THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1132677

Details

Other names	ST PETER'S PCC, OUNDLE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-11-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Parish Office St. Peters Church North Street Oundle Peterborough PE8 4AL
Phone	01832275675
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Website	www.stpetersoundle.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: St Peter's Church is a community of people seeking to follow Jesus Christ. Our purpose is to demonstrate the love of God in word and action to the people of Oundle and the world beyond. We seek to partner with others who share this aim in the Diocese, the nation and the world. Schools work, youth groups, dementia care, discussion groups, mission giving, foodbank are just some key core activities.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£325,811	£359,294	-	-
2023-12-31	£319,289	£306,626	-	-
2022-12-31	£467,108	£301,373	-	-
2021-12-31	£242,330	£260,916	-	-
2020-12-31	£351,522	£249,931	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Stephen Jeremy Webster	Chair	
Claire Rose Weston		2023-05-14
Fiona Fraser		2025-05-18
John Grubb		2024-05-12
Kim Treverton		2017-03-28
Louisa Baker		2024-05-12
Louise Foote		2021-05-12
Pamela Weatherington		2021-05-12
Rev Annabel Susan Mary Copeland		2020-11-29
Robert Dillarstone		2024-05-12
SARAH JANE VOGT		2022-05-15
Sally-Anne Michaela Saunders		2018-03-18
Sian Fytche		2019-10-03

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1132677

Accounts

Oundle St Peter's
welcoming everyone

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2024

Registered Charity 1132677
North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

GOD'S LOVE
KNOW...
LIVE...
GIVE...

Oundle St Peter's
welcoming everyone

Annual Report Contents

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2024

"You give them something to eat," said Jesus.
"But that would take almost a year's wages!" They exclaimed.
Mark 6:37

In *Mark* 6 Jesus' disciples are faced with a significant problem: a hungry crowd of upwards of 5000 people. Their sensible proposal of sending the multitude back home so that they can eat is met with Jesus' baffling proposal, "You give them something to eat." How could they possibly do that? They have 5 loaves and 2 fish between them. They simply do not have the resources to solve the problem. Yet we know the end of the story. The multitude do get fed, with baskets left over. How? The disciples hand over their meagre resources, the bread and the fish to Jesus. Through Him God provides. He turns their little, faithfully and prayerfully given, into a feast for a multitude. The disciples perhaps learn a lesson that day about dependence of God. In the face of a challenge the key question is not what resources we have – but rather our willingness to depend on a faithful almighty God.

At times through 2024 as we sought to serve our own community (a 'crowd' of perhaps 7000 in the town of Oundle) there were times when we worried about our resources. However, we learnt again that God is good and provides for our needs. One key way He does this is through you – the St Peter's Church community. We recently did a rough calculation of the amount of volunteering that happens through St Peter's. We very quickly got to a figure of 100 hours per week being given in volunteering by the Church family. All of this generous giving of time and expertise enabled us through 2024 to serve our town in many ways. There was the regular friendship and support offered to older members of our community through Tuesday Club, Hymns of Praise, Market Day communion and coffee, regular worship in care homes and the annual Holiday at Home. There was the weekly West Porch Café for young people as well as discipleship groups. The successful Chattabox and Chattabox+ events for children and young people in the summer led to ongoing gatherings (both for children and young people) through the Autumn and beyond. Through volunteers we were able to continue provision for children and young people on Sundays and the monthly Messy Café Church reached out to new people otherwise unconnected to Church. One highlight in 2024 was St Peter's participation in the Vintage Festival and activities and Church, tower tours and the parachuting of teddies from the Church tower. This is just a glimpse of so much more that goes on. Foodbank volunteers, people who cook and provide food to enable all of the above, those who lead small groups, those who help with sound and screens for services, who welcome at the door and serve refreshments, those who quietly come in and clean the Church and polish brass, those who work pro-actively behind the scenes to ensure that our building is well maintained. It's quite likely I have omitted the volunteering you do. If so I apologise. Behind everything that happens is a huge amount of generous giving of time and expertise. I've only been able to mention a small part of it.

Behind all this activity there lies a key purpose. Our aim is that through St Peter's Church the people of our town and beyond hear the good news of Jesus Christ and put their faith in Him. We want people to know God's love, to live a life in response to it and so become a people who give generously. (*God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it.*) 2024 saw a successful Alpha Course and it was joy to accompany the 12 people who came on the course as they came to faith and grew in faith. It was wonderful to celebrate in May as Joe Gray became the first person in the Diocese to be confirmed by Bishop Debbie at a service organised by St Peter's Church in Lutton. We were again able to celebrate with three more candidates confirmed in December in our morning service by Bishop John. 2024 also saw St Peter's send two of our own Church family off to train for ordination. Nadine Brown has been part of our Church family since she was a toddler. Joe Gray joined us part-time on the staff-team during Covid, got baptised by full-immersion on Easter Day 2023 and was accepted for ordination training in 2024. At a time when

the Church of England faces lots of challenges it is a real encouragement to be able to send two young people in their early twenties to train for ministry. It is also an encouragement to us that we can remain closely connected to Joe and Nadine through their training. It means that over the past 5 years 4 people from St Peter's have headed for ordination training.

As the PCC, during the Autumn of 2024, came to consider 2025's budget we realised we faced a significant challenge. We were potentially facing a very large and unsustainable deficit. We felt a little like those disciples with their 5 loaves and 2 fish facing the crowd of 5000. It felt like we did not have the resources to do the work we felt God was calling us to. However, we prayed; anxiously we prayed. In November we approached the Church community explaining our challenges. Almost everything that happens at St Peter's is enabled and paid for by the voluntary financial giving of the Church community. To be honest my faith had been weak when I prayed. Yet the response of the Church community was very generous. Through you God provided. Through you He answered our prayers. There remain some ongoing challenges; we will need to keep prayerfully addressing these. We look after our beautiful ancient building for the town and for the country. It is very expensive and we need to keep on finding others to help us with this heritage task (and the *Friends of the Parish Church* are excellent friends in this regard). But what looked like it was going to be a large deficit is now a small one.

In *Mark* 6 the disciples are faced with an apparently impossible problem. They don't have the resources. They have to turn to Jesus. When we were faced with what at times looked like an impossible problem we could only turn to prayer. When we realise that we can but depend on God – we find that He is dependable. I sometimes think that a Church which felt able to say, "We have all the resources we need to for the year ahead. We have no concerns. We can do this," would be a Church not depending on God, but depending on its own resources.

Thankyou to everyone in the Church family – for your generous, sometimes sacrificial, giving of time, expertise and money. You enable us to answer God's call to love the people of our town in word and action. Ongoing thanks also to our Church team; to Louise Foote (through 2024 our wonderful voluntary Lay Chaplain for work amongst older people), Andrew Hawkins our administrator and Mark Pearcey our Facilities Co-ordinator and to Joe Gray who was for most of 2024 our online administrator and ministry intern. They continue to provide an excellent and essential support for all that happens at St Peter's. In addition I am enormously grateful to Louisa Baker and Siân Fytche who have been extremely committed and effective Churchwardens and to Emma Kirby our excellent Youth Minister and to Annabel Copeland who has been an outstanding support as Associate Vicar.

God is faithful and good. We look back with thankfulness and we look forward with faith.

Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Vicar of Oundle, Benefield and Glapthorn

Section 2:

2.1 Churchwardens' Annual Report 2024

Presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 18 May 2025

Our grateful thanks to Emily Taylor, who stepped down as Churchwarden after many faithful and dedicated years of service. Siân Fytche continues as a Churchwarden, and we welcomed Louisa Baker newly appointed.

Worship and Church Life
Our church continues to be a place of active worship and growing community. We record over 100+ adults and children into church across our Sunday services. Our services at Christmas were a true highlight, especially the Carol Singing in Oundle Market Place which attracts a huge crowd and to all who make the Christmas services deeply meaningful.

Growing Together: Intergenerational Vision
Our church's commitment to intergenerational worship and community was explored more deeply in the PCC's Vision Morning. What does it mean to be intentionally intergenerational; to learn, grow, serve, and worship across all ages? Out of that day came many creative ideas, standout examples include the Barn Dance Night and Beetle Drive, which brought together people of all ages, both regular churchgoers and newcomers alike.

We continue to uphold Joe and Nadine in prayer as our recent college ordinands and look forward to seeing how God works through them in year ahead. Thank you for the involvement of Dan and Kerenza who represent the youth voice at PCC, they have shared their reflections and ideas for our church life.

Finance and Stewardship
We bid farewell to Mark as Treasurer, and welcomed Rob Dillarstone into the role. Rob has guided us thoughtfully through some financial challenges, particularly during our Giving Focus in September. This season reminded us of our shared calling to be generous and intentional in supporting the ongoing ministry and outreach of the church - to continue being a beacon of God's love in Oundle.

Buildings and Fabric
Our heartfelt thanks to the RAG Committee, who meet regularly to steward the practical and structural needs of our church and churchyard. A special thank you to John Grubb, who has continued as our RAG chair throughoput 2024.

Closing Thoughts
We are grateful for all those who give their money, time, energy, prayers, and love to the life of this church - seen and unseen. We rely on all volunteers who offer Welcome, Refreshments, Prayers, Sound and AV, Readers, Flowers and much more and we are always keen to hear from any new recruits (contact us below).

Praise God for all our paid clergy and the office support that keep everything turning. We look forward with faith, hope, and expectation, trusting in God's continued guidance and provision.

Louisa Baker
Siân Fytche
Churchwardens
Contact us churchwardens@oundlestpeters.org.uk

2.2 PCC Report

During most of 2024, the PCC was made up of eight elected members, up to five Deanery Synod Representatives, two Churchwardens and up to three Clergy Team members. It was chaired by the incumbent (Rev Canon Stephen Webster and Annabel Copeland – Associate Vicar) and met six times in 2024 (6 February, 20 March, 15 May, 23 June, 12 September and 13 November).

During these meetings, the PCC discussed a wide range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's. These have included Finance, Giving, Mission, Repairs to Building, installation of the Holdich organ, Development of NE side of Church Building, Green issues and Safeguarding.

As well as discussing practical matters of Church Life, each PCC meeting starts and ends with prayer. The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2024 were: -

Standing Committee which is required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2022 was made up of the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC, and an elected PCC Member. The Treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee exists to support the work of the Treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2024 it met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring.

Lindsey Wallis is thanked for all her hard work on the accounts. Lindsey is a volunteer who is currently acting as St Peter's Finance Administrator.

Membership of PCC

(A) 01/01/24 – 12/05/24 (APCM)

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Sian Fytche (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar).

Deanery Synod: Stephen Webster, Annabel Copeland, Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Peter Taylor, Pam Weatherington

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Siân Fytche, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton, Elizabeth Mace, Ben Treverton, Sarah Vogt

(B) 12/05/2024 – 31/12/2024

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Siân Fytche (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar), Louisa Baker (Churchwarden).

Deanery Synod: Stephen Webster, Annabel Copeland, Louise Foote, Claire Weston, Pam Weatherington, Peter Taylor

Elected Members: Rob Dillarstone, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Sally Saunders, Peter Taylor, Kim Treverton, Ben Treverton, Pam Weatherington, Sarah Vogt, Angela Newell, Claire Weston, Louise Foote, Claire Weston, John Grubb.

Honorary PCC Secretary: Andrew Hawkins

2.3 Electoral Roll Report

Electoral Roll statement for APCM 2025

As required by Church of England legislation, the Electoral Roll has to be completely renewed every 6 years. In consequence all people on the old roll (which was devised afresh in 2019 and has been revised annually since) have been contacted by email and /or letter to ask if they wish to continue on the new roll. All slow responders have had follow up messages by email, letter and /or personal contact. There have been notices in the church services and in the weekly newsletter. In addition the church suite database has been reviewed to see if there were any individuals worshipping at the church who are not on the roll but might respond to an invitation to join it. As a consequence of this process, it can be seen that there has been a more significant "churn" in names this year compared to the previous annual revisions. The following table describes the numbers of those that have "died", have "moved away" and are "new joiners". The category of "moved away" includes those who have moved address geographically, those who have not responded to the invitation to rejoin the electoral roll, as well as those who may have moved spiritually and decided for varied reasons to worship elsewhere. The identification of the "Moved Away" people reflects decisions that have happened at any time during the last 6 years and not just the last calendar 12 months. It is a recognised national phenomenon that the Covid Pandemic lead to many people changing their worship pattern and this may not have been picked up in the Electoral Roll figures until now when there has been the first complete revision since the pandemic.

Key messages:

- It is a major encouragement to see a record number of new joiners this year.
- In addition there are 7 more individuals who have expressed a willingness to join the roll but haven't actually got round to completing forms yet.
- So the roll this year should be viewed as simply a snapshot of our congregation. The congregation is fluid and has been growing in the last year.
- The ministry of St Peter's is very varied and few people are involved in every aspect. Most people who see St Peter's as their spiritual home are connected through mainly one part of its ministry and that may be mid week rather than a formal Sunday service.

Year	TOTAL	Died	Moved Away	New Joiners
2019 (Full review)	262	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020 (Covid)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	237	11	21	7
2022	243	5	9	20
2023	230	17	4	8
2024	235	2	3	10
2025 (Full Review)	220	5	44	32

Peter Taylor
Electoral Roll Officer

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

During 2024 the Benefice Safeguarding Team comprised Revd Annabel Copeland (Clergy Safeguarding Lead) and Louise Foote (Benefice Safeguarding Officer) and Kim Treverton (Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer). The PCC are continuing to use the Benefice Safeguarding Policy which was written in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meets statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to activities within the Benefice; it was reviewed and updated as required during 2024, safeguarding concerns will continue to be responded as described in this policy and it will continue to be reviewed annually. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at all PCC meetings.

In line with the Church of England's safeguarding policy statement 'Promoting a Safer Church' the Diocese of Peterborough provides access to an online application called 'Safeguarding Dashboards' to enable parishes to produce a safeguarding Action Plan. The Benefice Safeguarding Officer has used the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard tool throughout the year to audit and inform safeguarding practice, identify training needs, and manage the safeguarding aspects of church activities.

Safeguarding concerns raised during the year were responded to in line with the Benefice Safeguarding Policy, with additional advice and guidance sought from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team as appropriate. The PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

Louise Foote
Benefice Safeguarding Officer

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	NatWest Bank, 25 Corporation Street, Corby NN17 1NR
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Staff Receiving Remuneration

Through Parish Share

Vicar	Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Associate Vicar	Rev Annabel Copeland

Through Salary

Youth Minister	Emma Kirby
Administrator	Andrew Hawkins
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Pearcey
Intern/ Online Administrator	Joe Gray

3.3 Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Status
The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment
Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all**. Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One-off events are assessed for risk before being run.

b) **Financial**: Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.

c) **Reputation**: Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use.

Section 4

4.1 Mission Support report for APCM 2024

St Peters Mission Support statement for APCM 2025

Mission is a fundamental expression of our response to the church motto: *God's Love - Know it, Live it, Give it.* From being involved in mission we find that our faith is deepened and enriched through the experience. Mission activity is broadly grouped as: (a) Gospel Proclamation & Discipleship, (b) Social Justice, Creation care & Humanitarian Aid. This work is carried out locally, nationally and internationally. The breadth of St Peter's ministry is "mission" carried out within Oundle. The aim of the Mission Support Group is to help the church family to be involved in mission that reaches beyond the confines of Oundle town itself. In the last year we have continued a similar pattern of activities to previous years. A paper outlining St Peter's Mission Support was discussed at PCC and is available for wider reading from the office. For many years it has been PCC policy that 10% of "unrestricted" giving income for the church is given as mission support and the PCC has confirmed that this will continue in the future. We give financially to Crosslinks (- John & Gillian Robinson working at The Place of Grace, Bangkok), Sat 7, USPG, Hope into Action and Tearfund. The mission giving in 2024 was £21793 and was split between the societies in the same ratio as previous years. We supported these societies in prayer regularly through the year. In June 2024 John & Gillian Robinson visited us and lead a Sunday service as well as meeting church supporters for lunch. In Nov 2024 Hope into Action's Martin Oldaker preached and was hosted for lunch too.

In 2025, the mission focused services will include USPG in June and TearFund in November.

In 2025 there will be a need for volunteers to replace two members of the mission support group who are moving away from Oundle.

By Peter Taylor
Mission Support Group

4.2 Building and Resources

Building and Resources Report

St Peter's is a Grade 1 listed building most of which dates back to the 13th century, although some sections are slightly older. Because of its historic nature all work must be sensitively carried out, mostly with like for like materials and using traditional methods. Work on the church building therefore tends to be both costly and time consuming. Limited direct income means that we are severely constrained in what we can do and are heavily reliant on grants to achieve much of what we do. We would like to thank The Friends of Oundle Parish Church, The Oundle Feoffees, The Worshipful Company of Grocers and various donors for their generous grants. Without their support much of the essential work to retain the appearance of our beautiful church would not be possible.

During the last year the following work has been undertaken:

Grant and Donor Funded

- Maintenance work on the bells in the tower
- Upgrading of lighting within the Nave and Chancel
- Repairs to stonework at the junction of the tower and church roof.
- Replacement of hand driers in the toilets

PCC Funded

- During the year the Quinquennial Inspection of the church was carried out by the Church Architect. The building is generally in good repair with essential work being identified, however, the Architect has advised that major repairs to the roof are likely to be necessary towards the end of the five year period. Further investigations are required to identify the extent of necessary work.
- It has been noted that the steeple has not been surveyed in detail for several years.
- Further investigatory work has been carried out on the heating system, and we are now in a position to instruct remedial works to be carried out, subject to funding.
- Annual inspection of the lead on the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Repairs to various areas of roof.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.

During the coming year the following work is planned:

- Design and implementation of improvements to the kitchen, subject to confirmation of funding.
- Replacement of radiators at the rear of the Church together a new thermostatically controlled control system subject to confirmation of funding.
- Detailed inspection and survey of the church spire by specialist steeplejacks.
- Removal of the blockages in the surface water drainage system and commencement of the detailed design of improvement works.
- Completion of a strategy for the removal of the old organ and the redevelopment of the north transept, vestry and the present office to make better use of the space available for current and potential future church needs.
- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.
- Essential that research into potential funding organisations is carried out for which we are seeking assistance.

John Grubb
Chair of Resources Action Group (RAG)
May 2025

4.3 Senior Adults

Ministry Among Older People ('Anna Chaplaincy')

St Peter's 'Senior's Ministry' had developed during the year. In February 2025 we joined the growing number of churches in the Diocese of Peterborough who are part of the nationwide Anna Chaplaincy network. This demonstrates our commitment to offering spiritual care to those in later life, helps raise the profile of this ministry within our Diocese and gives Louise Foote access to a network of people who feel called to ministry amongst older people.

Activities and services in our local residential and nursing homes have developed this year, Home Communion services have continued with the addition of 'Messy Vintage' type activities which enables residents to enjoy time together with a spiritual theme in a less formal way than a service. The combination of both types of activities has enabled people with a wider range of needs and backgrounds to be part of the church body through familiar services creative gatherings.

Tuesday Club has continued to meet twice a month throughout the year and is an opportunity for older members of our community to gather to play scrabble or other games, jigsaws or just enjoy the company of others; there is a 'thought for the day' from one of our clergy, a hot drink and home-made cake. We are very thankful for the team of volunteers who help with transport to enable people to get to the club, for those who bring home-made cakes and those who help with refreshments and activities. We also hold a monthly Tuesday Club Extra- a similar session to Tuesday Club but quieter and tailored to the needs of people with memory difficulties or dementia.

During 2024 we hosted Pink House Arts who ran a monthly craft session with the aim of reducing isolation and boosting wellbeing. This was attended by older and younger adults, people enjoyed a variety of crafts led by Caroline and Charlotte from Pink House Arts.

Our annual Holiday at Home, a 'Trip to Florence' was held in June, this was fun day of activities related to the region, delicious lunch, afternoon entertainment, interspersed with regular hot drinks and cake, chatter and company. Planning is well underway for this years' 'Visit to Amsterdam'.

Although not strictly a 'senior's activity', the Thursday @10.30 Holy Communion service followed by refreshments has been a weekly opportunity to meet for worship and to enjoy time together. During Lent, we ran a 24-7 'Unanswered Prayer' Course following the service which was a wonderful opportunity to explore some difficult faith questions and get to know each other better, we finished the morning by attending the Lent Lunches in aid of Christian Aid run by the churches in town and hosted at the Methodist Church.

The Hymns of Praise monthly hymn singing session co-ordinated by Anthony and Barbara Eddy has continued to grow with around 30 people regularly attending. This it a time to gather around the piano and sing favourite hymns chosen by those attending, followed by refreshments (including Barbara's speciality rockbuns!).

A monthly printed newsletter has continued to be produced and distributed for those who are 'offline' or unable to access the weekly e-newsletter.

Louise Foote
Benefice Anna Chaplain

4.4 Youth Work

Youth Ministry Report for 2024

It's been an encouraging year for our work with our young people! We've built on the enthusiasm created at Chattabox + and provided space to explore faith whilst developing community. We have young people playing in the Chattabox+ band as well as on Sunday mornings and others have been practising leadership skills by leading and planning group events.

Research has shown that there is a growing desire for spirituality and discipleship amongst young people and we have seen instances of this over the year and hope to build on this as we plan this year's Chattabox +. Rooted meets every Monday afternoon in the Lady Chapel. This year, The Way and Rooted have combined groups. The young people have grown in their willingness to share, study and pray together as well as have a lot of fun! It is always a blessing for us adult leaders – we are often struck by how they go from playing a game to discussing issues and biblical truths to praying for each other. They are a special group of young people.

West Porch Café has continued to be as popular as ever –about 40 young people regularly attend. There are often new people each week as the young people bring their friends: we now have most of the Oundle football team! It is a relaxed place to go after school – the young people are encouraged to put down their phones and take part in the activities such as table tennis, snooker, board games and craft.

We have a great group of leaders who make the young people feel valued and work hard each week encouraging them to participate in activities or simply chat and listen to them. We are also grateful to our church community who have provided opportunities to try new skills. Northampton Association for Youth Clubs visit 6 times per year, bringing fun activities such as archery, sumo and dodge ball. Last term, Oundle Community First Responders came to teach CPR which the young people took part in.

We have started to meet with Years 7-9 one Sunday morning a month. We wanted to disciple those young people who cannot make Rooted during the week. Chattabox + last year was an amazing success! 45 young people joined and spent the mornings serving at Chattabox. In the afternoons, we enjoyed activities such as Water Games and Laser Quest. In the evenings, Souster Youth lead talks on the theme of Being Me – looking at how following Jesus enables us to be secure in who we are.

On the last night, when the young people were asked who wanted to carry on exploring their faith, most people said that they did. As a result, we introduced a Sunday night group for the Autumn term. We also have had 3 bigger evening events, co-lead with some of the older group, loosely based on the Chattabox + style – worship, talk, discussion and games.

Working in partnership with Souster Youth at Prince William School has been very useful in developing relationships with young people and teachers. The work has consisted of lunchtime games club, lunchtime faith club, group therapeutic interventions and lessons. There have been numerous overlaps with PWS and St. Peter's work, including young people starting to attend West Porch Café and then going to the Chattabox + events.

Helping at the Year 6 Moving On Day in July has also been helpful in encouraging Year 6 to try out West Porch Café as well as linking with them at PWS this year.

Emma Kirby
Youth Minister

4.5 Children and Families

Children and Families Ministry

Kids Church

Kids Church groups have continued during the year. I am very grateful to a fantastic team of volunteers who so willing serve our children in leading sessions to enable them to grow in faith. There are three Sunday groups- Breathe for young people in years 7-9 which during this year has become a once a month meeting for Milkshakes and discussion about Christian faith, Launchpad for children in years 3-6, Powerpack for children in Years reception to Year 2. The groups meet twice a month and so on the other two Sundays there is an All-In service and Lego Church. During the year we have seen new families join which has been encouraging. As always I am so grateful to the many volunteers who make our Kids Church sessions a great place for our children to be and a place where they can discovered more about how to know Jesus, live in his love and give God's love away to others.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots is a weekly session run on a Wednesday afternoon for pre-school children and their parents and carers. We meet in the Community Room at Oundle Primary School and continue to see a steady growth in numbers and depth of friendship. Each week there is a chance for the children to play and parents to chat followed by a snack and Bible story, prayer and singing time. I want to give a huge thank you to the team of volunteers from St Peters who faithfully serve each week and have offered pastoral support to many parents through timely conversations. I have also been encouraged to begin to see families from Tiny Tots come along to church and discover more about faith in Jesus. We are also blessed each week to be joined be young people from Oundle School who play a vital role helping run Tiny Tots.

Chattabox

It was a delight this summer to be able to run Chattabox and a huge thank you to all those volunteers, adults and young people, who made this possible and especially to Sian who led it all so well. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed with lots of fun and discovery about Jesus happening. Our theme was Deep Sea Divers through which we found out more about Jesus through, singing, prayers, craft, games and discussion. We also ran a one-day Chattabox Easter Holiday Club which was very well received and was combined with a short Easter Service for families. This acted as a good introduction to Chattabox for new Reception aged children, many of whom then had the confidence to come along in the summer.

Schools Ministry

Each week a member of the clergy team has delivered a Collective Worship assembly in both Oundle Primary and Glapthorn schools. We also hosted a Carol Service, Leavers service, Easter Service and Harvest service for each school. We also had a special service for the Oundle Primary School Reception class during which we presented them each with a Bible as they start their journey through the school. Our pastoral support at both schools has continued throughout the year and Annabel continues to act as a Governor at Oundle Primary school. Ben Treverton continues to be the other Foundation Governor and act as Chair of the Governing Body. Annabel is part of the Church Group at Glapthorn looking at church school ethos.

Messy Café Church

This new congregation continues to develop and we are beginning to see some very regular families attend each month as well as most months there are new people. This year we have been exploring the Miracles of Jesus through craft, songs, Bible story and creative prayer. This format provides an informal way to grow faith as a family and across the generations. In July we held our first baptism in Messy Café Church which was very exciting. I am as always very grateful to the wonderful team who plan and lead the service and for many who pray and make sandwiches and cakes-thank you.

Intergenerational Ministry
We continue to celebrate the expressions of intergenerational community developing at St Peter's- these are opportunities for us to learn, grown, serve and socialise from other generations so that we all grow in our faith.

Part of this focus was to appoint two Young Voices on PCC- Dan Saunders and Karenza Treverton. They have helped the PCC understand further the thoughts and feelings of young people at St Peter's which has been really valuable. The PCC made this their focus on a Vision Morning in June during which time we celebrated what we are doing well and considered how we could growth further in being an intergenerational community- the main areas to focus on now were encouraging cross-generational friendships to support and learn from each other and to redevelop our All-In service into a Café style service.

Pastoral Support
At Christmas we were able through generous donations to our Friends in Need fund to give a Christmas Meal hamper to 10 families in Oundle who otherwise may not have had a Christmas dinner this year. In summary can I thank everyone who is involved in serving and blessing our children and families, without your commitment none of what has been achieved this year would have been possible.

If reading what has been going on has excited you and you'd like to join the team then please do contact me and we can have a chat about possibly getting involved.

Rev Annabel Copeland
Associate Vicar

Section 5

Treasurer's Report

This report is on the 2024 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give, it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs.

As mentioned during my presentation to the church in November, it costs approximately £6,000 each week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue, as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a church in this amazing community in which we serve.

Giving

Total income for St Peter's during 2024 was £325,811 (a 2% increase on 2023). As mentioned during my presentation to the church in November, planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses and we continue to rely on one-off donations to 'close the gap' with our planned expenditure.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's church community. Where possible, please give through the Parish Giving Scheme (Home - Parish Giving Scheme) that has now been in operation successfully for several years and which relieves our Giving Officer of much administrative work. Planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the church and to serve God and our community.

During any year there will be members of St Peter's who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. In order to show a net increase in income each year, it is necessary for donations from new givers and increased donations from existing givers to outstrip any decline.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income. We are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals, we received grants, including £17,581 from the Listed Places of Worship VAT reclaim scheme, £1,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers and £1,900 from Feoffees.

Expenditure

The 2024 spend of £359,293 was a 17% increase on the figure for 2023 (£306,626). However, the 2024 budget anticipated a £64K loss, so the actual loss for 2024 of £33,482 was better than budgeted.

The largest item of expenditure is the Diocesan Parish Share of £115,534 (an unexpected, but welcome, reduction of 9% from the 2023 figure) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training, both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (curates and ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice with the roles of Vicar and Associate Vicar supporting the benefice.

Other major items of expenditure (i.e. >£20,000) were:

	2024	2023
Staff salary costs/ pensions	£74,561	£54,973
Building ministry projects	£34,100	£15,294
Utilities	£25,852	£6,294
Maintenance and repairs	£20,160	£11,919

As can be seen, there has been an enormous (410%) increase in the cost of utilities.

St Peter's has a longstanding policy of giving 10% of unrestricted income to mission. This meant that during 2024, St Peter's gave £21,793 to our mission partners.

Reserves and Funds

The current reserves stand at £23,427 for buildings and £69,972 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2025 based on guidance from the Charities Commission. The General Fund has fallen from £193,169 in 2023 to £180,390 in 2024.

Of the £180,390, it should be noted that £67,144 (2023: £52,530) is our tangible fixed assets and investments such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., and c.£36,000 is our working capital. The remaining £77,246 is in surplus. In years such as 2024 where expenditure outstrips income and we exit the year having spent more than we received, this surplus is called upon. The Treasurer and PCC are prayerfully wishing to work towards a situation where increased giving means we match expenditure, and that additional regular income can be used in creative, exciting and missional ways.

Governance

The PCC sets financial policies for St Peter's. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC and consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-ordinator. This voluntary team reports to the Treasury Committee which includes one member of the Clergy and one lay member. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

Robert Dillarstone
Treasurer

Section 6

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

   - proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
   - accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or

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

Graham Darbourne FCA
TC Group
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

Section 7

Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FINANCIAL REPORT

Section 8

Report on Deanery Matters: an annual review of business

Report for Oundle Deanery 2024.

Oundle Deanery Synod has met three times during 2024.

Rev Eddie Smith was welcomed as Vicar of Kings Cliffe and Rural Dean for the Oundle Deanery in June 2023, and was present at the above meetings.

We continue to be grateful for the energetic and engaging leadership provided by Archdeacon Alison.

St Peter's is represented at all the Deanery Synod meetings and takes an active part in the scheduled meetings throughout the year.

Section 9

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church is a charity entirely separate from St Peter's Church. We are extremely grateful to them for their support in enabling us to cherish the heritage of our ancient building. We include a report from the FOPC Chair Ian Goldsmith.

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church
Registered Charity No.1168165

Report of the Trustees for the calendar year 1st January 2024 - 31st December 2024

Objective of the charity:

The Friends were formed in 1983 to help maintain the Church of St. Peter in Oundle and restore it where necessary. Until then this task fell solely upon the Parochial Church Council supported by members of the congregation. Donations, sale of electricity produced by the solar panels and fund-raising are the principal income sources of the charity, supplemented by income from COIF investments and the annual Income Tax refund for donations qualifying for Gift Aid.

The objective of the charity as stated in the Constitution is as follows: "To promote for the benefit of the public, including the widest access and use especially for the inhabitants of the parish of Oundle in the county of Northamptonshire, the permanent preservation and enhancement of Oundle Parish Church as a building of architectural and historical interest."

Activities and Achievements:

We are pleased to report that the annual submission of our Accounts and Trustee Report for last year to the Charity Commission was accepted without query.

Trustees met to consider the annual Jazz evening, courtesy of Oundle School Jazz Orchestra and this was held in January. The concert was "Sold out" and those attending were most appreciative and "Wished for more!".
In the year ahead we look forward to our annual Jazz Concert and to our second concert performed by the GUS Band.

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in the Church and the following have been supported from Friend's funds:

- Sewer survey
- Full refurbishment of the South Porch doors.
- Installation of hand dryers.
- Contribution towards additional staging
- Upgrading of the Nave lighting.
- On going Architect's fees.

In total **£35714.25** has been paid to the Church to enable these projects to proceed, with further funds already allocated to cover the costs of those projects that are currently being planned. Trustees look forward to reporting on the successful completion of those works next year.

Support for a number of other projects have been requested. Trustees look forward to reporting these ventures in their next Annual Report. Our thanks to David Gooda who has worked tirelessly to ensure our projects represent best value and further enhance and care for our beautiful church.

Donations by Bankers Order accounted for £915. A Tax Rebate (Gift Aid reclaim) provided additional income of £446.62, income from the solar panels was £3467.18. sundry donations £1000, bequest £2000, profit from our Jazz Evening £3495.40. Interest on the COIF account amounted to £14426.85. Trustees have reviewed organisation, expenditure and pricing ready for the next Jazz Evening.

Year-end accounts and balance sheet are available. Please ask the Chairman or Treasurer.

Planned Events: Saturday 26th April – GUS Band Concert
Friday 6th February 2026 OSJO Concert (provisional date)

Local correspondent and principal address: Neil Underwood. 9, Scotney Way, Thrapston NN14 4SA

Officers:

Chairman: Ian Goldsmith	Secretary: David Webb.
Treasurer: Neil Underwood	Independent Reviewer: T.C. Bulley Davey

Trustees:

Mr. I. Goldsmith, Mr N Underwood, Ms. J. Turton, Mr. D. Gooda, Mr I. Baker, Mr. D. Webb, Ms. J. Pearson . Ms. J Ray. Ms L. Davies Mrs P. Weatherington

.Bankers and Policies:

- Lloyds Bank current account - utilised for all day to day banking and holding funds for any regular transactions.
- CCLA Investment Management Ltd (COIF Charity Funds) - high interest account utilised by many registered charities.

Acknowledgements:

Trustees wish to thank all associated with our ventures and notably Oundle Bookshop for the sale of tickets..

The Friends also thank St Peters Church staff for the continued support of all fundraising events at the church. Thanks also to T. C. Bulley Davey for arranging the Independent Review of the annual accounts

Ian Goldsmith, Chairman

Section 10

Green Group Report

Part of the Church of England official policy is "Creation Care". The fifth mark of Mission is **"to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation; to sustain and renew the life of the earth"** (Lambeth conference 1988). The Green Group's aim is to help the church community, together and as individuals, to translate these ambitions into practice.

Thanks
During this last year Judy and Jeremy Rusher, who have led the group for fifteen years, have retired. We need to thank them for all the time, creative energy and patient dedication that they have shown throughout that time.

Conservation and Bio-diversity
One of their most important achievements is the creation, in conjunction with the Northants Wildlife Trust Conservation Scheme, of a managed conservation area in the north-west part of the churchyard. As well as leading the work they have kept detailed records of plants and animals identified there, and the church has won several environmental awards This area is now part of the Rockingham Forest Parish Nature Recovery Plan for Oundle, which aims to provide a wildlife corridor through Oundle from Heron Rogers Wood in the West to the river Nene in the East. Judy Potts is our representative.

During the last few months we have been advertising for volunteers to assist with the maintenance of the churchyard, and I am very pleased to report that several people have come forward, including Charles Clay who has agreed to lead this group during the next year.

Environmental Policy
Another major part of the Green Group agenda over the years has been to consider the environmental footprint of the church and the congregation. One of the major achievements was getting the PCC to approve, in February 2022, "Our Vision for a Green Church Community" which recognises that almost every area of church life is involved in environmental issues. Thus, church buying policy (like Fairtrade), minimising pollution, reducing waste, encouraging recycling, reducing our carbon footprint, promoting healthy life-styles are all areas to be considered. Sarah Vogt is the Green Group representative on the PCC.

The next step
In the early days we based our discussions on Eco Church materials, using their excellent surveys and questionnaires to discover
(a) what church practice was and
(b) how it might be made more environmentally sustainable.
As most companies and organisations have realised, it helps to have a specific group to focus on this and to suggest ideas. The C of E is encouraging churches to review their present practices using this newly revised material. At present, this fascinating and important part of the Green Group work is not being done at St Peter's, and we very much hope that a few people might come forward to reconvene such a group.

Alan Rayden
Green Group Acting Secretary
5th May 2025

St Peter's Church, Oundle
Our Vision for a Green Church and Community

"For the church of the 21st century good ecology is not an optional extra but a matter of justice. It is central to what it means to be a Christian" (Rowan Williams)

"To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation; to sustain and renew the life of the earth". (The Church of England's 5th Mark of Mission)

Our vision is summarised under the following headings, each of which contributes to the impact St Peter's has on the environment.

- **Worship and Teaching** will include our responsibility for caring for creation and will be celebrated especially in Creationtide*
- **Management of Church Buildings** including maintenance and use should, as far as is practical, minimise any adverse effect on the environment
- **Management of church land** is an opportunity for St Peter's to show how we care for creation by supporting wildlife, encouraging biodiversity and enhancing the natural environment
- **Community and Global Engagement** means that St Peter's community will recognise, encourage & participate in eco projects in our community and the wider world where these align with St Peter's Vision and Strategy and any costs incurred are within approved budgets
- **Our personal lifestyle** will show awareness of our responsibility for the impact on the environment of our actions

Living this vision challenges every person and organisation in St Peter's to recognise God's love and encourages us to Know It in Creation, Live It in Wonder and Give It by Caring

*Originally an Eastern Orthodox initiative, which has now spread widely among Anglican, Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations, bringing Christians together to pray and work for the protection of the environment that sustains everyone

Green Group/28.02.2020

ST PETER'S CHURCH: OUNDLE PCC ACCOUNTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	FUNDS 2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	3(a)	256,065	46,272	-	302,337	295,960
Fund generating activities	3(b)	3,467	1,059	-	4,526	4,074
Income from investments	3(c)	8,829	-	578	9,407	7,841
Church activities	3(d)	9,441	100	-	9,541	11,414
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**277,802**	**47,431**	**578**	**325,811**	**319,289**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	4(a)	21,793	-	-	21,793	25,939
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	4(b)	287,704	49,557	-	337,261	280,687
Governance costs	4(c)	240	-	-	240	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**309,737**	**49,557**	**-**	**359,294**	**306,626**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		**(31,935)**	**(2,126)**	**578**	**(33,483)**	**12,663**
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	5(a)	-	-	-	-	(660)
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	5(b)	762	-	322	1,084	1,030
		762	-	322	1,084	370
Fund Transfers		26,140	(23,378)	(2,762)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**(5,033)**	**(25,504)**	**(1,862)**	**(32,399)**	**13,033**
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY 2024		302,350	147,090	17,701	467,141	454,108
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER 2024		**297,317**	**121,586**	**15,839**	**434,742**	**467,141**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	FUNDS 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	5(a)	65,467	103,950	-	169,417	135,615
Investment	5(b)	1,677	-	14,409	16,086	15,002
		67,144	103,950	14,409	185,503	150,617
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	6(a)	180	-	-	180	182
Debtors	6(b)	18,063	-	-	18,063	14,234
Short term deposits		132,851	5,860	1,430	140,141	193,568
Cash at bank and in hand		94,118	12,789	-	106,907	125,038
		245,212	18,649	1,430	265,291	333,022
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	7	(15,039)	(1,013)	-	(16,052)	(16,498)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		230,173	17,636	1,430	249,239	316,524
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**297,317**	**121,586**	**15,839**	**434,742**	**467,141**
PARISH FUNDS	11					
Unrestricted		297,317	-	-	297,317	302,350
Restricted		-	121,586	-	121,586	147,090
Endowment		-	-	15,839	15,839	17,701
TOTAL		**297,317**	**121,586**	**15,839**	**434,742**	**467,141**

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

R Dillarstone (Treasurer) ..... **Date:** 9 June 2025

Rev'd Canon S Webster ..... **Date:** 4th June 2025

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 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 of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

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 on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND
This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure.

ORGAN FUND
This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

QUINQUENNIAL FUND
This contains monies earmarked for quinquennial repair cycle expenditure.

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 entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due.
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 s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
IT	Straight line over 3 years
Lighting & Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years
Staging	Straight line over 15 years
Holdich Organ	Straight line over 100 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2024.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

2 **ASSOCIATED CHARITIES**

(i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fytche, Trustee
(ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Trustee
(iii) William Walcot's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fytche, Trustee
(iv) Feeoffee or Town Estates: Ian Goldsmith, Sian Fytche, Stephen Webster, Trustees

3 **INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	FUNDS 2023 £
(a) **Voluntary Income**					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	139,680	60	-	139,740	135,911
Other	17,285	-	-	17,285	19,058
Sundry donations:					
Grants	18,231	5,350	-	23,581	55,538
Gift Aid donations	2,106	1,740	-	3,846	4,073
Cash collections	2,231	453	-	2,684	2,363
Thanksgiving Campaign	18,225	-	-	18,225	1,000
Legacies	5,447	-	-	5,447	15,987
Youth Minister Seed Funding	5,100	-	-	5,100	5,100
Other giving	6,152	38,219	-	44,371	19,431
Tax recoverable	41,608	450	-	42,058	37,499
	256,065	46,272	-	302,337	295,960
(b) Fund generating activities					
Oundle VintageFestival	-	1,059	-	1,059	-
Feed in Tariff income	3,467	-	-	3,467	4,074
	3,467	1,059	-	4,526	4,074
(c) Income from investments	8,829	-	578	9,407	7,841
	8,829	-	578	9,407	7,841
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	20	-	-	20	73
Lettings	5,140	-	-	5,140	4,839
Munch Club meals	-	-	-	-	1,231
Fees for weddings/funerals	4,281	100	-	4,381	5,271
	9,441	100	-	9,541	11,414
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**277,802**	**47,431**	**578**	**325,811**	**319,289**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

4	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
(a)						
	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	16,070	-	-	16,070	20,115
	Other	5,723	-	-	5,723	5,824
		21,793	-	-	21,793	25,939
(b)						
	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	115,534	-	-	115,534	128,728
	Clergy expenses	2,191	-	-	2,191	1,992
	Training	228	228	-	456	1,503
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	12,094	8,066	-	20,160	11,919
	Quinquennial	7,500	-	-	7,500	-
	Building ministry projects	2,658	31,442	-	34,100	15,294
	Building cleaning and sanitation	1,277	-	-	1,277	1,273
	Insurance claim	-			-	1,090
	Holdich Organ Project	(3,200)	-	-	(3,200)	590
	Utilities	25,852	-	-	25,852	6,294
	Worship	5,732	-	-	5,732	6,769
	Outreach (including Friends in Need)	2,361	7,160	-	9,521	8,721
	Pastoral	12	20	-	32	58
	Youth	1,077	987	-	2,064	2,192
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	73,959	603	-	74,562	54,973
	VAT reclaimable under LPWS	19,173	-	-	19,173	18,895
	Depreciation	3,612	1,050	-	4,662	3,294
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	6,447	-	-	6,447	6,051
	Parish Office	10,656	-	-	10,656	10,878
	Other admin costs	541	1	-	542	173
		287,704	49,557	-	337,261	280,687
(c)	Governance costs					
	Independent Examination fee	240	-	-	240	-
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**309,737**	**49,557**	**-**	**359,294**	**306,626**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

5 (a) **FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible	CHURCH ASSETS	AUDIO	IT	LIGHTING & BOILER	HOLDICH ORGAN	STAGING	PAYMENT ON ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Cost/Valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At cost/valuation at 1 January 2024	43,500	46,821	6,893	84,517	-	5,765	84,000	271,496
Additions	-	-	-	17,464	-	-	21,000	38,464
Transfers	-	-	-	-	105,000	-	(105,000)	-
Disposals	-	-	-	(14,400)	-	-	-	(14,400)
Revaluation in year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 1 January and 31 December 2024	43,500	46,821	6,893	87,581	105,000	5,765	-	295,560
Depreciation								
At 1 January 2024	1,400	46,821	3,047	84,517	-	96	-	135,881
Charge for the year	200	-	1,923	1,105	1,050	384	-	4,662
On disposals				(14,400)				(14,400)
At 31 December 2024	1,600	46,821	4,970	71,222	1,050	480	-	126,143
Net Book Value								
At Jan 1st 2024	42,100	-	3,846	-	-	5,669	84,000	135,615
At Dec 31st 2024	41,900	-	1,923	16,359	103,950	5,285	-	169,417

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).
All assets are unrestricted except the Payment on Account of Fixed Asset & Holdich Organ which is part of the Restricted Holdich Organ Fund.
The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 4 February 2022 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers. The valuables were valued at £34,160.

The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.
The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.
The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.
The revaluation in 2021 resulted in a decrease of £840. An informal valuation at 31/12/23 reduced the value by £660.

(b)

Investments	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2024	915	-	14,087	15,002
Revaluation gain/(loss)	762	-	322	1,084
Market value at 31 December 2024	1,677	-	14,409	16,086

Holdings at 31 December 2024	Fund	£ Opening value	£ Movement	£ Value at 31/12/24
417 New Ord Shares in NatWest Group	General	915	762	1,677
Chancel: 428 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	9,676	221	9,897
Jesus Church: 195.15 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	4,411	101	4,512
		15,002	1,084	16,086

6 **CURRENT ASSETS**

(a)	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Stocks					
Communion supplies, cups	180	-	-	180	182
	180	-	-	180	182
(b)					
Debtors					
Income tax recoverable	1,193	-	-	1,193	1,489
Other debtors and prepayments	16,870	-	-	16,870	12,745
	18,063	-	-	18,063	14,234

7 **LIABILITIES**

Creditors falling due within one year					
Accruals and Deferred Income	4,886	-	-	4,886	12,245
Other creditors and accruals	10,153	1,013	-	11,166	4,253
	15,039	1,013	-	16,052	16,498

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

8 **GRANTS RECEIVABLE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	17,581	-	-	17,581	18,895
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Feeoffees	-	1,900	-	1,900	1,900
Anonymous for Munch Club	-	-	-	-	243
Diocese of Peterborough	650	-	-	650	3,000
Oundle & District Care for West Porch Café		600	-	600	-
Oundle & District Care for Holiday at Home		600	-	600	-
Oundle Churches Youth Association for West Porch Café		750	-	750	-
Holdich Organ Grant	-	-	-	-	30,000
TOTAL	18,231	5,350	-	23,581	55,538

9 **MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

CHURCH OVERSEAS	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Missionary Societies				
Crosslinks	2,814	-	2,814	8,935
SAT7	5,525	-	5,525	4,240
Tearfund	2,206	-	2,206	1,700
Christian Aid	-	-	-	1,000
United Society	5,525	-	5,525	4,240
	16,070	-	16,070	20,115
Other				
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	-	50	50
Hope into Action	2,206	-	2,206	1,700
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	3,467	-	3,467	4,074
	5,723	-	5,723	5,824
TOTAL	21,793	-	21,793	25,939

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

10 **CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS**

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	149,045	27,620	13,289
Interest	6,647	1,424	686
From / (To) Current Account	(60,000)	-	-
CLOSING BALANCE	95,692	29,044	13,975

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	3,614
Dividends	269
Interest	187
Accumulated income transferred for expenditure on Chancel	(2,640)
CLOSING BALANCE	1,430

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024

11 **ANALYSIS OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Building Fund	22,003	1,424	-	-	-	23,427
General reserve	63,225	6,647	-	-	-	69,872
Quinquennial reserve	13,864	-	(4,210)	-	-	9,654
Organ Fund	10,089	686	3,200	-	-	13,975
General fund	193,169	269,045	(308,727)	26,140	762	180,389
	302,350	277,802	(309,737)	26,140	762	297,317
Restricted funds						
Feeoffees	1,900	1,900	(3,800)	-	-	-
Servery Project	5,860	-	-	-	-	5,860
Worshipful Company of Grocers	1,500	1,500	(3,000)	-	-	-
Holiday at Home	618	950	(609)	-	-	959
Cremated Remains Area	297	-	(297)	-	-	-
Holdich Organ Project	128,500	-	(1,560)	(17,590)	-	109,350
Oundle Vintage Festival	-	1,059	(1)	-	-	1,058
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	-	35,714	(29,804)	(5,910)	-	-
Clock & Bells Fund	2,988	200	(2,897)	-	-	292
OCYA for Youth Minister	31	-	(31)	-	-	-
Tiny Tots & Messy Church	-	60	(60)	-	-	-
Friends in Need	3,534	4,623	(6,491)	122	-	1,788
Bereavement Fund	50	-	(20)	-	-	30
West Porch Café	1,812	1,425	(987)	-	-	2,250
	147,090	47,431	(49,556)	(23,378)	-	121,586
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	13,291	456	-	(2,640)	221	11,328
Jesus Church income fund	4,410	122	-	(122)	101	4,511
	17,701	578	-	(2,762)	322	15,839
Total funds	467,141	325,811	(359,293)	-	1,084	434,742

The Feeoffees was grants received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs.
The Servery Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servery Project.
Worshipful Company of Grocers - grants to be spent on the fabric of the building.
Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Event.
The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.
Holdich Organ fund - see note 13 below.
The Oundle Vintage Festival fund represents funds raised at the Vintage Festival by running church tower tours. Funds are to be spent on church work as designated by the PCC.
The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.
The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Phase 2 Clock Tower and Bell works.
OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.
Tiny Toys and Messy Church Fund is a donation to be spent on Tiny Tots and Messy Church outreach work.
Friends in Need Fund - donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.
The Bereavement fund is a donation specifically for the use of the bereavement team.
The West Porch Café fund - funds raised to be expended on youth.

The Jesus Church fund consists of an investment to be held in perpetuity, the income of which is to be applied to the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical parish of Oundle. The PCC has allocated accumulated income to the Friends in Need Fund.

The Chancel fund consists of an investment to be held in perpetuity, the income of which can be expended on the Chancel.

A transfer of £5910 from Friends of Oundle Parish Church to General fund represents Friends' funds spent on general fixed assets.

A transfer of £2640 from Chancel Fund to General Fund represents accumulated income in the Chancel fund expended on Chancel fixed assets.

A transfer of £122 from Jesus Fund represents accumulated income transferred to the Friends In Need fund.

A transfer of £17,590 from Holdich Fund represents grant made in previous year to the church not to be spent on the organ.#

A designated reserve for Quinquennial repairs has been established to ring-fence unspent annual budget set aside for Quinquennial repairs.

12 **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**
During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church of £40,276 (2023: £46,371).

13 **HOLDICH ORGAN PROJECT**
During 2022 a pipe organ was donated to the church. The organ was refurbished off-site and was installed in 2023. It was commissioned in early 2024. The cost of the refurbishment and installation has been donated to the church in full at a figure of £126,000 including VAT.
Is is being depreciated over an estimated life of 100 years and is shown as a restricted fixed asset on the balance sheet.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1132677

Accounts

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2023

Registered Charity 1132677
North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

GOD'S LOVE
KNOW...
LIVE...
GIVE...
it

Oundle St Peter's
welcoming everyone

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2023

"I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the temple."
Ezekiel 47:1

As part of the PCC Vision morning in June 2023 members of the PCC were invited to spend time as individuals in prayer listening to God. During that time and quite independently some PCC members drawn to *Ezekiel* 47 where Ezekiel, in exile far from home, has given a vision of the temple back in Jerusalem. At the time of his vision the temple is in ruins but in his vision he sees a restored temple. And out of it flows water. At first a little trickle flowing from under the altar, which soon becomes a stream and then a broadening and deepening river; a river that waters a parched land – a river that brings life and transforms the desert whose banks grow trees whose leaves 'are for the healing of the nations.' From the temple comes life and healing and transformation of surrounding parched lands.

Just as land can be parched and thirsting so can human beings. We can thirst for God's presence and for renewed spiritual life. In Ezekiel's vision the temple becomes the source of God bringing healing and new life to people far and wide. At the vision day this passage prompted us to reflect on our calling as St Peter's Church. That as we encounter the life-transforming presence of God so we might share His transforming love with others; that out of the community that is St Peter's there might flow a river bringing healing and transformation to our friends and neighbours in Oundle and the world beyond.

There are many ways in which we continued to seek to do this through 2023. St Peter's provides a number of volunteers for Oundle Foodbank which is overseen by our Churchwarden Siân Fytche. Through this involvement, and because of our Friends-in-Need Fund, we have been able to be of very direct and practical help to people in real need in our community. Through the wonderful work of our Lay Chaplain Louise Foote (and her team of committed volunteers) Tuesday Club (and Tuesday Club extra for those living with dementia) has continued to meet a need for some older people in our town. This goes alongside a rich wider ministry among older people.

We were delighted in September to welcome Emma Kirby as our new Benefice Youth Minister. She was licensed by Bishop John on a Sunday in October. Through Emma and our partnership with the Souster Youth Trust we have a daily presence in the largest school in our town: Prince William School. The opportunities this brings to share the Christian faith with young people is really encouraging. West Porch Café (our Tuesday after school drop-in in St Peter's) continues to thrive under Emma's leadership as it did under the brilliant team of volunteers who kept it going for the many months when we had no Youth Minister.

As we emerged from Covid one vital focus for us has been being 'Together'. The New Testament tells us that we are 'the body of Christ' and every part of the body needs the other parts. There are many different ways we can think of grouping the members of the body of Christ. One lens we can look at Church through is that of 'generations.' We are a community of different generations. And we all need one another. Churches that are effective at fostering good relationships across generations are Churches that are also good at helping young people develop faith that flourishes in adulthood. During any given month we have continued to have a wide range of services with various styles – from Book of Common Prayer Communion, Choral Evensong and Hymns of Praise through to Messy Café Church. We have different preferred styles of worship and our range of services reflects this. Sunday morning at 10:30 is one service where it's really good to worship 'together' in a way that reflects a wide range of styles and preferences. It has been good in 2024 to begin to hear from different members of the Church community about favourite hymns and worship songs and so to learn from one another.

It was a great joy in 2024 to see the completion of the Holdich Organ Project. Thanks go to Malcolm Winder for securing this wonderful gift for the Church. It's arrival not only enhances our worship. It also makes possible all kinds of changes to our Church building which we are now just beginning to explore with our architects.

Another key focus that the PCC has identified is that we need to "Tell it out!" St Peter's seeks to be good news to our community with our actions. However, more than this we want to tell of the good news of Jesus with our words. We want to share our faith. It's vital that our lives and actions match our words. And it is also vital that we speak of our faith. Out of the work that was done in 2023 a "Tell it Out!" approach has been adopted by the PCC. In

essence we need to be able to say of everything that we do as a Church, "we do this because...". And what we say after 'because' each time needs to reflect our desire to 'Tell it out!" Early 2024 began with several small groups following the "Talking Jesus" course helping us think about how we share our faith. This has been followed by an Alpha Course..

This is just a snapshot. Read more in the reports that follow. In every area of Church life there are hard-working committed volunteers. Sincere thanks need to go to each and everyone. Thankyou. Ongoing thanks to our Church team – to Andrew Hawkins our administrator and Mark Pearcey our Facilities Co-ordinator and Joe Gray our online administrator and ministry intern. They continue provide an excellent and essential support for all that happens at St Peter's. In addition I am enormously grateful to Emily Taylor and Siân Fytche who have been extremely committed and effective Churchwardens and to Annabel Copeland who has been an outstanding support as Associate Vicar.

God is faithful and good. We look back with thankfulness and we look forward with faith.

Section 2:

2.1 Churchwardens' Report, St Peter's Church, Oundle- May 2024

We have come to the end of another busy and exciting year in the life of St Peter's Church. We have very much to thank God for and, inevitably, a report like this can only touch on all that has happened. It is an enormous privilege to be Churchwardens at St Peter's and we would want to start by saying a huge thank you to Stephen and Annabel for their wisdom, energy and leadership over the past year. As always, they have been very well supported by those involved in lay ministry. Particular thanks goes to Louise Foote, our Lay Chaplain, and the work she does supporting and encouraging those of increasing age.

2023 was a year of exciting developments. It was particularly good to be able to appoint Emma Kirby as our Youth Minister in September 2023. We have been so grateful to the team who had continued to work with our young people whilst we were without a youth minister. After several years of significant work and negotiations the Holdich Organ became functional just before our Christmas services. What a beautiful instrument it is and a great new asset for the church

As church wardens we continue to be very much grateful for our office team- Andrew Hawkins as Administrator , Mark Pearcey as Facilities Coordinator and Joe Gray as our Tech lead. Their work, often done behind the scenes, greatly helps the general smooth running of the church. Thank you to you all! Of course, no church can work well without the numerous volunteers who bring their time and talents to the life of the church. There are so many involved in the various rotas and we thank everyone for their willingness to serve in these many and varied ways. Usually it is not possible to mention individuals in a short report, but we would like to thank Margaret Dowd especially as she steps down , after many years, from organising the team of flower arrangers . Thank you Margaret!

As we look back over the past year, we have seen much blessing. We pray that as a church family, we would continue to deepen our love for Jesus and each other - and that this love would be a witness to our town and beyond.

2.2 PCC Report

During most of 2023, the PCC was made up of eight elected members, up to five Deanery Synod Representatives, two Churchwardens and up to three Clergy Team members. It was chaired by the incumbent (Rev Canon Stephen Webster and Annabel Copeland – Associate Vicar) and met five times in 2023 (7 February, 22 March, 18 May, 12 September and 15 November).

During these meetings, the PCC discussed a wide range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's. These have included Finance, Giving, Mission, Repairs to Building, installation of the Holdich organ, Development of NE side of Church Building, Green issues and Safeguarding.

As well as discussing practical matters of Church Life, each PCC meeting starts and ends with prayer. The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2023 were: -

Standing Committee which is required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2022 was made up of the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC, and an elected PCC Member. The Treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee exists to support the work of the Treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2022 it met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring.

Lindsey Wallis is thanked for all her hard work on the accounts. Lindsey is a volunteer who is currently acting as St Peter's Finance Administrator.

Membership of PCC

(A) **01/01/23 – 14/05/23 (APCM)**
Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Sian Fytche (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar),Rev Josh Jackson (Assistant Curate)

Deanery Synod: Annabel Copeland, Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Peter Taylor, Pam Weatherington

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Siân Fytche, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton, Elizabeth Mace, Ben Treverton, Sarah Vogt

(B) **14/05/2023 – 31/12/2023**
Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Siân Fytche (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar), Rev Joshua Jackson (Assistant Curate), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden).

Deanery Synod: Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Emily Taylor, Pam Weatherington, Peter Taylor

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Sally Saunders, Peter Taylor, Kim Treverton, Ben Treverton, Pam Weatherington, Sarah Vogt, Angela Newell, Elizabeth Mace, Louise Foote, Claire Weston.

Honorary PCC Secretary: Andrew Hawkins

2.3 Electoral Roll Report

APCM Report Electoral Roll Summary

Year	TOTAL	Died	Moved Away	Addition
2019 (Full review)	262	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020 (Covid)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	237	11	21	7
2022	243	5	9	20
2023	230	17	4	8
2024	235	2	3	10
2025 (Full Review)				

Peter Taylor

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

During 2023 the Benefice Safeguarding Team comprised Revd Annabel Copeland (Clergy Safeguarding Lead) and Louise Foote (Benefice Safeguarding Officer) and Kim Treverton (Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer). The PCC are continuing to use the Benefice Safeguarding Policy which was written in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meets statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to activities within the Benefice; it was reviewed and updated as required during 2023, safeguarding concerns will continue to be responded as described in this policy and it will continue to be reviewed annually. Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at all PCC meetings.

In line with the Church of England's safeguarding policy statement 'Promoting a Safer Church' the Diocese of Peterborough provides access to an online application called 'Safeguarding Dashboards' to enable parishes to produce a safeguarding Action Plan. The Benefice Safeguarding Officer has used the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard tool throughout the year to audit and inform safeguarding practice, identify training needs, and manage the safeguarding aspects of church activities.

Safeguarding concerns raised during the year were responded to in line with the Benefice Safeguarding Policy, with additional advice and guidance sought from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team as appropriate. The PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

By Louise Foote

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	NatWest Bank, 25 Corporation Street, Corby NN17 1NR
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Staff Receiving Remuneration

Through Parish Share

Vicar	Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Associate Vicar	Rev Annabel Copeland
Assistant Curate	Rev Joshua Jackson

Through Salary

Youth Minister	Emma Kirby
Administrator	Andrew Hawkins
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Pearcey
Intern/ Online Specialist	Joe Gray

3.3 Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Status

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment

Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all**. Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One-off events are assessed for risk before being run.

b) **Financial**: Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.

c) **Reputation**: Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use.

Section 4

4.1 Mission Support report for APCM 2024

We have continued to support the same missions which work across the range of church activity from evangelism and discipleship, to social action, justice advocacy and creation care. We also like to spread our support both locally, nationally and globally. We promote our chosen societies and missions through the church newsletter, noticeboards, prayer and special Sunday morning services held twice per year. The monthly focus in the calendar is:

Jan - USPG
Feb - Sat-7
Mar - Place of Grace, Robinson family
Apr - Hope into Action
May - Christian Aid
June - Mothers Union
July - USPG
Aug - Chattabox
Sept - Sat-7
Oct - Place of Grace, Robinson family
Nov - TearFund
Dec - Feedback from all the above

This last year we have had two special services. In July, Gillian Robinson was with us and spoke in church and at a lunch hosted by Angie and Tim Newell. In Nov, Jonathan Moulding from Sat-7 spoke in church and we again shared a lunch with him hosted by the Newells.

For many years, St Peter's has followed the principal that 10% of church income is set aside as our offering for God's work elsewhere and becomes the Mission Support budget. Until this year the "10%" has been 10% of the regular pledged monthly giving. One-off non-pledged gifts have risen over the years as a proportion of total church income. A significant change has now been agreed by the PCC and that is that the mission budget will be based on 10% of both pledged giving and one-off gifts. As a consequence, the church has increased its support this year from £16985 to £20051. This is a very great help for our societies and a practical outworking of the principal that our church is part of a mutually supportive worldwide body of Christ. Thank you everybody!

By Peter Taylor
Mission Support Group

4.2 Building and Resources

Building and Resources Report

St Peter's is a Grade 1 listed building most of which dates back to the 13th century, although some sections are slightly older. Because of its historic nature all work must be sensitively carried out, mostly with like for like materials and using traditional methods. Work on the church building therefore tends to be both costly and time consuming. Limited direct income means that we are severely constrained in what we can do and are heavily reliant on grants to achieve much of what we do. We would like to thank The Friends of Oundle Parish Church, The Oundle Feoffees, The Worshipful Company of Grocers and various donors for their generous grants. Without their support much of the essential work to retain the appearance of our beautiful church would not be possible.

During the last year the following work has been undertaken:

Grant and Donor Funded

- Installation of the new organ on the balcony below the tower.
- A detailed survey of both the interior and exterior of the church. This is essential work needed to facilitate future developments, please refer to the section on work planned for the coming year.
- Removal, repair and refurbishment of the blue gates in the south porch. We have discovered that these are from the late Georgian period and are of historical significance.
- Repair the heating system to remedy the cold radiators at the west end of the church. This is a continuation of the work started in 2022. There has been a problem with these radiators for some time and unfortunately this continues to be the case. The cause is proving to be very difficult to track down and it remains a work in progress.

PCC Funded

- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Repairs to various areas of roof.
- Replacement of up/down light units in the nave and chancel with energy efficient LED units. The original units installed around 18 years ago were starting to fail. The opportunity has been taken to install new, more energy efficient units. Externally the lights look the same as the original casings have been retained.
- Survey of the foul and surface water drainage systems for the church building and removal of a large stone blocking the surface water sewer. The Friends of Oundle Parish Church contributed to this work. As with the internal and external surveys of the church this was essential work needed to facilitate future developments, please refer to the section on work planned for the coming year.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.

During the coming year the following work is planned:

- The Quinquennial Inspection of the church during September. This is a formal requirement and involves an appropriately qualified architect examining and reporting on the internal and external condition of the church building and immediate surroundings. Following the inspection a detailed report is submitted to the PCC. The report will form the basis for much of the essential work needed on the church building over the next five years.
- Development and implementation of an action plan to resolve the long-standing damp problems at the west and north sides of the church building.
- Development of a strategy for the removal of the old organ and the redevelopment of the north transept, vestry and the present office to make better use of the space available for current and potential future church needs.
- Linked with the above two developments, consideration of how we can make better use of the space around the church, particularly the south side, for the Oundle community.

- Updating much of the present lighting which was installed at the same time as the nave and chancel up/down lights and is starting to fail.
- Continue with trying to resolve the heating problems at the west end of the church building.
- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.

The Holdich Organ at St Peter's Church

Some three years ago, St Peter's was alerted that a very special pipe organ could be made available to a suitable recipient. This organ - located in St Luke's Chapel in the grounds of the former Brompton Hospital, Chelsea - was entirely original and historically important having been made by George Maydwell Holdich (1816 - 1896) who lived at Maidwell Hall, Northamptonshire. He built many fine organs in the .late Victorian period including the organs at Lichfield Cathedral and the English Cathedral in Jerusalem. The St Luke's organ was build circa 1890 and regularly played until recent times. A Property Developer planned to convert St Luke's Chapel into a very grand residential unit and the terms of the Planning Permission was that the Holdich organ should be relocated prior to any construction work starting. This initiated very intense and protracted negotiations with the Kensington and Chelsea Council, ourselves, the Diocesan legal team, the Developer's team, the final purchaser of the chapel and several others (we were in competition with other organisations who also wanted the organ).

The successful result was that the Holdich organ should come to Oundle with all the costs paid by the owner of the Chapel together with an additional sum for the longer term maintenance. This was opportune since the existing St. Peter's organ required repairs and refurbishment. The Holdich organ was then legally transferred into the ownership of St Peter's Church. The organ was then removed from Brompton to the extensive workshop of Richard Bower and Company, Norwich who are organ builders and Holdich Organ specialists. The whole organ with its 700 pipes was totally refurbished, restored and rebuilt over many months and then taken down and re-erected on the St Peter's balcony - the balcony having been specially designed and built some years before to receive a pipe organ. The organ stands before you at the West end of the church looking resplendent with its restored display pipes and it has been carefully commissioned to take forward the musical traditions of the church for very many years ahead.

Malcolm Winder

4.3 Senior Adults

Ministry Among Older People

Tuesday Club has continued to meet twice a month throughout the year and is an opportunity for older members of our community to gather to play scrabble or other games, jigsaws or just enjoy the company of others; there is a 'thought for the day' from one of our clergy, a hot drink and home-made cake. We are very thankful for the team of volunteers who help with transport to enable people to get to the club, for those who bring home-made cakes and those who help with refreshments and activities. We also hold a monthly Tuesday Club Extra- a similar session to Tuesday Club but quieter and tailored to the needs of people with dementia or memory difficulties.

In partnership with Pink House Arts we have also run a monthly craft session which gives an opportunity for adults of any age to enjoy a variety of crafts led by Caroline and Charlotte from Pink House Arts with the aim of reducing isolation and boosting wellbeing.

Holiday at Home, a 'Trip to Provence' was held in June, this was fun day of activities related to the region including making lavender bags, flower arrangements, a film tour with guidebooks, art in the style of great artists and a new popular activity - cheese and wine tasting from the Provence region. Lunch was delicious and followed by musical entertainment an mix of listening to and joining together to enjoy well known songs. Planning is well underway for this years' 'Visit to Florence'.

Although not strictly a 'senior's activity', the Thursday @10.30 Holy Communion service followed by refreshments has been a weekly opportunity to meet for worship and to enjoy time together. During Lent, some of us finished the morning by attending the Lent Lunches in aid of Christian Aid run by the churches in town and hosted at the Methodist Church.

Hymns of Praise is a monthly meeting on a Tuesday morning where around 20 people gather in the North Transept to sing familiar hymns accompanied by the organ this is followed by refreshments and fellowship.

The pattern of monthly Home Communion and pastoral visiting in supported living facilities has continued. This has enabled us to ensure that those who are unable to come to services in the building are part of our church family.

Monday Munch Club met for a meal once a month during term time at Oundle Primary School until Christmas. Numbers of people attending had dropped significantly following the Covid period and it was no longer viable to continue running this group; thank you to the Munch Club Committee who gave their time and skills to run this activity.

A monthly printed newsletter has continued to be produced and distributed for those who are 'offline' or unable to access the weekly e-newsletter.

By Louise Foote

4.4 Youth Work

Youth Work Report 2023 by Annabel Copeland and Emma Kirby

We continue to be a church that places a high priority on the outreach to and discipleship of young people within the church and the town.

We started this year without a youth minister despite a couple of rounds of advertising. We are delighted that in the third round we were successful in appointing Emma Kirby as our new youth minister. Emma started work with us in partnership with Souster at the beginning of September. She has been a fantastic appointment and has quickly build good relationships with the young people and the volunteer leaders.

The rest of the report is written by Emma to give an update on what youth activities are taking place. We have a small but fantastic group of committed, reliable and talented young people at St. Peter's. Not only do they regularly attend our weekly discipleship groups (details below) but they are keen to use and develop their gifting in our Sunday services. Several are part of the worship team, others look after siblings in Kids Church and are also being trained to use the sound system. It is very encouraging and rewarding to journey with them as they grow into young church leaders and valuable members of our church community.

It has been an easy transition for me due to the commitment and passion that our youth leaders have for caring for our young people. They have been faithfully running these groups with Annabel's support in their own time. I am very thankful that our young people are so keen to continue meeting and this is largely due to our leaders' hard work.

Discipleship Groups

The aim of our discipleship groups is to create a space where our young people can explore the Christian faith so that they learn to follow Jesus independently and continue doing so when they leave secondary education.

Breathe- this is a small group of young people who meet during the main Sunday service to build friendships and discuss the meaning and application of Bible passages. With some of the young people being involved in worship or in sport but we still want to continue the group. I am very grateful to Louisa and Ian Baker who head up this group and continue to care for the young people.

West Porch Café- This runs on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.15 to 5.45 as a drop-in youth group and continues to thrive and grow with new people coming most weeks, averaging at 40 people at each session. Each week there is the opportunity to play games, do craft, chat to friends and have snacks. We have had a number of outside companies visit to do special activities such as drumming and NAYC (Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs) did the ever-popular Sumo Wrestling.

Whilst Dave was on holiday for 2 months, a number of church members helped out which was very much appreciated. We had a taster session for Year 6 in July which was very successful and has resulted in about half of the current group being Year 7s. There is a friendly and relaxed atmosphere with friendships forming between young people from different schools and year groups. Leaders are getting to know them through chatting and doing activities together which has led to some sharing of personal issues. 18 West Porchers attended Chattabox Plus in August, enabling us to build stronger relationships.

Thank you to Pam Weatherington, Dave Harding, Sally Hopkins and Charles Ogden for their commitment to this group. Their enthusiasm, energy and love for young people is evident in the growth of this group.

The Way- this meets on a Wednesday evening 5.30-7pm for young people in Year 7-9. There is a group of very committed young people and a team of leaders who meet to enjoy a meal together, play some games and focus on an aspect of how to live as a Christian. Much of the year was spent exploring questions about faith that the young people were asking, with a different topic being chosen each week. Joe Gray led this group up until August with Louisa Baker, Pam Weatherington and Judith Hodgson.
The group dynamic has changed since September with a smaller group meeting in Beans with Pam, Judith and myself. Each week, we play games and study Mark's gospel together. It is quite a witness to Oundle people with our bibles on the table!

Rooted - this group meet on a Monday 5-6pm in The Coffee Tavern for young people in Year 10-13. Although small in number this group has an important place in supporting our young people in their faith journey. The group spend time discussing topics that are relevant to the young people as well as building friendships together. A big thank you to Sally Saunders and Sally Jackson for leading this group. Since November, Louisa and I have been running this group and we have enjoyed spending time with the young people. We are encouraged to see the young people growing in confidence and faith.

Chattabox Plus- (written by Dave Harding) Complimentary to the Chattabox morning sessions, Chattabox+ provides the young people who volunteer to help the children in the mornings with their own programme of activities in the afternoons and evenings. This is all done within a 'summer-camp' environment on the Oundle Primary School playing field, with most of the Young People camping in tents for the week. CB+ comes under the OCYA umbrella, and once again Martin Hills (Baptist Minister) assumed overall responsibility for the camp, with Dave Harding and Susie V-P fulfilling the roles of 'Camp Dad' and 'Camp Mum'. They were very capably supported by an amazing team of 9 further adult volunteers, including Lindsay Hipwell, Sally Hopkins, Lin Harding and Peter Taylor from St Peter's, all who were able to commit to a full-on week of activities at the Oundle Primary School.
The 35 Young People who attended had a fantastic time helping with Chattabox in the mornings, always returning to the CB+ camp with a buzz. After a sandwich lunch, they were then able to enjoy their own activities for the afternoons and evenings. The evening theme for the week, 'Beyond Limits' was led by Tim & Bex from Souster Youth, which provided the Young People with opportunities to think and engage with others about limitations they may put on themselves, and how believing that God does not impose limits on us can provide us so much more freedom. The evening sessions were supported with wonderful worship music from our 'on-camp' worship band led by Sally Hopkins. The rest of the time on camp focused on friendships, team-building and fun with a variety of brilliant afternoon activities and late evening activities organised by the very gifted leadership team. These included a variety of field and indoor team games, craft sessions, a 'hunt-the-leader' wide game in Oundle town centre, a water-games afternoon (supported by the Northampton Association of Youth Clubs and blessed by glorious sunshine) and an afternoon 'surprise event' when a 'Zorbing' arena was set-up on the playing field! These activities were complimented by the ever popular 'Night Games', 'Silent Disco' and Thursday evening 'Campfire' with S'mores and singing. Chattabox+ relies on the support and commitment of many adults from St Peter's, OBC and the Methodist Church to make it happen; particular thanks must go to Angie + Tim Newell for coordinating helpers to provide us with evening meals (and for providing an outstanding Hog Roast), the Wallers for providing camp-security while we were all away on the wide-game, the set-up and set-down teams, and Lorraine for her willingness to share her amazing felting skills.

Snack and Chat- Meredith Roberts and Joel Waller have been running this monthly discussion group as a follow on from Chattabox Plus. It includes games, food and discussion around a chosen topic with some input from a Christian perspective. It is a great opportunity to invite young people who wouldn't normally come to church.

Other Events- we have also enjoyed a Christmas Film afternoon and an Easter Party.

Prince William School and Souster- Since September, I have been involved with running the lunchtime Christian Union group, together with Anna Freij and also the lunchtime games club.
I am also co-leading a weekly group, offering therapeutic support for young people who are struggling with their mental health and other issues.

Some of our youth work leaders and myself also regularly attend the monthly youthwork training led by Souster which is of a high standard and hugely valued.

Thank you again to our lovely leaders for all your hard work in caring for our young people. If anyone else would like to bless the wonderful young people we have at St Peter's and in our town by getting involved in any of these activities, please speak to Emma.

4.5 Children and Families

Children and Families Ministry Report 2023 by Annabel Copeland

Kids Church

Kids Church groups have continued during the year. I am very grateful to a fantastic team of volunteers who so willing serve our children in leading sessions to enable them to grow in faith. There are four Sunday groups- Breathe for young people in years 7-9, Launchpad for children in years 3-6, Powerpack for children in Years reception to Year 2 and God Tots for pre-school children. The groups meet twice a month and so on the other two Sundays there is an All-In service and Praise Party-this is an opportunity for the children to worship together, to explore more creative ways to prayer and explore the Bible as well as giving an opportunity for some of our older children to be involved in planning and leading sessions. During the year we have seen some new families join us but also the frequency of families attending church has changed due to other commitments on Sunday.
As always I am so grateful to the many volunteers who make our Kids Church sessions a great place for our children to be and a place where they can discovered more about how to know Jesus, live in his love and give God's love away to others.

Messy Café Church

In February we launched a new service at 4pm on the 4th Sunday of the month called Messy Café Church. The service is aimed at encouraging intergenerational worship to explore and grow in faith together. The service involves a chance to enjoy refreshments, be creative, sing and listen to a Bible story together and engage in a time of response often through prayer spaces. This service was aimed at encouraging families who may not come to another service to find a relaxed place to worship and for families for whom Sunday morning was a difficult time to gather. It has been really encouraging to see new families begin to make this service their regular place to worship. We are averaging about 60 people each month and most months there are new families who come along. Each month we have explored one of the 'I am' sayings of Jesus as we discover more of what Jesus is like.
I am very grateful to the wonderful team who work alongside me to prepare and lead the service plus the team that help set up, prepare crafts, pray and provide refreshments-this new growing congregation has felt like a step of faith that God is blessing in many ways.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots is a weekly session run on a Wednesday afternoon for pre-school children and their parents and carers. We meet in the Community Room at Oundle Primary School and continue to see a steady growth in numbers and depth of friendship. Each week there is a chance for the children to play and parents to chat followed by a snack and Bible story, prayer and singing time. I want to give a huge thank you to the team of volunteers from St Peters who faithfully serve each week and have offered pastoral support to many parents through timely conversations. I have also been encouraged to begin to see families from Tiny Tots come along to church and discover more about faith in Jesus. We are also blessed each week to be joined be young people from Oundle School who play a vital role helping run Tiny Tots.

Chattabox

It was a delight this summer to be able to run Chattabox and a huge thank you to all those volunteers, adults and young people, who made this possible and especially to Sian who led it all so well. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed with lots of fun and discovery about Jesus happening. Our theme was The Restoration Station where we explored how Jesus restored the lives of different people and how he can restore our lives too.

Schools Ministry

Each week a member of the clergy team has delivered a Collective Worship assembly in both Oundle Primary and Glapthorn schools. We also hosted a Carol Service, Easter Service, Leavers service and Harvest service for each school. We also had a special service for the Oundle Primary School Reception class during which we presented them each with a Bible as they start their journey through the school. We were also able through the support of OCYA to partner with Souster Youth to lead a Moving On morning for Year 6 leavers. Our pastoral support at both schools has continued throughout the year and Annabel continues to serve as a Governor at Oundle Primary school. Lesley Gooda has continued to be linked with the school in a new role supporting the Governing Body in listening to children's views on a variety of topics which she fulfils with great diligence an it is

hugely appreciated by the Governing Body. Ben Treverton continues to be the Chair of the Governing Body and fulfils this role really well. Annabel is part of the Church Group at Glapthorn looking at church school ethos.

In March this year Glapthorn was graded good in their OFSTED inspection with many positive comments about the wonderful place the school is and how staff have high expectations of the children. In February 2023, Oundle Primary School had a SIAMs inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) where they received the highest grading of **'excellent'**. The inspection recognised the strong ethos, vision and values of the school that unite them as a community and enable all to flourish. It was particularly noted how strong the connection was between the school and the church.

They also had their first Ofsted Inspection in November 2023, since the school converted to a primary school in 2015.It achieved the overall grading of 'Good' but was graded 'outstanding' for the personal development of pupils.
This year Annabel has also been supporting Polebrook and Titchmarsh Primary schools in the Deanery while both parishes do not have a vicar. The support involves leading Collective worship once a fortnight and end of term services as well as both Annabel and Stephen supporting with some RE lessons. This year Annabel has also been invited to lead an assembly at Laxton Junior School once a term and Reception class and Year 2 visited the church for an RE lesson about baptism and Easter respectively.

We also hosted the Deanery Pentecost service in May for the Year 4 class from our 10 Deanery Schools. This was a fantastic celebration with each school leading a part of the worship and a special recorded message being given by Archdeacon Alison.

Other Events

At Christmas we were able through generous donations to our Friends in Need fund to give a Christmas Meal hamper to 9 families in Oundle who otherwise may not have had a Christmas dinner this year. We also ran a one-day Chattabox Christmas and Easter Holiday Club which was very well received and gave a chance to reconnect with families whose children came in the summer.

In summary can I thank everyone who is involved in serving and blessing our children and families, without your commitment none of what has been achieved this year would have been possible. During this year Annabel has been part of the Growing Faith Strategi Leadership programme of study organised by the Church of England to help develop local leaders who want to explore and develop how we grow faith in children and young people and their families through connecting home, school and church. The course has been very stimulating and equipped Annabel to help the church explore how we become an intentionally intergenerational community, learning and growing from each other of all ages. Ideas are beginning to be developed that will grow through next year. If reading what has been going on has excited you and you'd like to join the team then please do contact me and we can have a chat about possibly getting involved.
Report by Annabel Copeland

Section 5

Report on PCC Financial Activities – Treasurer's Report

This report is on the 2023 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs. 2023 has seen our Church blessed with a new organ that is now fully operational.

During a normal week when the Church is open it costs circa £5,398 per week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's Church. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a Church.

Giving

Total income for the Church during 2023 was £319,289. This is £147,819 less than income for 2022 (£467,108). This is largely as a result of the 2022 income having been bolstered by a large grant of £126,000 for refurbishment of the new Holdich organ.

In 2023 there was a total income of £319,289, the key elements of which were: £154,969 planned giving; £24,504 one-off donations; £15,987 legacies; £55,538 grants. We recovered tax under the Government's Gift Aid scheme of £37,499.

Planned giving for 2023 was slightly more (£518) than 2022. It is worth noting that since this was first tracked in 2018, every year has seen a reduction in planned giving with this being the first reversal of that trend. Planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses and we continue to rely on one-off donations to 'close the gap' with our planned expenditure.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's Church community. We ask, where possible, that those giving do so through the Parish Giving Scheme that has now been in operation successfully for the last three years and relieves our Giving Officer of much administrative work. Planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the Church and serve God and the community.

During any year there will be members of our Church Family who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. The underlying decline in planned giving has recently averaged at least £7,000 per annum. In order to show a net increase, it is necessary for donations from new givers and increased donations from existing givers to outstrip any decline.

There are two further funding challenges:

First, our Youth Minister role relies on seed-funding to make up the difference between pledged giving and the cost of the role's salary. During 2023, we received a further £5,100 towards the seed-funding taking the total to £27,838. This will allow us to fund the role until March 2025. After this we will need to find £24,168 per annum to fully fund the role.

Second, a previous review of our spending on the Church building has highlighted that, historically, we have too often reacted to problems, rather than having a programme of planned maintenance. Although the situation is better than at the time of review this, to some extent, continues to be the case. While some reactive work will always be needed, we expect that carrying out more planned maintenance will, over time, both reduce the number of problems and the intensity of problems when discovered. A planned maintenance programme has been costed at £18,000 per year (up from £17,500 previously due to inflation). Of this we now spend circa £14,000 per year.

This leaves a gap of £4,000. We will always, where possible, use grants to fund one-off pieces of maintenance work. The planned maintenance programme does not include the replacement of significant assets, for example the up/down lights in the nave and chancel that needed replacing recently at a cost of £9,000. These require separate funding.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income; and are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals we received grants of £1,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers that will be used to pay for heating and stonework repairs and £1,900 from FEOFFEES. During 2022 a Holdich pipe organ was donated to the church. During 2023, the organ has been refurbished and was commissioned in early 2024. The cost of the organ, refurbishment and installation has been donated to the church in full at a figure of £126,000 including VAT. The organ will be a fixed asset of the Church and this cost will be depreciated over a 100 year period.

Spend

The 2023 spend of £306,626 was £5,253 more than 2022 spend of £301,373. In 2023 we carried out £15,294 of capital projects compared to £41,305 in 2022. Excluding capital projects, 2023 spend was £31,264 more than 2022 spend largely as a result of inflationary increases in wages and maintenance.

The largest item of spend is the Diocesan Parish Share (£128,728 in 2023) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice with the roles of Vicar and Associate Vicar supporting the benefice. It is worth noting that there was no increase in the Diocesan Parish Share from 2022 to 2023.

During 2023, in addition to £15,294 of capital projects, we spent a further £13,192 on the care, maintenance and development of our church building. This expenditure covers everything from fixing the windows to keeping the heating working.

During 2023, St Peters gave £25,939 to our mission partners.

Other major spend areas for the Church include non-Clergy salaries at £54,973 and utility payments at £6,294. In December 2023 the favourable gas tariff that the Church has enjoyed for a number of years came to an end. The new gas tariff is circa 4 times higher. We expect in 2024 to see the Church spending circa £20,000 on gas.

Reserves and Funds

The current reserves stand at £20,812 for buildings and £57,862 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2024 based on guidance from the Charities Commission. The General Fund has risen from £191,407 in 2022 to £193,169 in 2023.

Of the £193,169 it should be noted that £52,530 is our tangible fixed assets and investments such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., £36,167 is our working capital and £27,838 is seed funding for our Youth Minister. The remaining £76,634 is in surplus and the PCC is currently prayerfully considering its potential uses.

Governance

The PCC sets financial policies for the Church. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC and consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-ordinator. This voluntary team reports to the Treasury Committee which includes one member of the Clergy and one lay member. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

By Mark Elkington (Treasurer)

Section 6

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or

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

Graham Darbourne FCA
TC Group
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

28/06/2024

Section 7

Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FINANCIAL REPORT

Section 8

Report on Deanery Matters: an annual review of business

Report for Oundle Deanery 2023.

Oundle Deanery Synod has met three times during 2023. In March we welcomed Revd Hayden Spencley, newly appointed Diocesan Director of Ordinands. In June 2023 we had a presentation from Peter Cantley, Diocesan Director of Education .In November , those present shared ideas and events that were being done in the Deanery, designed to engage folks during Advent and Christmas.

Rev Eddie Smith was welcomed as Vicar of Kings Cliffe and Rural Dean for the Oundle Deanery in June 2023.

By the end of 2023, three Benefices (Warmington Benefice, the Seven Churches Benefice and Barnwell Benefice) were all in vacancy. We continue to be grateful for the energetic and engaging leadership provided by Archdeacon Alison .

By Emily Taylor
Lay Chair, Oundle Deanery

Section 9

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church 2016
Registered Charity No.1168165

Report of the Trustees for the calendar year 1st January 2023 ---- 31st December 2023

Objective of the charity:

The Friends were formed in 1983 to help maintain the Church of St. Peter in Oundle and restore it where necessary. Until then this task fell solely upon the Parochial Church Council supported by members of the congregation. Donations, sale of electricity produced by the solar panels and fund-raising are the principal income sources of the charity, supplemented by income from COIF investments and the annual Income Tax refund for donations qualifying for Gift Aid.

The objective of the charity as stated in the Constitution is as follows: "To promote for the benefit of the public, including the widest access and use especially for the inhabitants of the parish of Oundle in the county of Northamptonshire, the permanent preservation and enhancement of Oundle **P**arish **C**hurch as a building of architectural and historical interest."

Activities and Achievements:

We are pleased to report that the annual submission of our Accounts and Trustee Report for last year to the Charity Commission was accepted without query.

Trustees met to consider the annual Jazz evening, courtesy of Oundle School Jazz Orchestra and this was held in January. In October we organised a concert performed by the GUS Band – one of the top brass bands in the country. Both ventures were "Sold out" and the two differing events meant that new audiences were attracted. Those attending both events were most appreciative and "Wished for more!".

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in the Church and the following have been supported from Friend's funds:

- Considerable repairs to stonework
- Full survey of the Church fabric carried out by newly appointed Church Architects.
- Planning works for perimeter drainage work (Currently under way)
- Planning and tendering for full refurbishment of the South Porch main entry doors. (Currently under way.)

In total £24,303.80 has been paid to the Church to enable these projects to proceed, with further funds already allocated to cover the costs of those projects that are currently under way.

Trustees look forward to reporting on the successful completion of those works next year.
Support for a number of other projects have been requested. Trustees look forward to reporting these ventures in their next Annual Report.

Our income consisted of donations by Bankers Order - £1120.00; a Tax Rebate (Gift Aid reclaim) - £344.51; income from the solar panels - £4074.32; sundry donations - £500 and our concerts raised £6813.85. Interest on the COIF account amounted to £9320.70.

Trustees have reviewed organisation, expenditure and pricing ready for the next Jazz Evening.

Officers:

Chairman: Ian Goldsmith	Secretary: David Webb.
Treasurer: Neil Underwood	Independent Reviewer: T.C. Bulley Davey

Trustees:

Mr. I. Goldsmith, Mr N Underwood, Ms. J. Turton, Mr. D. Gooda, Mr H. Cartwright, Mr. D. Webb, Ms. J. Pearson . Mrs. J Ray

.Bankers and Policies:

- Lloyds Bank current account - utilised for all day to day banking and holding funds for any regular transactions.

- CCLA Investment Management Ltd (COIF Charity Funds) - high interest account utilised by many registered charities.

Acknowledgements:

Trustees wish to thank all associated with our ventures and notably Oundle Bookshop for the sale of tickets..

The Friends also thank St Peters Church staff for the continued support of all fundraising events at the church. Thanks also to T. C. Bulley Davey for arranging the Independent Review of the annual accounts.

New Trustees
We would be pleased to welcome new trustees to the Friends. Being a trustee is not onerous - we meet about 6 times a year and arrange 1 or 2 fundraising concerts each year

For further information on any aspect of the Friends

please contact Ian Goldsmith,

Chairman of the Friends of Oundle Parish Church

Telephone 07885663935 email ian.goldsmith@myepost.co.uk

Section 10

Green Group 2023 – 2024 - Report to APCM

The Green Group is a small group of volunteers (mostly attached to St Peter's), under the leadership of Jeremy and Judy Rusher which has been operating for over 15 years. It looks at ways in which the church as a community and as individuals can reduce their carbon footprint, reduce waste, increase biodiversity and live more sustainably.

Some of the members are involved in regular working parties managing (together with the Oundle Town Council) the north-west area of the churchyard to increase biodiversity. The plans on the noticeboards in church and in the churchyard show details of this. Over the years the church has gained several awards under the Northants Wildlife Trust Churchyard Conservation Scheme.

Recently the Rockingham Forest Vision Project has been launched and Oundle have formed a Group to deliver a Parish Nature Recovery Plan involving a number of sites in the Parish, one of which is the churchyard. Judy Potts is our representative on this.The careful records kept by the Green Group over the past 15 years showing the species living in the Churchyard have been recognised as a model of good practice.

In February 2022 the PCC approved "Our vision for a Green Church and Community" (attached) which recognises that almost every area of church life is involved in environmental issues. Members of the Green Group meet regularly to try to suggest ways in which this vision can be realised in practice. Recently we have been focussing on our buying, recycling and waste disposal policy, trying to reduce the amount we send to landfill.

The Future

The Church of England recognises that climate change and biodiversity loss are among the great challenges of our time. It aims to be carbon neutral by 2030, and supports efforts to reduce waste, increase biodiversity and encourage sustainable life-styles. If this is to happen at St Peter's a working group (such as the Green group) reporting to the PCC is vital to provide leadership and focus for our efforts.

The present group is mostly elderly. Jeremy and Judy Rusher have been providing the leadership and inspiration for the group since its inception and they feel that they should step down in the next few months, though obviously would continue to offer their full support. There is a real need for younger people to take over and provide the vision and energy to help guide the church community through these revolutionary times.

AGR (1st May 2024)

St Peter's Church, Oundle
Our Vision for a Green Church and Community

"For the church of the 21st century good ecology is not an optional extra but a matter of justice. It is central to what it means to be a Christian" (Rowan Williams)

"To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, to sustain and renew the life of the earth". (The Church of England's 5th Mark of Mission)

Our vision is summarised under the following headings, each of which contributes to the impact St Peter's has on the environment.

- **Worship and Teaching** will include our responsibility for caring for creation and will be celebrated especially in Creationtide*
- **Management of Church Buildings** *including maintenance and use should,* as far as is practical, minimise any adverse effect on the environment
- **Management of church land** is an opportunity for St Peter's to show how we care for creation by supporting wildlife, encouraging biodiversity and enhancing the natural environment
- **Community and Global Engagement** means that St Peter's community will recognise, encourage & participate in eco projects in our community and the wider world where these align with St Peter's Vision and Strategy and any costs *incurred are within approved budgets*
- **Our personal lifestyle** will show awareness of our responsibility for the impact on the environment of our actions

Living this vision challenges every person and organisation in St Peter's to recognise God's love and encourages us to Know It in Creation, Live It in Wonder and Give It by Caring

*Originally an Eastern Orthodox initiative, which has now spread widely among Anglican, Roman Catholic and Protestant congregations, bringing Christians together to pray and work for the protection of the environment that sustains everyone

Green Group/28.02.2020

ST PETER'S CHURCH: OUNDLE PCC ACCOUNTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	FUNDS 2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	3(a)	277,685	18,275	-	295,960	448,480
Fund generating activities	3(b)	4,074	-	-	4,074	3,986
Income from investments	3(c)	7,304	-	537	7,841	2,594
Church activities	3(d)	10,063	1,351	-	11,414	12,048
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**299,126**	**19,626**	**537**	**319,289**	**467,108**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	4(a)	25,939	-	-	25,939	20,256
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	4(b)	258,439	22,248	-	280,687	281,052
Costs of generating voluntary income	4(c)	-	-	-	-	65
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**284,378**	**22,248**	**-**	**306,626**	**301,373**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		**14,748**	**(2,622)**	**537**	**12,663**	**165,735**
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	5(a)	(660)	-	-	(660)	-
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	5(b)	(191)	-	1,221	1,030	(1,619)
		(851)	-	1,221	370	(1,619)
Fund Transfers		-	683	(683)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**13,897**	**(1,939)**	**1,075**	**13,033**	**164,116**
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY		288,453	149,029	16,626	454,108	289,992
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		**302,350**	**147,090**	**17,701**	**467,141**	**454,108**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	FUNDS 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	5(a)	51,615	84,000	-	135,615	65,034
Investment	5(b)	915	-	14,087	15,002	13,972
		52,530	84,000	14,087	150,617	79,006
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	6(a)	182	-	-	182	54
Debtors	6(b)	12,245	1,989	-	14,234	19,234
Short term deposits		184,094	5,860	3,614	193,568	164,556
Cash at bank and in hand		69,392	55,646	-	125,038	243,159
		265,913	63,495	3,614	333,022	427,003
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	7	(16,093)	(405)	-	(16,498)	(51,901)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		249,820	63,090	3,614	316,524	375,102
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**302,350**	**147,090**	**17,701**	**467,141**	**454,108**
PARISH FUNDS	11					
Unrestricted		302,350	-	-	302,350	288,453
Restricted		-	147,090	-	147,090	149,029
Endowment		-	-	17,701	17,701	16,626
TOTAL		**302,350**	**147,090**	**17,701**	**467,141**	**454,108**

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

M Elkington (Treasurer) ..... **Date:** 12.5.24

Rev'd Canon S Webster ..... **Date:** 12th May 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 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 of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

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 on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND
This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure, including monies allocated for Quinquennial repair costs.

PARVIS ROOF
This contains monies designated for the Parvis Roof repairs.

ORGAN FUND
This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

QUINQUENNIAL FUND
This contains monies earmarked for quinquennial repair cycle expenditure.

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 entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due.
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 s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
Projector	Straight line over 5 years
Lighting	Straight line over 10 years
Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years
Staging	Straight line over 15 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

2 ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

(i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fytche, Trustee
(ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith
(iii) William Walcot's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fytche, Trustee

3 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	FUNDS 2022 £
(a) **Voluntary Income**					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	135,851	60	-	135,911	136,656
Other	19,058	-	-	19,058	17,795
Sundry donations:					
Grants	51,895	3,643	-	55,538	147,478
Gift Aid donations	2,936	1,137	-	4,073	22,971
Cash collections	1,603	760	-	2,363	1,851
Thanksgiving Campaign	1,000	-	-	1,000	26,570
Legacies	15,987	-	-	15,987	-
Youth Minister Seed Funding	5,100	-	-	5,100	15,400
Other giving	7,055	12,376	-	19,431	28,352
Tax recoverable	37,200	299	-	37,499	51,407
	277,685	18,275	-	295,960	448,480
(b) Fund generating activities					
Feed in Tariff income	4,074	-	-	4,074	3,986
	4,074	-	-	4,074	3,986
(c) Income from investments	7,304	-	537	7,841	2,594
	7,304	-	537	7,841	2,594
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	73	-	-	73	326
Lettings	4,839	-	-	4,839	4,989
Munch Club meals	-	1,231	-	1,231	1,583
Fees for weddings/funerals	5,151	120	-	5,271	5,150
	10,063	1,351	-	11,414	12,048
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**299,126**	**19,626**	**537**	**319,289**	**467,108**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

4	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
(a)						
	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	20,115	-	-	20,115	14,600
	Other	5,824	-	-	5,824	5,656
		25,939	-	-	25,939	20,256
(b)						
	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	128,728	-	-	128,728	128,728
	Clergy expenses	1,992	-	-	1,992	869
	Training	1,503	-	-	1,503	220
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	6,785	5,134	-	11,919	8,656
	Quinquennial	-	-	-	-	21,688
	Building ministry projects	5,990	9,304	-	15,294	19,617
	Building cleaning and sanitation	1,273	-	-	1,273	1,953
	Insurance claim	1,090			1,090	-
	Holdich Organ Project	590	-	-	590	1,800
	Utilities	5,584	710	-	6,294	8,632
	Worship	6,769	-	-	6,769	4,663
	Outreach	2,487	6,234	-	8,721	6,617
	Pastoral	58	-	-	58	100
	Youth (including salaries)	12,518	397	-	12,915	14,661
	VAT reclaimable under LPWS	18,895	-	-	18,895	12,573
	Depreciation	3,294	-	-	3,294	5,008
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	6,051	-	-	6,051	5,402
	Parish Office	10,409	469	-	10,878	5,196
	Other admin costs	173	-	-	173	406
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	44,250	-	-	44,250	34,263
		258,439	22,248	-	280,687	281,052
(c)						
	Fund-raising costs					
	Costs of fundraising campaigns and events	-	-	-	-	65
		-	-	-	-	65
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**284,378**	**22,248**	**-**	**306,626**	**301,373**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

5 (a) **FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible	CHURCH ASSETS	AUDIO	IT	LIGHTING	BOILER	STAGING	PAYMENT ON ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Cost/Valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At cost/valuation at 1 January 2023	44,160	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	-	21,000	197,622
Additions	-	-	5,769	-	-	5,765	63,000	74,534
Revaluation in year	(660)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(660)
At 1 January and 31 December 2023	43,500	46,821	6,893	48,750	35,767	5,765	84,000	271,496
Depreciation								
At 1 January 2023	1,200	45,747	1,124	48,750	35,767	-	-	132,588
Charge for the year	200	1,074	1,923	-	-	96	-	3,293
At 31 December 2023	1,400	46,821	3,047	48,750	35,767	96	-	135,881
Net Book Value								
At Jan 1st 2023	42,960	1,074	-	-	-	-	21,000	65,034
At Dec 31st 2023	42,100	-	3,846	-	-	5,669	84,000	135,615

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).
All assets are unrestricted except the Payment on Account of Fixed Asset which is part of the Restricted Holdich Organ Fund.
The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 4 February 2022 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers. The valuables were valued at £34,160.

The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.
The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.
The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.
The revaluation in 2021 resulted in a decrease of £840. An informal valuation at 31/12/23 reduced the value by £660.

(b)

Investments	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2023	1,106	-	12,866	13,972
Revaluation gain/(loss)	(191)	-	1,221	1,030
Market value at 31 December 2023	915	-	14,087	15,002

Holdings at 31 December 2023	Fund	£ Opening value	£ Movement	£ Value at 31/12/23
417 New Ord Shares in NatWest Group	General	1,106	(191)	915
Chancel: 428 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	8,837	839	9,676
Jesus Church: 195.15 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	4,029	382	4,411
		13,972	1,030	15,002

6 **CURRENT ASSETS**	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
(a)	£	£	£	£	£
Stocks					
Communion supplies, cups	182	-	-	182	54
	182	-	-	182	54
(b)					
Debtors					
Income tax recoverable	1,400	89	-	1,489	6,261
Other debtors and prepayments	10,845	1,900	-	12,745	12,973
	12,245	1,989	-	14,234	19,234

7 **LIABILITIES**					
Creditors falling due within one year					
Accruals and Deferred Income	12,245	-	-	12,245	10,725
Other creditors and accruals	3,848	405	-	4,253	41,176
	16,093	405	-	16,498	51,901

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

8 **GRANTS RECEIVABLE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	18,895	-	-	18,895	12,573
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Feeoffees	-	1,900	-	1,900	1,900
Feeoffees for Munch Club	-	-	-	-	750
Anonymous for Munch Club	-	243	-	243	-
Diocese of Peterborough	3,000	-	-	3,000	4,755
Holdich Organ Grant	30,000	-	-	30,000	126,000
TOTAL	51,895	3,643	-	55,538	147,478

9 **MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
CHURCH OVERSEAS				
Missionary Societies				
CMS	-	-	-	-
Crosslinks	8,935	-	8,935	4,860
SAT7	4,240	-	4,240	4,060
Tearfund	1,700	-	1,700	1,620
Christian Aid	1,000	-	1,000	-
United Society	4,240	-	4,240	4,060
	20,115	-	20,115	14,600
Other				
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	-	50	50
Hope into Action	1,700	-	1,700	1,620
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	4,074	-	4,074	3,986
	5,824	-	5,824	5,656
TOTAL	25,939	-	25,939	20,256

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

10 **CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS**

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	119,922	26,429	15,008
Interest	5,363	1,191	671
From / (To) Current Account	23,760	-	(2,390)
CLOSING BALANCE	149,045	27,620	13,289

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	3,197
Dividends	264
Interest	153
CLOSING BALANCE	3,614

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023

11 **ANALYSIS OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Building Fund	20,812	1,191	-	-	-	22,003
General reserve	57,862	5,363	-	-	-	63,225
Quinquennial reserve	8,364	-	-	5,500	-	13,864
Organ Fund	10,008	671	(590)	-	-	10,089
General fund	191,407	291,901	(283,788)	(5,500)	(851)	193,169
	288,453	299,126	(284,378)	-	(851)	302,350
Restricted funds						
Feeoffees	4,105	1,900	(4,105)	-	-	1,900
Servery Project	5,860	-	-	-	-	5,860
Worshipful Company of Grocers	438	1,500	(438)	-	-	1,500
Holiday at Home	573	782	(737)	-	-	618
Cremated Remains Area	297	-	-	-	-	297
Holdich Organ Project	128,500	-	-	-	-	128,500
Heating repairs fund	591	-	(591)	-	-	-
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	-	9,304	(9,304)	-	-	-
Clock & Bells Fund	2,868	120	-	-	-	2,988
OCYA for Youth Minister	500	-	(469)	-	-	31
Munch Club	1,924	1,474	(3,398)	-	-	-
Friends in Need	2,729	2,221	(2,099)	683	-	3,534
Bereavement Fund	50	-	-	-	-	50
Heating costs fund	-	710	(710)	-	-	-
West Porch Café	594	1,615	(397)	-	-	1,812
	149,029	19,626	(22,248)	683	-	147,090
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	12,035	417	-	-	839	13,291
Jesus Church Income fund	4,591	120	-	(683)	382	4,410
	16,626	537	-	(683)	1,221	17,701
Total funds	454,108	319,289	(306,626)	-	370	467,141

The Feeoffees was grants received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs.
The Servery Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servery Project.
Worshipful Company of Grocers - grants to be spent on the fabric of the building.
Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Event.
The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.
Holdich Organ fund - see note 13 below.
Heating repairs fund - monies donated specifically for the cost of making urgent repairs to the heating system.
The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.
The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Phase 2 Clock Tower and Bell works.
OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.
The Munch Club came under St Peters umbrella from December 2018. The funds are administered separately. It ceased to operate in 2023.
Friends in Need Fund - donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.
PDBF for Heating - a grant from the Diocese of Peterboorugh towards the cost of heating the church building.
The Bereavement fund is a donation specifically for the use of the bereavement team.
Heating costs fund - donation made towards the increased costs of heating the church building.
The West Porch Café fund - funds raised to be expended on youth.

The Jesus Church fund consists of an investment to be held in perpetuity, the income of which is to be applied to the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the Ecclesiastical parish of Oundle. The PCC has allocated accumulated income to the Friends in Need Fund.

The Chancel fund consists of an investment to be held in perpetuity, the income of which can be expended on the Chancel.

A designated reserve for Quinquennial repairs has been established to ring-fence unspent annual budget set aside for Quinquennial repairs.

12 **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**
During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church totaling £46,731 (2023: £56,517).

13 **HOLDICH ORGAN PROJECT**
During 2022 a pipe organ was donated to the church. The organ was refurbished off-site and was installed in 2023. It will be commissioned in early 2024. The cost of the refurbishment and installation has been donated to the church in full at a figure of £126,000 including VAT.
There will be some legal and architectural charges in the region of £10,000. These charges are being funded by the church from the existing organ fund. As the funds are to be expended on a fixed asset the monies spent do not appear in the expenditure section. During 2023 a further £63,000 plus VAT was spent on refurbishment of the organ, which appears as a payment on account on fixed assets on the balance sheet. It is expected that the organ will be fully commissioned in 2024.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1132677

Accounts

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2022

Registered Charity 1132677
North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

GOD'S LOVE
KNOW...
LIVE...
GIVE...

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2022

Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

Jesus commands us primarily to *do* but rather to *remain*. "Remain in Me," He says. It's right that this report will reflect much extremely valuable activity. However, we must also remember that our primary task is to remain in Jesus. Remaining in Him as we make a priority of seeking His company in prayer. Remaining in Him as we seek to understand and apply His teaching to our lives. Remaining in Him as we seek to be obedient to Him. Remaining in Him as we seek to support one another to be faithful followers. Jesus recipe for healthy Church life is this: remain in Me and I will bring fruit. Fruit that looks like more lives that are more Jesus-like.

In the light of this 2022 was encouragingly a year of new shoots and signs of fruit. Whilst not yet at pre-pandemic levels attendance at Sunday worship has steadily and gently grown in number. Our youngest Sunday group for children is usually busy and thriving on a Sunday. It was encouraging to see that this gentle growth continued into 2023 when Palm Sunday 2023 saw twice as many worshippers as Palm Sunday 2022. As well as returning worshippers there has also been a significant number of new people beginning to worship with us. Our Thursday morning Communion Service has also gently grown over the year as has a monthly 'Hymns of Praise' service on a Tuesday. A very successful 'Messy Christmas' in December has led in 2023 to the establishing of a regular monthly Messy Café Church which is also attracting encouraging numbers.

In reflecting on Sunday attendance patterns we have concluded that where there has been a dip since before the pandemic it's not because people have stopped joining us for worship all together. It's rather than for some worship has become less frequent. Covid interrupted habits which have been slow to re-form. So those we formerly saw three times a month we may now see once or twice a month. Therefore a gentle encouragement to those reading this. Joining with others to worship encourages those others. You are missed when you're not there. Let's commit again to joining together very regularly for worship. We learnt afresh during Covid that Church isn't a building – it's people. But we also learnt the preciousness of meeting with others. And when we couldn't meet in person we mourned it. Now we can gather. So let's renew our habit for doing it. During Covid the PCC came to a renewed sense (see below) that God was calling us to be more 'together' as a Church. So our Sundays do reflect the joy, as well as sometimes the challenge, of being a Church family of all ages and many varied preferences and tastes – but gathered together as precisely that: God's family called to love one another.

For St Peter's 2022 was a year of many sad and significant goodbyes. A number of much-loved long standing members of our Church family, 'good and faithful servants,' died. It is always a privilege to lead a funeral service. Doing so when we are able to give thanks for a life that was full of full of faith in Jesus, and faithfulness to Him, heightens that sense of privilege greatly. Often in 2022 sadness was mixed with the joy as we celebrated long lives faithfully lived and with sure and certain hope of resurrection entrusted people into God's safest of hands.

2022 also saw a goodbye of a different kind. Martha Barnes who had been an excellent Youth Minister moved on to a new job in Manchester. We prayed for God's richest blessing on her as she moved on. She and her ministry are greatly missed. Please continue to pray for God to bring just the right person to this

important post. Thankyou to the many committed volunteers who have enabled us to continue to serve young people in our Church and town.

The PCC spent a valuable morning in June 2022 praying and reflecting and dreaming together. The impetus for this was the final confirmation that we would indeed receive the gift of a refurbished, restored, installed Holdich organ in the Church's west end during 2023. This gift opens up the question of how the north East area of Church might be reordered once the current organ is no longer needed there. So in June the PCC spent a morning walking around the building and prayerfully imagining together. At a previous vision morning (2021) in the depths of Covid and via Zoom the words 'Together' 'Deeper' and 'Generous' emerged from our time of prayer. Out of that day and through 2022 there has been a growing and renewed sense of a call to serve those most in need in our community practically and lovingly. During this time we have been able to become very practically involved in Oundle Food Bank. There are other fledgling ministries developing of serving our community. This included an initiative led by our curate Josh Jackson of practical assistance (flat decoration and furnishing) for people in acute need. As the PCC walked the walls and spaces of St Peter's in June 2022 we began to discuss how the development of the building might serve this calling.

Through 2022 we were reminded again of God's unfailing generosity. We were particularly blessed by a number of a very significant one-off donations through the year and in response to our Autumn thanksgiving campaign. We are so thankful for this generosity that enables all the mission, outreach and activity reflected in this report. An ongoing challenge for the PCC as we prayerfully consider how to use the resources God has given us is how to respond, both in faith and with wisdom, to the balance between generous one-off gifts and pledged income. Were we, in our forward planning, to budget to spend only what we received in pledged income we would need to cut back a lot of what we do. However, in recent years God has faithfully provided in addition to what has been pledged unexpected generous gifts. We are extremely grateful for such generous gifts. We also want to encourage everyone who is able, where possible, to pledge what they can give. It really helps the PCC in budgeting. Almost everything that St Peter's is and does is funded by the generosity of the Church community. So thankyou to all who give.

We give thanks to God for the invaluable work of our Church team. We were so grateful for all Sarah Vogt's commitment and hardwork as our administrator during Covid and into 2022. Andrew Hawkins (our administrator from October), Mark Pearcey (our Facilities Co-ordinator) and Joe Gray (our online administrator and ministry intern) continue provide an excellent and essential support for all that happens at St Peter's. A huge thankyou too to all who volunteer in a myriad of ways (seen and unseen) to the ministry and outreach of St Peter's. In addition I am enormously grateful to Emily Taylor and Siân Fytche who are extremely committed and effective Churchwardens, to Josh Jackson and to Annabel Copeland who has been an outstanding support as Associate Vicar not least during a time of illness for me at the beginning of the year.

God is faithful and good. So we look back with thankfulness and forward with faith.

Section 2:

2.1 Churchwardens Report 2022

During 2022 were finally able to return to meeting together in numerous ways throughout the week without restrictions that had become a way of life for everyone.
Our beautiful church building was throughout the year accessed by many for services ,groups for different ages and external events in addition to people simply coming into the building to wander around .In June as the town celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of our late Queen it was good to be able to welcome so many people from our local community into the church for a variety of activities from tower tours to tea and cake .
All of the things that took place in church during 2022 were only possible through the faithful service of a large team of volunteers – a sincere thank you to all of the St Peters church family for your volunteering service.
During the year we very sadly said goodbye to Martha our youth minister – in the time with us Martha turned our vision for work with young people into a reality leading a dedicated team of volunteers establishing an excellent framework for supporting and encouraging our young people.
Joe Gray embarked upon his second year as a Diocesan Intern during the year taking on a range of responsibilities in church – we continue to pray that Joe will know God's guidance and discernment as he considers the next steps to take.
We were delighted during the year to welcome Andrew Hawkins to the team taking on the role of Administrator and are thankful for the skills and experience he has brought to the team.
For our clergy team 2022 was a challenging year – we give thanks to God for each of them and continue to uphold them in our prayers as they undertake the significant role of leading us as a local church.
Finally thank you to all of you for the help and support we receive in undertaking our roles as Churchwardens.

Emily Taylor and Siân Fytche

2.2 PCC Report

During most of 2022, the PCC was made up of eight elected members, up to five Deanery Synod Representatives, two Churchwardens and up to three Clergy Team members. It was chaired by the incumbent (Rev Canon Stephen Webster and Annabel Copeland – Associate Vicar) and met seven times in 2022 (9 February, 1 March, 29 March, 10 April (extraordinary meeting), 24 May, 14 July and, 24 November).

During these meetings, the PCC discussed a wide range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's. These have included Online Worship during the pandemic, Finance, Giving, Mission, Repairs to Building, acquisition of the Holdich organ, Development of NE side of Church Building, Green issues and Safeguarding.

As well as discussing practical matters of Church Life, each PCC meeting starts and ends with prayer. The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2022 were: -

Standing Committee which is required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2022 was made up of the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC, and an elected PCC Member. The Treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee exists to support the work of the Treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2022 it met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring.

Lindsey Wallis is thanked for all her hard work on the accounts. Lindsey is a volunteer who is currently acting as St Peter's Finance Administrator.

Membership of PCC

(A) **01/01/22 – 13/05/22 (APCM)**
Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Sian Fytche (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar),Rev Josh Jackson (Assistant Curate)

Deanery Synod: Annabel Copeland, Cynthia Dimmock, Gill Morrison

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Siân Fytche, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Suzy Higgins, Alan McMurdo, Janet McMurdo (Lay Chair)), Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton

(B) **13/05/2022 – 31/12/2022**
Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Siân Fytche (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar), Rev Joshua Jackson (Assistant Curate), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden).

Deanery Synod: Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Emily Taylor, Pam Weatherington

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Sally Saunders, Peter Taylor, Kim Treverton, Ben Treverton, Pam Weatherington, Sarah Vogt, Angela Newell, Elizabeth Mace, Louise Foote.

PCC Secretary (until October): Paulina Hunt
Honorary PCC Secretary from October: Andrew Hawkins

2.3 Electoral Roll Report

Year	TOTAL	Died	Moved Away	Addition
2019 (Full review)	262	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020 (Covid)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	237	11	21	7
2022	243	5	9	20
2023	230	17	4	8

Peter Taylor

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

Annual Safeguarding Report-year ending December 2022

Policies and practice

Liz Mace has been our Safeguarding Officer with Revd Annabel Copeland being the Clergy Lead for Safeguarding.

Until the end of May Martha Barnes continued as the deputy Safeguarding officer.

The clergy and PCCs of the benefice continue to meet the requirement to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding continues to be a standing item on every agenda of the PCC meetings.

All safeguarding policies are all in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meet statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to our particular context. Policies have been reviewed when needed to be.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team have introduced a new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This is an online tool which allows PSOs to complete an audit of safeguarding policy and practice in the parish. Following the audit, an action plan is automatically generated to assist them in maintaining and improving their safeguarding practices. The benefice has signed up to this and the audits are currently being completed by the PSO. The subsequent action plans will be shared with the PCCs in due course.

Safer recruitment

The online system for DBS clearance is now well established. Our DBS verifiers are Martha Barnes (until end of May 2022) and Sarah Vogt (until end of April 2022) and they have worked hard over this year to update all DBS checks. Post May verifiers were Liz Mace and Annabel Copeland.

As of December 2022 all those working with children or vulnerable adults either have an up to date DBS certificate or are in the process of their DBS being updated

Safeguarding Training

We are continuing to adhere to the new Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework. The focus of this framework is on developing a positive culture of safeguarding within the church, rather than simply focusing on process. It does mean that additional training modules may need to be completed.

All church members who need to have completed the required national C0, C1 and those in leadership are up to date with their C2 Safeguarding training.

Safeguarding concerns and incidents

One safeguarding concern has been raised during the year through the completion of a pink form and after review the case was closed having been dealt with appropriately in accordance with Diocesan Policy.

The Safeguarding officer and others have communicated at times about queries and informal issues to continue to keep children and vulnerable adults safe.

It was also agreed with OCYA, in the absence of them being able to recruit a Safeguarding Officer, that for joint church events eg Chattabox- the safeguarding responsibility would be held by either St Peter's or Oundle Baptist Church and OCYA would be informed of which church was covering the event.

Report written by Revd Annabel Copeland, Clergy Safeguarding lead

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	NatWest Bank, 25 Corporation Street, Corby NN17 1NR
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Staff Receiving Remuneration

Through Parish Share

Vicar	Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Associate Vicar	Rev Annabel Copeland
Assistant Curate	Rev Joshua Jackson

Through Salary

Youth Minister	Vacant position
Administrator	Andrew Hawkins
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Pearcey
Intern/ Online Specialist	Joe Gray

3.3 Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Status
The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment
Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all**. Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One-off events are assessed for risk before being run.

b) **Financial**: Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.

c) **Reputation**: Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use.

Section 4

4.1 Mission Support

Mission Support report for APCM 2023

Our main missions are John and Gillian Robinson in Thailand (Crosslinks), Christian Healthcare in Bangladesh (USPG), Discipleship and Evangelism in the Middle East & North African countries through satellite broadcasting (Sat-7). These three receive the largest proportions of the budget and are featured every six months as a focus for prayer in the Sunday services in "Mission of the Month". The weekly church newsletter contains details about the missions and points for prayer. We also give significant portions of the budget to disaster relief & development projects in the Third World (TearFund), & help for the homeless in the UK (Hope into Action). These appear as the "Mission of the month" every twelve months.

The remaining missions are: Christian Aid, Mothers' Union, Chatterbox. These also appear as "Mission of the month" once every twelve months but do not receive financial support from our budget. Money is given from collections and individuals.

During 2022 we arranged two Sunday services with a mission focus. In July we had a service focussing on USPG and a USPG representative preached. In November we had a service focused on the Climate Crisis and the work that Tear Fund is doing to counter the effects of climate change. In the week before this service we engaged the congregation in daily challenges to illustrate these issues.

A Sat 7 team were involved in the New Wine conference at Peterborough showground for two weeks in August. They were hosted in Oundle for these weeks and Emily Taylor helped out on the stand at the conference.

Plans for 2023:
Crosslinks/Robinson family at Sunday Service 2nd July
Sat 7 at Sunday Service 22nd November.

By Peter Taylor
Mission Support Group

4.2 Building and Resources

Building and Resources Report

St Peter's is a Grade 1 listed building most of which dates back to the 13th century, although some sections are slightly older. Because of its historic nature all work must be sensitively carried out, mostly with like for like materials and using traditional methods. Work on the church building therefore tends to be both costly and time consuming. Limited direct income means that we are severely constrained in what we can do and are heavily reliant on grants to achieve much of what we do. We would like to thank The Friends of Oundle Parish Church, The Oundle Feoffees, The Worshipful Company of Grocers and various donors for their generous grants. Without their support much of the essential work to retain the appearance of our beautiful church would not be possible.

During the last year the following work has been undertaken:

Grant and Donor Funded

- Repoint and replace areas of weathered stonework, particularly on the north and east aspects of the church.
- Repair two cracked cast iron rainwater pipes.
- Improve the underfloor ventilation of the North Aisle (to match the South Aisle) and refurbish the flooring in that area.
- Repair the heating system to remedy the cold radiators at the west end of the church. There has been a problem with these radiators for some time and the cause is proving to be very difficult to track down. This remains a work in progress.
- Replace a failed central heating pump.

PCC Funded

- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Repairs to various areas of roof.
- Alterations to sections of the church electrical system to ensure they comply with the latest electrical regulations.
- Replacement of failed lighting units.
- Installation of a new CCTV system. The old one had failed and was beyond economic repair.
- New cloud-based IT system to improve security and functionality.
- New telephone system which integrates with IT system and is compatible with upcoming BT system changes.
- Investigation and treatment of some areas of death watch beetle found in the north aisle and high alter.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.

During the coming year the following work is planned:

Grant Funded

We are exploring (subject to acceptable quotes being obtained and necessary approvals) with The Friends of Oundle Parish Church that they will fund the replacement of the outer, blue painted, doors to the south porch. The doors are in poor condition and have been much repaired in the past.

Installation on a new organ on the balcony below the tower. This is being fully funded by a developer who has been required, as part of a planning consent, to remove an organ from its present location, refurbish it and instal it in a Grade 1 listed church. This will allow the removal of the present organ and in the longer term the reordering of the north transept and rooms to the east.

PCC Funded

- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance.

Other

As with all churches St Peter's is required to have an architect appointed to carry out a five yearly inspection of the church buildings and their immediate surroundings. The purpose of the inspection is to ensure that the church is maintained in a condition such that it is safe and may be enjoyed by future generations. St peter's also use the architect as a professional advisor on building matters. For the past fifteen years this role has been carried out by John Dodson of Parkinson, Dodson and Associates Ltd. John Dodson is due to retire shortly and we have appointed Caroe Architecture of Cambridge to take over from him. The PCC would like to thank John for all his help and advice over the years. The lovely Lady Chapel and balcony under the tower are just two examples of his great work for us.

We are excited at the prospect of working with Caroe Architecture to develop our long-term plans for the church buildings and their surroundings so that we maximise their mission and community benefit. The work will include the reordering of the northeast corner of the church following removal of the existing organ.

By David Gooda and John Grubb

4.3 Senior Adults

Monday Munch Club has met once a month during term time during term time at Oundle Primary School for a hot lunch time meal. As Covid restrictions have lifted, restrictions on numbers have eased pupils have visited diners to bring entertainment to diners after they have eaten.
Tuesday Club met twice a month throughout the year and continues to be an opportunity for seniors to gather to play scrabble or similar games, jigsaws or just enjoy the company of others, followed by a 'thought for the day' from a member of the clergy team, a hot drink and home-made cake. In the autumn we introduced a monthly Tuesday Club Extra- a similar session to Tuesday club but quieter and tailored to the needs of people with dementia or memory difficulties. We have also run Tuesday Crafts with Pink House Arts - a monthly craft session which gives an opportunity for people to enjoy a variety of crafts led by Caroline and Charlotte from Pink House Arts with the aim of reducing isolation and boosting wellbeing.
In June we had the return of Holiday at Home, a day of activities, food and film celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, was enjoyed by attendees and helpers. Plans are well underway and bookings have started for the 2023 'Trip to Provence'.
Although not strictly a 'seniors' activity' the Thursday @10.30 Holy Communion service followed by refreshments has been a weekly opportunity to meet for worship, fellowship and to enjoy time together. Several members of this congregation have died over the past year, we give thanks for their faith and their lives as part of our church family.
The pattern of monthly Home Communion and pastoral visiting in supported living facilities has been well re-established with occasional pauses in response to local Covid peaks. It was also possible to hold special relaxed Christmas and Easter services with activities at Abbott House which reached a wider number of residents than would normally wish to attend Home Communion.
A monthly printed newsletter has continued to be produced and distributed for those who are 'offline' or unable to access the weekly e-newsletter.

By Louise Foote
Lay Chaplain

4.4 Youth Work

Youth Work Report 2022 by Annabel Copeland

We continue to be a church that places a high priority on the outreach to, and discipleship of, young people within the church and the town.

We started this year with a wonderful Youth Minister, Martha Barnes, leading this work very well. Sadly in May Martha felt it right to move on to other pastures - her ministry amongst our young people was very significant and she is sorely missed. All credit to Martha for the work she did in building up a fantastic and capable team of volunteers which has meant that most of the youth ministry has been able to continue to flourish in the latter half of the year. This is achieved through various regular groups:

Breathe- this is a small group of young people who meet during the main Sunday service to build friendships and discuss the meaning and application of Bible passages. I am very grateful to Louisa and Ian Baker who head up this group and continue to care for the young people..

West Porch Café- This runs on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.15 to 5.45 as a 'drop-in' style of youth group and continues to thrive and grow with new people coming most weeks. There is a growing sense of friendship between young people from different schools and a deeper trust which has enabled young people to open up to some of the leaders about more personal issues at times. Each week there is the opportunity to play games, chat to friends and have some snacks provided by our wonderful Church family. Special activities take place on specific afternoons throughout the year and this year we have built a partnership with NAYC (Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs) which has allowed us to have two 'activity sessions' per term from an outside leader using equipment that we would otherwise not be able to utilise - Sumo Wrestling Suits, Human Hungry Hippos and Archery seemed to be very popular. It has been encouraging to see young people begin to ask questions about faith in this informal setting which seeks to be an outreach and launch-pad for young people to engage with the Christian faith. Also a number of our regular West Porch Cafe attendees were involved in Chattabox Plus this year enabling us to build stronger relationships with them in a more faith-based environment. It is also very pleasing to see that a number of our own Church family Young People come along to West Porch Cafe, where their presence provides a very real indication to other Young People that Christians are welcoming and friendly. I am ever grateful to the fantastic leadership team led in the first half of the year by Martha and in the second half by Dave Harding. Pam Weatherington & Sally Hopkins are very capably supported by Charles Ogden and Kieran Ansell (both of whom are ex WPC Young People) and Alex Baker who was volunteering as part of her DofE award. This team show huge commitment, care and passion for the young people, thank you.

The Way- this meets on a Wednesday evening 5.30-7pm for young people in Year 7-9. There is a group of very committed young people and a team of leaders who meet to enjoy a meal together, play some games and focus on an aspect of how to live as a Christian. Much of the year was spent exploring questions about faith that the young people were asking, with a different topic being chosen each week. When Martha left, Joe Gray took over leading this group and alongside another great team of volunteers the group continues to thrive. It was fantastic to see 3 members of the group, together with Rauri, get confirmed in March at a special service held in St Peter's with Bishop Donald.

Coffee and Christ- this group meet on a Monday 5-6pm in The Coffee Tavern for young people in Year 10-13. Although small in number this group has an important place in supporting our young people in their faith journey. The group spend time discussing topics that are relevant to the young people as well as building friendships together. A big thank you to Sally Saunders and Sally Jackson who lead this group and it has been encouraging to see the young people growing in confidence and faith.

Chattabox Plus- much to the excitement of the young people Chattabox+ was back to camping this year, even though we had to reduce the number of Young People because of the small number of adult leaders who were willing to commit to the week. Chattabox+ comes under the OCYA umbrella, and as such leaders come from the various Churches in Oundle. Martin Hills (Baptist Minister) assumed overall responsibility for the camp, with a team of adult volunteers who were able to commit to a full-on week of activities at the Oundle Primary School. The Young People that attended had a fantastic time helping with Chattabox in the mornings, and then having their own timetable of activities for the afternoons and evenings. The evening theme for the week, 'Being Connected', was led by Souster Youth, with wonderful worship music from our 'on-camp' worship band led by Sally Hopkins. The rest of the time on camp focused on friendships and fun with a variety of brilliant afternoon activities and late evening activities organised by the very gifted leadership team. A special thanks goes to Dave Harding and Susie V-P for being willing, at relatively short notice, to lead Chattabox+ in the absence of Martha, plus Lin Harding, Lindsay Hipwell, Lucy Fytch and Sally Hopkins from St Peters (plus 5 from OBC) -your hard work and commitment was amazing and meant many young people went away from the week really blessed.
Other Events - during the year volunteers have run various social events for our young people. The ever-present concern about Covid limited what was possible, but it was decided to go-ahead and hold an Easter Sleepover in church. This was something the young people had been asking for and finally their request came true! A lot of fun was had by all and even included a few hours of sleep!
Christmas Film Night- another great time to build friendships and enjoy time together-Thank you to Dave Harding for organising this and Pam Weatherington for providing a seemingly endless supply of mouth-watering pizzas!
Snack and Chat- two of our young people were keen to create a place for the young people who attended Chattabox+ to continue to explore questions about life and faith, and to continue to build a bridge for those young people who wouldn't normally come to church. From an initial discussion with Annabel, a new event was started in November on the third Sunday of the month from 6-7pm. This is planned and led by young people for young people and includes games, food and discussion around a chosen topic with some input from a Christian perspective.
Prince William School and Souster- for the first half of the year Martha continued to regularly run a lunch club at Prince William, be involved in weekly mentoring of young people and help lead Collective Worship and RE lessons. Sadly since Martha left we have been unable to resource this connection. However Annabel did work with Souster to host a Moving Up day at Oundle Primary school for Year 6 pupils and visit Prince William a few lunch times in the Autumn term to support the work of Souster.
Some of our youth work volunteers also regularly attend the monthly youthwork training led by Souster which is of a high standard and hugely valued.
Youth Minister Update- the PCC agreed once Martha had left that we wanted to continue to fund a Youth Minister post at St Peters in partnership with Souster. To date (April 2023) we have had two rounds of advertising with no suitable applicants. We continue to pray and seek the best way forward and plan to advertise again soon.
Finally all that remains is for me to express a big thank you to all the volunteers who enable the youth work at St Peter's to continue to flourish-you are an amazing team who bring many gifts to bless our young people. Your care and concern is commendable and so appreciated.
If having read this anyone else would like to bless the wonderful young people we have at St Peter's and in our town by getting involved in any of these activities then please speak to Annabel.

4.5 Children and Families

Children and Families Ministry Report 2022 by Annabel Copeland
Kids Church
Kids Church groups have continued during the year. I am very grateful to a fantastic team of volunteers who so willing serve our children in leading sessions to enable them to grow in faith. There are four Sunday groups- Breathe for young people in years 7-9, Launchpad (a new name) for children in years 3-6, Powerpack for children in Years reception to Year 2 and God Tots for pre-school children. The groups

meet twice a month and so on the other two Sundays there is an All-In service and Praise Party-this is an opportunity for the children to worship together, to explore more creative ways to prayer and explore the Bible as well as giving an opportunity for some of our older children to be involved in planning and leading sessions. During the year we have seen a steady growth in numbers of families returning to church and our under 7's age group has grown significantly. In the Autumn we moved the toddler area from the South Transcept into the main body of the church which was well received by parents who felt they were now included in the service. God's Tots session was also suspended due to most of the children in this age group moving to Powerpack and therefore the group wasn't needed.

As always I am so grateful to the many volunteers who make our Kids Church sessions a great place for our children to be and a place where they can discovered more about how to know Jesus, live in his love and give God's love away to others.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots is a weekly session run on a Wednesday afternoon for pre-school children and their parents and carers.

We meet in the Community Room at Oundle Primary School and continue to see a steady growth in numbers and depth of friendship. Each week there is a chance for the children to play and parents to chat followed by a snack and Bible story, prayer and singing time. I want to give a huge thank you to the team of volunteers from St Peters who faithfully serve each week and have offered pastoral support to many parents through timely conversations. I have also been encouraged to begin to see families from Tiny Tots come along to church and discover more about faith in Jesus. We are also blessed each week to be joined be young people from Oundle School who play a vital role helping run Tiny Tots.

Chattabox

It was a delight this summer to be able to run Chattabox in person and a huge thank you to all those volunteers, adults and young people, who made this possible and especially to Sian who led it all so well. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed with lots of fun and discovery about Jesus happening. Our theme was Watt-a-Lott Castle which provided an opportunity to explore Bible stories about Kings and Queens through stories, singing, prayers, craft, games and discussion. Alongside this we looked at the Armour of God and how this can help us to follow Jesus.

Schools Ministry

Each week a member of the clergy team has delivered a Collective Worship assembly in both Oundle Primary and Glapthorn schools. We also hosted a Carol Service, Leavers service and Harvest service for each school. We also had a special service for the Oundle Primary School Reception class during which we presented them each with a Bible as they start their journey through the school. Our pastoral support at both schools has continued throughout the year and Annabel has replaced Stephen as a Governor at Oundle Primary school. During the year both Trevor Frewin and Lesley Gooda stepped down from being a Governor but it is wonderful that Lesley has continued to be linked with the school in a new role supporting the Governing Body in listening to children's views on a variety of topics. Ben Treverton changed his role on the Governing Body and alongside being the other Foundation Governor to replace trevor, he is now Chair of the Governing Body. Annabel is part of the Church Group at Glapthorn looking at church school ethos.

Other Events

At Christmas we were able through generous donations to our Friends in Need fund to give a Christmas Meal hamper to 12 families in Oundle who otherwise may not have had a Christmas dinner this year.

We had also ran a one-day Chattabox Easter Holiday Club for the first time which was very well received and was combined with a short Easter Service for families.

At Christmas we ran a trial Messy Café Church Christmas service which was very well attended and there seems to be a high level of interest in this type of service becoming a regular event.

In summary can I thank everyone who is involved in serving and blessing our children and families, without your commitment none of what has been achieved this year would have been possible.

If reading what has been going on has excited you and you'd like to join the team then please do contact me and we can have a chat about possibly getting involved.

Report by Annabel Copeland

Section 5

Report on PCC Financial Activities (Treasurer's Report)

This report is on the 2022 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs. 2022 has seen us heading out of the global pandemic and things starting to return to normal with the Church building open for the whole year.

During a normal week when the Church is open it costs circa £5,155 per week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's Church. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a Church.

Giving

St Peter's relies on the generosity of our Church community to fund all its activities. Total income for the Church during 2022 was £467,108. This is £224,778 more than income for 2021 (£242,330), largely as a result of the 2022 income having been bolstered by a large grant of £126,000 for refurbishment of the Holdich organ and some significant one-off donations during the year.

Of the 2022 total income of £467,108, £154,451 was planned giving, £77,893 were one-off donations and £147,478 were grants. We recovered tax under the Government's Gift Aid scheme of £51,407.

Planned giving for 2022 was slightly less (£5,426) than 2021, with some positive signs following the thanksgiving campaign. Planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses and we continue to rely on one-off donations to 'close the gap' with our planned expenditure.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's Church community. We ask, where possible, that those giving do so through the Parish Giving Scheme that has now been in operation successfully for the last three years and relieves our Giving Officer of much administrative work. This planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the Church and serve God and the community.

During any year there will be members of our Church Family who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. The underlying decline is on average £7,000 per annum.

There are two further funding challenges. First, our Youth Minister role relies on circa £16,200 per year of seed-funding to make up the difference between on-going pledged giving and the cost of the role's salary. We would love for this role to be fully funded from on-going pledged giving and need to recognise that the seed-fund is limited. Currently the Youth Minister role is unfilled and the unspent monies are being retained to build up the seed fund. Second, a review of our spending on the Church building has highlighted that too often we react to problems, rather than having a programme of planned maintenance and taking action quickly when problems are discovered. We expect that carrying out more planned maintenance will, over time, both reduce the number of problems and reduce the intensity of problems

when discovered. A planned maintenance programme has been costed at £17,500 per year (up from £16,400 previously). Of this we now spend £14,200 per year (up from £9,600 previously). This leaves a gap of £3,300 (down from £6,800). We will always, where possible, use grants to fund one-off pieces of maintenance work. The planned maintenance programme does not include the replacement of significant assets, for example the CCTV system that needed replacing recently when it failed. These require separate funding.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income; and are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals we received grants of £1,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers that will be used to pay for heating and stonework repairs and £1,900 from FEOFFEES.
During 2022 a Holdich pipe organ was donated to the church. The organ is currently undergoing refurbishment and the cost of the organ, refurbishment and installation has been donated to the church in full at a figure of £126,000 including VAT. There will be some charges relating to the fitting of this organ which might be in the region of £10,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.

Spend
2022 spend of £301,373 was £40,457 more than 2021 spend of £260,916. In 2022 we carried out £41,305 of capital projects compared to £17,989 in 2021. Excluding capital projects, 2022 spend was £17,141 more than 2021 spend largely as a result of the Church being open for the full year and inflationary increases in wages and maintenance.

The largest item of spend is the Diocesan Parish Share (£128,728 in 2022) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice with the roles of Vicar and Associate Vicar supporting the benefice.

During 2022, in addition to £41,305 of capital projects, we spent a further £10,609 on the care, maintenance and development of our church building. This expenditure covers everything from fixing the windows to keeping the heating working.

Other major spend areas for the Church include non-Clergy salaries at £47,586, mission giving at £20,256 and utility payments at £8,632.

Reserves and Funds
The current reserves stand at £20,812 for buildings and £57,862 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2023 based on guidance from the Charities Commission.

The General Fund has risen from £146,559 in 2021 to £191,407 in 2022. This increase in the general fund was largely a result of a number of generous donations during the year.

Of the £191,407 it should be noted that £44,034 is our tangible fixed assets such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., £36,167 is our working capital and £24,332 is seed funding for our Youth Minister. The remaining £86,874 is in surplus and the PCC is currently prayerfully considering its potential uses.

Governance

The PCC sets financial policies for the Church. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC and consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-ordinator. This voluntary team reports to the Treasury Committee which consists of one member of the Clergy and two lay members. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

By Mark Elkington (Treasurer)

Section 6

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or

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

Graham Darbourne FCA
TC Group
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

Date 14-07-2023

Section 7

Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FINANCIAL REPORT

Section 8

Report on Deanery Matters: an annual review of business

Oundle Deanery Synod has met three times during 2022. In March we welcomed Archdeacon Alison Booker, who is the new Archdeacon on Oundle and acting Rural Dean. There was a discussion on the deanery vision. In June 2022 we had discussions around the encouragements and ongoing challenges in our churches, twelve months after the re-opening of our churches post COVID. In October, we welcomed, and had a very engaging presentation, from the Diocesan Gen2 team.

By the end of 2022, three Benefices (Kings Cliffe Benefice, the Seven Churches Benefice and Barnwell Benefice) were all in vacancy. It is hoped that an appointment to be Vicar of Kings Cliffe Benefice, with Rural Dean of Oundle Deanery, will take place in early 2023. We continue to be very grateful for the energetic and engaging leadership provided by Archdeacon Alison during this time.

By Emily Taylor
Lay Chair, Oundle Deanery

Section 9

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church 2016
Registered Charity No.1168165

Report of the Trustees for the calendar year 1st January 2022 ---- 31st December 2022

Objective of the charity:

The Friends were formed in 1983 to help maintain the Church of St. Peter in Oundle and restore it where necessary. Until then this task fell solely upon the Parochial Church Council supported by members of the congregation. Donations, sale of electricity produced by the solar panels and fund-raising are the principal income sources of the charity, supplemented by income from COIF investments and the annual Income Tax refund for donations qualifying for Gift Aid.

The objective of the charity as stated in the Constitution is as follows: "To promote for the benefit the public, including the widest access and use especially for the inhabitants the parish of Oundle in the county of Northamptonshire, the permanent preservation and enhancement of Oundle Parish Church as a building of architectural and historical interest."

Activities and Achievements:

We are pleased to report that the annual submission of our Accounts and Trustee Report for last year to the Charity Commission was accepted without query.

The year it has been good to get back to near normal following the COVID pandemic and the vast majority of planned works have been undertaken.

Trustees met to consider the annual Jazz evening, courtesy of Oundle School Jazz Orchestra and this was held in January, in a revised (and very successful) format. The nett income from this event was almost £2,500. The Chair has also made enquiries of the GUS Band with a view to securing a performance in the forthcoming year.

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken in the Church and the following have been supported from Friend's funds (£6383.08):

- Essential improvements to underfloor heating and ventilation. These were required to stabilise the wooden floor in the north aisle and prevent it lifting
- Repairs to stonework and roof drainage pipes as recommended by the architect in the last Quinquennial Inspection report.

Support for a number of projects have been requested. Trustees look forward to reporting these ventures in their next Annual Report.

During the year Mrs Jenny Ray was welcomed as a new Trustee.

Donations by Bankers Order accounted for £795. A Tax Rebate (Gift Aid reclaim) provided additional income of £316.43, income from the solar panels was £3985.44,, sundry donations £550

Interest on the COIF account amounted to £1954.31. Year-end accounts and balance sheet are available from the Chairman, Ian Goldsmith (ian.goldsmith@myepst.co.uk) .

Officers:
Chairman: Ian Goldsmith Secretary: David Webb.
Treasurer: Neil Underwood Independent Reviewer: Bulley Davey
Trustees:
Mr. I. Goldsmith, Mr N Underwood, Ms. J. Turton, Mr. D. Gooda, Mr H. Cartwright, Mr. D. Webb, Mrs. C Pathtak, Ms. J. Pearson . Mrs. J Ray

Acknowledgements:
Trustees wish to thank all associated with our ventures and notably Oundle Bookshop for the sale of tickets to our events.

The Friends also thank St Peters Church staff for the continued support of all fundraising events at the church.

Ian Goldsmith, Chairman
The Friends of Oundle Parish Church 2016

ST PETER'S CHURCH: OUNDLE PCC ACCOUNTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	FUNDS 2021 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	3(a)	290,294	158,186	-	448,480	230,586
Fund generating activities	3(b)	3,986	-	-	3,986	3,426
Income from investments	3(c)	2,171	-	423	2,594	472
Church activities	3(d)	10,465	1,583	-	12,048	7,846
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**306,916**	**159,769**	**423**	**467,108**	**242,330**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	4(a)	20,256	-	-	20,256	23,354
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	4(b)	233,229	47,823	-	281,052	237,562
Costs of generating voluntary income	4(c)	65	-	-	65	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**253,550**	**47,823**	**-**	**301,373**	**260,916**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		**53,366**	**111,946**	**423**	**165,735**	**(18,586)**
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	5(a)	-	-	-	-	(840)
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	5(b)	89	-	(1,708)	(1,619)	2,070
		89	-	(1,708)	(1,619)	1,230
Fund Transfers		-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**53,455**	**111,946**	**(1,285)**	**164,116**	**(17,356)**
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY		234,998	37,083	17,911	289,992	307,348
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		**288,453**	**149,029**	**16,626**	**454,108**	**289,992**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	FUNDS 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	5(a)	44,034	21,000	-	65,034	49,042
Investment	5(b)	1,106	-	12,866	13,972	15,591
		45,140	21,000	12,866	79,006	64,633
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	6(a)	54	-	-	54	130
Debtors	6(b)	17,133	2,101	-	19,234	7,338
Short term deposits		149,259	12,100	3,197	164,556	142,492
Cash at bank and in hand		102,244	140,352	563	243,159	96,767
		268,690	154,553	3,760	427,003	246,727
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	7	(25,377)	(26,524)	-	(51,901)	(21,368)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		243,313	128,029	3,760	375,102	225,359
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**288,453**	**149,029**	**16,626**	**454,108**	**289,992**
PARISH FUNDS	11					
Unrestricted		288,453	-	-	288,453	234,998
Restricted		-	149,029	-	149,029	37,083
Endowment		-	-	16,626	16,626	17,911
TOTAL		**288,453**	**149,029**	**16,626**	**454,108**	**289,992**

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

M Elkington (Treasurer) ..... **Date:** 18th May 2023

Rev'd Canon S Webster ..... **Date:** 18th May 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 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 of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

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 on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND
This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure, including monies allocated for Quinquennial repair costs.

PARVIS ROOF
This contains monies designated for the Parvis Roof repairs.

ORGAN FUND
This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

QUINQUENNIAL FUND
This contains monies earmarked for quinquennial repair cycle expenditure.

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 entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due.
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 s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
Projector	Straight line over 5 years
Lighting	Straight line over 10 years
Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2022.

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

2 **ASSOCIATED CHARITIES**

(i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fytche, Trustee
(ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith
(iii) William Walcot's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster, Sian Fyche, Trustee

3 **INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	FUNDS 2021 £
(a) **Voluntary Income**					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	136,596	60	-	136,656	135,485
Other	17,795	-	-	17,795	24,392
Sundry donations:					
Grants	14,073	133,405	-	147,478	17,319
Gift Aid donations	22,608	363	-	22,971	2,292
Cash collections	1,851	-	-	1,851	1,054
Thanksgiving Campaign	24,770	1,800	-	26,570	1,200
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Minister Seed Funding	15,400	-	-	15,400	5,100
Other giving	6,396	21,956	-	28,352	6,635
Tax recoverable	50,805	602	-	51,407	37,109
	290,294	158,186	-	448,480	230,586
(b) Fund generating activities					
Feed in Tariff income	3,986	-	-	3,986	3,426
	3,986	-	-	3,986	3,426
(c) Income from investments	2,171	-	423	2,594	472
	2,171	-	423	2,594	472
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	326	-	-	326	86
Lettings	4,989	-	-	4,989	1,738
Munch Club meals	-	1,583	-	1,583	60
Fees for weddings/funerals	5,150	-	-	5,150	5,962
	10,465	1,583	-	12,048	7,846
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**306,916**	**159,769**	**423**	**467,108**	**242,330**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

4	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
(a)						
	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	14,600	-	-	14,600	17,320
	Other	5,656	-	-	5,656	6,034
		20,256	-	-	20,256	23,354
(b)						
	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	128,728	-	-	128,728	128,728
	Clergy expenses	869	-	-	869	1,072
	Training	220	-	-	220	498
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	6,614	2,042	-	8,656	6,430
	Quinquennial	1,688	20,000	-	21,688	2,620
	Building ministry projects	-	19,617	-	19,617	15,369
	Building cleaning and sanitation	1,953	-	-	1,953	-
	Holdich Organ Project	1,800	-	-	1,800	-
	Utilities	7,877	755	-	8,632	7,692
	Worship	4,584	79	-	4,663	4,631
	Outreach	2,220	4,397	-	6,617	1,998
	Pastoral	100	-	-	100	66
	Youth (including salaries)	13,728	933	-	14,661	29,817
	VAT reclaimable under LPWS	12,573	-	-	12,573	3,420
	Depreciation	5,008	-	-	5,008	5,227
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	5,402	-	-	5,402	5,287
	Parish Office	5,196	-	-	5,196	3,156
	Other admin costs	406	-	-	406	371
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	34,263	-	-	34,263	21,180
		233,229	47,823	-	281,052	237,562
(c)						
	Fund-raising costs					
	Costs of fundraising campaigns and events	65	-	-	65	-
		65	-	-	65	-
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**253,550**	**47,823**	**-**	**301,373**	**260,916**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

5 (a) **FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible

	CHURCH ASSETS	AUDIO	IT	LIGHTING	BOILER	PAYMENT ON ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Cost/Valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At cost/valuation at 1 January 2022	44,160	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767		176,622
Additions						21,000	21,000
Revaluation in year	-	-	-	-	-		-
At 1 January and 31 December 2022	44,160	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	21,000	197,622
Depreciation							
At 1 January 2022	1,000	44,670	969	48,750	32,191	-	127,580
Charge for the year	200	1,077	155	-	3,576	-	5,008
At 31 December 2022	1,200	45,747	1,124	48,750	35,767	-	132,588
Net Book Value							
At Jan 1st 2022	43,160	2,151	155	-	3,576	-	49,042
At Dec 31st 2022	42,960	1,074	-	-	-	21,000	65,034

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).

The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 4 February 2022 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers. The valuables were valued at £34,160.

The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.
The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.
The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.
The revaluation in 2021 resulted in a decrease of £840. An informal valuation at 31/12/22 valued the assets at the same value as at 31/12/21.

(b)

Investments	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2022	1,017	-	14,574	15,591
Revaluation gain/(loss)	89	-	(1,708)	(1,619)
Market value at 31 December 2022	1,106	-	12,866	13,972

Holdings at 31 December 2022

	Fund	£ Opening value	£ Movement	£ Value at 31/12/22
417 New Ord Shares in NatWest Group	General	1,017	89	1,106
Chancel: 428 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	10,010	(1,173)	8,837
Jesus Church: 195.15 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	4,564	(535)	4,029
		15,591	(1,619)	13,972

6 **CURRENT ASSETS**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
(a)	£	£	£	£	£
Stocks					
Communion supplies, cups	54	-	-	54	130
	54	-	-	54	130
(b)					
Debtors					
Income tax recoverable	6,060	201	-	6,261	3,999
Other debtors and prepayments	11,073	1,900	-	12,973	3,339
	17,133	2,101	-	19,234	7,338

7 **LIABILITIES**

Creditors falling due within one year					
Accruals and Deferred Income	9,580	1,145	-	10,725	7,055
Other creditors and accruals	15,797	25,379	-	41,176	14,313
	25,377	26,524	-	51,901	21,368

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

8 **GRANTS RECEIVABLE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	12,573	-	-	12,573	3,420
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Worshipful Company of Grocers - Dame Margaret Slaney Fund	-	-	-	-	5,000
Feeoffees	-	1,900	-	1,900	1,900
Feeoffees for Munch Club	-	750	-	750	750
Waitrose Community Matters for Munch Club	-	-	-	-	124
Historic England COVID-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fund	-	-	-	-	2,125
Diocese of Peterborough	1,500	3,255	-	4,755	2,500
Holdich Organ Grant	-	126,000	-	126,000	-
	14,073	133,405	-	147,478	17,319

9 **MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

CHURCH OVERSEAS	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Missionary Societies				
CMS	-	-	-	812
Crosslinks	4,860	-	4,860	5,280
SAT7	4,060	-	4,060	4,415
Tearfund	1,620	-	1,620	1,760
South America Mission Society - FEISA	-	-	-	648
United Society	4,060	-	4,060	4,405
	14,600	-	14,600	17,320
Other				
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	-	50	50
Langley House Trust	-	-	-	648
Hope into Action	1,620	-	1,620	1,760
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	3,986	-	3,986	3,426
Robinsons Bangkok	-	-	-	150
	5,656	-	5,656	6,034
TOTAL	20,256	-	20,256	23,354

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

10 **CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS**

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	93,443	29,563	16,593
Interest	1,479	349	215
From / (To) Current Account	25,000	(3,483)	(1,800)
CLOSING BALANCE	119,922	26,429	15,008

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	2,893
Dividends	264
Interest	40
CLOSING BALANCE	3,197

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022

11 **ANALYSIS OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2022
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Building Fund	20,463	349	-	-	-	20,812
General reserve	56,383	1,479	-	-	-	57,862
Quinquennial reserve	-	-	-	8,364	-	8,364
Organ Fund	11,593	215	(1,800)	-	-	10,008
General fund	146,559	304,873	(251,750)	(8,364)	89	191,407
	234,998	306,916	(253,550)	-	89	288,453
Restricted funds						
Feeoffees	4,000	1,900	(1,795)	-	-	4,105
Servery Project	12,100	-	(6,240)	-	-	5,860
Hardship Fund	262	-	(262)	-	-	-
Worshipful Company of Grocers	6,500	1,500	(7,562)	-	-	438
Holiday at Home	647	433	(766)	259	-	573
Cremated Remains Area	297	-	-	-	-	297
Holdich Organ Project	-	128,500	-	-	-	128,500
Heating repairs fund	-	2,171	(1,580)	-	-	591
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	3,849	21,383	(25,232)	-	-	-
Clock & Bells Fund	2,868	-	-	-	-	2,868
OCYA for Youth Minister	500	-	-	-	-	500
Munch Club	2,114	2,333	(2,523)	-	-	1,924
Explorations Outings	259	-	-	(259)	-	-
PDBF for Heating	-	755	(755)	-	-	-
Friends in Need	2,935	640	(846)	-	-	2,729
Bereavement Fund	50	-	-	-	-	50
AV fund	-	79	(79)	-	-	-
West Porch Café	702	75	(183)	-	-	594
	37,083	159,769	(47,823)	-	-	149,029
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	12,905	303	-	-	(1,173)	12,035
Jesus Church income fund	5,006	120	-	-	(535)	4,591
	17,911	423	-	-	(1,708)	16,626
Total funds	289,992	467,108	(301,373)	-	(1,619)	454,108

The Feeoffees was grants received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs. Spending of most of the funds has been delayed due to COVID-19 and contractor availability. The funds have been allocated to be spent on works currently planned for early 2023.
The Servery Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servery Project.
The Hardship Fund was a donation received to provide a fund to spent on small grants for members of the congregation in financial difficulty.
Worshipful Company of Grocers - grants to be spent on the fabric of the building.
Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Event - this event recommenced in 2022.
The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.
Holdich Organ fund - see note 13 below.
Heating repairs fund - monies donated specifically for the cost of making urgent repairs to the heating system.
The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.
The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Clock Tower and Bell works.
OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.
The Munch Club came under St Peters umbrella from December 2018. The funds are administered separately.
The Explorations Outings fund are funds raised to be expended on outreach.
PDBF for Heating - a grant from the Diocese of Peterboorugh towards the cost of heating the church building.
Friends in Need Fund - donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.
The Bereavement fund is a donation specifically for the use of the bereavement team.
AV fund - a donation made for the cost of replacing microphones.
The West Porch Café fund - funds raised to be expended on youth.

A designated reserve for Quinquennial repairs has been established to ring-fence unspent annual budget set aside for Quinquennial repairs.

12 **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**
During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church totaling £56,517 (2022: £29,295).

13 **HOLDICH ORGAN PROJECT**
During 2022 a pipe organ was donated to the church. The organ is currently undergoing refurbishment off-site and will be installed in 2023.
The cost of the refurbishment and installation has been donated to the church in full at a figure of £126,000 including VAT.
There will be some legal and architectural charges in the region of £10,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.
As the funds are to be expended on a fixed asset the monies spent do not appear in the expenditure section. During 2022 the first £21,000 plus VAT was spent on the deposit for refurbishment of the organ, which appears as a payment on account on fixed assets on the balance sheet. The organ has negligible value until it is fully refurbished and will be revalued upon installation in 2023.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1132677

Accounts

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2021

Registered Charity 1132677
North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

GOD'S LOVE
KNOW...
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GIVE...
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Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2021

When the Jewish people found themselves a thousand miles from home, in captivity and yearning for their old life they received a message from God – in the form of a letter from Him penned by Jeremiah the prophet. No doubt the question on the mind of many was, "When will this exile end? How soon? Will God rescue us quickly?" They must have yearned and hoped for their old life back as soon as possible. God's message was at once challenging, expectation-dashing and encouraging. "This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says," in Jeremiah 29, "to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 'Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper… This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed I will come to you and fulfil my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

In March 2020 Bishop Donald warned that we should not expect to be back in Church in any significant way by Christmas 2020. In fact, he suggested, Easter 2021 might still be affected. Really? We wondered. Really? A whole year? Well of course his words have proved prescient. Not only Christmas 2020, not only Easter 2021 but Christmas 2021 remained significantly affected by Covid.

For the Jewish people of the 6th century BC Jerusalem and temple worship were central to their faith. How on earth could they be faithful Jewish people when Jerusalem and the temple lay in ruins a thousand miles away? But God did have a promise. There would be flourishing and a hope and a bright future again. They would be forever changed by the experience. Their understanding of God and worship would be forever changed. They would never quite be as they had been. But God would do something new and good.

We entered 2021 still unable to gather in any large numbers for worship. However, our short service of said morning prayer on a Sunday morning became a fixture for 20 or so people. We continued Sunday by Sunday and through the week to meet online – on Facebook, Youtube and Zoom. Joining in symbolically with the breaking of bread and wine and sharing them in our homes; sharing coffee Zoom and Zoom Hour of Power was started so we could meet to pray together. Whilst singing in the building was not possible we enjoyed singing worship songs and hymns together as we sent in our contributions and they were stitched together. It was encouraging to see a sea of faces singing – and the number contributing steadily grew. During this time there was a sense from many of appreciating the fact that we have different preferences in styles of worship. The situation encouraged us to embrace this and lots of people contributed to a wide range of music.

How on earth do we worship and express community when gathering together in significant numbers is not possible? Well it wasn't without its struggles and we by no means found perfectly fitting answers, yet there was for many of us a renewed sense of Church as not a building, but a community.

In February the PCC gathered virtually to think and pray about next steps for St Peter's as Covid (we prayed) very slowly began to release its grip. Out of our time praying together some common themes very quickly emerged: *Together*; *Deeper*; *Giving*. There was a sense in the PCC gathering, as well as from the wider Church community, that we wanted to do more *together*; that Covid had taught us that we valued one another and could enjoy our different approaches and styles and should seek more opportunities to do so together across ages and backgrounds. We had a sense of God calling us to more vulnerable, honest, *deeper* relationships with each other as together we sought a deeper relationship with God. We had a sense that God was calling us to be a Church that was characterised by generosity in many different ways; a Church that loved and served its community including those most in need; a Church that 'wept with those who weep.' These ideas would resurface in various ways through the year.

During Lent we embarked on The Prayer Course using material created by the 24/7 Prayer movement led by Pete Greig. Various small groups took this up online and a new online group was established for those not yet linked to a small group. There was a lot of positive feedback from this and it was encouraging to see a new small group emerge out of it. There was a sense indeed of deeper relationships as people encountered some they had known for a long time in new ways and others they had not known before.

Each evening during Holy Week we gathered in small numbers in the Nave for nightly reflections based on objects used at the Cross. Our Maundy Thursday communion was held in person as well as being livestreamed to those taking part from home. Good Friday provided an opportunity to take part in a series of reflections each hour from 12 until 3pm. Some gathered in person – others tuned in from home.

On Easter morning we were able to gather in larger numbers. We did this outside at 6am for our traditional gathering around a brazier in the Churchyard in front of the South Porch. Seventy or more of us met on a very frosty morning. We shared Communion together outside and for the first time since March 2020 sang – taking the advantage of being outside to do this. *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* echoed off the stones and *Thine Be the Glory*. It was a very special moment.

For Pentecost we again gathered in the Churchyard, together with other Churches of Oundle, and worshipped together. As the weather warmed this became a regular Sunday fixture. Inside still required masks and singing was prohibited, but outside we could sing without restriction. People brought chairs and rugs and spread themselves on the grass. Sound was hooked up from inside to give amplification and backing for our singing. We celebrated communion in the open air and a baptism. People wandering through the Churchyard joined us on several occasions. We noted that even when indoor worship had long since returned we might want to choose to worship like this again from time to time. Outside our doors, easy for people to join in, singing our praises out into the town.

On June 27th we were delighted to welcome a new member to the team. Rev Josh Jackson was ordained in the Cathedral that Sunday and joined us as our new curate. He and Sally moved from Durham during June.

During the first week of July we set up creative prayer stations in the building and invited people to come and reflect on what Covid had meant for them. There was opportunity to lament losses: of people we have loved who had died as well as the many other losses brought about by Covid. There was space too to pray for others and to look forward in hope. It was a small way in which we sought to 'weep with those who weep' and meet with the needs of our community.

With the Autumn came a partial return to gathered worship inside. We continued to advise wearing masks when that became permissible, singing from behind them when singing returned. We learned that *together* was good as we sought to meet for a single main Sunday service at 10:30 with a mix of singing styles through the month and people of all ages. Our early 08:30 Communion Service with hymns accompanied by the organ and familiar liturgy also became a regular fixture. Monthly Sunday Night Worship also made a welcome return as did monthly Choral Evensong.

Numbers on Sunday mornings continued to be modest and to grow slowly. Some were still fearful of gathering. Others found the challenges of returning to their Sunday pattern from before Covid difficult. We missed some regular faces. We were delighted to welcome some new people. A number coming to us in person having first encountered us online. The challenge of slowly rebuilding in numbers: numbers of worshippers; numbers committing to volunteering to serve in various ways remains a challenge as we recognise the toll that Covid has taken in many ways on many different people.

A gathering on the Oundle Primary School field in early November was well attended and received. There were sparklers and games and braziers and toffee apples and laughter and community. It was a good way of reconnecting.

Advent began with a welcome return of Christingle. To prevent a sense of overcrowding we had two services: 4pm and 6pm. Both were well attended and it was very special to gather in the candlelight and pray for our town, our community and our world. Advent also saw us embarking on a "Faith on the Frontline" course. Again many small groups took up this course and a bespoke group was created for those not already in small groups. Again a new Small Group emerged out of this and there was a real sense of both 'together' and 'deeper' as people got to know others in new ways. The Christian life is one we walk together. The idea is that as we grow in trust with our brothers and sisters in Christ we are increasingly willing to share life with them: to be vulnerable with each other and grow in depth of relationship as we seek to grow in depth of faith. The idea is that we accompany each other and support and help each other be followers of Jesus as we carry one another's burdens. That's the idea. And it has been encouraging to see those relationships forming and growing among many during Covid.

As 2021 neared its end so our knowledge of the Greek alphabet improved. By December the word 'omicron' was on everyone's lips. This Covid variant threatened to undo all the amazing work of vaccines. That was the possibility and therefore caution was advised. Plans for Christmas had to be altered in the light of it. It was wonderful to have Carols in the Market Place again on Christmas Eve. Liaising with the Council this outdoor service was allowed. It was packed and we sang carols and proclaimed the wonder of God coming amongst us into the mess of our human lives.

It was wonderful too to be able to have a Crib Service in Church again. Our donkey of former years is sadly no longer with us, but a Shetland pony provided an equally scripturally-compliant presence at the service. Sadly illness prevented our Baby Jesus actor being present in person. Omicron meant we limited numbers and required booking. We were quickly fully booked as we were for our Christmas celebration the next morning.

Never did I imagine in March 2020 that two years later Covid would still be affecting our lives. The truth is that it has changed us. We don't return to what we had before; we return to something new. To Jewish exiles 26 centuries ago God promised a future and a hope. They had been changed forever, but God had good things for them in that new future. In 2022 we need to learn to be a different kind of Church. And if we are a Church that is more *together*, enjoys *deeper* relationships with one another and with God and which generously loves and gives to others then we will be a Church with hope and a flourishing future.

By Stephen Webster

Compiled by Siân Fytche (Churchwarden) and Paulina Hunt (Honorary PCC Secretary) May 2022

Section 2:

2.1 Churchwarden Report

There is one word that has featured in all aspects of church life during 2021- Change. It's hard to think back to January 2021 when we were still in lockdown and meeting together largely meant seeing each other on a screen. Things changed significantly as the year progressed and by Christmas 2021, we were able to welcome significant numbers of our community into St Peter's building.

The constant changes in response to lifting restrictions presented us all with different challenges and our staff team in particular had to continually adapt to a different way of doing things- for Sarah, Joe and Mark who joined us during lockdown there was the additional challenge of not knowing how things were done previously- my thanks to all of them for their willingness to simply get on with it . Martha also has had the additional challenge of moving from the many online formats that she developed for our young people in lockdown to in-person activities, at the same time as keeping them all engaged and safe together.

Into the ever-changing dynamics of church life in 2021 we were pleased to welcome Josh and Sally Jackson in June – Josh joining the clergy team as our curate.

The changes in 2021 also saw us re-establishing many of the volunteer roles that prior to Covid had been so ably filled by members of the St Peter's church family – a huge thank you to everyone who has stepped into a role serving others in our church.

Through all the changes of the last year we were indeed blessed to have the spiritual leadership and God-given wisdom of Stephen and Annabel to guide and encourage us.

When I stepped into the role as churchwarden in May of last year, I was very pleased to be partnering Steve Cunningham although sadly as it transpired only briefly. I am grateful to Steve for his support and patience during that time and indeed for all the years of faithful service he gave to St Peter's.

Siân Fytche
Churchwarden

2.2 PCC Report

During most of 2021, the PCC was made up of eight elected members, up to five Deanery Synod Representatives, two Churchwardens and up to three Clergy Team members. It was chaired by the incumbent (Rev Canon Stephen Webster) and met seven times in 2021 (20 January via Zoom, 25 March via Zoom, 20 April via Zoom, 16 June via Zoom, 14 September via Zoom, 23 November in person and 14 December via Zoom).

During these meetings, the PCC discussed a wide range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's. These have included Online Worship during the pandemic, Finance, Giving, Mission, Repairs to Building, acquisition of the Holdich organ, Development of NE side of Church Building, Green issues and Safeguarding.

As well as discussing practical matters of Church Life, each PCC meeting starts and ends with prayer. The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2021 were: -

Standing Committee which is required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2021 was made up of the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC, and an elected PCC Member. The Treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee exists to support the work of the Treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2021 it met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring. It was chaired in 2021 by the Treasurer.

Lindsey Wallis is thanked for all her hard work on the accounts. Lindsey is a volunteer who is currently acting as St Peter's Finance Administrator.

Membership of PCC

(A) 01/01/21 – 12/05/21 (APCM)

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Steve Cunningham (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar)

Deanery Synod: Peter Coatham, Cynthia Dimmock, Gill Morrison, Justine Turton

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Siân Fytche, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Suzy Higgins, Alan McMurdo, Janet McMurdo (Lay Chair)), Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton

(B) 12/05/2021 – 31/12/2021

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Siân Fytche (Churchwarden), Steve Cunningham (Churchwarden until November), Rev Annabel Copeland (Associate Vicar), Rev Joshua Jackson (Assistant Curate from June)

Deanery Synod: Louise Foote, Angela Newell, Emily Taylor, Bobbie Turton (until June when she sadly passed away), Pam Weatherington

Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Ian Goldsmith, David Gooda, Alan McMurdo (until November), Janet McMurdo (Lay Vice Chair until November), Sally Saunders, Peter Taylor (co-opted from November), Kim Treverton,

PCC Secretary (until APCM): Justine Turton
Honorary PCC Secretary from June: Paulina Hunt

2.3 Electoral Roll Report

Year	TOTAL	Died	Moved Away	Addition
2019 (Full review)	261	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020 (Covid)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	236	11	21	7
2022	242	5	9	20

Peter Taylor

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

Policies and practice

Janet McMurdo was our Parish Safeguarding Officer for most of last year taking over from Tracey Cunningham who stepped down. Thank you to both these people for the work they have done to ensure we make our benefice a safe place for children and vulnerable adults. In November Janet McMurdo indicated her need to resign from the role due to a house move and the PCC elected Liz Mace as our new Safeguarding Officer pending DBS clearance.
Martha Barnes continues as the deputy Safeguarding Officer
In November Revd Annabel Copeland, in her role as Overseer of children, young people and families, took over from Revd Stephen Webster as the clergy lead on Safeguarding in the Benefice.
The clergy and PCCs of the benefice continue to meet the requirement to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding continues to be a standing item on every agenda of the PCC meetings.
All safeguarding policies are all in line with the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance and meet statutory requirements whilst remaining relevant to our particular context. Policies have been reviewed when needed to be.

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team has introduced a new Parish Safeguarding Dashboard. This is an online tool which allows PSOs to complete an audit of safeguarding policy and practice in the parish. Following the audit, an action plan is automatically generated to assist them in maintaining and improving their safeguarding practices. The benefice has signed up to this and the audits are currently being completed by the PSO. The subsequent action plans will be shared with the PCCs in due course.

Safer recruitment

The online system for DBS clearance is now well established. Our DBS verifiers are Martha Barnes and Sarah Vogt and they have worked hard over this year to update all DBS checks, some of which had lapsed due to us not meeting during COVID
As of December 2021, all those working with children or vulnerable adults either have an up to date DBS certificate or are in the process of their DBS being updated

Safeguarding Training

In April 2021, the Church of England published a new Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework. The focus of this framework is on developing a positive culture of safeguarding within the church, rather than simply focusing on process. It does mean that additional training modules may need to be completed.
All church members who need to have completed the required national C0, C1 and those in leadership are up to date with their C2 Safeguarding training

Safeguarding concerns and incidents

No safeguarding concerns have been raised during the year through completion of a pink form. However the Safeguarding Officer and others communicated at times about queries and informal issues to continue to keep children and vulnerable adults safe.

By Revd Annabel Copeland
Clergy Safeguarding Lead

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	NatWest Bank, 25 Corporation Street, Corby NN17 1NR
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Staff Receiving Remuneration

Through Parish Share

Vicar	Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Associate Vicar	Rev Annabel Copeland
Assistant Curate	Rev Joshua Jackson

Through Salary

Youth Minister	Martha Barnes
Administrator	Sarah Vogt
Facilities Coordinator	Mark Pearcey
Intern/ Online Specialist	Joe Gray

3.3 Structure, Governance and Management

Legal Status
The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment
Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all**. Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One-off events are assessed for risk before being run.

b) **Financial**: Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.

c) **Reputation**: Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use.

Section 4

4.1 Mission Support

In 2021, the Mission Support Group have been implementing the Mission policy adopted by the PCC in 2020. The main implications from this were that we tried to concentrate prayer and finance on fewer missions. Our main missions now are John and Gillian Robinson in Thailand (Crosslinks), Christian Healthcare in Bangladesh (USPG), Discipleship and Evangelism in the Middle East & North African countries through satellite broadcasting (Sat-7). These three receive the largest proportions of the budget and are featured every six months as a focus for prayer in the Sunday services in "Mission of the Month". The weekly church newsletter contains details about the mission and points for prayer. We also give significant portions of the budget to disaster relief & development projects in the Third World (TearFund) and help for the homeless in the UK (Hope into Action). These appear as the "Mission of the Month" every twelve months.

The remaining missions are: Christian Aid, Mothers Union, Chattabox, and The Children's Society. These also appear as "Mission of the Month" once every twelve months but do not receive financial support from our budget. Money is given from collections and individuals.

During 2021 we arranged two Sunday services with a mission focus. The Robinsons visited in July and Ed Walker from Hope into Action in November. Opportunities were also arranged outside of the church service to meet with the Robinsons. Now that Covid restrictions have been relaxed we intend to make more of such opportunities when a speaker from an outside organisation comes to St Peter's.

During 2021, we have recruited more Link people onto the Mission Support Group so we can get closer ties built up. We have updated the mission information on the church website.

Plans for 2022:
Refresh the Mission noticeboards in church.
USPG Speaker at Sunday Service 3rd July
Tear Fund speaker at Sunday Service 20th November.
Plan ahead for an opportunity to take a group abroad to encourage mission awareness - to visit the Robinsons perhaps?

By Peter Taylor
Mission Support Group

4.2 Building and Resources

St Peter's is a Grade 1 listed building most of which dates back to the 13th century, although some sections are slightly older. Because of its historic nature all work must be sensitively carried out, mostly with like-for-like materials and using traditional methods. Work on the church building therefore tends to be both costly and time consuming. Limited direct income means that we are severely constrained in what we can do and are heavily reliant on grants to achieve much of what we do. We would like to thank Historic England, The Friends of Oundle Parish Church and The Worshipful Company of Grocers for their grants during 2021. Without their support much of the essential work to retain the appearance of our beautiful church would not have been possible.

During the last year the following work has been undertaken:

Grant Funded
Repair work to:

- Damaged stonework in the east window of the south transept.
- Tie the church wall on the east and south sides into support buttresses and retain structural stability.
- Replace damaged glass.
- Refurbish the ferramenta (they are the external metal supports that hold the windows in place) of two windows.
- The stonework of the crypt door surround and the installation of a new oak door.

PCC Funded

- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Repairs to various areas of roof.
- Repairs to bird guard inside steeple.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance

During the coming year the following work is planned:

Grant Funded

Funded by grants from The Friends of Oundle Parish Church:

- Repointing of areas of defective stonework and replacing two cracked rainwater downpipes.
- Improvements to the underfloor ventilation of the North Aisle (to match the South Aisle) and refurbishing the flooring in that area.

PCC Funded

- Alterations to sections of the church electrical system to ensure they comply with the latest electrical regulations.
- Annual inspection of the church roof, cleaning of all gutters and rainwater hoppers.
- Cleaning of moss from stonework, particularly on the north side of the church.
- Minor day to day building and equipment maintenance
- Refurbishing and repainting the blue painted south door which is starting to need attention.
- Repairs to the heating system to remedy the cold radiators at the west end of the church. There has been a problem with these radiators for some time and the cause is proving to be very difficult to track down. We hope to have them working for next winter.

By David Gooda and John Grubb

4.3 Senior Adults

2021 was another year of Covid challenges, stops and starts, and creative planning.
Tuesday Club met in small groups for tea parties in volunteers' gardens once the weather was warm enough for people to sit outside. From September we were able to meet again in church as before Covid on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons in the month and full activities resumed. We spread out into the church from the Lady Chapel to give people more space. We have had some new volunteer helpers join us and some new Tuesday Club members. The afternoon is an opportunity gather to play scrabble or similar games, jigsaws or just enjoy the company of others, followed by a 'thought for the day' from a member of the clergy team, a hot drink and tasty home-made cake. Tuesday Club finishes around the time that West Porch café begins, and it has been good to have the gentle buzz of the overlap of the generations in the building.
Explorations Outings Committee decided unanimously that, having run with great success for 12 years prior to the pandemic, this activity would not be resuming as restrictions lift. I would like to thank all involved in Explorations Outings for their thoughtfulness, commitment, careful organisation and all of the opportunities and experiences they have offered many senior adults in our community whilst running the service.
Plans are well underway for a Holiday at Home in June this year. It will run on slightly reduced numbers from previous years, but we are very much looking forward to welcoming people back into church for this lovely day of activities, lunch, and enjoying gathering together. Flyers and details of how to book a place will appear once activities available are finalised.
Monday Munch Club at Oundle Primary School met in December for Christmas Dinner over two sittings to accommodate Covid restrictions. Due to the requirement for the school hall to be well ventilated during sessions, the Munch Club Committee took the decision to pause until the warmer spring weather and the next meal is planned for April after which lunches will return to their usual pattern with slightly restricted numbers. Thank you to the Munch Club Committee and to Oundle Primary School for all the work that has gone into making this happen and providing such a great opportunity for the senior adults to come and enjoy a meal together.
Although not strictly a "seniors' activity" the Thursday @10.30 Holy Communion service followed by refreshments has been a weekly opportunity to meet for worship, fellowship and to enjoy time together. This congregation has grown steadily over the year and being able to stay in church for refreshments afterwards now restrictions have lifted has created an opportunity for people to enjoy being together and chatting after the isolation of the lockdowns.
Pastoral Visiting and Home Communion both in people's homes and supported living facilities is gradually resuming as access to communal areas opens and when people feel comfortable having visitors. We have a wonderful group of pastoral visitors who support our senior adults' ministry, who have supported people via telephone calls and visits as restrictions have allowed.
For the majority of 2021, a weekly printed newsletter (an offline edited version of the email newsletter), was delivered to people who were unable to access online church news and information. Now the Covid restrictions have lifted, church service patterns have settled, and people are out and about more, a monthly printed newsletter is now being produced which is a summary of news and upcoming events from the e-newsletter and Church Suite. This is available at the back of church for people who are able to attend church and continues to be delivered to those who are housebound.

By Louise Foote
Lay Chaplain

4.4 Youth Work

Young people's needs and their desire to explore faith have been kept right at the centre of the youth ministry in 2021. The youth work has supported the church's mission of 'know it, live it, give it', and we have seen the young people start to develop relationships with Jesus. There is a large, highly skilled team involved with all areas of the youth ministry who have built relationships with the young people and are a vital part of the organisation and engagement with our young people. We started the year in a lockdown and were continuing our youth work in small groups online. We found that we were able to engage with more young people online in small groups, and this meant we kept in contact with the majority of our young people from church. We had four small groups with an average of four young people per group, between the ages of 11-18. West Porch Café was also online once a week, which kept a core of around six to eight young people. There was little provision for young people when it came to Sunday services. As the restrictions started to lift, this work continued, but we started to meet in person, which saw the young people attend more consistently than before. From September 2021, we started the original discipleship groups again (The Way and Rooted). The Way had very regular attendance from seven young people, some of whom attended church most Sundays too, where 'Breathe' is seeing three to four young people each session. There is a real sense of family and discipleship at The Way and it continues to be successful. The Rooted group (ages 14-18) struggled to start up again, with only three young people making a commitment, as opposed to a potential 10+ young people. This eventually got put on pause, with the small group of regular attendees meeting before Christmas to discuss the possibility of a new small group. West Porch Café started again in the church, this time filling the whole of the nave, and numbers soon boosted back to between 20-30 a week, the majority from Prince William School with a few from other schools too. The partnership with Souster Youth continues, as Martha continues to lead lunch clubs, wellbeing sessions and lessons in school. This was disrupted for the first half of 2021, but has picked up since the summer, and in the Autumn we saw a crossover between West Porch Café and lunch clubs/ groups at school which is really encouraging to see. Our hope for the youth ministry is that it will continue to flourish, and to maintain these strong relationships with our young people.

By Martha Barnes
Youth Minister

4.5 Children and Families

Kids Church

The beginning of the year found us in lockdown and restricted on face-to-face ministry amongst children and families. I too was new to the role, so focused initially on contacting each family either by phone or a Zoom call. From conversation I had it was clear that our families were doing an amazing job supporting their children in a very challenging situation. To enable our families to continue to help develop faith in their children we gave out Lent activity bags to those families with children who were of Kids church age, these bags contained a variety of activities, a Bible reading and some prayers for each week of Lent and from those who received them I believe this helped them have some discussions about faith.

At Easter many families came along to the Wander through Easter event held in church where through interactive stations families could explore the meaning of the Easter story.

Come the Summer term life began to open up and we were able to gather again for worship outside. Each week activity sheets were provided for children to explore the theme of the service. Also a wonderful team of volunteers helped me prepare and lead a monthly Outdoor Family Worship time on Oundle Primary School field,for those who attended these were encouraging times of worshipping together and meeting up again after many months being unable to see other families.

Come September we were able to be back in the church building and restart Kids Church groups. I am very grateful to a fantastic team of volunteers who so willing serve our children in leading sessions to enable them to grow in faith. As we regathered it was evident that some volunteers from the past felt it was now time to step down from serving and also some families were feeling it was not time to return to church. This meant we reorganised into four Sunday groups- Breathe for young people in years 7-9, Launchpad (a new name) for children in years 3-6, Powerpack for children in Years reception to Year 2 and God Tots for pre-school children. Also due to a limited number of leaders and helpers we felt it better to meet twice a month and so on the other two Sundays there is an All-In service and a new session developed on the other Sunday of the month called Praise Party-this is an opportunity for the children to worship together , to explore more creative ways to prayer and explore the Bible as well as giving an opportunity for some of our older children to be involved in planning and leading sessions. As always I am so grateful to the many volunteers who make our Kids Church sessions a great place for our children to be and a place where they can discovered more about how to know Jesus, live in his love and give God's love away to others.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots is a weekly session run on a Wednesday afternoon for pre-school children and their parents and carers. AT the start of the year Tiny Tots was unable to meet in person so I am very grateful to the Oundle School young people guided by Becca and Tabitha who created craft bags each week and to Nadine who made a craft video to help families engage with the story of the week which was recorded by either myself or Stephen and put out on the Messy Church Facebook page. 20-30 bags were regularly collected from the church porch and families showed great appreciation for what was provided.

During the summer term, due to the generosity of Oundle Primary School we were finally able to start meeting in person outside on a marked off area of the school playing field. It was fantastic to meet up again and for some children was the first time they had meet other children in a group as they had been born during lockdown. For parents too the group was a vital support to help process many of the challenges of the past year and find new friendships. From September we were able to move back to the Community Room at Oundle Primary School and over the Autumn term saw a steady growth in numbers and depth of friendship. Each week there is a chance for the children to play and parents to chat followed by a snack and Bible story, prayer and singing time. I want to give a huge thank you to the team of volunteers from St Peters who faithfully serve each week and have offered pastoral support to many parents through timely conversations. I have also been encouraged to begin to see families from Tiny Tots come along to church and discover more about faith in Jesus. We are also blessed each week to be joined be young people from Oundle School who play a vital role helping run Tiny Tots.

Chattabox

It was a delight this summer to be able to run Chattabox in person and a huge thank you to all those volunteers, adults and young people, who made this possible and especially to Sian who led it all so well. We have a limited number of children than in previous years so as to remain COVID safe but for all the children who came, the sessions were thoroughly enjoyed with lots of fun and discovery about Jesus happening. Our theme was Wonderzone which provided an opportunity to Discover more about God's Wonderful World through stories, singing, prayers, craft, games and discussion.

Schools Ministry

For the first 6 months of the year Stephen or I were recording a Collective Worship each week which was sent to Oundle Primary school and Glapthorn school. At the end of the summer term we were able to host a Year 6 leavers service at St Peter's and at Glapthorn in person, it felt very special to finally be able to welcome children back into church. In the autumn term each week we delivered in person a Collective Worship assembly in both schools and also hosted a Carol Service for each school. Our pastoral support at both schools has continued throughout the year and Stephen was a Governor at Oundle Primary school along with Trevor Frewin and Lesley Gooda. Annabel is part of the Church Group at Glapthorn looking at church school ethos.

Other Events

It was a joy in the autumn to gather families together in person for a Bonfire Party-a great time had by all and lovely to renew friendships between families in person.

At Christmas we were able through generous donations to our Friends in Need fund to give a Christmas Meal hamper to 5 families in Oundle who otherwise may not have had a Christmas dinner this year.

We had also planned to run a one-day Chattabox Christmas Holiday Club but sadly this was cancelled at the last minute due to COVID but activity bags were put together that families came and collected from the church instead.

In summary can I thank everyone who is involved in serving and blessing our children and families, without your commitment none of what has been achieved this year would have been possible.

If reading what has been going on has excited you and you'd like to join the team then please do contact me and we can have a chat about possibly getting involved.

By Revd Annabel Copeland
Associate Vicar

Section 5

Report on PCC Financial Activities (Treasurer's Report)

This report is on the 2021 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs. This has remained especially true during a year where the global pandemic continued to impact all of us.

During a normal week when the Church is open it costs circa £5,106 per week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's Church. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures. This cost was lower during 2021 at circa £4,774 per week as a result of the Church building being closed during 3 months of the year due to the pandemic.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a Church.

Giving

St Peter's relies on the generosity of our Church community to fund all its activities. Total income for the Church during 2021 was £242,330. This is £79,192 less than income for 2020 (£321,522), largely as a result of the 2020 income having been bolstered by a large donation for Youth Minister funding and the wonderful response we had to our appeal for funds in response to the pandemic.

Of the 2021 total income of £242,330, £159,877 was planned giving, £10,127 were one-off donations and £17,319 were grants. We recovered tax under the Government's Gift Aid scheme of £37,109.

2021 giving was at similar levels to 2020 during the year with a small uptick in November and December. Planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses, even with the reduced level of spending resulting from the Church being closed for part of the year.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's Church community. We ask, where possible, that those giving do so through the Parish Giving Scheme that has now been in operation successfully for the last two years. This planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the Church and serve God and the community.

During any year there will be members of our Church Family who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. The underlying decline is on average £7,000 per annum.

There are two further funding challenges. First, our Youth Minister role relies on circa £14,000 per year of seed-funding to make up the difference between on-going pledged giving and the cost of the role's salary. We would love for this role to be fully funded from on-going pledged giving and need to recognise that the seed-fund is limited. Second, a review of our spending on the Church building has highlighted that too often we react to problems, rather than having a programme of planned maintenance and taking action quickly when problems are discovered. A planned maintenance programme has been costed at £16,400 per year, of which we currently spend £9,600; a gap of £6,800. We expect that carrying out more planned maintenance will, over time, both reduce the number of problems and reduce the intensity of problems when discovered. We need to a find means of funding this increased cost.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income; and are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals we received grants of £6,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers that will be used to pay for heating and stonework repairs (delayed until 2022 due to the pandemic) and £1,900 from FEOFFEES. We also received the final £2,125 from the Historic England Covid-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Fund.
During 2022 it is likely that a Holdich pipe organ will be donated to the church. The organ currently requires refurbishment and the cost of the organ, refurbishment and installation would be donated to the church in full at a figure of £120,000 including VAT. There will be some charges relating to the fitting of this organ which might be in the region of £6,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.

Spend
2021 spend of £260,916 was £10,985 more than 2020 spend of £249,931. In 2021 we carried out £17,538 of capital projects compared to £12,660 in 2020. Excluding capital projects, 2021 spend was £6,107 more than 2020 spend largely as a result of the Church being opened for 6 months more than 2020.

The largest item of spend is the Diocesan Parish Share (£128,728 in 2021) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice with the role of Associate Vicar being filled during 2020 and full time during 2021.

During 2021, in addition to £17, 538 of capital projects, we spent a further £12,470 on the care, maintenance and development of our church building. This expenditure covers everything from fixing the windows to keeping the heating working.

Other major spend areas for the Church include non-Clergy salaries at £49,676, mission giving at £23,354 and utility payments at £7,692.

Reserves and Funds
The current reserves stand at £20,463 for buildings and £56,383 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC had planned to review our reserves policy during 2021, however this was delayed due to the pandemic. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2022 based on guidance from the Charities Commission.

The General Fund has reduced from £163,302 in 2020 to £146,599 in 2021. This reduction in the general fund was largely a result of the ability to spend funds that we had planned to spend in 2020 but could not because pandemic lockdowns. Of 2020's general fund surplus of £58,713, £16,737 has been spent in 2021, of which £9,707 was funds received in 2020 for the Youth Minister. We have also spent £5,000 from the Designated Organ Fund on legal costs associated with the Holdich Organ project.

Of the £146,599 it should be noted that 49,042 is our tangible fixed assets such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., £36,167 is our working capital and £9,707 is seed funding for our Youth Minister. The remaining £51,683 is in surplus and the PCC is currently prayerfully considering its potential uses.

Governance
The PCC sets financial policies for the Church. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC. The Treasury team consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-

ordinator. This team reports to the Treasury Committee which consists of one member of the Clergy and two lay members. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

By Mark Elkington
Treasurer

Section 6

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or

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

GD Darbourne

Graham Darbourne FCA
TC Group
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

Date: 22/5/22

Section 7

Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

PLEASE SEE SEPARATE FINANCIAL REPORT

ST PETER'S CHURCH: OUNDLE PCC ACCOUNTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	3(a)	215,749	14,837	-	230,586	315,995
Fund generating activities	3(b)	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,829
Income from investments	3(c)	100	-	372	472	855
Church activities	3(d)	7,786	60	-	7,846	2,843
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**227,061**	**14,897**	**372**	**242,330**	**321,522**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	4(a)	23,204	150	-	23,354	18,232
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	4(b)	225,030	12,532	-	237,562	231,592
Costs of generating voluntary income	4(c)	-	-	-	-	107
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**248,234**	**12,682**	**-**	**260,916**	**249,931**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		**(21,173)**	**2,215**	**372**	**(18,586)**	**71,591**
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	9(a)	(840)	-	-	(840)	-
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	9(b)	263	-	1,807	2,070	549
		(577)	-	1,807	1,230	549
Fund Transfers		80	(80)	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**(21,670)**	**2,135**	**2,179**	**(17,356)**	**72,140**
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY		256,668	34,948	15,732	307,348	235,208
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		**234,998**	**37,083**	**17,911**	**289,992**	**307,348**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	5(a)	49,042	-	-	49,042	55,109
Investment	5(b)	1,017	-	14,574	15,591	13,521
		50,059	-	14,574	64,633	68,630
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	6(a)	130	-	-	130	418
Debtors	6(b)	7,335	3	-	7,337	7,836
Short term deposits		123,543	16,056	2,893	142,492	142,164
Cash at bank and in hand		71,666	24,657	444	96,767	101,777
		202,674	40,716	3,337	246,726	252,195
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	7	(17,735)	(3,633)	-	(21,368)	(13,477)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		184,939	37,083	3,337	225,358	238,718
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**234,998**	**37,083**	**17,911**	**289,992**	**307,348**
PARISH FUNDS	11					
Unrestricted		234,998	-	-	234,998	256,668
Restricted		-	37,083	-	37,083	34,948
Endowment		-	-	17,911	17,911	15,732
TOTAL		**234,998**	**37,083**	**17,911**	**289,992**	**307,348**

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

M Elkington (Treasurer) ..... **Date:** 22nd May 2022

Rev'd Canon S Webster Stephen Webster **Date:** 22nd May 2022

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

1 **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 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 of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

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 on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND
This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure, including monies allocated for Quinquennial repair costs.

PARVIS ROOF
This contains monies designated for the Parvis Roof repairs.

ORGAN FUND
This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

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 entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due.
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 s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
Projector	Straight line over 5 years
Lighting	Straight line over 10 years
Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2021.

2 **ASSOCIATED CHARITIES**

(i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster
(ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith
(iii) William Walcot's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

3 **INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	FUNDS 2020 £
(a) **Voluntary Income**					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	135,425	60	-	135,485	134,415
Other	24,392	-	-	24,392	30,088
Sundry donations:					
Grants	5,920	11,399	-	17,319	13,536
Gift Aid donations	1,422	870	-	2,292	3,208
Cash collections	1,054	-	-	1,054	752
Thanksgiving Campaign	1,200	-	-	1,200	45,150
Legacies	-	-	-	-	5,000
Youth Minister Seed Funding	5,100	-	-	5,100	30,000
Other giving	4,235	2,400	-	6,635	7,756
Tax recoverable	37,001	108	-	37,109	46,090
	215,749	14,837	-	230,586	315,995
(b) Fund generating activities					
Feed in Tariff income	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,829
	3,426	-	-	3,426	1,829
(c) Income from investments	100	-	372	472	855
	100	-	372	472	855
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	86	-	-	86	117
Lettings	1,738	-	-	1,738	270
Munch Club meals	-	60	-	60	648
Fees for weddings/funerals	5,962	-	-	5,962	1,808
	7,786	60	-	7,846	2,843
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**227,061**	**14,897**	**372**	**242,330**	**321,522**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

4	RESOURCES EXPENDED	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
(a)						
	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	17,320	-	-	17,320	13,820
	Other	5,884	150	-	6,034	4,412
		23,204	150	-	23,354	18,232
(b)						
	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	128,728	-	-	128,728	128,728
	Clergy expenses	1,072	-	-	1,072	1,537
	Training	498	-	-	498	1,426
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	6,390	3,460	-	9,850	4,868
	Quinquennial	2,620	-	-	2,620	4,077
	Building ministry projects	6,967	8,402	-	15,369	8,583
	Utilities	7,692	-	-	7,692	6,500
	Worship	4,631	-	-	4,631	2,849
	Outreach	1,460	538	-	1,998	2,385
	Pastoral	31	35	-	66	361
	Youth (including salaries)	29,720	97	-	29,817	30,170
	Depreciation	5,227	-	-	5,227	5,227
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	5,287	-	-	5,287	5,278
	Parish Office	3,156	-	-	3,156	4,323
	Other admin costs	371	-	-	371	348
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	21,180	-	-	21,180	24,932
		225,030	12,532	-	237,562	231,592
(c)						
	Fund-raising costs					
	Costs of fundraising campaigns and events	-	-	-	-	107
		-	-	-	-	107
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**248,234**	**12,682**	**-**	**260,916**	**249,931**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

5 (a) **FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible

	CHURCH ASSETS	AUDIO	IT	LIGHTING	BOILER	TOTAL
Cost/Valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£
At cost/valuation at 1 January 2021	45,000	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	177,462
Revaluation in year	(840)	-	-	-	-	(840)
At 1 January and 31 December 2021	44,160	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,767	176,622
Depreciation						
Opening balance	800	43,595	594	48,750	28,614	122,353
Charge for the year	200	1,075	375	-	3,577	5,227
At 31 December 2021	1,000	44,670	969	48,750	32,191	127,580
Net Book Value						
At Jan 1st 2021	44,200	3,226	530	-	7,153	55,109
At Dec 31st 2021	43,160	2,151	155	-	3,576	49,042

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).

The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 4 February 2022 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers. The valuables were valued at £34,160.

The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.
The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.
The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.
The revaluation in 2021 resulted in a decrease of £840.

(b)

Investments	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
Market value 1 January 2021	754	-	12,767	13,521
Revaluation gain/(loss)	263	-	1,807	2,070
Market value at 31 December 2021	1,017	-	14,574	15,591

Holdings at 31 December 2021

	Fund	£ Opening value	£ Movement	£ Value at 31/12/21
450 Shares in NatWest Group (formerly Royal Bank of Scotland)	General	754	263	1,017
Chancel: 428 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	8,769	1,241	10,010
Jesus Church: 195.15 Income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	3,998	566	4,564
		13,521	2,070	15,591

6 **CURRENT ASSETS**

(a)	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Stocks					
Communion supplies, cups	130	-	-	130	418
	130	-	-	130	418
(b)					
Debtors					
Income tax recoverable	3,996	3	-	3,999	1,664
Agency Collections	-	-	-	-	90
Other debtors and prepayments	3,339	-	-	3,339	6,082
	7,335	3	-	7,337	7,836

7 **LIABILITIES**

Creditors falling due within one year					
Accruals and Deferred Income	7,055	-	-	7,055	2,515
Other creditors and accruals	10,680	3,633	-	14,313	10,962
	17,735	3,633	-	21,368	13,477

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

8 **GRANTS RECEIVABLE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	3,420	-	-	3,420	2,586
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Worshipful Company of Grocers - Dame Margaret Slaney Fund	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Feoffees	-	1,900	-	1,900	1,850
Feoffees for Munch Club	-	750	-	750	500
Waitrose Community Matters for Munch Club	-	124	-	124	325
Western Power Distribution 'In This Together' - Community Matters	-	-	-	-	400
Historic England COVID-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fu	-	2,125	-	2,125	6,375
Diocese of Peterborough	2,500	-	-	2,500	-
	5,920	11,399	-	17,319	13,536

9 **MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
CHURCH OVERSEAS				
Missionary Societies				
CMS	812	-	812	2,032
BCMT (formerly Crosslinks)	5,280	-	5,280	4,878
SAT7	4,415	-	4,415	1,626
Tearfund	1,760	-	1,760	1,626
South America Mission Society - FEISA	648	-	648	1,626
US	4,405	-	4,405	2,032
	17,320	-	17,320	13,820
Other				
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	-	50	50
Langley House Trust	648	-	648	1,620
Hope into Action	1,760	-	1,760	813
Coffee surplus to be allocated	-	-	-	100
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	3,426	-	3,426	1,829
Robinsons Bangkok	-	150	150	-
	5,884	150	6,034	4,412
TOTAL	23,204	150	23,354	18,232

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

10 **CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS**

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	93,394	29,548	16,584
Interest	49	15	9
From / (To) Current Account	-	-	-
CLOSING BALANCE	93,443	29,563	16,593

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	2,638
Dividends	254
Interest	1
CLOSING BALANCE	2,893

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021

11 **ANALYSIS OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2021
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Building Fund	20,448	15	-	-	-	20,463
General reserve	56,334	49	-	-	-	56,383
Organ Fund	16,584	9	(5,000)	-	-	11,593
General fund	163,302	226,988	(243,234)	80	(577)	146,559
	256,668	227,061	(248,234)	80	(577)	234,998
Restricted funds						
Feoffees	3,200	1,900	(1,100)	-	-	4,000
Servery Project	13,000	-	(900)	-	-	12,100
Hardship Fund	278	-	(16)	-	-	262
Worshipful Company of Grocers	1,500	6,500	(1,500)	-	-	6,500
Holiday at Home	647	-	-	-	-	647
Cremated Remains Area	357	-	(60)	-	-	297
Western Power	80	-	-	(80)	-	-
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	3,956	-	(107)	-	-	3,849
Clock & Bells Fund	2,868	-	-		-	2,868
OCYA for Youth Minister	500	-	-		-	500
Munch Club	1,346	934	(166)	-	-	2,114
Explorations Outings	259	-	-	-	-	259
Historic England	5,270	2,125	(7,395)	-	-	-
Friends in Need	363	3,113	(541)	-	-	2,935
Bereavement Fund	-	50	-	-	-	50
Laptop Fund	800	-	(800)	-	-	-
West Porch Café	524	275	(97)	-	-	702
	34,948	14,897	(12,682)	(80)	-	37,083
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	11,407	257	-	-	1,241	12,905
Jesus Church income fund	4,325	115	-	-	566	5,006
	15,732	372	-	-	1,807	17,911
Total funds	307,348	242,330	(260,916)	-	1,230	289,991

The Feoffees was grants received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs. Spending of most of the funds has been delayed due to COVID-19 and contractor availability. The funds have been allocated to be spent on works due to commence in 2022.
The Servery Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servery Project.
The Hardship Fund was a donation received to provide a fund to spent on small grants for members of the congregation in financial difficulty.
Worshipful Company of Grocers - grants to be spent on the fabric of the building. COVID delayed these works and the funds will be spent in 2022.
Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Event - this event has not been held since 2019.
The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.
Western Power is a grant received for provision of Christmas Hampers.
The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.
The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Clock Tower and Bell works.
OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.
The Munch Club came under St Peters umbrella from December 2018. The funds are administered separately.
The Explorations Outings fund are funds raised to be expended on outreach.
Historic England fund is funding from Historic England for repair works.
Friends in Need Fund is donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.
The Bereavement fund is a donation specifically for the use of the bereavement team.
Laptop fund is a donation received to fund the purchase of a laptop for the vicar.
The West Porch Café fund are funds raised to be expended on youth.

12 **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church totaling £29,295 (2020: £71,043).

13 **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT**

During 2022 it is likely that a pipe organ will be donated to the church. The organ currently requires refurbishment and the cost of the organ, refurbishmen and installation would be donated to the church in full at a figure of £120,000 including VAT. There will be some charges relating to the fitting of this orgar which might be in the region of £8,000. These charges will be funded by the church from the existing organ fund.

Section 8

Report on Deanery Matters: an annual review of business

Oundle Deanery Synod restarted meeting in June 2021, having had a pause in gathering since March 2020 due to the pandemic. In the June meeting there was a discussion on "Looking back-looking forward: sharing our experience" which gave all those present an opportunity to share their experiences of church life during the pandemic. The November meeting focused on current encouragements and challenges in church life. We also heard some very encouraging stories from around the Deanery about positive missional activities.

In the summer Peter Coatham stepped down after many years as Lay Chair of Oundle Deanery. As well as doing this role so well over many years – Dot (Peter's wife) and he were wonderful Deanery School supporters. They were known in every primary school and much valued for their wise advice and their regular leading of Collective Worship. The Synod expressed their great thanks to Peter (and Dot) for their service over the years through the giving of a gift.

By the end of 2021, two Benefices (Kings Cliffe Benefice and the Seven Churches Benefice) were both in vacancy due to clergy retirement. It is hoped that appointments for these Benefices will be made in early 2022.

Another notable retirement is that of the Venerable Gordon Steele as Archdeacon of Oakham. Again much thanks has been expressed for his contribution over the years to our Deanery. The Venerable Alison Booker will be collated as the new Archdeacon of Oakham in February 2022. Alison joins the Diocese from Leicester Diocese where she was Area Dean of the Launde Deanery. She comes with considerable experience of rural ministry and we look forward to welcoming her to Oundle Deanery in due course.

By Emily Taylor

Lay Chair, Oundle Deanery

Section 9

The Friends of Oundle Parish Church 2016
Registered Charity No.1168165
Report to the PCC for the calendar year 1st January 2021 --- 31st December 2021

The charity
The Friends were formed in 1983 to help maintain the Church of St. Peter in Oundle and restore it where necessary. Donations, the sale of electricity produced by the solar panels on the Church roof and fund-raising are the principal income sources of the charity, supplemented by income from COIF investments and the annual Income Tax refund for donations qualifying for Gift Aid.

The objective of the charity as stated in the Constitution is as follows: To promote for the benefit the public, including the widest access and use especially for the inhabitants the parish of Oundle in the county of Northamptonshire, the permanent preservation and enhancement of Oundle Parish Church as a building of architectural and historical interest.

Bequest
Further to the passing of Ms. Sue Thomas, our previous Chair, Trustees a total bequest of **£327,352** from her Estate. This magnificent bequest will further enhance the ability of the Trustees in fulfilling the charity's objectives.

Activities and Achievements
The annual submission of our Accounts and Trustee Report for last year to the Charity Commission was accepted without query.

The year has been greatly affected by the COVID pandemic and the vast majority of Church planned works have been on hold. We are currently committed to make donations for works to the North Aisle flooring and for stonework repairs as part of the Churches Quinquennial repairs. These donations will be in the order of £20,000.

We were unable to hold our annual Jazz Concert with the Oundle Schools Jazz Orchestras last year (2021) due to COVID restrictions. However we were able to hold the event again this January (2022) although numbers were restricted and seating arrangements and refreshments had to change from their usual format. The event raised in excess of £2,000.

Trustee News
During the year Mr. David Webb agreed to take on the role of Secretary that was vacated following the retirement of Mr. John Flory. At his retirement John had been a Trustee for 27 years. He brought considerable expertise to the committee, seeing many changes over the years and he served from 2010 as our Secretary

We would be delighted to welcome new Trustees. We meet approximately 6 times a year. Please speak to any Trustee for further information

Officers:

Chairman: Ian Goldsmith — Secretary: David Webb.
Treasurer: Neil Underwood — Independent Reviewer: Bulley Davey

Trustees:

Mr. Ian Goldsmith, Mr Neil Underwood, Ms. Justine Turton, Mr. David Gooda, Mr Helmut Cartwright, Mr. David Webb, Mrs. Catherine Pathtak, Ms. Jan Pearson

The Friends wish to thank St Peters Church staff for the continued support of all fundraising events at the church. Thanks also to Inkwell Printing for their care and attention to our printing requests and to Bulley Davey for arranging the Independent Review of the annual accounts.

Ian Goldsmith
Chairman

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF OUNDLE WITH ASHTON

England & Wales - Charity number 1132677

Accounts

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

St Peter's Church, Oundle

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st December 2020

Registered Charity 1132677
North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

GOD'S LOVE
KNOW...
LIVE...
GIVE...
it

Oundle
St Peter's
welcoming everyone

Annual Report Contents

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Section 1:

Vicar's Report for 2020

Vicar's Report for 2020

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters," writes the apostle James at the beginning of his letter "whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." (*James* 1:2).

Words I have often struggled to understand began to make more sense during 2020 – which became a year of 'trials of many kinds.' At the outset of this report I would like to thank Emily Taylor and Steve Cunningham who have been fantastic Churchwardens and have played a faithful hard-working quiet role in helping us remain connected as Church.

A time before...
As the year began we set about searching for a new Associate Vicar. The PCC put together a profile and advert and we began praying about who God might be sending us. Rev Mark Donnelly, Martha Barnes and the I attended the New Wine Leaders conference in Harrogate. We were glad to be joined by Anna Freij from St Peter's congregation who had booked as well. It was encouraging and thought-provoking. And it was early March. Thousands of Church leaders all gathering unconcernedly in a conference centre. But coronavirus just beginning to trouble the fringes of our consciousness. Within weeks that Harrogate Conference centre was a Nightingale Hospital and memories of undistanced, unmasked, unrestricted gathering, singing, worshipping seems a distant dream.

Lockdown
Covid and lockdown hit us very fast. On the evening of Monday 16th March Churches were closed for public worship. The next day at Midday a few of us gathered in the Lady Chapel of St Peter's : Mark Donnelly, Martha Barnes and me along with Martin Hills from Oundle Baptist Church. I discovered for the first time what the 'Live' button meant on Facebook and we livestreamed our first Midday Prayer. This we continued daily until September and it remains a fixture three times per week every week. Mothering Sunday was our first Sunday Service to be livestreamed : from the Church building alongside OBC. The following Monday evening Churches were closed entirely, we were instructed to "stay at home" and live-streaming moved to our kitchens and living rooms.

We recruited a team of volunteers ready to support those in the community who were shielding and needing help with errands and shopping and collecting medication. This was ably co-ordinated by Althea Strebrakowska, Louise Foote and Judy Potts. We set up a phone number and a 'pastoral@' email address for those in need. The Church family was divided into hubs geographically around the town and beyond in order that we remain in phone contact with one another. All this happened very rapidly over the course of a couple of weeks as we wrestled with the question, "What does it mean to be St Peter's when our building is closed and we can't meet together?"

Being online
"Church is not a building it is people," was something I had long believed and long said. 2020 was a year when that was tested. We can give thanks to God for the many ways in which He has helped us to remain a community even though gathering has rarely been possible and never full and complete. Sunday services streamed 'as live' on Facebook and Youtube became a place of community as people took part in the services, interacted (on Facebook) with comments and greetings and responses. Holy Week and Easter provided multiple opportunities for online reflections, services and gatherings including a very special Maundy Thursday livestreamed communion.

We soon discovered Zoom. Daily team meetings with clergy, Youth Minister, wardens and administrator were a place of support. Martha Barnes our Youth Minister worked hard and very effectively at keeping our young people connecting in various ways online. We welcomed newborn arrivals to the Church family – on a screen. Marked significant birthdays on a Sunday on a screen. Mourned the loss of those who died and tried to find ways of comforting the grieving. Our Lay Chaplain Louise Foote (licensed to that role during the year) when she was feeling strong enough after her own bout of Covid began overseeing the regular production and delivery of a newsletter for all those for whom online contact was not possible. We set up a phone 'dial-in' option to connect with the online service. We spent the days of 'Thy Kingdom Come' in particular prayer for our world, our nation and our community. A service was filmed on Ascension Day at the top of the Church tower – looking out over Oundle and praying for our town as we did so.

If someone has asked me in January what important step would St Peter's take in 2020 'going online' would not have formed part of my answer. Yet a very large part of the story of 2020 for St Peter's has been about being 'online'. We haven't been able to gather in significant numbers, yet we have continued to connect and to worship together and to be 'Church'; a large part of that has been because of online possibilities. And some have begun worshipping with us because we have been online. Never has it been easier to come to Church on a Sunday. So offering something 'online' in one form or another is rightly here to stay.

Team Changes

Behind the scenes enabling all this to happen was our wonderful administrator Justine Turton who in the space of 48 hours in March had to work out how to transport the job to home. Her work putting together our online worship each week as well as keeping up with Church administration played a very important part in helping the Church continue to function through those first months of Covid. During the Summer Justine moved on to a new role with the Diocese supporting the DAC. In her place we welcomed two new members to the team: Sarah Vogt to help with day to day Administration and Joe Gray to help us put together all our online services. Along with them we were joined by a new Facilities Co-ordinator Mark Pearcey who arrived just in time for the partial re-opening of Church buildings. They have all been fantastic additions to our team.

Summer Opportunities

The partial lifting of restrictions meant some new initiatives. From July we were allowed to open the building for private prayer. It has been open every day since with appropriate Covid measures. In due course worship was allowed in the building so we began a weekly service of Morning Prayer in-person on a Sunday. By this time masks indoors were mandatory as was distancing and singing was proscribed. However, limited in number by our risk assessment a regular gathering for 20-30 was possible. This was joined in the Autumn by a similar service on a Thursday; both of these being occasionally a Covid-compliant communion.

Work among our young people remained strong. Opportunities were created for some limited 'in-person' gatherings of small groups. Martha Barnes and Dave Harding did an amazing job enabling a Chatterbox+ week to happen. Obviously there was no camping and all was done with appropriate distancing and outdoors, but the young people enjoyed the opportunity to be with one another and growing in their faith.

Farewells and New Ministries

On one Sunday in the Summer we were grateful to Oundle Primary School for allowing us to use their field for an outdoor gathering after our usual online Sunday service. On picnic blankets and in household bubbles we met, ate our lunches and said 'goodbye' to Mark and Sue Donnelly. There was sadness as their three years came to an end, but our loss was Salcey benefice's gain as they moved on there – Mark as Priest-in-Charge and Sue to be licensed as Lay Minister (and Reader-in-Training) there. Bishop Donald joined us via Zoom on June 28th on Zoom and we celebrated as Caroline Hawkins was licensed by him to be a new Reader in the benefice. A few weeks later it was the turn of Louise Foote to be licensed to her new role as Lay Chaplain.

Living Well

During the Autumn restrictions became steadily stricter and we had to suspend in-person services again during November before a brief reprieve and then closure again after Christmas. Connecting together online remained a valuable resource. A 'Living Well' series of sermons on 'how to live well through Covid' was accompanied by an online weekly 'Living Well' group. The opportunity to explore what Jesus teaches us about living well in the midst of (for instance) loss, anxiety and apparent scarcity was well received. In addition a number of small groups continued to function through 2020 – some via Zoom – others remaining in contact by phone and Whatsapp and offering care and support to one another as needs arose. Often these groups became places of real vulnerability and support.

Music and Worship in a time of Covid

Over the year our approach to online singing and worship became more confident and ambitious. When it was legal and possible the Worship band gathered in the building, or outside it and (distanced) recorded contributions. In addition they sent in tracks separately and they were put together for Sunday worship. Then we began singing in larger numbers: backing tracks to worship songs and hymns being sent out – and up to 50 people at a time sending back their videoed contributions for putting together into a single congregational hymn which we enjoyed on Sundays. Warm thanks go to all our musicians, all who were willing to sing and to Jane Webster for her creativity on Premier Pro. We have a bank now of over 70 hymns and songs recorded this way. Seeing one another on the screen each week singing in this way has been a joy.

Tiny Tots

Also going online in the Autumn was Tiny Tots. This meant weekly bible stories told by the clergy and songs, as well as crafts (led 'Blue-Peter-style' by Nadine Brown) all done on video and accessed via the Messy Church Facebook page. In addition Oundle School volunteers prepared an accompanying craft and activity bag collected each week from the Church porch by families. Huge thanks not only to Nadine but also to Becca Lowndes and Oundle School for helping this to happen.

A New Associate Vicar

Throughout 2020 we had to hold out in prayer and faith. Searching for a new Associate Vicar through the days of Covid seemed a hard ask. We went through two rounds of advertising and were preparing a third when we received an application and enquiry from someone who was excited about the role and about whom we were excited. Following an interview in October we were delighted to appoint Rev Annabel Copeland to the post. Her licensing the following month via Zoom was a happy occasion. Arriving in the middle of November's lockdown was not the easiest way to begin. However, Annabel was quickly making a difference and applying herself in particular to drawing together our children and families. Tiny Tots had provided something for the youngest; Junior Church songs on a Sunday were encouraging for the Church family and helped us worship – but providing bespoke nurture and discipleship for our children and their families is a priority that she has been focusing on – and in 2021 is bearing real fruit.

Christmas

Christmas amidst Covid required creativity and imagination. An online Christingle streamed live on Advent Sunday was very well received and attended. Pictures, sent in by those taking part, of Christingle lights shining out from windows not only in Oundle but from as far afield as the US were lovely to see. We were reminded in the service of Jesus the light who shines in the darkness – a timely encouragement. An online carol service was also well-received and the event "Wander Through Christmas" (a trail through Church aimed at aiding people's private prayer in the building) on Christmas Eve was booked out long in advance. The hard work and creativity of Martha Barnes, Justine Turton, Annabel Copeland and others was really appreciated.

An online Crib Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve also provided an opportunity to share the good news of Christmas with many in the community as did the Carols on Your Doorstep at 4:30pm – carols sung by the Church family streamed into homes around Oundle with many joining in and sending in their pictures. At Midnight an informal

communion service was streamed from Facebook and on Christmas morning the online service was also shown in Church with a 'gather party' coming together to join in with those taking part from home. Over Christmas we were also able to help provide Christmas meals and hampers for people in our community who were at risk of significantly going without. We did this through Prince William School as well as through our Covid-suspended Tuesday Club assisted in part by a successful grant application put together by Sian Fytche.

Finances

For much of 2020 our finances in the midst of Covid were uncertain. We are blessed at St Peter's with a great voluntary finance team led by Mark Elkington our treasurer and greatly assisted by Lindsey Wallis our finance administrator. We were greatly encouraged and blessed by a generous response to our appeal for finance at the end of the year. Some underlying challenges remain which we need to address, however God has been very good to us in difficult times.

Overall

Each person's experience of 2020 has been different. Some feel more connected than ever to Church. Others have found it hard to connect and feel isolated. There have been many painful bereavements as well as many other painful 'losses'. New little grandchildren unhugged by doting distanced grandparents. The shadow of long Covid and lost health. Missed milestones. An ongoing need to walk with each other and care for one another.

When PCC met in early 2021 to prayerfully discern vision for the future as well as 'online' the words 'deeper', 'together' and 'giving' emerged. This reflected the stories told around the Church family of people who felt that relationships had deepened with one another (despite being 'online' and separated); that faith in God had deepened; that the Church family had enjoyed a new 'togetherness' across generations and outlooks during 2020 – and a desire to be a Church that gave generously of the resources given to us.

2020 was painful in so many ways and the pain remains with us. It was a year of trials. Yet I have heard many testify to a deepening of their faith through it and expressing joy in that. The words of St James about trials and faith and joy begin to take on new meaning for me. We cannot know what 2021 will bring. Yet through the dark valley of 2020 God has been with us and has blessed us. He is good and we can look forward with hope and faith.

By Rev Canon Stephen Webster
Vicar of Oundle

Section 2:

2.1 PCC Report

Due to COVID-19, the 2019 APCM was cancelled under Bishop's Instrument. The Churchwardens and PCC Members who were due for re-election agreed to continue to stand for another year.

In 2020, the PCC was made up of 9 elected members, 5 Deanery Synod Representatives, 2 Churchwardens and 2 Clergy Team members and met five times in 2020.

The incumbent, Rev Canon Stephen Webster chaired the meetings on 21st Jan, 14th May, 8th July, 24th Sept and 18th Nov. All meetings were held via Zoom except the meeting held on 21st January which was in person.

In the course of these meetings, the PCC discussed and reviewed a whole range of issues reflecting the life, mission and ministry of St Peter's due to the global pandemic. These have included the Budget, Income Generation, Employment Matters, Pastoral Care during Lockdown and Beyond, Reader Training – Emily Taylor, reopening / closing of the church, Arrival of our new Associate Vicar, Annabel Copeland, Holdich Organ.

The PCC has established committees and project teams to help it with its work, and receives regular reports from these groups. The established committees which helped PCC discharge its various duties and responsibilities during 2020 were: -

Standing Committee

Required by law, sets the agenda for PCC meetings and has delegated power to transact certain PCC business in between meetings. Membership in 2020 was the Clergy team, the Churchwardens, the Vice Chair of the PCC and, an elected PCC Member. The treasurer is entitled to attend.

Treasury Committee

Exists to support the work of the treasurer in some of their key tasks: VAT recovery, Gift Aid and Giving, Insurance, Grant applications being amongst them. It also exists to provide scrutiny of the Church's finances and to assist with budget preparation and monitoring. In 2020 they met quarterly in advance of PCC meetings as part of a regular cycle of financial reporting and monitoring. It was chaired in 2020 by the treasurer.

St Peter's could not function as well with out the dedicated members of these committees and we give thanks to God for blessing us with their gifts.

Special recognition is given to Lindsey Wallis for her continued support as Finance Administrator. Lindsey is a volunteer and has a wealth of experience as an accountant in the charity sector. St Peter's is truly blessed to have her on the team.

Membership of PCC

There were no elections for Churchwardens or PCC in 2020 due to the global pandemic, therefore all members stayed the same for the full year and elections will take place at the APCM in 2021.

(A) 01/01/20 – 31/12/20

Rev Stephen Webster (Chair), Steve Cunningham (Churchwarden), Emily Taylor (Churchwarden), Rev Mark Donnelly (Assistant Curate) until 31st August 2020

Deanery Synod: Peter Coatham, Cynthia Dimmock, Gill Morrison (until 1st December 2020), Justine Turton, Rachel Wong (until 1st July 2020)
Elected Members: Mark Elkington, Ian Goldsmith, Suzy Higgins, Alan McMurdo, Janet McMurdo (Lay Vice Chair), Alan Rayden, Sally Saunders, Kim Treverton

PCC Secretary: Justine Turton

2.2 Electoral Roll Report (reported at APCM)

	Total	Died	Moved away	Additions
2019 (Full Review)	260	N/A	N/A	N/A

There are no new figures for 2020 due to the global pandemic. The next Electoral Roll will take place in time for the APCM in 2021.

Section 3

3.1 Safeguarding Report

Every person has a value and dignity being made in God's own image and likeness. This implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

- The church follows the Peterborough Diocese guideline on the safeguarding on children and vulnerable adults, with an annual review of the policy being undertaken by the PCC.
- External organisations using the church site have their attention drawn to the need to follow appropriate practices.
- We undertake to exercise proper care in the selection, appointment, training and support of those working both paid and voluntary positions with children or vulnerable adults, including the use of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures and making appropriate referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- We will respond without delay to concerns or allegations that a child or vulnerable adult may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and social care services in any investigation.
- We will challenge any abuse of power by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will see to offer pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them appropriate pastoral support.
- We will see to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

In 2020, Mrs Tracey Cunningham stepped down from being the church Safeguarding Officer. Our thanks go to Tracey for all her hard work in this position.

Following this resignation, we have appointed Mrs Janet McMurdo as our Church Safeguarding Officer.

Copies of St Peter's Safeguarding policy can be found on the website or in the Parish Office.

3.2 Reference and Administrative Details

Parochial Name	St Peter's, Oundle in the Rural Deanery of Oundle, Diocese of Peterborough
Postal Address	North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL
Telephone Number	01832 275675
Email	administrator@stpetersoundle.co.uk
Website	www.oundlestpeters.org.uk
Bank	National Westminster Bank, Market Place, Oundle, PE8 4BB
Investment Bank	CCLA Investment Management Ltd, The CBF Church of England Funds, 80 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DZ
Independent Examiners	Graham Darbourne at Bulley Davey, 6 North Street, Oundle, PE8 4AL

Staff Receiving Remuneration

Through Parish Share

Vicar
Associate Vicar
Assistant Curate

Through Salary

Youth Minister
Administrator
Facilities Coordinator

3.3 Structure, Governance and management

Legal Status

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 (as amended). It became a registered charity on 12 November 2009 (No. 1132677).

Appointment

Appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

Risks which concern this busy and active church include:-

a) **Safe Usage of the Church Site by all**. Legislative requirements are closely followed, e.g. the Health & Safety Act and Food Hygiene Regulations. There is regular inspection by a specialist fire protection agency, and displays of notices relating to fire, health and safety and first aid. Defects to plant are reported to the Chair of Resources Group, Adrian Christmas and remedied quickly according to the level of risk. Training is given, e.g. in first aid and food hygiene. One off events are assessed for risk before being run.

b) **Financial**: Prudent policies for the handling of money are in place. Major expenditure has to be approved by the PCC, which also approves an annual budget and receives quarterly monitoring reports. Cash flow is carefully managed, bills are paid promptly, and investment of any short-term funds carefully placed to ensure maximum return compatible with ready access.

c) **Reputation**: Equal opportunities legislation is followed in relation to staff appointments, use of voluntary workers, and site lettings. We actively encourage people to come to join our activities and make use of our facilities.

3.4 Objectives and Activities

The primary object of the PCC and the St Peter's Church as a whole, is to worship God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Our purpose as a Church is that when it comes to God's love all might *know* it, *live* transformed lives in response, and become a people who *give*. God's Love: Know it. Live it. Give it. We seek to proclaim this by our words and through our actions, to the people of our community and to the world beyond. We seek to grow in numbers as a fellowship of believers as more people respond to the good news of Jesus. We seek to grow in faith as together we explore what it is to be Jesus' disciples. This involves: Bible teaching, nurturing, developing new Christians, and equipping all Christians, studying, praying together, enjoying fellowship together and supporting one other. None of these initiatives or activities could happen without the commitment of dedicated volunteers.

It is also PCC policy for the church building to be made available for wider community use. Lettings have been encouraging and in 2019 St Peter's was used for 32 separate events run by third party promoters, 28 lunchtime concerts ran by Oundle School and is the meeting place for reading groups and outside committee meetings.

Information on all St Peter's activities can be found on the website (oundlestpeters.org.uk) or our Facebook page (@oundlestpeters).

Section 4

Report on PCC Financial Activities – Treasurer's Report

This report is on the 2020 financial year and is based on the examined accounts as issued at the APCM.

It was a year when we can again thank God for His faithfulness to us. Ultimately everything we have comes from God (and when we give it comes from what He has given us). He is the one who has more than provided for all our needs. This is especially true during a year of the global pandemic where we have prayed for and received generous gifts.

During a normal week when the Church is open it costs circa £5,106 per week to cover the on-going expenses that enable us to be St Peter's Church. This number continues to rise every year as a result of inflation and other cost pressures. This cost has been lower during the pandemic at circa £4,637 per week, however we expect it to return to previous levels once restrictions are lifted.

We rely solely on generous giving to allow us to continue as we receive no funding from the Church of England or the state. We encourage everyone who feels part of the St Peter's community to give, as they feel able, to enable us to continue as a Church.

Giving

St Peter's relies on the generosity of our Church community to fund all its activities. Total income for the Church during 2020 was £321,522. This is £22,687 less than income for 2019 (£344,209), largely as a result of building grants and income from lettings, weddings, etc., being lower during the pandemic.

Of the 2020 total income of £321,522, £164,503 was planned giving, £91,866 were one-off donations and £13,536 were grants. We recovered tax under the Government's Gift Aid scheme of £46,090.

2020 giving was at previous levels from January to March. Following the first lockdown one-off donations dropped off, although planned giving continued at a consistent level. The one exception to this was a very generous donation of £30,000 for the Youth Minister role. Planned giving does not cover all of St Peter's expenses, even with the reduced level of spending resulting from the Church being closed. During much of 2020 we saw a worsening financial position.

On 16th November our Vicar wrote to the St Peter's community explaining the challenge we faced. There was an amazing and immediate response with one-off gifts and pledges of £58,088 (including gift aid) and an increase in annual pledges of £9,390 (including gift aid) being received during November and December.

We continue to be grateful for the generosity of the members of the St Peter's Church community. We ask, where possible, that those giving do so through the Parish Giving Scheme that has now been successfully trialled at St Peter's. This planned giving enables St Peter's to be more confident in its decisions about using funds to grow the Church and serve God and the community.

During any year there will be members of our Church Family who move away, are unable to give as much or in some cases, sadly, pass-on. The underlying decline is on average £7,000 per annum.

There are two further funding challenges. First, our Youth Minister role relies on circa £14,000 per year of seed-funding to make up the difference between on-going pledged giving and the cost of the role's salary. We would love for this role to be fully funded from on-going pledged giving and need to recognise that the seed-fund is limited. Second, a review of our spending on the Church building has highlighted that too often we react to problems, rather than having a programme of planned maintenance and taking action quickly when problems are discovered. A planned maintenance programme has been costed at £16,400 per year, of which we currently spend £9,600; a gap of £6,800. We expect that carrying out more planned maintenance will, over time, both reduce the number of problems and reduce the intensity of problems when discovered. We need to a find means of funding this increased cost.

We are very grateful for one off donations and grants that supplement our income; and are also very fortunate to be supported by the Friends of St Peter's Church Charitable Trust for help in maintaining our beautiful church building. In addition to anonymous donations from individuals we received a grant of £1,500 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers that will be used to pay for heating repairs (delayed until 2021 due to the pandemic) and £1,850 from FEOFFEES. We were also successful in sourcing grants totalling £6,375 from the Historic England Covid-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Fund.

Spend

2020 spend of £249,931 was £130,743 less than 2019 spend of £380,674. In 2020 we carried out £12,660 of capital projects compared to £112,645 in 2019. Excluding capital projects, 2020 spend was £30,758 less than 2019 spend largely as a result of the closure of the Church during the pandemic.

The largest item of spend is the Diocesan Parish Share (£128,728 in 2020) being our contribution to the Stipends, Housing and Training both of the current clergy, and of future clergy (ordinands in training) in the Diocese and their Pension and National Insurance costs. Oundle is a 'two-clergy' benefice. We give thanks that during 2020

we were able to recruit to the role of Associate Vicar that was previously vacant. Parish Share does not decrease during the period of any vacancies.

During 2020 we spent £4,868 on the care, maintenance and development of our church building. This expenditure covers everything from fixing the windows to keeping the heating working.

Other major spend areas for the Church include non-Clergy salaries at £55,102, mission giving at £18,232 and utility payments at £6,500.

Reserves and Funds

The current reserves stand at £20,448 for buildings and £56,334 for general reserves. The level of buildings reserve is set based on a historical view of replacement costs. The general reserves level is set at three months of running costs. The PCC had planned to review our reserves policy during 2020, however this was delayed due to the pandemic. The PCC plan to review our reserves policy during 2021 based on guidance from the Charities Commission.

The General Fund has grown from £105,075 in 2019 to £163,302 in 2020, largely as a result of the generosity of Church community members during the appeal for funds in November. Of the £163,302 it should be noted that £55,863 is our tangible fixed assets such as organ, AV equipment, boiler, etc., £31,429 is our working capital and £17,297 is seed funding for our Youth Minister. The remaining £58,713 is in surplus and the PCC is currently prayerfully considering its potential uses.

Governance

The PCC sets financial policies for the Church. The Treasury team operates within the financial policies set by the PCC. The Treasury team consists of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer/Giving Officer and the Finance Co-ordinator. This team reports to the Treasury Committee which consists of two members of the Clergy and two lay members. It is this committee's responsibility to scrutinise the detail of the Treasury team's work. The Treasurer updates every PCC meeting with a summary accounts position. Annual accounts are independently examined.

I continue to thank God for the support of all who have helped me in my role as Treasurer and to trust God that through the generosity of all who give He will provide all that we need to do the things He has called us to as St Peter's continues to seek to be a community of worship, mission, outreach and service to our town and the world beyond.

By Mark Elkington
Treasurer

Section 5 Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of Oundle St Peter's Parochial Church Council, charity number 1132677, for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 the course of my examination, subject to not having seen the Trustees Report, no matter has come to my attention:

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act; or

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

Graham Darbourne FCA
Bulley Davey Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
6 North Street
Oundle
Peterborough
PE8 4AL

Date: 4th May 2021

Section 6 Financial Report (Yearly Accounts)

ST PETER'S CHURCH: OUNDLE PCC ACCOUNTS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ending 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	FUNDS 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Voluntary Income	3(a)	299,156	16,839	-	315,995	326,383
Fund generating activities	3(b)	1,829	-	-	1,829	3,290
Income from investments	3(c)	487	-	368	855	1,445
Church activities	3(d)	2,195	648	-	2,843	13,091
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**303,667**	**17,487**	**368**	**321,522**	**344,209**
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Church activities: Grants/Donations	4(a)	18,232	-	-	18,232	25,242
Church activities: Relating directly to Church work	4(b)	222,832	8,760	-	231,592	355,356
Costs of generating voluntary income	4(c)	107	-	-	107	76
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**241,171**	**8,760**	**-**	**249,931**	**380,674**
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		**62,496**	**8,727**	**368**	**71,591**	**(36,465)**
Revaluation reserve						
Fixed assets	5(a)	-	-	-	-	7,500
Gains / (Losses) on fair value revaluation						
Investments	5(b)	(300)	-	849	549	1,958
		(300)	-	849	549	9,458
Fund Transfers		(3,483)	3,483	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**58,713**	**12,210**	**1,217**	**72,140**	**(27,007)**
BALANCES B/FWD 1ST JANUARY		197,955	22,738	14,515	235,208	262,215
BALANCES C/FWD 31 DECEMBER		**256,668**	**34,948**	**15,732**	**307,348**	**235,208**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	FUNDS 2019 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible	5(a)	55,109	-	-	55,109	60,336
Investment	5(b)	754	-	12,767	13,521	12,972
		55,863	-	12,767	68,630	73,308
CURRENT ASSETS						
Stock	6(a)	418	-	-	418	192
Debtors	6(b)	5,927	1,909	-	7,836	14,283
Short term deposits		123,543	15,983	2,638	142,164	116,421
Cash at bank and in hand		81,726	19,724	327	101,777	49,880
		211,614	37,616	2,965	252,195	180,776
LIABILITIES						
Creditors falling due in one year	7	(10,809)	(2,668)	-	(13,477)	(18,876)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		200,805	34,948	2,965	238,718	161,900
TOTAL NET ASSETS		**256,668**	**34,948**	**15,732**	**307,348**	**235,208**
PARISH FUNDS	11					
Unrestricted		256,668	-	-	256,668	197,955
Restricted		-	34,948	-	34,948	22,738
Endowment		-	-	15,732	15,732	14,515
TOTAL		**256,668**	**34,948**	**15,732**	**307,348**	**235,208**

We hereby approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020

M Elkington (Treasurer) ..... **Date:** 3.5.21

Rev'd Canon S Webster ..... **Date:** 3/5/21

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the 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 of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

FUNDS AND RESERVES

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 on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separated investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

The unrestricted funds are general funds which are used for purposes defined by the PCC :-

GENERAL FUND

The Fund's aim is to contain at least three months running costs of the church, with the PCC allocating any surplus.

BUILDING FUND
This contains monies reserved by the PCC to cover specific future projects related to the upkeep of infrastructure, including monies allocated for Quinquennial repair costs.

PARVIS ROOF
This contains monies designated for the Parvis Roof repairs.

ORGAN FUND
This contains monies being donated specifically to be spent on the organ.

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 entitled to the use of the resources, their ultimate receipt is considered reasonably certain and the amounts due are reliably quantifiable. Dividends are accounted for when declared receivable, interest as and when accrued by the payer. All other income is recognised when it is receivable.
All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The PCC is not registered for VAT, however the equivalent to the cost of VAT is reclaimable as a grant under the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme for qualifying costs related to the fabric of the building.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over. The parish share is accounted for when due.
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 s.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated as follows:

Audio/CCTV	Straight line over 5 years
Projector	Straight line over 5 years
Lighting	Straight line over 10 years
Boiler	Straight line over 10 years
Church Assets	Straight line over 50 years

Investments are valued at market value at 31st December 2020.

2 ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

(i) The Oundle Church Clock Fund: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster
(ii) The Friends of Oundle Parish Church: Chairman of Trustees, Ian Goldsmith
(iii) William Walcot's Foundation: Chairman of Trustees, Revd Canon Stephen Webster

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

3 **INCOMING RESOURCES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	FUNDS 2019 £
(a) **Voluntary Income**					
Planned giving:					
Gift Aid donations	134,225	190	-	134,415	139,527
Other	30,038	50	-	30,088	26,707
Sundry donations:					
Grants	2,586	10,950	-	13,536	44,456
Gift Aid donations	1,788	1,420	-	3,208	15,979
Cash collections	752	-	-	752	4,145
Thanksgiving Campaign	45,150	-	-	45,150	-
Legacies	5,000	-	-	5,000	-
Youth Minister Seed Funding	30,000	-	-	30,000	-
Other giving	3,600	4,156	-	7,756	55,294
Tax recoverable	46,017	73	-	46,090	40,275
	299,156	16,839	-	315,995	326,383
(b) Fund generating activities					
Feed in Tariff income	1,829	-	-	1,829	3,290
	1,829	-	-	1,829	3,290
(c) Income from investments	487	-	368	855	1,445
	487	-	368	855	1,445
(d) From operating activities					
Bookstall	117	-	-	117	450
Lettings	270	-	-	270	3,738
Munch Club meals	-	648	-	648	2,636
Fees for weddings/funerals	1,808	-	-	1,808	6,267
	2,195	648	-	2,843	13,091
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	**303,667**	**17,487**	**368**	**321,522**	**344,209**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

4	**RESOURCES EXPENDED**	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	FUNDS 2019 £
(a)						
	Grants/Donations(see note 9)					
	Missionary and charitable giving					
	Church overseas - missionary societies	12,194	-	-	12,194	15,041
	- direct support	1,626	-	-	1,626	1,670
	Other	4,412	-	-	4,412	8,531
		18,232	-	-	18,232	25,242
(b)						
	Relating directly to church work					
	Ministry Expenditure					
	Diocesan parish share	128,728	-	-	128,728	126,328
	Clergy expenses	1,537	-	-	1,537	4,075
	Training	1,426	-	-	1,426	1,564
	Church Expenditure					
	Maintenance and minor repairs	4,868	-	-	4,868	10,742
	Quinquennial	4,077	-	-	4,077	12,873
	Building ministry projects	4,293	4,290	-	8,583	99,772
	Utilities	6,500	-	-	6,500	8,917
	Worship	2,849	-	-	2,849	6,200
	Nurture	-	-	-	-	242
	Outreach	334	2,051	-	2,385	7,800
	Church Weekend Away	-	-	-	-	2,046
	Pastoral	361	-	-	361	116
	Youth (including salaries)	29,071	1,099	-	30,170	21,877
	Honoraria and services	-	-	-	-	200
	Churchwardens	-	-	-	-	421
	Depreciation	5,227	-	-	5,227	9,886
	Management & Administration					
	Insurance	5,278	-	-	5,278	5,202
	Parish Office	3,003	1,320	-	4,323	4,777
	Other admin costs	348	-	-	348	509
	Staff costs: Salaries and pensions	24,932	-	-	24,932	31,809
		222,832	8,760	-	231,592	355,356
(c)						
	Fund-raising costs					
	Costs of fundraising campaigns and events	107	-	-	107	76
		107	-	-	107	76
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	**241,171**	**8,760**	**-**	**249,931**	**380,674**

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

5

(a) FIXED ASSETS

Tangible	CHURCH ASSETS £	AUDIO £	IT £	LIGHTING £	BOILER £	TOTAL £
At cost						
At 1 January and 31 December 2020	45,000	46,821	1,124	48,750	35,787	177,482
Depreciation						
Opening balance	600	42,520	219	48,750	25,037	117,126
Charge for the year	200	1,075	375	-	3,577	5,227
At 31 December 2020	800	43,595	594	48,750	28,614	122,353
Net Book Value						
At Jan 1st	44,400	4,301	905	-	10,730	60,336
At Dec 31st	44,200	3,226	530	-	7,153	55,109

The church assets were revalued during 2017 in accordance with transition to SORP FRS 102 (note 13).

The last full revaluation of church assets took place on the 17th May 2017 by Ian Goldsmith of Goldsmiths Auctioneers.
An informal revaluation was undertaken by Ian Goldsmith as at 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2020.
A full valuation was due at 31 December 2020 but was not possible as the assets held at the bank could not be inspected due to COVID 19 restrictions.
The valuation was based upon the fair value which could be reasonably expected to be received under normal market conditions. The valuation required research of items sold at auction and insurance values.

The revaluation in 2017 resulted in a fair value adjustment to the revaluation reserve of £40,087.
The revaluation in 2018 resulted in a reduction of £2,587.
The revaluation in 2019 resulted in an increase of £7,500. There was no change to values at 31 December 2020.

(b)

Investments	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL £
Market value 1 January 2020	1,054	-	11,918	12,972
Revaluation gain/(loss)	(300)	-	849	549
Market value at 31 December 2020	754	-	12,767	13,521

Holdings at 31 December 2020	Fund	£ Opening value	£ Movement	£ Value at 31/12/20
450 Shares in NatWest Group (formerly Royal Bank of Scotland)	General	1,054	(300)	754
Chancel: 428 income units in CBF Investment Fund	Chancel	8,166	583	8,789
Jesus Church: 195.15 income units in CBF Investment Fund	Jesus Church	3,732	266	3,998
		12,972	549	13,521

6 **CURRENT ASSETS**

(a)	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Stocks					
Communion supplies, cups	418	-	-	418	192
	418	-	-	418	192
(b)					
Debtors					
Income tax recoverable	1,605	59	-	1,664	3,287
Agency Collections	90	-	-	90	-
Other debtors and prepayments	4,232	1,850	-	6,082	10,998
	5,927	1,909	-	7,836	14,283

7 **LIABILITIES**

Creditors falling due within one year					
Accruals and Deferred Income	1,832	683	-	2,515	2,580
Other creditors and accruals	8,977	1,985	-	10,962	16,298
	10,809	2,668	-	13,477	18,878

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

8 **GRANTS RECEIVABLE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Claims	2,586	-	-	2,586	17,525
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	1,500	3,000
Feeoffees	-	1,850	-	1,850	1,250
Feeoffees for Munch Club	-	500	-	500	750
Oundle & District Care for Munch Club	-	-	-	-	500
Oundle Evergreen for Munch Club	-	-	-	-	650
Waitrose Community Matters for Munch Club	-	325	-	325	540
Western Power Distribution 'In This Together' - Community Matters	-	400	-	400	-
Historic England COVID-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fu	-	6,375	-	6,375	-
Parvis Roof project					
Wolfson Foundation	-	-	-	-	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	-	10,000
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	-	-	-	-	2,000
Francis Coales Charitable Foundation	-	-	-	-	2,500
	2,586	10,950	-	13,536	43,715

9 **MISSIONARY AND CHARITABLE GIVING**

UK and overseas. This is reviewed by the Missions Group who recommend any changes to the PCC.

	Unrestricted 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
CHURCH OVERSEAS			
Missionary Societies			
CMS	2,032	2,032	2,087
BCMT (formerly Crosslinks)	4,878	4,878	5,768
SAT7	1,626	1,626	1,670
Tearfund	1,626	1,626	3,428
US	2,032	2,032	2,088
	12,194	12,194	15,041
Direct support			
St Andrew's College, Paraguay	1,626	1,626	1,670
	1,626	1,626	1,670
Other			
Historic Churches Preservation Trust	50	50	50
Langley House Trust	1,620	1,620	1,670
Hope into Action	813	813	835
Place of grace - coffee taking	-	-	206
Hope into Action - coffee taking	-	-	206
Coffee surplus to be allocated	100	100	-
FIT to friends of St Peter's Church	1,829	1,829	3,290
Christian Aid	-	-	1,000
Light Project, Peterborough	-	-	758
Oundle Clock Fund	-	-	100
Alpha	-	-	412
	4,412	4,412	8,531
TOTAL	18,232	18,232	25,242

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

10 **CBF DEPOSIT FUNDS**

	GENERAL £	BUILDINGS £	ORGAN £
OPENING BALANCE	68,103	29,423	16,514
Interest	291	125	70
From / (To) Current Account	25,000	-	-
CLOSING BALANCE	93,394	29,548	16,584

	Endowment CHANCEL £
OPENING BALANCE	2,382
Interest	246
Dividends	10
CLOSING BALANCE	2,638

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

11 **ANALYSIS OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Revaluation gains/losses	Balance at 31 December 2020
	£	£	£		£	£
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds:						
Building Fund	20,323	125	-	-	-	20,448
General reserve	58,043	291	-	-	-	58,334
Parvis Roof	-	-	(2,596)	2,596	-	-
Organ Fund	16,514	70	-	-	-	16,584
General fund	105,075	303,181	(238,575)	(6,079)	(300)	163,302
	197,955	303,667	(241,171)	(3,483)	(300)	256,668
Restricted funds						
Feoffees	1,350	1,850	-	-	-	3,200
Servery Project	13,000	-	-	-	-	13,000
Hardship Fund	1,055	-	(777)	-	-	278
Worshipful Company of Grocers	-	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Holiday at Home	147	500	-	-	-	647
Cremated Remains Area	357	-	-	-	-	357
Western Power	-	400	(320)	-	-	80
Friends of Oundle Parish Church	473	-	-	3,483	-	3,956
Clock & Bells Fund	4,722	1,331	(3,185)		-	2,868
OCYA for Youth Minister	-	1,500	(1,000)		-	500
Munch Club	827	1,473	(954)	-	-	1,346
Explorations Outings	259	-	-	-	-	259
Historic England	-	6,375	(1,105)	-		5,270
Friends in Need	-	363	-	-		363
Website	-	1,320	(1,320)	-		-
Laptop Fund	-	800		-		800
West Porch Café	648	75	(99)	-	-	624
	22,738	17,487	(8,760)	3,483	-	34,948
Endowment funds						
Chancel compounding fund	10,568	256	-	-	583	11,407
Jesus Church income fund	3,947	112	-	-	266	4,325
	14,515	368	-	-	849	15,732
Total funds	235,208	321,522	(249,931)	-	549	307,348

The Feoffees was a donation received for expenditure on the fabric of the building and for youth minister costs. Spending of the funds has been delayed due to COVID-19. The funds have been allocated to be spent on works due to commence in 2021.
The Servery Project Fund contains donations to be spent on the Servery Project.
The Hardship Fund was a donation received to provide a fund to spent on small grants for members of the congregation in financial difficulty.
Worshipful Company of Grocers is a grant to be spent on the fabric of the building. COVID delayed these works and the funds will be spent in 2021.
Holiday at Home Fund is donations received specifically for the running of the Holiday at Home Outreach Event.
The Cremated Remains Area fund was a legacy to be used on the cremated remains area.
Western Power is a grant received for provision of Christmas Hampers.
The Friends fund consists of donations from the Friends of Oundle Parish Church to be spent on projects as agreed between the PCC and the Friends.
The Clock & Bells Fund is funding for the Clock Tower and Bell works.
OCYA for Youth Minister is a donation received for the costs related to the Youth Minister.
The Munch Club came under St Peters umbrella from December 2018. The funds are administered separately.
The Explorations Outings fund are funds raised to be expended on outreach.
Historic England fund is funding from Historic England for repair works.
Friends in Need Fund is donations received to be allocated at the Vicar's discretion for parishioners in need.
Website Fund is for a donation received to upgrade the church website.
Laptop fund is a donation received to fund the purchase of a laptop for the vicar.
The West Porch Café fund are funds raised to be expended on youth.

A transfer of £3,483 has been made to reallocate money to the Friends of Oundle Parish Church restricted fund, previously shown in general funds. These are funds provided in 2017 by FoOPC that remain unspent - they have been allocated to be spent in 2021.

12 **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the year the Trustees made aggregate donations to St Peter's Church totaling £71,043 (2019: £24,453).