

The Parish Church Of St John The Evangelist (Palmers Green)

Trustee Report and Financial Statements
For the year end 31 December 2024

Charity Commission Registration Number 1132592

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**THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PALMERS GREEN
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ended 31 December 2024. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees have 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Aim and purposes

St John the Evangelist Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest in charge in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church.

The PCC is responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Bourne Hill, Palmers Greens, London N13 4DA

Charity Commission Registration Number 1132592

Administrative information

St John The Evangelist is part of the Diocese of London within the Church of England. The correspondence address is 1 Bourne Hill, London N13 4DA. The PCC is a corporate body (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011), and, from 7 November 2009, is a charity registered with the Charity Commission under charity registration number 1132592. Registration is in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Palmers Green.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution of the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and was officially registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Evangelist in 1904. Copies of the Annual Report and Financial Statement are held by the Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Finance and are also available upon written request to the PCC Secretary.

Statement of PCC members' responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the PCC members, who are trustees of the charity for the purposes of charity law, to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the church and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the PCC members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the Going Concern basis unless it is inappropriate.
- to presume that the Church will continue in operation.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Church, and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. The members of the PCC are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Day-to-day management

The day-to-day management of the parish is the responsibility of the Incumbent, although various functions are delegated to other individuals, including other members of the Ministry Team, the Hall Manager and the Wardens who work alongside the Standing Committee and with the PCC.

Officers of the PCC

Chairman: Rev Julie Coleman
Vice-chairman: Emma Bentley
Church Wardens: Emma Bentley and Louisa Darian
Deputy Church Warden: Marc Anslow and Raymond Bowden-Williams
Secretary: Emma Bentley
Deanery Synod Representative – William Nolan
Treasurer: Emma Bentley and Louisa Darian
Electoral Roll Officer: Marla Brown
James McBride
Phillip Everett
Caitlin Bisson
Julia Thomas
Trevor Alexander

Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd,
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
Kings Hill, West Malling,
Kent, ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

Anthony Croft Ezekiel Ltd

Organisation and use of Committees

PCC Executive Team ('PCC Exec')

The PCC Exec incorporates the function of a Standing Committee, which is required by Church law. This executive group, comprising the vicar, wardens and up to three further members, is empowered to execute on all matters that are required for the effective implementation of the PCC's mandate.

The PCC Exec meets regularly between PCC meetings and its principal functions are to ensure the effective, timely and wise stewardship, direction, decision making and leadership of all the vision, ministry and activity of the church. Throughout 2024 the PCC Exec continued to pursue the goal of prayerfully providing connectivity, support, resourcing and prophetic insight to the PCC and the wider leadership group.

It is intended that by using a rolling agenda, PCC Exec will review, encourage and provide direction to all those serving in leadership of our different teams and ministries to ensure the wide and varied tasks of vision implementation are being carried out in line with our Mission Action Plan.

PCC Exec Members:

Marc Anslow, Raymond Bowden-Williams, William Nolan, Rev Julie Coleman, Caitlin Bisson, James McBride, Emma Bentley, Phillip Everett, Louisa Darian, Julia Thomas, Trevor Alexander, Marla Brown

Other Committees/Teams and Activities reporting to the PCC during 2024

- Fabric Team – providing support, guidance and recommendations to the PCC on the appropriate maintenance and management of premises for which the PCC is responsible. Team leader: Marc Anslow and Raymond Bowan-Williams
- Finance Team – responsible for the day-to-day management of income, expenditure and payroll as well as ensuring compliance with financial regulatory procedures. Team leader: Rev Julie Coleman.
- Health & Safety Group – responsible for actively monitoring Health and Safety matters. Team leader: Rev Julie Coleman, Marc Anslow, James McBride.
- Social Justice Ministries (SJM) Team – encouraging, promoting and coordinating participation in the network of social justice ministries in our local area. Team leader: Rev Julie Coleman, Caitlin Bisson.
- World Church Team (WCT) – responsible for promoting the church's involvement with God's work beyond the parish and making recommendations for the PCC's outward giving. Team leader: Ministry Support Team: Emma Bentley and Rev Julie Coleman

Recruitment, Induction and Training

Current PCC members and other members of the church are asked prayerfully to consider suitable candidates to join the PCC, preferably some time in advance of the APCM. Elected members of the PCC are appointed for a 3-year term, with one third completing their term of office each year. The PCC supports any new member or officer who wants to attend any training run by the Diocese.

Aim and Purpose

St John's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Julie Coleman, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church Hall complex of St John's, Palmers Green.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC carries out a mixture of spiritual, legal, financial, pastoral and missionary functions. The PCC shares the privileges and responsibilities of making certain decisions with the Incumbent and it co-operates with the Incumbent (or churchwardens during a vacancy) in the Church's whole mission.

The PCC provides overall governance of all that goes on at St. John's Church, providing a check and a balance to all matters as the elected members represent the breadth and variety of the congregation. Our goal is for the PCC to become more prayerful and supportive of all the activities concerned with implementing our vision. This is achieved by commissioning individuals and teams to focus on and implement key expressions of the St. John's vision. Steered by the PCC Exec, the PCC receives regular reports and updates on the progress of all key aspects of our vision, ministry and activity to provide care, counsel, insight, direction and formal decision making. When planning our activities for the year, the PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The full PCC met nine times during 2024, as well as three extraordinary meetings, to conduct general business and financial matters in support of the Vicar and the Church's mission in the parish. The Standing Committee met or discussed matters approx. 12 times. The average level of attendance at PCC meetings during the year was approx. 95%.

In the course of this business, the Council received and discussed reports from the Churchwardens, Vicar

Treasurer, Deanery Synod representative, Safeguarding, GDPR, building works and other Church officials on a variety of issues, including those summarised in the Fabric Goods and Ornaments and the re-build and cleaning of the body of the church after the arson attack on New Year's Day. It was with regret that the architect Jonathan Goode was asked to no longer continue on the project. Ayaka Takai was interviewed and agreed to be our new architect

At the end of 2024, the Council had 12 members. Council meetings have been chaired by the Vicar or the vice-Chairman, Emma Bentley. Agendas and Minutes of meetings are published on the PCC section of the church notice board as well as on the main notice board and electronically when needed.

Introduction to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

For the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), the Parochial Church Council (PCC) must provide a report which has to include information about the Church Electoral Roll, details of proceedings of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and parish activities generally, information about Church fabric, goods and ornaments, details of proceedings of the Deanery Synod, and a statement about compliance with Safeguarding. This document forms the Required Annual Report for the past calendar year – 2024. Some individual sections may also include information about activities since the last APCM. Advance copies of the Annual Report will be available in church from 16th May 2025.

The PCC also must provide for the APCM independently examined financial statements for the calendar year 2024. Copies of a summary of these financial statements will be available in church from 16th May 2025.

Annual Parish Meetings – The Annual Meeting to elect Churchwardens for the coming year and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to elect other Church officials and conduct other business are being held consecutively in church on 16th May at 10am. Nomination forms for Churchwardens, Parochial Church Members and Electoral Role have been available in church since 30th April 2025.

Financial Statements (Annual Accounts) - A summary of the Church Council's independently examined financial statements for the calendar year 2024, prepared by Anthony Croft Ezekiel Ltd 343, City Road, London EC1V 1LR and Independent Examiner, Anthony Letchumanan F.C.C.A, will be available for inspection in church from 16th May 2025.

Financial review

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £134,865 of which £11,635 was from planned giving and £ 7,252 was from voluntary giving and £115,173 was from lettings and rental income. Total payments on unrestricted funds amounted to £141,317 of which £ 36,000 was contributed to the London Diocesan Common Fund.

The net loss for the year was £6,451 on unrestricted funds. The balance to carry forward at 31 December 2024 on unrestricted funds was £6,671.

The balance to carry forward on restricted funds at 31 December 2024 was £40,398. The total income in the year was £152,174 and total expenditure was £150,906.

Reserves policy

It is the PCC policy to maintain the recommended balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments to cover all the running expenses for a period of 3 months. The average over 3 months amounts to £11,860. The unrestricted fund balance carried forward at the end of the year was £6,671.

Due to the unexpected arson attack on the 1st January 2024 the PCC have had to suspend their policy on unrestricted funds for this year. This has mainly been due to the fact that Ecclesiastical Insurance through their insurance representative have asked us to pay trades people their invoices while they reimburse the PCC. We are still waiting for funds to be reimbursed i.e. Fitzgerald £7100, Farriers £987, French Polisher £600, Organ blower £1,200. We will re-instate the policy next year since firm letters have been circulated for payments to be reimbursed.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives for 2025 (as identified in the 2024 Annual Report)

- To align our Mission Action Plan with the Diocesan aims
- To change the Mission Action Plan development cycle to align with budget planning in 2025
- Build on progress from 2023 by embedding new changes and beginning some new initiatives, specifically including some of the following
 - Re-running the hospitality and event teams, and exploring running a Homegroup Bible study
 - Developing discipleship and lay leadership through a new Lent theology course
 - Launching new vocations groups for adults and teens
 - Run a new home group leaders' course
 - Run a bereavement group
 - Begin a new ministry to young parents/carers and toddlers through Stay and Play
 - Hold a 24/7 weekend of prayer
 - Host a 'Vocations Fair' in the Autumn
 - Develop fellowship with a cycling days retreat
 - Investing in a new-look template for our website"

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St John the Evangelist. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve those who live within our parish and local deanery. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer, Scripture, music, outreach (mission) and Sacrament.

In 2024 we integrated the Diocesan Vision with our own Mission Action Plan, so that our goals were aligned with the wider vision. These goals are.

- Goal 1: Making disciples
- Goal 2: Increasing believers
- Goal 3: Growing youth and children's ministry
- Goal 4: Developing lay ministers
- Goal 5: Recruiting more clergy
- Goal 6: Cultivating community partnerships
- Goal 7: Reaching beyond borders
- Goal 8: Nurturing education
- Goal 9: Encouraging generous giving
- Goal 10: Sharing expertise
- Goal 11: Communicating effectively
- Goal 12: Improving church buildings

Our mission then is to be a Church with a love of Christ for all people and for everything in God's creation to be at its centre.

Achievements and Performance

Church Activities

Services are held in the Church each Sunday morning. Before the arson attack on New Year's Day they were at 8.30am, 10:00am and 6.30pm. These are varied in style including Youth services, Evening Song, Holy Communion, Healing Services, and services of baptism. On Sunday evenings 6.30pm, is a time of prayer, worship and an opportunity to go deeper with God. We continue to hold a mid-week service, "Holy Communion on Thursdays", and a spoken service of Morning Prayer Tuesday to Friday at 9.30am. Services are also led in local residential homes for the elderly along with Home Communion when requested.

Stay and Play is the ministry for children up to the age of 3. The Stay and Play group meet regularly on Monday and Thursday mornings, and the ministry also extends to mid-week groups, special events and a holiday club. Wednesday Youth is a midweek discipleship group for those aged 14-18. The Children's and Youth Ministry is coordinated by Rev Julie Coleman.

A team of 2 qualified Lay Pastoral Assistants works with The Ark team to provide confidential pastoral support. The team is coordinated by Rev Julie Coleman.

The Parish Office provides administrative, secretarial and communications support, oversight of church halls and liaison with the various church user groups. Throughout 2023 Jade Fox managed the Church Operations and Andrijana Zlater was the Communications Co-ordinator. Jade Fox was appointed as Parish Administrator in September and Andrijana as the Hall Manager in October. During 2024 James McBride served as Caretaker and works tirelessly for St John's freely. We offer our thanks to the Ministry Support Team which consists of Julia Thomas, Phillip Everett, Trevor Alexander for assisting in worship, teaching and ministry as a group from St John's as part of the wider UK church.

There are many other activities and groups which serve under the umbrella of the Church, of which the following are examples:

- Mental Health Care support group - providing a forum for sharing and support for those concerned about a friend or relative. Leader: Rev Julie Coleman
- Early Bird Café via Stay and Play – A meeting point for parents, guardians, pre-school children and others
Coordinator: Rowena Birch
- Finance – Managing budgets, Gift Aid, Planned Giving, Income and Expenditure Leader: Caitlin Bisson and Jade Fox
- Floral Decorations – Preparing floral arrangements to decorate the church with a team. Coordinator: Helen Sasia
- Kitchen & Catering – Managing use and operation of the kitchen for The Ark, ensuring compliance with environmental health standards and coordinating catering for major church activities Catering Manager: Rev Julie Coleman; Kitchen Manager: Paulina P
- Stay and Play – Live music for babies, toddlers and carers Leader: Vern Gedeon
- Marriage Preparation – For couples preparing for marriage to explore together some topics to help build a strong foundation for a lasting relationship. Leaders: Rev Julie Coleman & MST
- Nursery School – Weekday early years provision Head teacher: Louise Halliil
- Breaking Point - A group for parents/carers to explore the challenges and delights of raising teenagers from a Christian perspective and a support group for disengaged young people who have been involved in gang crime. Out of the Box - During the year we have re-initiated conversations with the local community, the council, the police and the Green Lanes businesses to explore a way of starting a community-led and owned youth provision in our church halls. The aim of the Youth provision is to give young people a safe place to go to and to offer activities that will help boost their confidence and self-esteem and to create a sense of belonging. Leader: Catherine Starker and Rev Julie Coleman
- Prayer – Provision of weekly prayer ministry and encouraging prayer through regular, seasonal and occasional prayer events, initiatives and training. Leader: Rev Julie Coleman
- Sound & Visual Support – Providing technical support for worship, services and events Leader: Vacant
- Uniformed Organisations – Brownies, Rainbows Leader: Maggie Hackney
- Welcome – Ensuring that everyone is welcomed, has access to information and opportunities for connecting with others, with a special focus on those new to St John's Leader: Helen Sasia
- Worship Team and Choir – Groups leading and supporting sung worship in a variety of styles. Preparing and seeking God's heart to grow His worship ministry at St John's Leaders: Rev Julie Coleman. MST, Tony Hall, Anya Parameswaran and an amazing choir.
- A mid-week Bible study group on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday during term times. Leader: Rev Julie Coleman
- Heart Rock Cafe– A caring social meeting, held weekly on Friday afternoons offering a hot meal, food, clothes and a listening ear. Leader: Rev Julie Coleman and Paulina P.

The Ark which has supported the local community, collections for Afghanistan, Ukraine, Pakistan and local refuge centres. Most fundamentally, the faithfulness of our God has been shown time and time again through the many volunteers from within the church and community who have supported The Ark – a missional outreach initiative that has survived through donations, people giving their time generously and prayer. By and large, The Ark continues to be well received and enabled the church's ministry to adapt quickly and meet the needs both of the church congregation and of those in the wider community. The Ark which was developed through God's grace and a need has enabled all faiths, cultures, genders, abilities and sexualities to work together for the greater need.

Through consistency, a warm welcome and services that are Spirit led we have grown as a congregation of all ages, interests, abilities and on different faith journeys and yet we feel at one with each other. We have seen the church continue to grow in both numbers and maturity, and we are thankful for the way in which people's gifts and talents have been able to be used in the service of the gospel.

Church Attendance

We give great thanks to God for these years of sustained growth. The total recorded attendance for all services on Easter Sunday was 217 (compared with 195 2023). The total recorded attendance for all services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day alone was 308 compared with 233 in 2023.

In 2024,18 people were baptised (11 of them as infants) at St John's compared with 23 in 2023. Rev Julie led 7 weddings and 6 funerals including in the crematoriums.

With our vision in 2025 and beyond to take the next steps as a Missional Church, we will be planting a new group of volunteers that will begin monthly with the Ark provision, with a view to another similar endeavour at the end of the year. Our vision is to grow as a church, but not simply numerical growth at St John's - we pray we will be able to be a blessing and a partner to other local churches to help growth across the Deanery.

Our relationship with Hazelwood and St Paul's Primary Schools and Palmers green High School is good and developing. The added fact here is Rev Julie is now a governor at Palmers Green High School and actively involved when the need arises in the primary schools. Palmers Green High School along with two local nursery schools come to a midweek service and for special services including Easter, the leaving service in July, Harvest Festival and Christmas. Once again two schools also used the church for their concerts.

Closer to home though, I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people. Thank you to our choir especially Anya our Director of Music, those in lay ministry, our stewards, readers, intercessors, flower arrangers, our Church Wardens, members of The Ark Team, the PCC, those who serve throughout the services especially the children and as a whole the congregation and the community we are part off. You are an inspiring Christian presence.

Church Electoral Role 2024

The Electoral Roll presented to the APCM last year (May 2024) contained 109 members.

There are 152 members on the new Church Electoral Roll from April 2025 for the Parish of St John the Evangelist, Palmers Green, in the Church of England.

The roll began in 2019 and lasts for 7 years, with additions and subtractions each year for those who have moved and died. At the end of 7 years we have to start afresh. This is in line with Church Law.

The roll for this year has 44 new members. This year has proven that by the increase in numbers on the roll and we are sure the trend of new people will continue to rise.

Usually the roll has to be displayed for two weeks prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, During which period no additions may be made to it. If any information is incorrect, this can be changed. Additions can be made after the APCM. This is in line with Church Law.

Financial Report (separate document contains audited and independently examined accounts)

There is no doubt that we have struggled with the huge heating and lighting bills from Crown and Gas and EDF. We are extremely grateful to our regular donors who have continued to give to the church by standing order or indeed have started new standing orders in the past year. Thank you also to those who donated regularly at our church services. We thank you all for your generosity and for your support in such difficult economic times. As well as funding our ongoing ministry, and the residual expenses of our three church halls, this has allowed us to continue to support the London Diocese Common Fund.

Risk policy

In setting an annual budget, the PCC has considered financial risks in relation to its ongoing income and its expenditure commitments. The risk to income is managed through a regular focus on financial giving to the church as part of the stewardship of its members in conjunction with ongoing publicity about operational costs, budgets and funding opportunities for new initiatives. Risks in relation to expenditure are managed through budgetary control and accountability, with regular review of costs and the operation of procurement procedures to secure best value. The PCC Policy on Remuneration & Payments ensures that we use volunteers wherever possible, thus limiting the number and associated cost of employed staff. Performance against both income and expenditure budgets are reviewed monthly with further investigation or action taken where necessary.

In addition, in 2024 the Finance Team, on behalf of the PCC, undertook an assessment of internal financial controls against the best practice guidance advised by the Charity Commission (CC8). The recommendations from this have been considered by the PCC and actions taken where necessary to tighten processes in line with the guidance especially with regards to 509, Green Lanes, EDF and Crown & Gas utility bills.

Fabric goods and ornaments

It has been a busy year looking after the church and hall buildings St. John's PCC has some responsibility for. Several volunteers have put in many hours work each week to undertake minor repairs and employ contractors to carry out more serious tasks. Currently, there are over thirty repairs or projects in progress. The majority of the works recommended by the Quinquennial Report are now completed, all bar the church roof.

A host of other electrical and electronic work has been coordinated by Marc Anslow, saving us thousands of pounds. Gas and electrical safety across all properties continue to be assured. Marc Anslow and James McBride have continued to put in many hours to garden and lead volunteers to ensure the maintenance of the church grounds. Some of our building and repair projects over the last year have exceeded the budget initially we set for them, especially 509, Green Lanes which we have handed back to London Diocese Fund since we learnt that we have not been responsible for the modernisation and maintenance of the building since 2008. We are seeking to get compensation on the costs which are above £10,000.

- For works amounting to less than £200, any member of the Fabric Team (the signatory may be the Treasurer) can authorise 'on the spot' (emergency works)
- For works likely to cost greater than £200 but less than £1000, 2 members of Fabric Team (one signatory may be the Treasurer) are required to commit budget
- For amounts likely to exceed £1000, 3 written quotes are required (as was done recently for heating within the 509 property).

Our key aim for 2024 is to ensure that we have the budget, staffing and expertise structure in place to plan and manage whatever arises with our buildings in the coming few years.

Our church building and the church goods and ornaments are in reasonable condition, given their general age. The church inventory (Terrier) was reviewed for the Archdeacon's inspection in April 2022 and all items were accounted for. It is being evaluated as we are aware other items have been donated to the church.

This year included a major project to repair all the damage after the arson attack on the Church New Year's Day. The Vicar, wardens and Standing Committee are continuing to liaise with representatives from the local conservation area group, Architect Jonathan Goode and the DAC to ensure the correct approvals are obtained for the work once all the Faculty's that were needed were approved. (A faculty is the Church of England equivalent of a planning application).

All the annual inspections, including the inspection of the fire extinguishers, PAT test, and services to the boiler were also attended to.

As our church buildings have been used more over the past year, it has afforded us the opportunity to do some much-needed maintenance work – particularly with regards to updating the security lighting in the church halls. We have also replaced all bulbs in the church.

Deanery Synod

There are now 33 churches in the Enfield Deanery. St John's has no lay representatives on the Synod
There were four Synod meetings during the calendar year:

Churches Together in Palmers Green

St John's continues to be an active member of Churches Together when possible
e.g. The Walk of Witness, Christian Aid Week.

Report on Safeguarding of Children & Vulnerable Adults

Safeguarding Report in the past year the PCC reviewed, approved and adopted the following policies: Safeguarding, Whistleblowing, Complaints and Grievance, Parish Disciplinary, and Health and Safety. These policies are based on standard diocesan policies and can be viewed on the church website at www.London diocese.org.uk/PCC. The Church of England Safeguarding Statement was also adopted. The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding. They had regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding, Health & Safety, and GDPR compliance were all regular agenda items for the PCC. In the course of our ongoing ministry, we have had cause to seek advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team, and to liaise with Local Authority Social Services departments, although none of these actions have required formal feedback to the PCC.

There are currently 73 volunteers within St John's Church who are DBS cleared to work with children and/or vulnerable adults. There have been no issues of concern raised on any person by the DBS checks undertaken in 2024. During the past year, the following issues have been addressed:

- PCC Safeguarding Statement has been updated for 2024 and is to be approved by the PCC.
- The website has safeguarding links to a 'concern' form for people to fill in if they have a 'niggle' and need some advice; edited from 'serious concern' form to ensure people are not put off as any concern is important to follow up with advice.
- We currently do not have a representative for Vulnerable Adults but it is being collectively covered by the Safeguarding team. We are still hoping someone will step forward to take on the role.
- Core 0 Foundation Training and Core One Foundation Safeguarding Training was given to 16 members of the volunteer and leadership team in 2024.
- All documentation for our church-run groups and hall hires now includes the St John's Safeguarding Statement in order that all attendees are aware of points of contact in the event of any concerns. Outside agencies hiring the church facilities also provide our office administrators with their own Safeguarding Statement.

Concerns raised:

Four concern forms have been raised since the last APCM; they have been logged and 2 addressed with no further action required. There is still an unaddressed Scouts safeguarding raised with the head office which has still been ignored. This is pending for the parents and as a Church we can no longer support the Scouts due to the lack of action taken. There are still concerns around Rev Julie's safety and her children after the arson attack and recent terrorist and hate crime threat.

Church Halls

The Church Hall provides an important resource for Church activities and valuable income from use by external temporary and long-term lettings. The financial aspect for 2024 is covered within the accounts. As a church we have struggled to pay approx. £9000 per month to support the nurseries with the heating and lighting they need to keep them in businesses. We are also struggling with large electricity bills which have totalled to beyond £57,000 (Currently standing at £43,000). St John's Church can no longer fund these or any other businesses that use the halls as we will fall into debt ourselves therefore discussions will be had by the PCC during 2024.

During the year the Building and Standing Committee have met to discuss extra security measures for the Church Halls, in particular the church hall front door, hirers struggling to open the metal gate and the car wash using the hall car park which is preventing hirers parking. The car wash has been written to again as well as 5, Bourne Hill. We are monitoring the situation closely and have erected parking blocks to the hall car park.

The Church Halls were built at around the same time as the Church and so the building is now over 120 years old and in need of some repair and maintenance as stated in the Quinquennial Report. The Halls provide over 1/3rd of our income and it is important that they are well maintained.

Children in Church

We give thanks for all the children within the congregation who have adapted to not going into Sunday School. They are now very much part of the church service as they share in a short talk before the service begins and 5 children under the age of 11 years old are now servers. We value every single one of you!

Groups Sponsored by St John's:

- 2nd Winchmore Hill Brownies
- "Talkies" Community Cinema: "Talkies" is a locally based community cinema.
- Adorned Gospel Choir
- We have also supported several local concerts and charity events this past year

Church Publications & Social Media

Facebook page

St-John-the-Evangelist-Palmers-Green

Our Facebook page, which includes details of services and other events at St John's, continues to be widely viewed. Anyone wishing to publicise church events is welcome to let me know and I will gladly include them.

Twitter

@stjohnspalmersg

Over the course of this year, we have made a conscious effort to expand our social media presence tweeting about St John's and Diocesan news and activities. We also take the opportunity to promote Palmers Green community events. Our following has more than doubled over the course of the year.

St John's Website

www.stjohnspg.org

Our Church Website was renewed and updated in February 2019 using a simplified format hosted for us by a company with experience of School and Church websites. The advantages are in the ease of changing and uploading information and keeping the site up to date. The website aims to provide up to date online information about St John's and its mission, supplementing paper-based information in our Magazine and Pew Sheet. The website has been kept regularly updated with notices and other Church activities.

Church UK – Webmaste

Parish Monthly Newsletter

The free Newsletter was introduced in January 2019 and is available to all participating parishioners monthly in Church and is emailed to our distribution list. Articles in the magazine keep everybody informed of the important matters affecting our church. It also acts to inform readers of social upcoming events.

Approved by the PCC on 15th May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Julie Coleman', with a horizontal line above the first part of the name.

Rev Julie Coleman

Vicar of St John the Evangelist

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST,
PALMERS GREEN**

I report on the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31 December 2024, as set out on pages 13 to 16.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHARITY AND THE EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed and ensure that the accounts have been prepared under the FRS 102 (SORP) framework and in line with the requirements under the 2015 Order.

It is my responsibility to:

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

BASIS OF THIS 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 you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

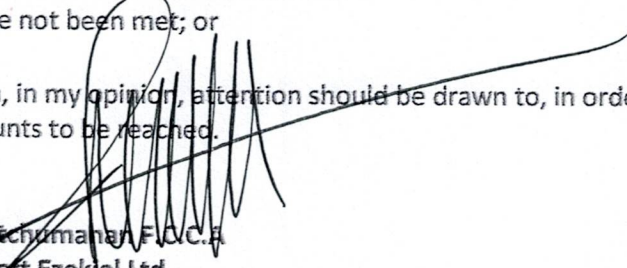
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below):

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- have not been met; or

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


Anthony Leitchman F.D.C.A.
Anthony Croft Ezekiel Ltd
343 City Road, London EC1V 1LR

Date: 16th May 2025

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PALMERS GREEN
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

	Unrestricted funds			Total	Total
	General	Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
	funds	funds	funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary income	19,284	17,162	0	36,446	33,525
Activities for generating funds	65	0	0	65	5,556
Church activities	115,516	147	0	115,663	137,878
Total receipts	134,865	17,309	0	152,174	176,959
PAYMENTS					
Church activities	141,227	9,589	0	150,816	181,678
Cost of generating funds	90	0	0	90	3,186
Total payments	141,317	9,589	0	150,906	184,864
Net gains/(losses)	-6,451	7,720	0	1,269	-7,905
Transfer between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Net Movements	-6,451	7,720	0	1,269	-7,905
Total funds brought forward	159,273	19,391	40,399	219,063	226,968
Total funds carried forward	152,822	27,111	40,399	220,332	219,063
Cash at bank, 1 January 2024	13,122	19,391	40,398	72,911	80,816
Cash at bank, 31 December 2024	6,671	27,111	40,398	74,180	72,911

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PALMERS GREEN
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted funds			Total	Total
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash funds					
Bank accounts	6,671	27,111	40,398	74,180	72,911
Other monetary assets					
Accrued income and other debtors	-			-	-
Assets retained for church use (note 2)	150,000	-	-	150,000	150,000
Liabilities					
Accrued expenses and other creditors	- 3,848	-	- -	3,848 -	3,848
Net assets	152,823	27,111	40,398	220,332	219,063

Approved by the PCC on JA and signed on its behalf by :

by Julie Coleman

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PALMERS GREEN
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) '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 (FRS 102 SORP 2015)', effective 1st January 2015 and the Charities Act 2011.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST 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 assets retained for Church use are the St John's Halls, Bourne Hill and the leasehold property at 509 Green Lanes. These properties are held by the London Diocesan Fund as Diocesan Authority (formerly known as Custodian Trustee) with the PCC having the role of Managing Trustee and taking day-to-day responsibility for these properties. St John's Halls were valued many years ago at £150,000 to recognise the unlimited use of the property by THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST. The leasehold property at 509 Green Lanes was handed back to the diocese in May 2024.

The funds comprise:
The General fund which is an Unrestricted fund available for use at the discretion of the PCC members in furtherance of the general objectives of the church and which has not been designated for any other particular purpose.
Designated funds which are Unrestricted funds that have been set aside by PCC members for a particular purpose.
Restricted funds which are to be used in accordance with specific instructions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the church for a particular purpose.

The movements in Designated and Restricted funds during the year were:

	<u>At 1.1.24</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfer</u>	<u>At 31.12.24</u>
Designated funds					
Re-ordering of sanctuary	19,391	17,309	9,589	-	27,111
Restricted funds					
Re-ordering of sanctuary	1,743	-	-	-	1,743
Children's ministry	122	-	-	-	122
Youth provision	40	-	-	-	40
ARK - community initiative	26,244	-	-	-	26,244
Gift	0	-	-	-	-
Sill Browne funeral collection	1,243	-	-	-	1,243
Grant from Diocese of London/Other	11,006	-	-	-	11,006
	<u>40,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,398</u>

For part of 2024 the Church and halls were closed or offering limited access. As a result expenditure and receipts have varied from what would normally be expected. It is not possible to reliably estimate the duration and consequences of the pandemic, as well as their impact, on the financial position and results for future years.

The board of trustees have a reasonable expectation that the organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the Going Concern basis in preparing the annual reports and accounts.

There has been a long-standing challenge of the disputed EDF claim for light and heat charges which we believe arose from a faulty meter, which appear to record usage even with all electricity and gas turned off. We have engaged legal representation. However, recently, a EDF engineer visited the premises and concluded that EDF was correct in its charges, currently at £43,000. We still do not believe this to be correct. However, to legally challenge this, would result in many thousands of pounds. In the interim, we have agreed a payment plan of £3000 per month. We have also been in extended negotiation with Bishop Anderson/Diocese to settle this debt against the PCC's outstanding claim for the maintenance and upkeep of 509 Green Lanes building over the years. If the payment plan fails, then PCC may have difficulty in maintaining all operations related to the running of the Church. The PCC is confident that a satisfactory solution will be reached.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PALMERS GREEN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted funds			Total	Total
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
<u>Voluntary income</u>					
Planned giving	11,635	2,260	-	13,895	13,249
Collections at all services	-	-	-	0	0
Donations and other voluntary income	7,252	14,902	-	22,154	14,040
Gift aid recovered	397	-	-	397	81
Grant from London Diocesan Fund	-	-	-	0	6,155
	19,284	17,162	-	36,446	33,525
<u>Activities for generating funds</u>					
Fundraising events	65	-	-	65	5,556
<u>Income from church activities</u>					
Church hall and parish centre lettings	104,791	-	-	104,791	105,191
Rentals - 509 Green Lanes	10,382	-	-	10,382	31,474
Diocesan fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	0	673
Laundry income	343	147	-	490	540
	115,516	147	-	115,663	137,878
PAYMENTS					
<u>Church activities</u>					
Diocesan Common Fund	33,000	3,000	-	36,000	60,000
Church running costs	18,801	9	-	18,810	51,375
Church maintenance and repairs	7,995	-	-	7,995	2,481
Carriage costs	2,445	-	-	2,445	581
Insurance	4,170	-	-	4,170	3,610
Maintenance and repairs-509 Green Lanes	-	-	-	0	0
Staff costs	24,273	-	-	24,273	14,051
Director of Music and other music costs	4,107	-	-	4,107	798
Hall running expenses	20,739	16	-	20,755	22,669
Hall maintenance and repairs	8,371	-	-	8,371	18,450
Office and administrative expenses	4,379	-	-	4,379	2,277
Gift	2,323	-	-	2,323	787
Church mission	4,756	6,564	-	11,320	765
Accountancy	5,868	-	-	5,868	3,834
	141,227	9,589	-	150,816	181,678
<u>Costs for generating funds</u>					
Fundraising events	90	-	-	90	2,707
Church mission	-	-	-	0	479
	90	-	-	90	3,186