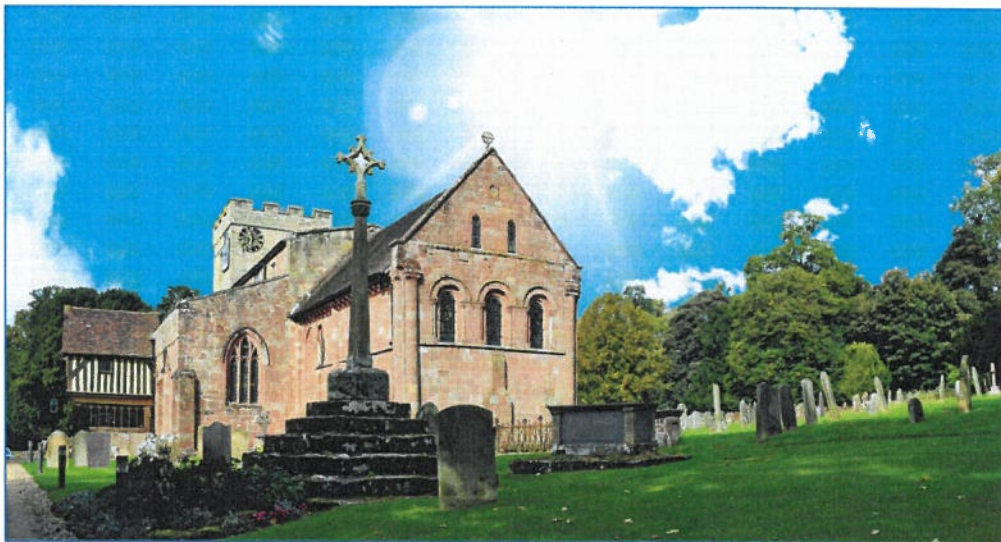


# **Annual Report and Accounts**

## **The Parochial Church Council**

### **of St. John Baptist Church, Berkswell**

### **Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**



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## **Trustees' Report**

### **Aim and Purposes**

St. John Baptist Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Canon Dr Mark Bratton, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions as to how our services can engage the many groups that live within our parish. We are a passionate, inclusive church, responding to our faith in God.

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

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; developing knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Mission and outreach work.

To facilitate the whole mission, the PCC is specifically responsible for the important task of maintaining the Church building and the adjoining rooms.

The PCC complied with its duty in having due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding vulnerable children and adults (under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016). The Parish Safeguarding Officer is Mrs Wendy Burns, whose report can be found on page 19.

### **Background**

This year, we have seen the continuing return to 'normal' church life after the Coronavirus pandemic. Although some of its impacts may persist, our congregation is strong and growing, reflecting renewal and hope. Our Children and Families ministry has expanded with the employment of two part-time staff dedicated to this area.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Ministry Team**

The Ministry Team continued to meet on a regular basis to plan and prepare for worship, with particular focus on our special services and to pray for the life of the church community. The ministry team consisted of Revd Canon Dr Mark Bratton and our licensed Reader, Richard Hollingdale, who took primary responsibility for the leading of worship in our church community, overseeing liturgy and the rhythm of both special services and ordinary worship. The team was supported by a number of lay ministers and guest preachers.

Throughout 2024 we continued to offer the ministry of occasional offices of baptisms, weddings, funerals and burials, all of which have been significant and meaningful occasions for those involved.

### **Worship and Prayer**

Worship and prayer are at the heart of our church life. Our regular pattern of worship now consists of three services each week. Our principal service, held every Sunday at 10.00 a.m., is a sung Parish Communion

(Common Worship) with Junior Church sessions running during part of the service, and 5.30 p.m. Evensong or Holy Communion, with a said Holy Communion on Thursdays at 10.30 a.m.

Junior Church is an intrinsic part of church life at Berkswell, the leadership team undertook to provide sessions on a weekly basis during term time. A thoughtful, informative and enjoyable programme was delivered, linking in with the key themes of the liturgical year in addition to Christian values and such topics as care for creation. It was encouraging to see an increase in the number of children and young families attending worship. Being such an important dimension to the worshipping life of the church, we were delighted to welcome two new Children and Families Ministry Workers, Selina and Katie, who have exciting plans for the future.

We are actively involved with our ecumenical brothers and sisters through Churches Together in Balsall and Berkswell.

In addition to our weekly worship, a full series of special services took place during 2024:

- Candlemas
- Ash Wednesday
- Mothering Sunday
- Choral Passion Service
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday Meditations and Liturgy
- Easter Day
- Rogation – processing to beat the bounds of the village
- Harvest – goods and produce passed to a local charity, Carriers of Hope.
- All Souls' service for the bereaved
- Armistice Day and Remembrance Day
- Advent Carols
- Lessons and Carols
- Christingle Services
- Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day Family Communion

We are grateful and thankful for the contributions to worship by so many of our congregation and friends, be that music, readings, creative ideas or behind the scenes technical expertise. Special thanks go to Patricia Rich, Wendy Burns and Peter Cross for ensuring our services continued to be broadcast online to the small, private group of congregation members no longer able to attend in person. Thanks also to our Director of Music, Kevin Stannard, and the choir members for their wonderful, choral contributions, both at regular and special services. Worship is a richer experience with the addition of such fine music. We thank Stephen Collins and Jack Cross for their steadfast service as Sacristan and Crucifer, respectively.

During Lent, a book study course was well received. The PCC has also been devoting time at each PCC meeting to read and discuss 'How Village Churches Thrive'.

We plan to continue with a rich pattern of worship and music in 2025 celebrating the key liturgical seasons in the Church's calendar and to connect with our parish in a meaningful way throughout the coming years.

#### Electoral Roll and Statistics for Mission

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, there were 179 people on the church electoral roll, of whom 104 resided outside of the parish. Our worshipping community at the end of 2024 was 195, comprising 158 adults and 37 children

and young adults. We welcomed 30 new adults and 18 children during the year, with 26 adults and 14 children leaving for a variety of reasons.

On a positive note, the signs of growth seen in our church give hope for the future, it was one of our biggest challenges over the last few years.

Attendance at Easter and Christmas services:

Easter Day: 140

Advent and Nativity services: 417

Christingle, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day: 594

In addition to our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God through the various milestones of life's journey. In baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and in funeral services friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life now completed in this world, commending their loved ones into God's keeping.

We celebrated 19 baptisms and 9 weddings.

21 funerals were held with 21 committals only or burial of ashes. Sadly, these figures include a number of long-standing congregation members.

### Safeguarding

The PCC takes Safeguarding seriously, believing in the intrinsic value of training to facilitate culture change and to promote the safety and welfare of everyone who accesses our church.

Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment policies were adopted from the recommended policies from Coventry Diocese. The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults is an important part of our Christian ministry and therefore training is vital to ensure all church officers and volunteers understand their responsibilities. Everyone who participates in the life of the church has a role to play in promoting a safer church, this being underpinned by robust, good quality training. The PCC thanks Wendy Burns, the Parish Safeguarding Officer, for her diligent work and focus on this important aspect of church life. The PCC acknowledges the volunteers and officers for completing their training on time.

### Church Centre

The church is open daily, available to our local community for quiet and private prayer and to visitors who come to the church, from far and wide, as borne out by our visitors' book. The church space and grounds provide a place for those seeking a quiet and reflective environment for worship, prayer or a period of solitude. The church complex includes two rooms and a kitchen adjoining the church which may be hired exclusively for meetings or events incidental or ancillary to the activities of the church. The Parish office is operational weekdays until early afternoon.

### Repairs and Renovations

Routine maintenance and servicing continued in line with our programme of works to ensure health and safety requirements were met. Other repairs or maintenance were attended to in a timely and appropriate manner. The Quinquennial Inspection took place in 2023, inevitably there were some works required with other elements recommended to be undertaken over the next few years. Thanks to Peter Wilson and Robin Worley for their expertise and practical assistance throughout the year. The PCC is planning to embark on the larger projects in 2025.

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral visits and home communion for the sick were undertaken by Revd Mark Bratton. Occasionally, home communion was administered by authorised individuals to those members of our congregation no longer

able to attend services in person due to illness or mobility issues. Many congregation members continued to act as 'good neighbours', keeping in touch with and supporting their church friends.

We continue to be engaged with Solihull Council's Community Champions, receiving regular updates on all help and support available to people be that health and well-being, parenting, or simply ensuring access to medication and groceries shopping.

#### Mission and Evangelism

The successful weekly Coffee Shop continues, thanks to Liz Whalley, June Smitten and their team of willing volunteers. Many new faces soon became regulars, appreciating the warm welcome and social aspects of this ever-growing group.

The infamous Berkswell Beerfest was again a hugely successful aspect of outreach. Many thanks to Graham Parry and the organising committee and volunteers without whose help, the event may not have continued.

#### Community events included:

Fundraising quizzes, thanks to the hard work of Cathy and Graham Parry and others.

Day Trip to the Cotswolds, thanks to Paul Morris and John Foudy.

History Talks, thanks to the various presenters and speakers.

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Donations of goods and toiletries for our foodbank collection goes to Carriers of Hope, Coventry. Other collections for the Mothers' Union Homeless project are supported. Under the watchful eye of Patricia Rich (Editor), the monthly parish magazine continues to be an interesting, informative read, reaching out to the wider community, keeping parishioners informed of important matters affecting our church and local articles of interest.

#### Ecumenical Relationships

Our church is a member of Churches Together in Balsall and Berkswell (CTBB). Various activities in which we participated included the monthly coffee mornings in Balsall Common village centre, Lenten Breakfasts and rotational hosting of the annual Women's World Day of Prayer service. There are also social and fundraising activities that enable sharing and fellowship. We thank Barbara Magson and David Bell for representing Berkswell in 2023 along with the Rector. Emma Bratton has now taken over the reins from Claire Laland as CTBB Secretary. The PCC thanks those church members that have both supported and volunteered at the various activities.

#### Volunteers

The PCC warmly thanks all volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. There are too many to name individually but, in particular, we are very grateful to our Churchwardens, Angela Childs and Michael Parker, who have worked tirelessly on our behalf; also, Peter Cross, Honorary Treasurer, who helped us understand the church's financial position and guided us on financial decisions.

#### Risk Management

The PCC maintains a Risk Management profile that is reviewed regularly. This describes the principal risks and uncertainties facing the church and its undertakings, as identified by the trustees (PCC members), together with a summary of plans and strategies for managing those risks. Health & Safety risk reviews are

carried out regularly by the churchwardens or other appointed persons. Additional risk assessments were undertaken to ensure we complied with both the government and Church of England guidance for various events and activities.

### Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. John Baptist the membership of the PCC consists of the Incumbent (our Rector), Churchwardens, Diocesan Synod representative, Deanery Synod representatives, Licensed Readers and members of our church, elected by those on the church electoral roll. Members of the congregation who are eligible, are encouraged to apply to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including decisions on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial induction into the workings of the PCC. The PCC met six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 81%. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has established a number of advisory groups and sub-committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These groups, detailed on page 8, are all responsible to the PCC and are expected to report back regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC for discussion, as necessary.

The PCC maintains relationships with Berkswell Church of England Primary school via the Foundation Governors, who were nominated by the PCC. The current Foundation Governors are the Rector (Ex-officio), Kevin Millward, Rebecca Crowe, Michael Parker and Christine Gough. A new Foundation Governor is in the process of being nominated and appointed, to fulfil the remaining vacancy.

### Administrative information

Berkswell Church is situated in Church Lane, Berkswell, CV7 7BJ

The parish office telephone number is 01676 529123.

The Parish is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England.

The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity, as a place of worship, currently registered with the Charity Commission - Charity Number 1132450.

### Trustees

PCC members who served at any time from 1st January 2024 until the date of this report are:

#### **Ex Officio Members:**

Incumbent: The Reverend Canon Dr Mark Bratton (Chairman)

Reader: Richard Hollingdale

Churchwardens: Angela Childs and Michael Parker

Diocesan Synod Representatives: Chris Powell and Anthony Rich

Deanery Synod Reps (3-year term to 2026) Paul Morris, Peter Toor, Veronika Toor, Ivor Wood

#### **Elected Members:**

Peter Cross      Kirsten Fergus      Jo Hands      Simon Northover      Tom Walls

Stuart Hands (from APCM 2024)

### **Officers:**

PCC Secretary - Janet Roberts

Honorary Treasurer - Peter Cross

## Committees and Groups

### Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by Canon Law; created from members of the PCC, it has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. In 2024 it comprised:

The Rector	Churchwardens	Licenced Reader	Honorary Treasurer
PCC Secretary	2 additional PCC members (Tom Walls and Anthony Rich)		

### Advisory Sub-committees and Groups

Led by:

Baptism Preparation	Margaret Walls (until September)
Bell Ringers/Tower Captain	Stephen Patrick & Steven Tibbetts (Ringing Master)
Music provision	Kevin Stannard (Director of Music)
Churches Together	Revd Canon Dr Mark Bratton
Eco-church	Jo Hands
Gift Aid Secretary	Peter Cross
Finance Committee	Tom Walls
Children & Families Ministry	Katie Goodacre and Selina Toor
Magazine Editor	Patricia Rich
Worship	Revd Canon Dr Mark Bratton

### Approval of Report

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Parochial Church Council at its meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

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## Rector's Report

### Looking Back

The keynote of the past year has been **uplift**.

The keynotes for the previous two years were **encouragement** and **development**.

Several goals in the Rector's Report last year have been achieved or nearly achieved.

The Stewardship Campaign, held on March 9th and 13th, encouraged the congregation to join the Parish Giving Scheme to reduce the gap between expenditure (£150,000) and planned giving (£82,000), which is currently bridged by income generated from investments. We will soon assess the success of this endeavour.

The Children and Families program has flourished this year under the guidance of our CFM ministers, Katie Goodacre and Selina Toor. More than 20 children came forward for baptism in the calendar year 2024, and there has been strong attendance at Junior Church and Stay, Play and Pray.



Three Reading Groups with good attendance have been held in Marlene Jolley's home. They have explored biblical and theological themes and contribute to Christian instruction.

The ministry of preaching has continued to be encouraged and resourced. Annie McCormick, Anthony Rich, Mark Bratton, Michael Parker, Pauline Warner, Richard Hollingdale, and Stuart Hands have regularly preached.

The PCC has endorsed the Eco Church sub-committee's recommendation to prioritise reducing the Church's substantial carbon footprint rather than pursuing the new criteria established for the Eco Church Gold Award, for which Berkswell Church is not yet adequately prepared.

In late November 2024, the Church hosted its most successful Beer Festival yet, both financially and in terms of attendance.

The PCC has reached the second-to-last chapter of the book 'How Village Churches Thrive.'

In addition to last year's specified goals, I am grateful to John Foudy and Paul Morris for organising two exceedingly successful outings to the Cotswolds for the Church and local community in July 2024 and April 2025. This is a valuable form of community outreach.

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### Looking Now

I remain deeply grateful for the care, competence, reliability, support and wisdom of our two Churchwardens, Angela Childs and Michael Parker. Together with the Rector and the PCC, the Churchwardens are diligently working to implement the quinquennial survey and its report findings.

Richard Hollingdale is, as ever, a deeply valued ministerial colleague who shares the burdens and joys of leading worship, preaching, and pastoral care. Richard somehow manages to fit in his ministerial duties while reading for a PhD in Music at London University. Richard's wisdom is much valued on the Ministry Leadership Team, which meets weekly.

Our Parish and Assistant Parish Administrators, Janet Roberts and Anne Green, continue to support, maintain consistency, and responsibly manage the Church's administration. As first responders, Janet and Anne are often tasked with addressing complex legal and pastoral issues – always doing so with gentleness and respect. Together with Wendy Burns, the Parish Safeguarding Officer, they have ensured that Berkswell Church remains a safe space for children and vulnerable adults. I am exceedingly grateful to them.

As Treasurer, Peter Cross has ensured the Church's financial stability despite the challenges posed by the stewardship campaign. I remain, as always, immensely grateful for Peter's meticulous work and indebted to Jim Fergus for his support of Peter.

Our Sacristan and assistant Sacristan, Stephen Collins and Jack Cross (who is also the Crucifer), devotedly contribute to the serenity and smoothness of our worship, including numerous special services. Our Director and Assistant Director of Music, Kevin Stannard and Christine Gough, continue to uphold high standards of choral and musical accomplishment, enhancing the excellence of worship at Berkswell. I am extremely grateful to Francis Hooper, Kim Rawson and Norman Ashfield for playing the organ at Evensong.

Our two Children and Families Ministers, Katie Goodacre and Selina Toor, have greatly enhanced the Church's outreach to children and young families. At Katie's instigation, our mums and toddlers group 'Stay, Play and Pray' has evolved into a vibrant weekly (term-time) activity. Selina leads weekly worship in the Church, strengthening its ties with the school. Both assist the Rector with baptism visits, encouraging parents to get involved with Junior Church.

Anthony Rich and Stuart Hands continue to explore their vocations to licenced ministry in the Church of England, as Reader and Ordained Priest, respectively.

Spiritual and congregational life at Berkswell continues to flourish. The main morning service often has over 90 or 100 worshipping members. The Thursday communion service continues to grow, regularly numbering over 30. The growth of the morning congregation is partly due to investing more in our children and families' work. This confirms my suspicion that greater ministerial investment is essential to Church growth, whether through volunteers or paid workers.

More importantly, growth—whether in numerical terms or spiritual depth—is the blossoming of our relationship with Jesus Christ and with each other. Whether through extending a warm welcome, honouring life events, creatively using our magnificent building, manifesting care for our beautiful churchyard, fulfilling our role at the centre of the community, celebrating our heritage, cultivating fruitful festivals, welcoming children and families, reaching out to the isolated and lonely, or communicating effectively, we are fundamentally called to love God and our neighbours as ourselves. For Jesus, this encompassed the whole of the law, and so it does for us.

I want to express my gratitude to Graham Parry and Paul Tyler in this connection. Their organisation of the Church Beer Festivals has invited, and continues to invite, local community members who do not typically attend church to experience the spiritual quality of our church building and the warmth of our church community.

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### **Looking ahead**

These are my aims for the next year:

1. To close the gap between income and expenditure and have a high percentage of our regular givers on the Parish Giving Scheme
2. To appoint another Children and Families minister to replace Katie Goodacre following her recent amicable resignation.
3. To promote Confirmation classes and Confirmation within the congregation to deepen faith and mark Christian commitment.
4. To substantially reduce Berkswell Church's sizeable carbon footprint.
5. To outline a more detailed strategy for the Church that is based on the principles of how village churches thrive.
6. To revitalise the Bereavement Ministry Team.

### **The Rector**

## **Independent Examiner's Report**

### **Report to the members/trustees of St John Baptist, Berkswell, Parochial Church Council.**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent 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 section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Simon Heath FCCA

8th March 2025

## **Financial Review**

The results show a deficit of incoming to outgoing resources of £554 for the year, compared with a deficit of £20,743 last year. Two legacies and a significant charitable donation meant that the recorded deficit was considerably less than our original budgeted deficit of £39,000. We continue to hold some of our investments in cash to cover the deficits that the PCC has approved. The investment values increased over the year, and we saw a net increase in value of £34,591. Together with our deficit, this gave a net increase in funds for the year of £34,037. We continue to use our Eaton fund to support employment of Children and Families workers, this continues to strengthen and build our young families in the congregation. Our agreed budget for next year therefore reflects this liability and is for a deficit of £31,500. This budget is better than 2024, reflecting our improved voluntary income and collective efforts. As in previous years, given the strength of our reserves, the PCC is confident that our finances continue to represent a 'going concern' and our accounts have been prepared on this basis.

### **Incoming Resources**

Unrestricted voluntary income (excluding grants and legacies) increased this year from £78,761 to £88,515. (Boosted by £5,000 received from the Kirkby family trust)

Our Church of England 'Parish Giving Scheme' now has 41 scheme members, each giving an average of £17.40 per week.

Two legacies were received this year, £10,000 from the estate of Michael Palmer and £10,000 from the estate of John Douce.

### **Expenditure**

We repaired our porch lantern and its fixings on the porch when it became unsafe. We replaced our hymnbooks with a more modern edition.

Our staff costs increased again this year, and we now have six part-time members of staff.

### **Reserves Policy**

We are currently using our reserves (and their generated income) to cover the shortfall between our voluntary income and our day-to-day costs.

The Common fund is held in the form of investments to provide income.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

For the year ending 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>						
Donations and Legacies	2(a)	109,015	130	0	109,145	85,931
Income from charitable activities	2(b)	16,363			16,363	16,535
Other trading activities	2(c)	12,243			12,243	8,752
Investments	2(d)	18,789	5,183		23,972	22,125
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>156,410</b>	<b>5,313</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>161,723</b>	<b>133,343</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
Cost of generating funds	3(a)	3,442			3,442	2,365
Cost of generating voluntary income	3(b)	141			141	0
Expenditure on charitable activities	3(c)	154,210	4,484		158,694	151,721
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>157,793</b>	<b>4,484</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>162,277</b>	<b>154,086</b>
<b>NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS</b>		<b>-1,383</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-554</b>	<b>-20,743</b>
<b>NET GAINS ON INVESTMENTS</b>		<b>30,692</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>2,621</b>	<b>34,591</b>	<b>77,735</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>29,309</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>2,621</b>	<b>34,037</b>	<b>56,992</b>
Total funds brought forward		617,831	73,620	127,688	819,139	762,147
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>647,140</b>	<b>75,727</b>	<b>130,309</b>	<b>853,176</b>	<b>819,139</b>

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	6	698,941	674,350
Tangible		1	1
		698,942	674,351
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
CCLA Deposit Account		80,000	80,000
Santander (Current Account)		37,721	32,287
Fund Bank Accounts		31,913	31,320
Debtors	7	5,051	1,231
		154,685	144,838
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	8	-451	-50
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		154,234	144,788
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>853,176</b>	<b>819,139</b>

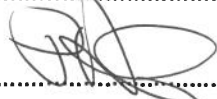
**Represented by:**

Unrestricted	9	647,140	617,831
Restricted	9	75,727	73,620
Endowment	9	130,309	127,688
		<b>853,176</b>	<b>819,139</b>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24th March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

..... 

Chairman

..... 

PCC member

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations (2006) governing the individual accounts of PCCs and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP (FRS 102)).

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

### Funds

**Endowment funds** are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

**Restricted funds** represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance of that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

**Unrestricted funds** represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report.

### Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable; interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

### Resources Expended.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

### Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable Church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church's inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time).

Equipment used within the Church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £2000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

## Notes to the financial statements

## For the year ending 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<b>2 INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<b>a) Donations and Legacies</b>					
Planned giving (tax efficient)	46,787			46,787	42,828
Planned giving (non tax)	4,731			4,731	2,699
Tax recovered from Gift Aid	16,006			16,006	14,249
Open Plate (Weddings/Baptisms/Funerals)	1,143			1,143	1,231
Open Plate collections	2,274			2,274	2,862
Sundry Donations	5,420	130		5,550	1,320
Wall Safe	4,789			4,789	3,511
CAF donations (unplanned)	50			50	0
Miscellaneous Receipts	0			0	450
Unplanned Tax efficient giving	7,315			7,315	9,811
Grants	500			500	1,970
Legacies	20,000			20,000	5,000
	109,015	130	0	109,145	85,931
<b>b) Income from charitable activities</b>					
Fees	10,933			10,933	11,902
Magazine Sales	4,170			4,170	3,363
Fees for Rooms	1,260			1,260	1,270
	16,363			16,363	16,535
<b>c) Other trading activities</b>					
Goods & Souvenirs	122			122	169
Collective Efforts	12,121			12,121	8,583
	12,243			12,243	8,752
<b>d) Investments</b>					
Investment Interest	14,495	1,104		15,599	9,129
C.B.F. Interest	4,294	4,079		8,373	12,996
	18,789	5,183		23,972	22,125
<b>Total income</b>	<b>156,410</b>	<b>5,313</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>161,723</b>	<b>133,343</b>



**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ending 31st December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
<b>3 EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>Costs of raising funds</b>					
a) Expenses	3,442			3,442	2,365
	3,442			3,442	2,365
b) <b>Costs of generating funds for voluntary income</b>					
Giving Costs	141			141	0
c) <b>Charitable activities</b>					
Cleaning	0			0	127
Fabric Maintenance	0	1,686		1,686	1,291
Extraordinary Expenses	0			0	2,208
Service Costs (incl Organ)	5,977			5,977	2,029
Courses / Education / Conferences	40			40	48
Junior Church	93			93	0
Staff	41,490			41,490	27,275
Miscellaneous Expenses	302			302	1,539
Admin. & Office Expenses	381			381	7,278
Utilities	8,086			8,086	13,041
Maintenance	2,916	200		3,116	3,096
Insurances	6,243			6,243	5,941
Parish Share	74,500			74,500	70,000
Children and Families Ministry	1,280			1,280	2,011
Churchyard Expenses	1,728	2,598		4,326	6,874
Postage	20			20	33
Printing & Stationery	25			25	96
Telephone & Broadband	731			731	680
Choir, Other Expenses	265			265	127
Grants, Gifts, Affiliations	175			175	350
Relief Clergy	630			630	446
Relief Organists	1,360			1,360	640
Flowers in Church	996			996	428
Berkswell Parish Magazine	2,723			2,723	1,677
Missionary Societies	300			300	300
Other Charities	460			460	0
Bank Charges	24			24	24
Rector's Expenses	512			512	460
Rector's Expenses	2,724			2,724	3,550
Rooms Consumables	229			229	152
	154,210	4,484		158,694	151,721
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>157,793</b>	<b>4,484</b>		<b>162,277</b>	<b>154,086</b>

**5 Related Parties**

Mrs Patricia Rich was employed by the PCC as Parish Magazine editor, she received £2,520. Ms Selina Toor was employed by the PCC as a Children and Families Minister, she received £7,200. No pension contributions nor other benefits were made.

No other PCC members or related parties received benefits or emoluments.

No travelling, subsistence, nor out of pocket expenses were received by PCC members. The Rectors expenses are shown in note 3c.

**Notes to the financial statements****For the year ending 31st December 2024****NOTE**

<b>6</b>	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		<b>£</b>	
	<b>Investments</b>			
	Market Value at 1st January		674,350	
	Purchases at cost		0	
	Disposals		-10,000	
	Gain on revaluations		34,591	
	Market Value at 31st December		<b>698,941</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Debtors</b>			
	December Gift Aid Claim		823	
	Q3 Fees		2,428	
	H2 Magazine Charges		1,800	
			<b>5,051</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Creditors</b>			
	Global Care H2 Donation		-150	
	Agency Collection		-301	
			<b>-451</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>FUND DETAILS</b>	<b>31.12.24</b>	<b>1.01.24</b>	<b>move ment</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>			
	Common	440,030	419,538	20,492
	General	40,155	27,460	12,695
	Eaton Bequest	166,955	170,833	-3,878
		<b>647,140</b>	<b>617,831</b>	<b>29,309</b>
	<b>Restricted</b>			
	Bushill	18,733	17,672	1,061
	Churchyard	3,004	2,953	51
	Fabric	53,990	52,995	995
		<b>75,727</b>	<b>73,620</b>	<b>2,107</b>
	<b>Endowment</b>			
	Betty Huggins	18,317	17,908	409
	CBF Bushill Feeder Fund	11,530	11,272	258
	Eborill	13,144	13,144	0
	Stokes	87,318	85,364	1,954
		<b>130,309</b>	<b>127,688</b>	<b>2,621</b>
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>853,176</b>	<b>819,139</b>	<b>34,037</b>

**Eborill Fund**

Specifically to be used 50 % for the Maintenance of the Churchyard, particularly the Eborill Graves and 50 % to augment the Rector's Stipend in consideration of him ensuring that the Graves are maintained in good order.

**Bushill Fund**

Specifically to be used for the maintenance of the Bells.

**Fabric Fund**

Specifically for the fabric of the Church and Tower.

**Betty Huggins Fund**

Specifically for flowers in the Church

**Eaton Bequest Fund**

Designated for projects aimed specifically at involving the local community

**Stokes Churchyard Fund**

Specifically for the upkeep of the churchyard