

St George's, Gravesend

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

ST GEORGE'S, GRAVESEND PCC

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Incumbent:

The Revd Jim Fletcher
of 54 The Avenue, Gravesend, DA11 0LX

Honorary Treasurer:

Gerald Payne

Honorary Independent Examiner:

Martyn Burt

Bankers

HSBC - 84 New Rd, Gravesend DA11 0AS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

Background

St. George's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has had the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Jim Fletcher and the Church Wardens, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church complex of St George, Gravesend.

The PCC has complied with the duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, and a safeguarding update is provided to PCC at each meeting. The PCC has also had regard to the Charity Commission public benefit guidance, where relevant.

Administrative Information

The St George's Parochial Church Council is part of the Diocese of Rochester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: 54 The Avenue, Gravesend, DA11 0LX.

The PCC is a registered charity with the Charity Commission under registration number 1132757.

Structure, Governance and Management

The function and purpose of the PCC is outlined in the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956

Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Up to two co-opted members may also be appointed to serve on the PCC for a year at a time. There is also provision for an ex officio post of Reader Representative. Treasurer and PCC Secretary are ex officio posts.

During the year, the following have served as members of the PCC.

Ex Officio:

Incumbent	Revd Jim Fletcher	Chairman
Curate	Fr Mark Edwards	
Children and Families worker	Emma Oliver	
Wardens	Neil Fisher Denise Birch	
Deanery Synod	Jean Ault	2023 - 2026
	Neege Allen	2023 - 2026
Treasurer	Gerald Payne	
PCC Secretary	Maryam Olatunde-Kehinde (resigned Sept. 2023)	

<u>Elected:</u>	Colin Nice	Co-opted
	Eunice Gooding	2023 - 2026
	Darren Shilling	2021 – 2024
	Jeannie Baldwin (deceased October 2023)	2021 – 2024
	Simon Clark	2021 – 2024
	Karrenah Bergin	2021 - 2024
	Kerry Longshaw (resigned October 2023)	2022 – 2025
	Dean Brown (resigned December 2023)	2023 – 2026
	Frederick Palmer	2023 – 2026
	Angela Driscoll-Hicks	2023 – 2026
	Harry Ofori	2023 - 2026
	Gretel Ikediashi	Co-opted (from Jan '24)

Committees

The PCC operates through a number of committees that meet between full meetings of the PCC.

Ministry Team:

Meets to discuss services, liturgy, courses, pastoral issues and to pray.

Finance and Standing Committee:

This is the only committee required by law and the only group that needs to be composed exclusively of PCC members. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It also makes recommendations to the PCC on matters of finance, buildings and employees of the church. And effective stewardship of Church funds and addressing projected financial shortfalls.

Fundraising and Events Committee:

Seeks to encourage fellowship in the life of our church and to organise events to which we can invite family and friends.

Buildings Committee:

Concerned with the upkeep and maintenance of the Church, Hall and gardens.

Mission and Outreach Committee:

Seeks to improve links with partners and mission and recommends to the PCC how the away giving should be allocated for the year.

Development Committee:

Acting as a link between the church and interested parties in the proposed re-development of the town centre.

Eco Committee:

Helping the Church and wider community understand more about the care needed for God's world and to engage with becoming an Eco Church.

Church Attendance

St George's Electoral Roll numbers are 107 people. And the average weekly attendance at Church was 70

adults and 15 children.

Review of the Year

It has been another busy year in the life of St George's. Lots of special events and it is wonderful that the regular projects have been sustained and able to function. Last year's launch of 'Places of Welcome', Youth Group and 'Eco Group' have been growing and are a great resource to the community. 'Places of Welcome' has a regular group of people attend and a dedicated team of helpers. We are still looking at ways of making this a bigger community resource but we are blessed to have 'Rethink' attend each week, and they also now provide an Art Group after 'PoW' on a Tuesday. Special mention to Andy Hicks and the Youth Group team who are now getting 20+ children at the twice monthly sessions. It's been wonderful we can offer this regularly and has created a greater connection with the children and our family services. The 'Eco Group' have connected with our congregation to increase awareness of environmental issues and how we can all do more to look after God's creation. We have had talks in Church and special events during Lent and Advent. A big thank you to Sarah Cadwallader and the team for this.

Our children and families have a dedicated following on two Sunday's a month in the Hall, and we join together twice a month in Church. It was wonderful to welcome back Emma Oliver after her maternity leave, and a big thank you to the Jam Family, Noah's Ark, Cool Tots and 'Who Let the Dad's Out' teams for coping so well in her absence. These groups run efficiently and serve the community in a fantastic way. Emma's role has also increased with more schools work (alongside Revd Jim and Fr Mark) especially offering Family Services and Messy Church to Holy Trinity School. More schools regularly visit the Church too. And Emma also has good links with Waterside.

Revd Jim joined the Churches Together Exec who organised three good events around the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Good Friday Walk of Witness and the Summer Party in the Park. Monthly Churches Together Prayer meetings happen too.

Special events at St George's this year included our Patronal Festival, Kay's Garden Quiz, our new Kings Coronation (including a special peal from the bellringers), APCM and Churchwarden's Visitation, special services for Ascension, Pentecost, Pocahontas' anniversary and Summer Rectory gathering. Martin Beech did a fantastic Hymnathon fundraiser which was well supported. A group of us went to London for a tour of St Paul's Cathedral and the National Gallery thanks to money donated from the late Ray Holt's family. The Summer and Christmas Fayres were successful and also a great outreach as well as raising valuable funds for the Church. We had a successful confirmation course and many from St George's were confirmed at a service in the deanery. The autumn saw a Parish Quiet Day and PCC/Ministry Team Away Day at Huggens College. Emma led a fun-filled 'Light Party' for children and families. Thanks to Paul and Sue Relf for organising a wonderful Flower and Art Festival in the Church to link with our Harvest celebrations. Denise Birch, Tom Brown, Natalie Edwards and Taliesin Edwards completed the 'Hearing and Speaking God's Word' course and gained their certificates. This enabled Natalie and Taliesin to preach occasionally and Denise has formed a new House group in the Church.

In November we had our annual 'Departed Loved Ones' service and continued the link formed with Stephen Gay Undertakers with organising the service together. Christmas is always busy at St George's with the amount of schools and choral groups using the Church and is a fantastic way to build links with the community. We also continued our fundraising tours thanks to the help of Christoph Bull. The summer one in particular was well attended and included a meal at the '3 Daws'.

We continue to support Christian Aid (successful fundraisers occurred this year) the local Foodbank for those who are in need and have good links with 'Sanctuary' homeless shelter. We have also been able to reinstate some monies to support local charities. However, we continue to feel the effects financially from the Covid-years, although it has been pleasing to see the Hall being well used and hired out to many community groups.

A big thank you to our Churchwardens and to Neil Fisher for his work as Hall Manager. The plans to receive a new Church Hall are still 'up in the air', however we do now know Gravesham Council were successful with a 2nd bid for the £20 million 'levelling-up' fund money for town centre regeneration, so there is hope! We await news from the Council and what the plans will involve. As the Civic Church in Gravesend, we have good links with our Councilors (and host the Civic Service and Mayor's Carol service each year) and it will be interesting to see if plans for the Civic Centre to move nearer the Church will materialise. Revd Jim also attended a National Prayer Breakfast at the Houses of Parliament so clergy could meet with their MP's.

We also do all we can to link in with the Diocesan Vision and support the life of Rochester Diocese, who also very much support us. Bishop Jonathan led a day conference for clergy. The big Church of England debate this year has centred on General Synod's decision to allow same-sex blessings within a Church service. Revd Jim led a talk and debate on this subject and the PCC voted in favour of allowing these blessings to happen at St George's.

Revd Jim was granted a month's study-leave/mini-sabbatical which he took during Lent '24. A big thank you to Fr Mark and the Ministry Team for covering so well in his absence. Fr Mark announced during this time that his curacy will come to an end in May as he will take up his first incumbency in St Albans' Diocese.

There are so many 'thank you's' that could be mentioned here but we are restricted. However, a big thank you to Martin and Chris Beech. Martin for the music life of our Church and Chris who provides much needed admin support. Careful and efficient stewardship of finances has again been characteristic of decision-making in the PCC, and issues of finance and fundraising have been discussed at all meetings. Thanks to Gerald Payne and Colin Nice for their expertise in this field. Thank you also to Pat Broad and Alison Webzell with doing such an efficient job with Safeguarding procedures. And a big thank you to the Ministry Team and PCC who help make the important decisions within the Church and have had ongoing discussions about 'vision and strategy' for these next few years at St George's (see later in the report for some of these points)

All in all, a very active, prayerful and successful year.

Finance Report 2023

General

The church finances have improved during 2023, with voluntary giving having increased by 10%. We have only been partly affected in 2023 by the significant fuel cost increases in gas and electricity as our 3 year gas contracts in the church and hall expired at the end of Sept 23 and end of Oct 23 resp. New three year contracts have been commenced, but at slightly more than double the cost. The three year electricity contracts expire at the end of Feb 2024

Gross Funds

Our gross funds (including the value of our property) have increased by approx. £12.7K, to £860,141 (from £847.4 in 2022), with an excess on the year of income over expenditure of £10.8K. This excess has been distorted favourably by reduced salary costs due to our Children and Families Worker's maternity leave

(approx. £8K). We were able to increase our Diocesan Offer from the 2022 figure of £48K to £55.1K, restoring it to a level within the requested range by the diocese. (The Diocesan Offer includes, for example, the cost of stipend and on-costs of our rector, many of the rectory costs, curate training, and diocesan support costs). Previously our affordability had been affected by Covid, hence the lower offer.

Income

The overall income was £142.1K (£132.5K in 2022). General giving (including card machine giving) rose by £6.3K from 2022 with 75% of voluntary giving being made by standing order (78% in 2022). Despite the increased giving, Gift Aid remained at the same level. The money generated (£3K) by groups wishing to use our church building for concerts, talks, etc, is very useful.

A record-breaking Christmas Fair generated £1.8K and the summer fair generated a record equalling £1.1K.

The annual church Gift Day, again to cover the costs of employing our Children and Families Worker, continued to be very well supported, the £27.4K raised largely covering the annual employment cost.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the year totalled £131.3K (£118.5K). Despite having clearly under-budgeted on several areas, expenditure within many categories was, broadly speaking, in line with the budgeted figures. Those areas that significantly exceeded the budgeted areas were:

Repairs/maintenance to our rental curate's house £2.3K (quinquennial work and new large window); DBF Fees £3.25K (recorded as an expenditure but actually the diocesan share of the income received from weddings and funerals - so offsets the income); Church maintenance £2.2K (new men's WC, elec testing and lightning conductor servicing); Hall Maintenance £1.5K (Elec testing, repairs to car park wall); Hall Furnishings (tables purchased); Children's Worker £3.7K (underestimated costs during maternity).

Investments

Following a decrease in value of £3.1K in 2022, the investments rose by £1.9K during 2023 giving a value of £24,481

Church Hall

Hall revenue increased slightly during the year to £14.3K (£14K). Running costs were £11.3K (£11.4K) resulting in an overall profit of £3K. 'Use of Church' charges for events such as concerts and talks generated £2.9K.

The council has received £20m levelling up funds from the government, which should enable work on the town centre redevelopment plan to recommence. A new church hall is part of that plan. As yet there is no word from the developers about the possible timescale.

Curate's House, 105 Wrotham Road

With a quinquennial inspection due in 2024, necessary work took place (held up by a lack of funds during Covid). In addition, a new large picture window was installed in the living room and other routine repairs took place (eg new electric shower). The property was valued at £350K in December, unchanged from the 2022 value. The church owns an 80.72% share of the property, resulting in a value to the church of £282,520.

PCC

One week prior to each of the six PCC meetings during the year, the year-to-date accounts are sent to each PCC member in order to allow sufficient time for them to be read and to enable points for clarification to be identified for raising at the subsequent PCC meeting.

During 2023 voluntary giving by PCC members totalled £16,189.

Financial Viability

At the end of 2023 the 'cash at bank and in hand' totalled £95,807. This total is in excess of the minimum desired threshold in our reserves policy (below) in which, if possible, sufficient money to cover at least three months' unrestricted payments should be held.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), holding at least three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations.

Future Plans and Concerns:

Future plans and concerns will be shared at our APCM on May 12th. The PCC and Ministry Team will review how our current Vision and Action plan is developing, and whether any major changes need to occur. Recent discussions have identified where we may need more **resilience** (increasing teams of people and shared knowledge)

Looking at areas where we are **vulnerable** – how do we discover all of the skills and abilities of all of our Church members? We could have plenty of hidden and unfulfilled talent

Who are we serving? Pioneering idea. Town Centre ministry to shops and businesses – can we start this?

Developing resources – needing more volunteers for current activities or 'do we prune' activities we currently have?

Ideas to get to know our newcomers more. New discipleship course? Newcomers event, afternoon tea.

Re-visit idea to get a grant for creating a servery in the side chapel which would increase better facilities for Church and community groups using the Church.

Parish Survey – what do people want from our Church services and courses?

Having more volunteers to keep our Church open especially when worldwide events lead to people wanting to pray more in Church.

The longer-term vision of how the potential town centre regeneration will affect us, and plans to get a new hall.

Risk Management:

Risk assessments and inventories of fixtures, fittings, property and belongings have been completed at the Church and Hall. The Safeguarding Policy is in operation, implemented by our Safeguarding representative and monitored by the PCC.

Quinquennial repair work continues under the management of the PCC's Buildings Committee in order to ensure the safety of the buildings and maintain these in good order.

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Finance part approved by the PCC on 18th March 2024, other parts of the report approved by circulation of email 8th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by the Revd Jim Fletcher (Rector)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
Incoming and endowments						
<i>Voluntary income</i>	2a	95,400	300		95,700	84,624
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>	2b	25,452			25,452	11,456
<i>Income from investments</i>	2c	14,735	294		15,029	11,193
<i>Church activities</i>	2d	5,911			5,911	3,325
<i>Other income</i>	2e					
		141,499	594		142,092	132,523
Expenditure						
<i>Church activities</i>	3a	126,009	24		126,033	115,375
<i>Raising funds</i>	3b	5,279			5,279	3,120
Total resources expended		131,287	24		131,312	118,496
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		10,211	570		10,781	14,028
Transfers between funds (in)		6,180	509		6,689	4,771
Transfers between funds (out)		(6,180)	(509)		(6,689)	(4,771)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		10,211	570		10,781	14,028
<i>Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets</i>	5					16,294
<i>Gains/(losses) on investment assets</i>	6		848.28	1062	1,910	(3,106)
Other recognised gains/losses						
Net movement in funds		10,211	1,418	1,062	12,691	27,216
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2023		818,454	15,441	13,555	847,449	820,233
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2023		828,665	16,859	14,617	860,141	847,449

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	740,520	740,520
Investments	6	24,481	22,571
Total fixed assets		<u>765,001</u>	<u>763,091</u>
Debtors	7	1,078	8,117
Short term deposits			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>95,807</u>	<u>77,277</u>
		<u>96,884</u>	<u>85,393</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>-1,745</u>	<u>(1,035)</u>
Net current assets		<u>95,139</u>	<u>84,358</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>860,140</u>	<u>847,449</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	8		
NET ASSETS		<u><u>860,140</u></u>	<u><u>847,449</u></u>
Funds	9		
Endowment funds	10	14,617	13,555
Restricted funds	10	16,859	15,441
Designated Funds	10	799,215	790,275
Unrestricted funds	10	29,449	28,178
		<u><u>860,140</u></u>	<u><u>847,449</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19th May 2024 and signed on its behalf



The Revd Jim Fletcher
Chairman



Gerald Payne
Treasurer

The accompanying notes form a part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. Accounting policies

a Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP (2005).

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 which are informal

b Funds

Funds held by the PCC are:

Unrestricted funds - general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes

Designated funds - monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest; 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 the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment funds - funds the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending on the purpose set out in the terms of the original endowment

c Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

d **Resources used**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross.

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

Church Activities

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

e **Fixed Assets**

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishing held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to 1 January 2006 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since 1 January 2006 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see below).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings	25% straight line
Computer equipment	25% straight line

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

f **Current Assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Incoming resources

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
a Voluntary income					
Planned giving - gift aid	54,205	240		54,445	50,048
Other planned giving	3,405			3,405	3,225
Collections	6,626			6,626	5,274
Donations and appeals	13,086			13,086	10,537
Gift Aid - income tax recoverable	15,752	60		15,812	15,856
Grants	2,325			2,325	8,335
Legacies					
	95,400	300		95,700	93,274
b Activities for generating funds					
Church hall lettings to non church organisations	17,271			17,271	16,852
Fetes, bazaars and other fund-raising events	8,064			8,064	10,078
Magazine advertising	116			116	110
Use of photocopier	1			1	
	25,452			25,452	27,040
c Investment income					
Rental of investment property	12,418			12,418	8,015
Dividends and interest	2,317	294		2,611	943
	14,735	294		15,029	8,958
d Income from Church Activities					
Chaplaincy / Baptisms					
Fees from weddings, funerals etc	5,911			5,911	3,251
Church lettings to church organisations					
Bookstall, magazine sales - linked to church					
	5,911			5,911	3,251
e Other incoming resources					
Insurance claims					
Total incoming resources	141,499	594		142,092	132,523

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Resources expended

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2022 £
a Church Activities					
Missionary and charitable giving:					
Overseas:	905			905	
Home:	75			75	75
Ministry costs:					
Diocesan Parish Contribution	55,147			55,147	48,000
Working expenses	2,803			2,803	2,111
Rectory expenses	5,133			5,133	5,281
Assistant Staff	21,890			21,890	20,012
Church running expenses	14,349			14,349	14,364
Church maintenance	2,409			2,409	694
Upkeep of services	1,704.02			1,704	2,387
Upkeep of churchyard	471.65			472	1,462
Parish magazine	335.19			335	874
Training costs	587.75			588	511
Church hall running costs	11,966.35	24		11,990	11,896
Salary costs	6,151.84			6,152	5,724
Development of new hall	-				
Administration (incl IE fee)	2,080.71			2,081	1,984
Depreciation	-				
Property costs	-				
	126,009	24		126,033	115,375
b Raising Funds					
105 Wrotham Road running costs	3,172.31			3,172	1,730
105 Wrotham Road management fees	1,952.00			1,952	1,324
Stewardship costs	-				
Fund raising costs	154.41			154	66
	5,279			5,279	3,120
Total resources expended	131,287	24		131,312	118,496

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Staff costs	2023	2022
	£	£
a Wages and salaries	27,073	24,737

During the year the PCC employed a full time Children & Family Worker (CFW), a part-time organist and an administrator. PAYE deductions were managed by an external company. Our CFW salary rose from £25,750 to £27,037 in Sept. She was on maternity leave until June, resulting in reduced costs.

b Payments to PCC members

No payments were made to any PCC member, persons connected to them or related parties. The total 2023 donations made to the PCC by PCC members and related parties, inc Gift Aid was £16,189 (£22,850 in 2022)

5 Tangible fixed assets	Freehold land and buildings	Church equipment	Hall Boiler	TOTAL
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
At 1 January 2023	740,520			740,520
Additions				
Disposals				
Revaluation				
At 31 December 2023	740,520			740,520
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023				
Provided in the year				
Disposals				
Revaluation				
At 31 December 2023				
Net book amounts				
At 31 December 2023	740,520			740,520
At 31 December 2022	740,520			740,520

The freehold land and buildings comprise the curate's house at 105 Wrotham Road, Gravesend, and the Church Hall.

105 Wrotham Road has been valued for the PCC at £350,000 (31 December 2022 £350,000). The PCC owns 80.72% of this property with 19.28% owned by the Diocese. The declaration of trust in relation to this property between the PCC and the Diocese allows for the PCC's share of the net proceeds arising on sale of the property to be applied to the general income of the PCC. The asset is therefore shown as unrestricted.

The church hall is difficult to value as a result of the Thameside redevelopment and therefore for the purposes of these accounts the insurance value of £458,000 has been used at both the beginning and end of the accounting period.

6 Investments

	Units	Valuation (p)	£
At 1 January 2023			22,571
Disposals at carrying value			
Purchases at cost			
Net gains and revaluation			1,910
At 31 December 2023			24,481

The following investments are held:

	Units	Valuation p	Value £
CBF CoE Fixed Interest Short Duration Bond	3,709	144.75	5,369
CBF CoE Investment Fund	436	2,260.53	9,865
COIF Charities Investment Fund	466	1,984.50	9,248
			24,481

All the investments are held in restricted or endowment funds as analysed in Note 10.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Income tax recoverable		6,867
Prepayments and accrued income	78	
Other debtors	1,000	1,250
	1,078	8,117

8 Creditors: amounts falling due in one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals for utilities and other costs		
Diocese share of rental income		
Other creditors	1,745	1,035
	1,745	1,035

Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

2023 £	2022 £

Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
9a Fixed assets for church use	740,520			740,520	740,520
Investment fixed assets		9,865	14,617	24,481	22,571
Current assets	90,592	6,293		96,884	85,393
Current liabilities	(1,745)			(1,745)	(1,035)
Long term liabilities					
	829,367	16,157	14,617	860,140	847,449

Analysis of Net assets by fund- previous year 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
9b Fixed assets for church use	740,520			740,520	724,376
Investment fixed assets		9,016	13,555	22,571	23,625
Current assets	78,969	6,425		85,393	79,726
Current liabilities	- 1,035			- 1,035	- 816
Long term liabilities				-	-
	818,454	15,441	13,555	847,449	826,911

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Statement of funds

	At 1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers, other gains and losses £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds - undesignated	28,178	115,524	(110,190)	(3,871)	29,642
Unrestricted Funds - designated					
Church Repair Fund	21,582	677		3,200	25,459
Church Hall Repair Fund	14,512	440		1,019	15,970
Church Hall Fixed Asset	458,000				458,000
Bellringing	174	100			274
105 Wrotham Road Repair Fund	1,340	42		(348)	1,034
105 Wrotham Road Fixed Asset	282,520				282,520
Children's Worker	12,148	24,716	(20,905)		15,958
	790,275	25,975	(20,905)	0	799,215
Restricted Funds					
Charities Account	2,384	293			2,677
Gravgeo Ascot (COIF)	9,016			848	9,865
Pathfinders	899				899
Tower Restoration Fund	1,905	1			1,905
Who Let The Dads Out	1,238	300	(217)		1,321
	15,441	594	(217)	848	16,666
Endowment Funds					
C H Bowen Legacy (C of E SDBF)	651			36	688
J Russell for poor (COIF)	8,470			778	9,248
Legacies (C of E SDBF)	1,120			63	1,183
Miss Mabel McLaren (C of E SDBF)	2,192			122	2,315
St James School Fund (C of E SDBF)	1,121			63	1,184
	13,555	0	0	1,062	14,617
Total funds	847,449	142,092	(131,312)	(1,960)	860,140

The Church Repair Fund, Church Hall Repair Fund, 105 Wrotham Road Repair Fund are deposit accounts held with Rochester Diocese Board of Finance and have been designated by the PCC for the repair of the respective buildings.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10b Statement of funds - Previous Year 2022

	At 1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers, other gains and losses £	At 31 Dec 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds - undesignated	26,188	106,228	(99,618)	(4,771)	28,178
Unrestricted Funds - designated					
Church Repair Fund	18,279	103		3,200	21,582
Church Hall Repair Fund	13,423	70		1,019	14,512
Church Hall Fixed Asset	458,000				458,000
Bellringing	174				174
105 Wrotham Road Repair Fund	783	6		552	1,340
105 Wrotham Road Fixed Asset	266,376			16,144	282,520
Children's Worker	5,443	25,558	(18,854)		12,148
	762,477	25,737	(18,854)	16,144	790,275
Restricted Funds					
Barbara Tyman Memorial Fund	0				0
Charities Account	2,126	258			2,384
Gravgeo Ascot	10,219			(1,203)	9,016
Pathfinders	899				899
Tower Restoration Fund	1,905	0			1,905
Who Let The Dads Out	962	300	(24)		1,238
	16,110	558	(24)	(1,203)	15,441
Endowment Funds					
C H Bowen Legacy	752			(101)	651
J Russell for poor	9,584			(1,114)	8,470
Legacies	1,294			(174)	1,120
Miss Mabel McLaren	2,532			(340)	2,192
St James School Fund	1,295			(174)	1,121
	15,457	0	0	(1,903)	13,555
Total funds	820,233	132,523	(118,496)	8,268	847,449

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST GEORGE, GRAVESEND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Statement of funds (continued)

The restricted funds comprise:

The Gravgeo Ascot Fund which is restricted for use towards the house at 105 Wrotham Road. The Fund was invested in 380 units in the CBF CoE Investment Fund but proceeds from the Doris Law fund have been added to the holding

The Charities Account which is restricted to charitable giving. The account is funded from the interest on the J Russell for poor fund.

The Church Tower Restoration fund which was commenced in 2008 to raise funds for the restoration of the church tower.

'Who Let The Dads Out' is a holding account for an activity group for children and their fathers/male carers

The endowment funds comprise:

The C H Bowen legacy fund which is invested in 475 units in the CBF CoE Fixed Income Securities Fund. Income is used for general purposes.

The Miss Mabel McLaren fund which is invested in 1599 units in the CBF CoE Fixed Income Securities Fund. Income is used for general purposes.

The St James School fund which is invested in 818 units in the CBF CoE Fixed Income Securities Fund. Income is used for general purposes.

The Legacies fund which is invested in 817 units in the CBF CoE Fixed Income Securities Fund. Income is used for general purposes.

The J Russell for poor fund which is invested in 466 units in the COIF Charities Investment Fund. Income is restricted to charitable giving.

The Pathfinders Fund is a holding account for the church youth club into which weekly subs are paid and from the proceeds new equipment is purchased. This club is not currently active.

The Unrestricted Funds comprise:

The Bellringing Fund, established to support the cost of repairs to the bells, ropes and ancillary equipment

The Church Repair Fund, used to support the cost of repairs to the church

The Hall Repair Fund, used to support the cost of repairs to the hall

The 105WR Repair Fund, used to support the cost of repairs to the curate's house, 105, Wrotham Road

The Staff Fund, used to hold monies raised in support of our Children and Families Worker and the salary costs

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Supporting Charitable Organisations

13 April 2024

Independent Examiner's report to the Member/Trustees of Gravesend St George PCC

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on the pages following.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

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

Yours sincerely



Martyn Burt

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