented by these holdings is freely available to the PCC

Other funds (not included in accounts)

Chancel Trusts: The Diocese maintains, as a permanent trust for the Parish under the Tithe Act, a holding of 196.74 CBF Investment Fund - Income Shares (value at 31 December 2021, £4,607 (2020: £4,031)) accumulated income from which may be used to defray the cost of repairs to the fabric of the chancel and the Church. The Diocese has confirmed that the accumulated income is held by CBF as custodian trustee and is freely available to the PCC.

8 Assets retained for church use

Assets retained for church use include the freehold property at Carillon Cottage purchased in 1999 and St. George's Hall at cost.

9 Liabilities	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Taxation and social security	1,870	1,306
Other creditors	-	940
	<u>1,870</u>	<u>2,246</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Statement of cash funds held

	<i>Brought forward</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfer</i>	<i>Carry forward</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted cash funds</u>					
Designated cash funds:					
Fabric fund	34,366	-	-	(7,000)	27,366
Focus magazine fund	1,212	-	(592)	-	620
Church building fund	5,000	-	-	(5,000)	-
Pastoral assistant fund	6,363	16,460	(8,643)	-	14,180
Unrestricted cash funds	8,164	169,869	(174,521)	12,000	15,512
	<u>55,105</u>	<u>186,329</u>	<u>-183,756</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,678</u>
 <u>Restricted cash funds:</u>					
Caring and sharing scheme	558	432	(990)	-	-
St. George's Hall	5,208	2,207	(3,064)	-	4,351
Carillon Cottage	27,804	16,351	(20,487)	-	23,668
Burundi fund	12,544	8,122	(18,500)	-	2,166
Communications fund	6,750	-	-	-	6,750
Cameo	4,708	1,418	(733)	-	5,393
School Pastor and Youth Worker grant	-	12,000	(10,021)	-	1,979
Other restricted funds	4,200	-	(4,200)	-	-
	<u>61,772</u>	<u>40,530</u>	<u>(57,995)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,307</u>
	<u>116,877</u>	<u>226,859</u>	<u>(241,751)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,985</u>

Designated Funds:

Fabric fund:

This fund is for the Quinquennial, five-year cyclical maintenance of the church premises. In 2021 £7,000 was transferred to help meet the cost of refurbishing the vestry area of the church.

Focus magazine fund:

The Focus magazine is administered by a separate committee under the overall control of the PCC. It seeks to raise sufficient income from advertising revenues and from sales to cover its costs of production and distribution. The print and production of the magazine is managed by an external company "Hucksters".

Church building fund:

This fund is for improving the Creche amenities of the church. In 2021 £5,000 was transferred to meet the cost of refurbishment and fit out the Crèche.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Statement of cash funds held (continued)

Pastoral assistant fund:

The goal of this fund is to grow the church and serve the community through the appointment, funding and support of a pastoral assistant for families and to develop flexible fellowship space and improve the amenities of the church. Donations have been allocated to the fund from general fundraising by the PCC.

Restricted funds:

Caring and sharing scheme:

This scheme was established some years ago to support our nominated community in Nakuru, Kenya. The scheme was closed in 2021 with the balance of £900 paid to the Nakuru charity.

St. George's Hall:

St. George's Hall (Sparrows Green) is a separate charitable trust, approved by the Charity Commission in 1994, of which the PCC is beneficial owner and Managing Trustee. St. George's Hall is administered by a committee under the control of the PCC. In financial terms it is largely self-sufficient, although the PCC contributes to its revenues as required. In 2021 the PCC made a grant of £2,000. The statement of cash funds above relates only to the cash funds held.

Carillon Cottage:

The Carillon Cottage fund is for the operation of the Church Community Centre at Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst, a property purchased by the PCC in 1999. The figures include Social Action Project and Friends Across Wadhurst receipts and payments, although Friends Across Wadhurst closed its operation in 2021 because of the Covid restrictions.

Burundi fund:

The Burundi fund includes donations received for the specific purpose of furthering the aims of the Wadhurst-Burundi link.

Communications fund:

The communications fund includes donations towards improvements to church communications and marketing.

Cameo:

The PCC took over the responsibility for this fund from the Wadhurst Methodist Church Council in May 2015, following the closure of Wadhurst Methodist Church. The Cameo fund provides the finances for weekly lunches and other social activities for senior citizens at the Commemoration Hall, High Street, Wadhurst.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF WADHURST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10 Statement of cash funds held (continued)

School Pastor and Youth Worker Grant:

This fund was set up to provide for the appointment of a School Pastor and Youth Worker, who leads a team of volunteer school pastors who visits the local Community College. The position is part funded by a Diocesan Mission grant of £12,000.

Other restricted funds:

This fund relates to funds for the extension of the churchyard burial ground and work on this was completed in 2021 and the fund has a zero balance at the year end.

Accounts

PARISH CHURCH
OF
ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

ANNUAL REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2020

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

CHURCH INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Charity registered number	1132389
Address	Church of St. Peter & St. Paul Church Street Wadhurst East Sussex TN5 6AR Carillon Cottage High Street Wadhurst East Sussex TN5 6AA
Incumbent	Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff The Vicarage High Street Wadhurst East Sussex TN5 6AA
Independent examiner	A S Healey FCA CTA DChA Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited Chartered Accountants North House 198 High Street Tonbridge Kent TN9 1BE
Principal bankers	National Westminster Bank plc Tunbridge Wells (B) Branch 89 Mount Pleasant Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1QJ

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020*

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) presents its report, together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020. The PCC has adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Administrative information

The Church of St Peter and St Paul sits on Church Street in the heart of the village of Wadhurst.

From 1 June 2020 the parish became part of the United Benefice of Wadhurst, Tidebrook and Stonegate. The benefice is part of the Diocese of Chichester within the Church of England

Correspondence address:

Church Administrator
Carillon Cottage
High Street
Wadhurst
TN5 6AA

Wadhurst PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission: Charity number 1132389.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

PCC Membership

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) are appointed at the Annual Meeting (APCM).

In 2020, on the instructions of the Diocese made in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the APCM was postponed from April 2020 to October 2020, when it could be held in person. Members of the PCC elected in 2019 therefore continued in post until October 2020 (unless they resigned their position for another reason). During the year January to December 2020, the following served as members of the Wadhurst Parochial Church Council:

Ex-officio members

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff	Priest-in-Charge to May 2020 and Vicar from June 2020; Chair of the PCC
David Payne	Reader*
Peter Thompson	Reader
Vanessa Sharman	Churchwarden from April 2019 to October 2020; Churchwarden from October 2020
Chris Bithell	Churchwarden to October 2020; Deanery Synod Representative from October 2020
John Bateup	Churchwarden from October 2020
Martin Lindsay	Deputy Warden to October 2020; Elected member from October 2020
Ian Fitzgerald	Deputy Warden and Health and Safety Officer to October 2020**
Peter Dwyer	Deputy Warden*
Steve Fraser	Deputy Warden* to March 2020
Michael Bradford	Deputy Warden from October 2020
Michael Hardcastle	Patron and Carillon Cottage Chair
Michael Toynbee	Patron* to October 2020 (<i>deceased</i>)
Hollie Butler	Deanery Synod Representative and Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children to August 2020
George Pulman	Deanery Synod Representative (<i>deceased</i>)
Lynda Wight	PCC Secretary from January 2020

**entitled to attend PCC but chose not to do so and not trustees of the charity*

*** responsibility for Health and Safety matters passed to the Churchwardens in October 2020*

Elected members

Sue Hill	Elected Member
Lesley Wardrop	Elected Member and Safeguarding Officer from December 2019
Penny Dobson	Elected Member and Lead Recruiter (co-opted September 2019)
Miquela Walsh	Elected Member from October 2020
Richard Lonsdale	Elected Member to July 2020
Sarah Stewart	Elected Member to September 2020
Simon Spruce	Elected Member to October 2020
Anthony Dunnett	Elected Member to October 2020
Jackie Scott	Elected Member to October 2020

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Co-opted Members

Paul Stephens	Treasurer
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Resigned during the year

Hollie Butler and Richard Lonsdale resigned during the year following their acceptance for training for ordination in the Church of England. Other members of the PCC stepped down at the end of their terms of office, or for personal reasons, as indicated.

The PCC notes the passing of the Patron, Michael Toynbee, in October 2020, with deep regret and gratitude for his decades of service to the church and community.

PCC Meetings

The full PCC met three times during the year 2020. The meeting scheduled for March 2020 did not take place due to the imposition of a national lockdown by the UK government on 16 March 2020. The key decision due to be taken at that meeting, the approval of the 2019 Annual Report, was achieved by email in accordance with guidance from the Diocese.

The remainder of the meetings were held by 'Zoom' virtual meetings. Average attendance was 91%.

Date of Meeting	Number attending (% of those entitled to do so at the time of the meeting)
29 June 2020	17 (90%)
21 September 2020	14 (82%)
7 December 2020	15 (100%)

Employees of the PCC

The PCC employs Jean Sermon as Church Administrator.

The PCC employed Hollie Butler as the Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children until August 2020. A replacement for this role will take up the position in early 2021.

Robert Fuller is paid by the PCC for his services as organist and choir master.

Structure, Governance and Management

St Peter and St Paul's PCC consists of the Vicar, churchwardens and deputy wardens, patrons, readers, Deanery Synod representatives (the *ex officio* members) and those who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules, by members of the congregation on the Electoral Roll of the church.

All those who attend services regularly are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC. In addition, the PCC has the power to co-opt members if required.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The PCC's Standing Committee, which is required by law and is known as the Executive Committee, comprises the Vicar, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and, if appropriate, one other representative of the PCC. Up to October 2020 this was Anthony Dunnett. Since March 2020 this committee has also included the PCC Secretary. This committee sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has the power to transact business on behalf of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC.

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.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Vicar in promoting the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – in the ecclesiastical parish of Wadhurst.

In furtherance of this mission, the PCC:

- maintains the fabric of the parish church;
- is the beneficial owner of, and responsible for the activities conducted from, Carillon Cottage, the church community centre in Wadhurst High Street;
- is the beneficial owner and managing trustee of St George's Hall in Sparrows Green;
- has oversight of the publication of *Focus* – the parish and community magazine;
- is the employer of the parish administrator;
- is the employer of the Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children and has oversight of the ministry undertaken by the person in that role.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the PCC has given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to 'public benefit'.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Achievements and performance for the public benefit

Electoral Roll

The church Electoral Roll, as at the 2020 annual meeting in October, stands at 192 members, of which 171 are resident within the parish. Eight names were added during the year, and 10 names were removed because of death or moving away.

Worship and Prayer

The PCC aims to offer different styles of service each Sunday to enable as many people as possible from the local community to experience worship that is spiritually fulfilling for them.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Until March 2020 the services followed a usual pattern of worship, which has been as follows:

1 st Sunday	8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am All Age Worship
2 nd Sunday	8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am Parish Communion
3 rd Sunday	8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am Service of the Word
4 th Sunday	8am Holy Communion (BCP); 10am Parish Communion
5 th Sunday	10am 3 as 1 Service, held jointly with Stonegate and Tidebrook churches

In March 2020 services in church had to cease due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

The church leadership responded promptly and creatively to this challenge. Weekly on-line services were made available from 29 March involving a cross-section of the church community in their delivery. On special occasions 'archive' recordings were also made available on-line (e.g. Carol Services). Services have remained on-line throughout the year so they could be accessed at any time. Sermons are recorded and made available on CD or as hard copy for those unable to access the internet.

On average the services have been accessed online 280 times each week, from locations as far away as Australia. Bearing in mind that each time a service is accessed it may be watched by several people, this is a significant expansion of the numbers usually able to attend in person each Sunday.

Church services resumed in July 2020, again in line with all Covid requirements, but on-line provision also continued throughout the year for those unable or unwilling to attend church in person at this time. Church services had to be suspended again from 14th November for four weeks due to the second Covid lockdown. Although a full programme of services was planned for over the Christmas period, the Christmas Eve Nativity Service and Midnight Communion had to be cancelled due to a rapid increase in Covid infections locally in the week before Christmas.

Confidential prayer ministry has continued to be offered by telephone after all the 10am services.

On-line Sunday J Club children's activities were made available from September 2020.

The church was re-opened for private prayer from 15th June 2020, with all Covid safety requirements in place.

The number of special services offered was greatly impacted by the pandemic with many cancellations. We have celebrated no baptisms and 3 weddings and held 6 funerals in the church this year, all in line with Covid restrictions in force at the time.

Deanery Synod

By virtue of the number on the Electoral Roll, the church has four places on the Deanery Synod. Synod provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Fabric and churchyard

Maintenance of the church fabric continued as far as possible in line with Covid limitations, following the recommendations of the Quinquennial report.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Following two thefts of lead from the roof above the vestries in 2019 work has progressed on replacements in accordance with a faculty and insurers' requirements.

During the year repairs were required to the church heating system on a number of occasions. In view of the age and unreliability of the existing boiler, the PCC is considering options for its replacement.

The churchyard continues to be maintained in good order. Extension of the available space was achieved by the removal of a mound of earth, to ensure that the people of Wadhurst will continue to have the option to be buried in the churchyard of their parish church. A faculty has been applied for to grant permission to reuse for burials an area of the churchyard nearer the church building. Experiments with rewilding areas of the churchyard have taken place during the year.

Pastoral Care

The Covid pandemic has been a tragedy for everyone and has impacted on the social and pastoral life of the church. However, it has also provided the opportunity for the church to demonstrate exceptional care and service to the local community.

The volunteer base co-ordinated by Carillon Cottage expanded to over 150 people who supported the local community with shopping, prescriptions, hospital visits and similar. This work was recognised by a 'Local Heroes' Award from Wealden Council, and is still continuing.

During the year the opportunity was taken to review the Governing document of Carillon Cottage to provide additional clarity on the respective roles and responsibilities of the PCC and the Management Committee of the Cottage.

The Vicar maintained contact with all parishioners through email and telephone calls. The church email group has grown by almost 100 people during 2020 as many people have 'signed up' to be included in church news emails.

Mission and Evangelism

The network of homegroups, through which the gospel is proclaimed, and private and collective prayer and study is promoted, has proved invaluable during periods of lockdown in 2020.

Most homegroups continued to meet virtually, and all offered support to their members in those tough times. Some groups grew in size during the period.

An active children's programme continued within the limitations of the pandemic, involving children from the local primary school and also more widely with activities in the village such as the Nativity trail.

Following the resignation of the Pastoral Assistant for Families to pursue ordination training, the role was advertised. The church is also in receipt of a Diocesan Mission Grant to employ someone as Church Youth Worker and School Pastors' Coordinator. Following the interview process a new appointment of a person to both posts was made in December 2020, to commence in early 2021.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The church and PCC seek to contribute to the Mission of God locally, nationally and globally. The charities and organisations supported in 2020 were:

Local Charities:

Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ
Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors

UK Charities:

Chichester Cathedral Trust
Diocesan Family Support Work
Children's Society
Church Army
Church Pastoral Aid Society
St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy
The Bible Society

Overseas Charities:

Church Mission Society
Crosslinks
Eurasia Education Foundation
Open Doors

In addition, a 'Vicar's Discretionary Fund' was set up to allow rapid response to crises.

A special appeal for Burundi - the Wadhurst 5k Water Christmas Appeal – generated donations exceeding £4,000, which enabled *Food For The Hungry* to reach its target of £30,000, which was doubled to £60,000 through generous match-funding.

BENEFIT TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Wadhurst church aspires to be at the heart of the local community, and to manifest loving service in numerous ways. Many of these have been impacted by restrictions on social gatherings, but the church has sought to continue as many as possible in line with Covid safety advice. As soon as possible, these services will be reintroduced at full strength.

These services include:

Carillon Cottage

Since 1999 the Wadhurst PCC has had responsibility for the activities run from this location on Wadhurst High Street. The volunteers in the Cottage provide tourist and local information services and keep the Village Diary. They advertise and sell tickets for local events, coordinate a volunteer driving service for hospital appointments etc. Wheelchairs may be hired, and meeting rooms are made available for local groups for consultations, advice and community engagement.

The Friends Across Wadhurst befriending service is also run from the Cottage.

"Carillon Cottage has been chosen to receive recognition of its contribution to the community" - Wealden District Council

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Cottage, its facilities and services have proved to be a lifeline for many during the 2020 pandemic and the services were expanded to meet the needs of the elderly and vulnerable, especially those 'shielding' during the pandemic.

Churchyard and Church building

The PCC maintains St Peter and St Paul's churchyard in good order not only for the benefit of the worshipping community but for the wider community. The churchyard is a popular place for dog walkers and for people to sit and has been a welcome walking space for many during the pandemic.

The Church building is open for quiet reflection and prayer.

The church is also available for local arts initiatives and concerts. In December 2020 a concert in aid of the Church was held with local performers and this was made available on-line for all to enjoy.

St George's Hall

This building in the Sparrows Green area of Wadhurst is used by various local community groups such as Brownies and Guides and is available for private hire. Although currently closed, the PCC will continue to maintain it, to be able to reopen as soon as possible.

Focus

This parish magazine is distributed throughout the village and is available in Carillon Cottage. It offers a directory of services and support, an events diary and a means for local authorities (such as the Parish Council and police service), local clubs and societies, as well as the two Wadhurst schools to communicate with the wider community.

In 2020 the management of the advertising and production aspects was transferred to Hucksters, a local company, which is using its skills to develop the publication further for the benefit of readers.

Wadhurst Community Network Group

Wadhurst church is an active member of the Wadhurst Community Network Group. This is a multi-agency network group including groups such as the county and local Council, the local care home, the U3A, AgeUK, the Fire & Rescue Service, the Dementia Society and Neighbourhood Watch. The Community Network Group aims to benefit all aspects of community especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Church representatives attend the group meetings, and the church hosts events when possible.

CAMEO

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) is a weekly club for the elderly, who usually meet in the church hall and have a hot meal followed by games, activities or a guest speaker. It is run by a team of about 8 volunteers and welcomes about 25 members. This service has been suspended during the pandemic due to the vulnerable nature of the attendees, but importantly, the volunteers have maintained contact with the attendees.

School Pastors

Volunteer School Pastors are in place to provide support to Uplands Community College for two lunchtimes a week and often support at two boxing sessions a week. The School Pastors have been part of events such as Awards evening, Careers day, Harvest, Shoebox appeal, and are very much a valued part of the Uplands

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Community. Additional volunteers have been recruited during 2020, and the church has been awarded a Mission Grant by the Diocese to employ a part-time professional coordinator to grow the ministry.

Jellybeans

Jellybeans is a Babies' and Toddlers' group hosted by the church and usually has up to 30 families represented every week. Families have valued the healthy snacks that have been provided as well as the provision of a safe space, with a listening, caring ear for all. It is supported by a team of volunteers across the age range. It has not been possible for Jellybeans to meet during the Covid crisis, but sessions have been posted online with songs, stories and activities.

J-Club

J-Club is an after-school club hosted by the church. Prior to the pandemic, a waiting list for J Club was put in place because it reached capacity at around 25 children per week. J Club attracts families that do not attend church and is supported by an enthusiastic team of volunteers.

Although not taking place during lockdown, some on-line provision has been made available for Jellybeans and J Club during the pandemic.

WLTDO?

Who Let The Dads Out? meets once a month on a Saturday morning to provide fun and fellowship for dads and their children. It has not been possible for WLTDO to meet during the Covid crisis, but it is intended to start again as soon as possible.

Schools

The church actively supports our local schools. Wadhurst CE Primary School governing body has three foundation governors from the church. Unfortunately it was not possible for the Vicar to take school assemblies for most of the year due to Covid restrictions, and it was not possible for the church to host school Easter, Harvest and Christmas services. Similarly it was not possible to host the Christmas Carol Service for Uplands Community College, although good relations were maintained with the school primarily through the work of the School Pastors. In addition, each child at both schools who is in receipt of Free School Meals was given a £10 supermarket voucher for Christmas. This was entirely funded (£1,360) by donations from church members.

"I'm so touched to know that anyone would be thinking of us at this time. It will be wisely spent!" – a grateful mum.

The church also helps to run a lunch club at Wadhurst CE Primary School called *Stargazers* who were able to present a socially-distanced Nativity to the village for 2020.

Nourish

The church is a collection point for the local community food bank.

Family Support Work

Once again in 2020 a collection of toys, gifts and money was made for *Family Support Work* to support needy families in the wider community over the Christmas period.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Review of the Year 2020

In June 2020 the United Benefice of Wadhurst Stonegate and Tidebrook was approved, with Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff as Vicar. The three churches have continued to work closely together to provide on-line worship and pastoral care services during the unusual circumstances of 2020.

In undertaking active stewardship of the church building and finances and in sharing in the leadership of the church's worship and mission, the Wadhurst PCC has:

- led by our Safeguarding Officer, complied with section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). It has reviewed and confirmed policies on Safeguarding, and received regular reports from the Safeguarding Officer;
- received regular finance reports and had oversight of the financial position of the church; in addition the PCC has reviewed and approved an updated financial policy to ensure good financial practices;
- received regular reports from the Health and Safety Officer, Fabric Chairman, Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children, and the Chairman of Carillon Cottage;
- reviewed and updated the governance of Carillon Cottage to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities;
- continued to maintain the churchyard to a high standard for the enjoyment of the village as a whole and continued to ensure that the church is a welcoming environment, available for anyone to use for quiet reflection or prayer;
- celebrated the continuing links with Wadhurst CE Primary School, and given Bibles to school leavers;
- continued to offer Sunday services every week on-line and live services when possible; catering for the spiritual needs of the congregation and wider community;
- undertaken a recruitment campaign and made an appointment of a new Pastoral Assistant for Families and Children and Youth Worker and School Pastors Coordinator;
- undertaken a stewardship campaign alongside Harvest celebrations in 2020 to address the shortfall in income due to the postponement of face-to-face services and paid-for services e.g. weddings, enabling the PCC to meet its obligations to the Diocese and maintain all its services locally;
- supported local and national charities financially and through the provision of goods such as toys and food;
- supported the local community with services and information via Carillon Cottage and *Focus* magazine.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Financial review

Total incoming resources from unrestricted general funds were £147,847 (2019: £161,499), a decrease of 8%.

Expenditure on unrestricted church activities, including the diocesan parish share, was £158,569 (2019: £155,540), an increase of 2%. The contribution to the diocesan parish share remained consistent with the contribution made in the previous year of £61,000.

The net loss on unrestricted funds, excluding gains and losses on investments, was £10,722 compared to net income of £5,959 in the previous year.

Reserves Policy

The PCC's unrestricted funds at 31 December 2020 were £427,095 (2019: £434,272). Free unrestricted funds (that is, unrestricted funds excluding designated funds and funds represented by tangible fixed assets) were £28,952 (2019: £23,616). Designated funds include investments of £49,892 which would be available to meet additional short-term needs, the Focus Magazine Fund of £1,212, the Fabric Fund totalling £34,366, the Church Building fund of £5,000 and the Pastoral Assistant fund of £6,408.

The PCC aims at all times throughout the year to have free unrestricted funds available representing three months unrestricted expenditure. At end of 2020 reserves were 2 months' worth of unrestricted funds. The PCC noted that in an emergency, both the designated funds reserves plus the PCC investment funds would be sufficient to meet six months unrestricted expenditure. The PCC aims to bring the unrestricted free reserves back to the equivalent of three months expenditure during 2021/22 but this continues to be subject to the impact of Covid-19 set out in Note 1.2 to the accounts.

Responsibilities of the PCC

The members of the PCC are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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

In preparing those financial statements, the members are required to:

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

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020*

The members are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ascertain to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Vicar and Chair of the PCC

Date: 22 March 2021

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

I report to the PCC members on my examination of the accounts of the Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Wadhurst for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the members of the charity 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 charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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 the 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.

A S Healey FCA CTA DChA
Lindeyer Francis Ferguson Limited
Chartered Accountants

Date: 25 March 2021

North House, 198 High Street
Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1BE

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

		<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
	Notes				
Income from:					
Donations	2	126,719	35,288	162,007	165,885
Church activities	3	5,696	3,665	9,361	19,285
Other trading activities	4	12,919	1,959	14,878	14,449
Investments	5	2,513	2	2,515	5,290
		<u>147,847</u>	<u>40,914</u>	<u>188,761</u>	<u>204,909</u>
Expenditure on:					
Church activities	6	158,569	38,776	197,345	196,565
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net gains on investments	10	3,545	-	3,545	9,315
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(7,177)</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>(5,039)</u>	<u>17,659</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		434,272	79,723	513,995	496,336
		<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total funds carried forward	13	<u>427,095</u>	<u>81,861</u>	<u>508,956</u>	<u>513,995</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	£	2020 £	£	2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		321,267		327,347
Investments	10		73,262		69,593
			<u>394,529</u>		<u>396,940</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	11	3,473		6,254	
Cash at bank and in hand		119,361		121,567	
		<u>122,834</u>		<u>127,821</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(8,407)		(10,766)	
Net current assets			114,427		117,055
Net assets			<u>508,956</u>		<u>513,995</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds	13		427,095		434,272
Restricted funds	13		81,861		79,723
			<u>508,956</u>		<u>513,995</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Parochial Church Council on 22 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Paul Ratcliff
Vicar and Chair of the PCC

Paul Stephens, Honorary Treasurer
Member of the Committee

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

1 Accounting policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 Status

Wadhurst PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. Its registered address is Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, Church Street, Wadhurst, East Sussex, TN5 6AR. Details of its activities are given in the Parochial Church Council's Report.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. The accounts are presented in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

Wadhurst PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

In the preparation of these financial statements the going concern basis of accounting has been adopted. Material uncertainties regarding the going concern basis are as follows:

The closing of Parish churches by the UK Government and Diocese during 2020 to suspend public worship had a significant impact on church finances and affected PCC governance matters during 2020. General collections plate and yellow envelope donations were down to £6,603 compared to £15,487 in 2019 and the 2020 budget. Weddings, baptisms & funerals income and various church trading activities were adversely affected, along with Guides and other hire fees. Following a Harvest Thanksgiving Appeal a number of one off donations were received along with an increase to the Planned Giving Scheme which has enabled much of voluntary income towards unrestricted church activities to be recouped by the year end and close the expenditure cash deficit. At the year end unrestricted reserves are approximately 2 months of committed expenditure but considered adequate due to the ongoing COVID-19 impact on financial position of the church.

The third UK lockdown and legal restrictions and social distancing requirements since January 2021 continue to challenge church finances during 2021. Planned giving may also be negatively affected by the general UK economic recovery and reduced working hours and rising levels in unemployment. Weddings, baptisms, funerals, and general church activities' income will continue to be adversely affected. However, the PCC intend to continue to pay all staff salaries during 2021, including cleaning and churchyard contractors. The PCC is therefore expecting a challenging operating environment in 2021 but anticipate a balanced budget year end outturn, with sufficient income to cover budgeted 2021 expenditure. The church's current expected income and unrestricted reserves are sufficient to ensure the church finances operate as an going concern during 2021.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

Income is recognised when the PCC is entitled to it, it is probable that it will be received and it can be measured reliably. Donations, including planned giving, collections and donations, are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is received. Grants are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from church activities and other trading activities is recognised when the related service has been performed or the event has taken place.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer resources to a third party, settlement is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when due.

1.5 Fixed assets and depreciation

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts.

Freehold land is not depreciated. Depreciation is provided on other tangible fixed assets, at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings	1% on cost
Equipment, sound system and furnishings	25% on written down value
Kitchen	10% on cost

The St. George's Hall freehold property is not depreciated as the PCC considers that the realisable value exceeds its cost.

1.6 Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Gains and losses on revaluation are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.7 Financial instruments

Other than investments, the PCC only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds include general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes. Designated funds include monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects. Restricted funds include all money and assets given for a particular purpose e.g. a special appeal or a specific legacy.

2 Donations

	2020 £	2019 £
Planned giving (including Parish Giving)	85,461	86,620
General collections	6,603	15,487
Donations	43,618	41,280
Income tax recoverable	10,570	13,546
Special collections received	3,255	3,252
Grants	12,500	5,700
	<u>162,007</u>	<u>165,885</u>

The comparative 2019 figure includes restricted income of £29,102.

3 Income from church activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Fees for weddings, funerals etc.	5,696	8,682
Guides, hire fees, other	3,665	10,603
	<u>9,361</u>	<u>19,285</u>

The comparative 2019 figure includes restricted income of £6,734.

4 Fundraising and other trading activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Fundraising	1,020	5,305
Other activities	13,858	9,144
	<u>14,878</u>	<u>14,449</u>

The comparative 2019 figure includes restricted income of £7,560.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

5 Investment income

	2020 £	2019 £
Dividends and interest	2,335	2,229
Trust income	180	3,061
	<u>2,515</u>	<u>5,290</u>

The comparative 2019 figure includes restricted income of £14.

6 Church activities

	2020 £	2019 £
<i>Direct costs:</i>		
Charitable giving & vouchers	13,384	15,788
Special collections paid	3,345	3,252
Diocesan parish contribution	60,997	61,000
Other clergy costs	2,229	2,205
Church running expenses	11,748	11,577
Church maintenance & repairs	4,582	9,067
Vicarage	4,215	3,761
Upkeep of churchyard	6,642	6,274
Upkeep of services	8,066	11,054
Training and education	325	877
Outreach	103	410
Pastoral assistant	8,882	868
St. George's Hall - PCC contribution	1,500	1,500
Depreciation of fixed assets	6,080	6,376
Focus Magazine expenditure	14,351	9,338
<i>Restricted fund expenditure:</i>		
St George's Hall	6,334	7,265
Carillon Cottage	13,442	17,232
Burundi fund expenses	-	40
Burundi fund charitable giving	13,100	-
Building the family fund:		
Caring & Sharing charitable giving	2,000	-
Pastoral assistant	-	13,722
Cameo	900	2,766
<i>Support costs:</i>		
Administrator's salary	11,508	8,653
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>193,733</u>	<u>193,025</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

6 Church activities continued

Subtotal from previous page		193,733	193,025
<i>Governance costs:</i>			
Independent examiner's fee	<i>Current year</i>	1,625	1,590
Cost of annual accounts	<i>Current year</i>	1,987	1,950
		<u>197,345</u>	<u>196,565</u>

The comparative 2019 figure includes restricted expenditure of £41,025.

7 Charitable giving

The following donations to missions and charities were made in the year:

	<i>2020</i>	<i>2019</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<i>General income:</i>		
<i>UK Charities:</i>		
Chichester Cathedral Trust	400	400
Diocesan Family Support Work	1,190	1,400
Children's Society	680	800
Church Army	1,700	2,000
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,190	1,400
St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy	200	200
Bible Society	680	800
<i>Local Charities:</i>		
Tunbridge Wells Youth for Christ	680	800
Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors	680	800
<i>Overseas Charities:</i>		
Church Mission Society	1,190	1,400
Crosslinks	1,700	2,000
Eurasia Education Foundation	680	800
Open Doors	680	800
	<u>11,650</u>	<u>13,600</u>
Vicar's Discretionary Fund	-	200
School leavers' Bibles	944	1,308
Christmas vouchers	790	680
	<u>13,384</u>	<u>15,788</u>
<i>Restricted funds</i>		
Burundi	13,100	-
Nakuru (Caring & Sharing)	2,000	-
	<u>28,484</u>	<u>15,788</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

8 Staff costs and transactions with PCC members

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	25,818	27,841
Pension costs	354	528
	<u>26,172</u>	<u>28,369</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2019: 3). No staff earned more than £60,000.

Key management personnel are considered to be the PCC members. One member, Hollie Butler is was employed by the PCC as Pastoral Assistant until August 2020, when she also resigned as PCC Member. During this period she received emoluments totalling £8,232 (2019: £12,604) in that capacity. No PCC members received remuneration or were reimbursed expenses in their capacity as PCC members during the year.

In the previous year Mrs Angela Kateley, wife of previous PCC member Mark Kateley, was paid £770 in respect of her services as editor of Focus magazine until August 2019.

During the year donations were received from members of the PCC totalling £26,552 (2019: £20,770).

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land £	Freehold buildings £	Cottage, equipment and furnishings £	Fixtures fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 January 2020	120,000	237,493	14,823	77,424	449,740
At 31 December 2020	<u>120,000</u>	<u>237,493</u>	<u>14,823</u>	<u>77,424</u>	<u>449,740</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2020	-	44,150	14,719	63,524	122,393
Charge for the year	-	2,375	104	3,601	6,080
At 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>46,525</u>	<u>14,823</u>	<u>67,125</u>	<u>128,473</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2020	<u>120,000</u>	<u>190,968</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,299</u>	<u>321,267</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>120,000</u>	<u>193,343</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>13,900</u>	<u>327,347</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The fixed assets of the PCC include two freehold properties - St. George's Hall, Wadhurst and Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst.

Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst, which was purchased in 1999, is held for continuing use in the work of the PCC. It was opened as a Church community centre during 2001. The cost of this property includes the historic purchase cost plus the cost of the subsequent building works for its refurbishment.

The Parochial Church Council is the beneficial owner and Managing Trustee of a Charitable Trust – the St. George's Hall (Sparrows Green) – the owner of the freehold of St. George's Hall.

10 Investments

	<i>Chancel Trusts Acc. Income £</i>	<i>Trust funds £</i>	<i>PCC funds £</i>	<i>Total £</i>
Market value				
At 1 January 2020	2,532	19,402	47,659	69,593
Revaluation	-	1,313	2,232	3,545
Accumulated income to 31 December 2020	124	-	-	124
At 31 December 2020	2,656	20,715	49,891	73,262

All investments are held in CBF Church of England Funds.

Trust funds are invested through the Diocesan Board of Finance and include the Watson-Smyth Trust & Parish General Fund. They also include the Laurens/Watson-Smyth – Churchyard Fund. The capital represented by these holdings is freely available to the PCC and thus is considered unrestricted.

Other funds (not included in accounts)

Chancel Trusts: The Diocese maintains, as a permanent trust for the Parish under the Tithe Act, a holding of 196.74 CBF Investment Fund - Income Shares (value at 31 December 2020, £4,031) accumulated income from which may be used to defray the cost of repairs to the fabric of the chancel and the Church. The Diocese has confirmed that the accumulated income is held by DBF as custodian trustee and is freely available to the PCC.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

11 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Gift aid recoverable	3,473	6,254
	<u>3,473</u>	<u>6,254</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Fees owed to Diocese	1,578	1,603
Taxation and social security	1,306	1,315
Other creditors and accruals	5,523	7,848
	<u>8,407</u>	<u>10,766</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

13 Statement of funds: current year

	<i>Brought forward £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expend- iture £</i>	<i>Net gains / (losses) £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>Carried forward £</i>
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>						
Designated funds:						
Capital fund	355,005	-	(6,080)	2,232	-	351,157
Fabric fund	33,080	1,286	-	-	-	34,366
Focus magazine fund	2,644	12,919	(14,351)	-	-	1,212
Church building (Crèche) fund	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
Pastoral assistant fund	14,927	363	(8,882)	-	-	6,408
General funds	23,616	133,279	(129,256)	1,313	-	28,952
	<u>434,272</u>	<u>147,847</u>	<u>(158,569)</u>	<u>3,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>427,095</u>
<i>Restricted funds:</i>						
Caring and sharing scheme	1,982	576	(2,000)	-	-	558
St George's Hall	25,715	5,827	(6,334)	-	-	25,208
Carillon Cottage	24,652	16,594	(13,442)	-	-	27,804
Burundi fund	15,734	9,999	(13,100)	-	-	12,633
Building the family fund:						
Communications fund	6,750	-	-	-	-	6,750
Cameo	4,890	718	(900)	-	-	4,708
Other restricted funds	-	7,200	(3,000)	-	-	4,200
	<u>79,723</u>	<u>40,914</u>	<u>(38,776)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,861</u>
Total funds	<u>513,995</u>	<u>188,761</u>	<u>(197,345)</u>	<u>3,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>508,956</u>

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

13 Statement of funds (continued): prior year

	<i>Brought forward</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Net gains / (losses)</i> £	<i>Transfers</i> £	<i>Carried forward</i> £
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>						
Designated funds:						
Capital fund	358,109	-	(6,376)	3,272	-	355,005
Fabric fund	28,083	2,205	(1,104)	-	3,896	33,080
Focus magazine fund	1,224	10,758	(9,338)	-	-	2,644
Church building (Crèche) fund	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000
Pastoral assistant fund	-	15,795	(868)	-	-	14,927
General funds	26,582	132,741	(137,854)	6,043	(3,896)	23,616
	<u>418,998</u>	<u>161,499</u>	<u>(155,540)</u>	<u>9,315</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>434,272</u>
<i>Restricted funds:</i>						
Caring and sharing scheme	1,406	576	-	-	-	1,982
St George's Hall	23,325	9,655	(7,265)	-	-	25,715
Carillon Cottage	23,501	18,383	(17,232)	-	-	24,652
Burundi fund	3,688	12,086	(40)	-	-	15,734
Building the family fund:						
Pastoral assistant	13,722	-	(13,722)	-	-	-
Communications fund	6,750	-	-	-	-	6,750
Cameo	4,946	2,710	(2,766)	-	-	4,890
	<u>77,338</u>	<u>43,410</u>	<u>(41,025)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,723</u>
Total funds	<u>496,336</u>	<u>204,909</u>	<u>(196,565)</u>	<u>9,315</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,995</u>

Details of designated funds are as follows:

Capital fund:

This fund represents the net book value of the tangible fixed assets (apart from St George's Hall which is included in restricted funds as described below) plus the market value of the PCC funds included within investments.

Fabric fund:

This fund is for the Quinquennial , five year cyclical maintenance of the church premises.

Focus magazine fund:

Focus Magazine is administered by a separate committee under the overall control of the PCC. It seeks to raise sufficient income from advertising revenues and from sales to cover its costs of production and distribution. The print and production of the magazine is managed by an external company 'Hucksters'.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

13 Statement of funds (continued)

Pastoral assistant fund/Building the family fund

The goal of the restricted building the family fund was to grow the church and serve the community through the appointment, funding and support of a pastoral assistant for families and to develop flexible fellowship space and improve amenities of the church. Funds in prior years were restricted donations but from 2019 donations have been allocated to the pastoral assistant designated fund from general fundraising by the PCC.

Church building (Crèche) fund:

This fund is for improving the Crèche amenities of the church.

Details of restricted funds are as follows:

Caring & sharing scheme:

The Caring & Sharing Scheme was established some years ago to support our nominated community in Nakuru, Kenya.

St. George's Hall:

St George's Hall (Sparrows Green) is a separate charitable trust, approved by the Charity Commission in 1994, of which the PCC is beneficial owner and Managing Trustee. St. George's Hall is administered by a separate committee under the overall control of the PCC. In financial terms it is largely self-sufficient although the PCC contributes to its revenues as required. This fund includes the freehold property which is included in the accounts at its deemed cost of £20,000. The PCC currently contributes an annual grant of £1,500 to its revenues.

Carillon Cottage:

The Carillon Cottage fund is a restricted fund for the operation of the Church Community Centre at Carillon Cottage, High Street, Wadhurst, a property purchased by the PCC in 1999. The Carillon Cottage figures also include Social Action Project and Friends Across Wadhurst income and expenditure.

Burundi fund:

The Burundi fund includes donations received for the specific purpose of furthering the aims of the Wadhurst-Burundi link.

Communications fund:

The communications fund includes donations towards improvements to church communications, marketing and the post of Communications Officer. An appointment has not yet been made but is planned for 2021.

Cameo:

The PCC took over responsibility for this fund from the Wadhurst Methodist Church Council in May 2015, following the closure of the Methodist Church. At the same time, the venue for Cameo moved from the Methodist Church to St George's Hall. The Cameo fund provides the finances for weekly lunches and other activities for senior citizens.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

13 Statement of funds (continued)

Other restricted funds:

The balance carried forward relates to funds received for the extension of the burial ground. Works for this are planned in 2021.

14 Analysis of net assets between funds: current year

	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Un- restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	20,000	301,267	321,267
Fixed asset investments	-	73,262	73,262
Current assets	61,861	60,973	122,834
Creditors due within one year	-	(8,407)	(8,407)
	<u>81,861</u>	<u>427,095</u>	<u>508,956</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds: prior year

	<i>Restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Un- restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	20,000	307,347	327,347
Fixed asset investments	-	69,593	69,593
Current assets	59,723	68,098	127,821
Creditors due within one year	-	(10,766)	(10,766)
	<u>79,723</u>	<u>434,272</u>	<u>513,995</u>

Free unrestricted funds as noted in the PCC report comprise unrestricted, undesignated fixed asset investments and current assets less creditors due within one year.

15 Monies handled as agent

These include fees collected on behalf of the Diocese by St Peter and St Paul, Stonegate and Tidebrook churches at weddings and funerals (£9,765). Balances payable at the year end were £2,484 (2019: £3,756).

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL, WADHURST

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

16 Church Workers Pension Fund (CWPF)

Wadhurst PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund is made up of two sections, Pension Builder Classic and Pension Builder 2014, both of which are classed as defined benefit schemes. There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2020: £354, 2019: £528).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2016.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £14.2m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose not to grant a discretionary bonus, which will have acted to improve the funding position. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £1.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, Wadhurst PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.