

ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, ALCOMBE

Registered Charity No: 1132449

The Parochial Church Council of
St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023



PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ALCOMBE

Trustees Annual Report to year end 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St Michael the Archangel Church is situated in Church Street, Alcombe, Minehead. It is part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells within the Church of England. The correspondence address is St Michael the Archangel Church, Church Street, Alcombe, Minehead, Somerset. TA24 6BL

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe was entered in the Register of Charities on 4 November 2009: the registration Number being 1132449

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

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Post</i>	<i>Dates if part year:</i>
<i>Incumbent:</i>	Revd. Kenneth Cross	Chairman	
<i>Curate:</i>	Revd Nicola Butcher		
<i>Readers:</i>	Lesley Edwards, Mike Lee		
<i>Wardens:</i>	Mr Lyn Edwards		
<i>Deputy Wardens</i>	Mrs Sue Smith & Mrs Jane Jones.		
<i>Elected Members</i>	Mrs Audrey Bateman	Treasurer	
	Mrs Sheelagh Spink	Secretary	Until Sept. 2023
	Mr Jonathan Mills	ERO/Secretary	From May/Nov 2023
	Mrs Ruth Gasperini		
	Mrs Julia Harper		
	Mr Lyn Edwards		
	Mrs Jane Jones		
	Mrs Pat Watkins		
	Mrs Pauline Bennett		
	Mr Mike Lee		
	Mrs Lesley Edwards		
	Mrs Sue Smith		

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. There is no formal induction or training of new PCC members, they are however advised and aware of their responsibilities as Trustees. PCC members are not remunerated. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The National Westminster Bank, Minehead, is the PCC bank. Mr Nick Shattock of Overstream Tax and Accounting, Porlock, is the appointed Independent Examiner.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Michael the Archangel PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Rev'd Kenneth Cross in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church of St Michael the Archangel and has completed a three phase building development programme.

RISK REVIEW

The PCC makes every endeavour to maintain a safe environment for all its activities, worship, church and buildings. A review of the parish property has been undertaken during the year.

The PCC and clergy endeavour to maintain the highest standards of care when dealing with the public, church members and vulnerable people.

MISSION AIMS

1. We remain committed to discerning the vocation of every member of the church community.
2. We seek to build an all-age, inclusive community of Christians to serve the Parish of Alcombe and ensure that young families are welcomed.
3. We strive to foster Christian witness and devotion through high standards of worship and music in the Church.
4. We intend to support the ministry of Christian Pastoral Care and respond to the needs of the people we serve.
5. We will develop opportunities to nurture Christian discipleship and provide for those who seek to know more of our faith.
6. We continue to provide sufficient resources to fund the mission of the Church in Alcombe and beyond.
7. We rejoice in the ministry we share beyond the benefice with both our neighbouring parish of Minehead and our ecumenical partners and others of good will.
8. The new Grabbist Hill Benefice was created informally in September, with St Michael the Archangel joining with Dunster, Wootton Courtenay and Timberscombe forming new relationships into the future. (The formal finalising of the legalities of the new benefice will, we hope, be completed this year.)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Church Attendance

From January 2023 - December 2023. Sunday and weekly services continue to be held. The Church has been able to return to normality following the years of covid. However, some congregants still felt slightly reticent to join in with services. The Sunday service continued to be videoed for those with access to the internet. A weekly newsletter continued to be circulated to those who wished to receive it.

As at 31st December 2023 there were 94 parishioners on the **Church Electoral Roll**. The average Sunday attendance was 57; Midweek services commenced as allowed and the average attendance was 16. Young Church attendance 3.

Review of the year.

The ministerial team included Rev'd Kenneth Cross, with support from retired priests. We welcomed our new Curate, Nicola Butcher, in 2022 and she has settled well into her post and is fully integrated into the life of our church family. Her enthusiasm and organisation are fully appreciated. Work is in progress to form a new pastoral team.

Late in 2022 a new benefice was proposed in the Exmoor Deanery. Consequently in September 2023 Grabbist Hill Benefice was created with St Michael the Archangel, Alcombe joining with St. Georges at Dunster; St Petrock's, Timberscombe and All Saints, Wootton Courtenay. Revd Kenneth Cross as incumbent has liaised regularly and taken services with the other parishes. We will, looking ahead, be revising our mission aims in collaboration with our sister parishes in the new benefice as our life together evolves and new strategies emerge.

During the year the PCC met 5 times. The PCC operated through the following committee: Standing Committee in practice - taking on the role of Finance Committee, which met as and when required.

SMA remains committed to the Exmoor Youth Project and is supportive of the Youth Worker. The work of the EYP continues but unfortunately there remains concern of its financial commitments. Strong links were maintained with the neighbouring parish of Minehead, and with others in the Exmoor Deanery.

The spiritual, pastoral, ecumenical and social fellowship of St Michael the Archangel (SMA) still thrives and all efforts were maintained to keep everyone connected during the year. Rev'd. Kenneth Cross, Rev'd Nicola Butcher, the retired Priests, readers, and others contributed to the prayers and liturgy that accompanied the correspondence which was distributed in person and via email and post to our church community. The Sunday Service continued to be regularly broadcast via 'You Tube'. The pastoral work of the parish continues. Regular visits to the Residential Homes are maintained. A Lent course was offered and during Advent sessions of 'Advent Reflections' took place. The regular Thursday coffee morning continues and the soup lunch on alternate Thursdays is established and supported. Along with other churches in the neighbourhood a "Warm Space" was offered to help alleviate the anxieties of the evolving energy crisis.

The West Somerset Food Cupboard Charity operates from the church premises. It is supported well by the wider community.

Work continued on caring for the fabric of the church with repairs and enhancement as necessary. A quinquennial review was undertaken in March 2023. A report is awaited.

Financial contributions to the church continued, albeit reduced, and SMA was again just able to meet its Parish Share commitment, although this was only achieved by using our reserves. There is no guarantee that this situation can be maintained. An Advent Fair was held and well supported raising £1,052, a much needed boost to our funds.

The Parish continued its wider missionary work. In 2023 it supported: Church Homeless Trust; Médecins Sans Frontières; DEC [Turkey and Syria]. As always, the congregation is encouraged to support Christian Aid, this year being Gaza. Members of the church do this independently if they are able to.

The PCC remains grateful for and appreciative of Rev'd. Kenneth Cross and his wife Sarah - Jane, Curate, Revd Nicola Butcher, Retired Priests, Readers, and all others, including the heroes who help with the flowers, cleaning parties, coffee and fund raising etc. who contributed, which helps to maintain the connectivity within our church community, and help it to thrive.

The work of Churchwarden Lyn Edwards and his deputies in keeping the church safe, compliant and welcoming during the year is recognized and much appreciated.

Our Churchwarden of many years, Sue Smith, relinquished her post in April 2023 and Lyn Edwards took up the reins. Sue Smith and Jane Jones continue to support as deputies.

The Rev'd Kenneth Cross and the PCC are grateful for all the support and faithfulness of SMA's congregation.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total incoming resources on ordinary unrestricted funds were £65,406 and are detailed in the Financial Statements. Including restricted fund income of £1,475 the total incoming resources amounted to £66,881.

Total resources used in the year were £76,089. The largest item of expenditure £46,047 was the Parish Share which is a payment to the Bath and Wells Diocesan Board of Finance to enable it to provide the parish with clergy and support services.

The net result for the year was an excess of expenditure over income of £9,208.

RESERVES POLICY

The PCC has a policy to earmark a £30,000 reserve to cover cash flow and emergencies.

Approved by the PCC at their meeting in

April 2024

and signed on their behalf by

Rev'd. Kenneth Cross

Chairman

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL ALCOMBE

Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Nick Shattock
Overstream Tax and Accounting
The Lighthouse
Doverhay, Porlock
Somerset
TA24 8LJ

25 March 2024

The Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel Alcombe
Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2023

<u>Income</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	<u>Restricted funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Tax efficient planned giving		27,258		27,258	26,544
Other planned giving		1,640		1,640	2,280
Collections at services		3,690		3,690	2,543
Other recurring giving (includes Gift days, fetes)		3,667		3,667	2,502
Non-recurring giving/donations (includes special appeals)		1,813	441	2,254	0
Charitable income (restricted)		0	1,034	1,034	748
Other restricted income		0		0	334
 Tax recovered through Gift Aid		 7,245		 7,245	 6,743
Legacies received		5,000		5,000	0
Income from grants		750		750	
Fund raising (sponsored activities, jumble sales)		22		22	246
Interest/dividends received		3,118		3,118	1,952
 Statutory fees retained by the PCC		 4,081		 4,081	 4,676
Hall lettings		1,567		1,567	1,936
West Somerset Food Cupboard contribution		5,500		5,500	3,833
Other receipts		55		55	
 Total income		 <u>65,406</u>	 <u>1,475</u>	 <u>66,881</u>	 <u>54,337</u>

The Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel Alcombe
Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	<u>Restricted funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>Church Activities</u>					
Mission giving and donations		0	1,034	1,034	1,133
Diocesan Parish Share		46,047		46,047	45,144
Salaries and honoraria		2,590		2,590	2,073
Clergy expenses		92		92	0
<u>Church expenses</u>					
Mission and Evangelism, outreach, courses		939		939	828
Routine repairs and maintenance		562	1,134	1,696	388
Insurance		1,088		1,088	1,030
Miscellaneous: Printing, stationary, cleaning materials, telephone		1,353		1,353	1,863
Churchyards		1,458		1,458	1,025
Upkeep of services, organ tuning, worship materials choir robes		924		924	966
Young Church		120		120	0
Church utility bills, electricity, gas, water		10,846		10,846	5,620
Fees - payments to Diocese		2,209		2,209	1,999
Cost of bibles/publications		1,294	441	1,735	0
Miscellaneous expenditure		101		101	124
Major church repairs, including decoration		0	3,557	3,557	3,937
<u>Governance</u>					
Annual report		300		300	300
Total expenditure		<u>69,923</u>	<u>6,166</u>	<u>76,089</u>	<u>66,430</u>
Net surplus for year		-4,517	-4,691	-9,208	-12,093
Food Cupboard Movement			0	0	-7,814
Food Cupboard transfer of balance					-47,831
Unrealised surplus (loss) on investments	2	<u>3,558</u>		<u>3,558</u>	<u>-4,977</u>
Total surplus for year		-959	-4,691	-5,650	-72,715
Add funds brought forward		<u>62,719</u>	<u>52,028</u>	<u>114,747</u>	<u>187,462</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>61,760</u>	<u>47,337</u>	<u>109,097</u>	<u>114,747</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel Alcombe

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Investment Assets	2	41,049	37,491
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Debtors and prepayments	3	3,500	5,333
Loan		1,000	1,000
Cash funds	4	<u>63,848</u>	<u>71,223</u>
		68,348	77,556
<u>Creditors</u>			
Amounts falling due within one year			
Creditors and Accruals	5	300	300
<u>Net Current Assets</u>		<u>68,048</u>	<u>77,256</u>
<u>Total Assets less current Liabilities</u>		<u>109,097</u>	<u>114,747</u>
<u>Funds of the Charity</u>	6		
Music fund		4,418	4,418
Fabric fund		41,372	46,063
Hardship fund		213	213
Discretionary Fund		1,334	1,334
West Somerset Food Cupboard			
Reserves		30,000	30,000
Unrestricted General Fund		<u>31,760</u>	<u>32,719</u>
		<u>109,097</u>	<u>114,747</u>

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2015 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP 2015.

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

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming resources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Fund raising events are accounted for net as the amount of the expenses are not considered material in these events.

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel Alcombe

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year to 31 December 2023 (continued)

<u>2. Investment Assets</u>	<u>cost</u>	<u>increase</u>	<u>value</u>	<u>value</u>
		<u>in value</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
COE Investment fund	<u>21,559</u>	<u>3,558</u>	<u>41,049</u>	<u>37,491</u>

<u>3. Debtors and prepayments</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Income Tax recoverable	3,500	3,500
Food Cupboard	<u>0</u>	<u>1,833</u>
	<u>3,500</u>	<u>5,333</u>

<u>4. Cash funds</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Current account - Nat West	18,591	8,898
Central Board of Finance	<u>45,257</u>	<u>62,325</u>
	<u>63,848</u>	<u>71,223</u>

<u>5. Liabilities</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>
Accruals	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>

<u>6. Funds</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Reserves</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Funds</u>	
Fund Balances at 1 January 2023	32,719	30,000	52,028	114,747
Incoming resources	65,406		1,475	66,881
Unrealised investment gains	<u>3,558</u>			<u>3,558</u>
	101,683		53,503	185,186
Resources used	<u>69,923</u>		<u>6,166</u>	<u>76,089</u>
Fund balances at 31 December 2023	<u>31,760</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>47,337</u>	<u>109,097</u>