

The Parish of Belper St Peter

Incorporating the churches of
St Peter's, St Mark's and St Swithun's

Annual Report

Year Ended 31 December 2023

Registered Charity No 1132878



Parish Church

St Peter's Church
 Chesterfield Road
 Belper
 Derbyshire

Other Churches in the Parish

St Mark's Church	St Swithun's Church
Over Lane	Holbrook Road
Openwoodgate	Belper
Derbyshire	Derbyshire

Correspondence should be addressed to c/o The Vicarage, 6 Chesterfield Road, Belper, DE56 1FD.

Legal Status

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Belper, St Peter's is a registered charity, number 1132878

PCC Membership (Trustees)

Ex Officio Members:

Clergy

Anne Stratton	Vicar
April Tompkins	Retired Priest

Churchwardens

David Skelton

Deanery Synod Representatives

John Hastings-Thompson	St Peter's
Anne Clark	St Peter's
Chris Craddy	St Peter's
Sandra Beresford	St Mark's

Elected Members:

Steve Bennett	St Peter's	Deputy Warden
Patience Atkinson-Gregory	St Peter's	PCC and St Peter's Treasurer
Julian Hodgson	St Peter's	Deputy Warden
Margaret Goddard	St Peter's	
Tracy Drake	St Peter's	
Helen Hodgson	St Peter's	
Derek Adams	St Mark's	Deputy Warden
Chris Gregson	St Mark's	Treasurer
Janice Storey	St Mark's	Deputy Warden to June
Geraldine Comery	St Mark's	Deputy Warden from June
Joan Foster	St Mark's	
Christine Catherall	St Mark's	
David Anderton	St Swithun's	Treasurer
Keith Wollerton	St Swithun's	Deputy Warden
Philip Thomas	St Swithun's	
Barbara Anderton	St Swithun's	

Co-opted

Sian Kellogg	St Peter's	
Charles Beresford	St Mark's	Retired Clergy

Sue Allen	Safeguarding
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Jenny Wyatt PCC Secretary non-member

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in this ecclesiastical Parish.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church House, known as St Mark's House in Openwoodgate, Belper.

1. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

St Peter's Parish falls within the Dove and Derwent Deanery, within the Church of England Diocese of Derby and serves an area with a population of approximately 18,000 adults making it one of the largest single Parishes in the Diocese. The Parish participates ecumenically through Churches Together in Belper and Hope for Belper.

The Parish Mission Statement is "Jesus at the Centre – transforming our community". The PCC promotes this vision and is committed to enabling people to grow in discipleship through worship and teaching and to be active in supporting the community both local and worldwide and allowing people of all race, gender, learning level, sexuality to be an active part. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the Parish and makes suggestions on how the services at our three churches can involve the many groups that live within the Parish.

To facilitate the above work, it is important that the fabric of the churches of St Peter's, St Mark's and St Swithun's and the church hall at St Mark's is maintained. During this year each church building had a Quinquennial Survey carried out by Blair Gratton architects.

The Parish greatly benefits from the help of several active retired clergy and three fully trained Readers. They all assist in different ways in the daily life of the Church. There are currently three additional people at various levels of training.

However, the bulk of the work and activities is carried out by the many lay volunteers who give freely of their time and effort and without whom nothing would be achieved to promote the gospel, encourage people to follow Jesus and be an active presence within the local community.

In particular Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwardens and Treasurers work tirelessly to ensure that everything runs smoothly, safely and efficiently. The Parish also has an administrative team and two cleaners who are paid employees.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Church Statistics

	Parish Total		St Peter's		St Mark's		St Swithun's	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Electoral Roll	180	180	125	125	32	32	23	23
Sunday attendance (adults)	116	105	70	61	30	28	16	16
Baptisms	19	17	17	15	2	1	0	1
Thanksgivings	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Weddings	4	4	4	4	0	0	0	0
Renewal of Wedding vows/Marriage blessing	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Funerals at Church	26	32	21	23	5	7	0	2
Funerals at Crem only	9	4						
Thanksgiving for life	0	1						
	2023	2022						
Burial of Ashes St P	1	1						
Burial of Ashes Cem	1	0						
Confirmation	8	0						
Admittance to HC	0	4						

Worship and prayer

Services are held in all three churches each Sunday. The pattern of worship ensures that there is a communion service each Sunday within the Parish.

Morning services include Common Worship Holy Communion and Service of the Word. At times these have been taken by Wardens and people on the Diocesan Discipleship Training Course. A more relaxed style of worship was introduced in the autumn at St Peter's led by a varied team of people.

Communion is now fully available in each Church. An additional Communion Service takes place on a Wednesday morning at St Swithun's Church.

Main services at St Peter's are live streamed via YouTube with the appropriate licenses. This is also available for a small fee for weddings and funerals.

There are around 4 Parish combined services during the year.

There is a daily service of Morning Prayer offered by the Vicar and reader support on Facebook which has a regular congregation. Regular direct viewers around 10 but hits around 90 are shown cumulatively during the day.

Weekly Prayer meetings are held at St Mark's Church.

Service Patterns across the Parish

Week	St Peter's			St Mark's			St Swithun's	
1	10.00am	MW with Baptism		10.00 am	HC		11.00 am	MW
2	10.00 am	HC		10.00 am	MW		11.00 am	MW
3	10.00 am	Relaxed Worship		10.00 am	MW		11.00 am	HC
4	10.00 am	HC		10.00 am	MW		11.00 am	MW
5	Flexible						11.00 am	MW may be led by Warden
	In addition, a few joint parish services in any year.							

Occasional Offices

37 funerals or burial of ashes or thanksgiving for a person's life were conducted during the year by clergy from the Parish, both in the Churches and at Markeaton or Amber Valley Crematorium. Burials take place at Belper cemetery and burial of ashes is available in the Garden of Remembrance at St Peter's.

During the last year four weddings were conducted in the Parish.

There were 17 Baptisms at St Peter's, two at St Mark's and none at St Swithun's. Preparation sessions are held for parents and Godparents. The parish policy is not to book baptism dates before families have attended preparation which is called 'First Steps'. Families are also expected to attend at least one worship service and a baptism or thanksgiving service within the Parish before coming to preparation. This period of preparation helps families to decide whether Thanksgiving for the birth of a child or Baptism is more appropriate for them.

3. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Children in Sunday Club

There is a regular Sunday Club at both St Peter's and St Mark's. The present system has 1 leader and 1 helper in each church each week. Safeguarding, clearly defined roles, rotas, are well established.

St Mark's meets in the Vestry area and has several helpers. Around 6 children or young people gather each week and also one adult with learning difficulties.

Sunday club at St Peter's now regularly has between 4 and 12 children attending. We have only one group, which works well and is sustainable. We have 5 leaders, 4 helpers and 3 who double up. As Sunday Club grows it would be good to have more volunteers, for either task. Keep praying for our children.

YPF

The aims of YPF are to provide a safe, accepting and fun environment where young people from our church and beyond can feel comfortable to be themselves, make meaningful friendships and develop their relationship with God.

We have met regularly throughout the year each Friday during school term times in St Peter's West End. Our usual evening programme will include a bunch of silly games alongside a Bible based teaching session with time for tuck shop and chats thrown in.

Special events during the last 12 months have included the annual Christmas party, a bird encounter (!), climbing sessions at The Unit in Derby, 10 Pin Bowling evenings and the residential weekend away to the Peak Centre in Edale. This year's Edale weekend included sessions of indoor climbing and outdoor activities along with faith-based discussions.

Messy Church

Messy Church started at St Swithun's church in September 2014 and takes place on the second Saturday of each month (except August) from 4pm to 6pm. It is a monthly event for families to come together to enjoy learning about God through craft activities, games and stories and by eating a meal together with friends.

The first hour of each session is spent on a variety of craft activities around that month's Bible theme. We have a team of helpers who assist with the craft activities. After the craft activities, we have a time of celebration during which we sing, have a Bible story and pray. Then we sit down to eat a hot meal together.

The number of attendees varies considerably from month to month – averaging between 10 and 20 children plus adults and helpers.

St Mark's Messy Church began in February 2022 and takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month (except August) from 4pm to 6pm. Each session follows a similar format to the one at St Swithun's. Attendance similarly varies with an average of 6 to 16 children plus adults and helpers.

April Tompkins

Little Church and Prams and First Shoes

These meet at St Peter's and St Mark's respectively for pre-schoolers and their parents one morning a week during term time.

School links

The Vicar plus two additional members of the congregation - Patience Atkinson-Gregory and Rachel Kenning, are elected by the PCC as Foundation Governors at St John's Primary School and Nursery. The Foundation Governors meet regularly in addition to full governors' meetings to encourage and support the spiritual life of the school and to pray regularly. The school regularly visits the Church for worship, learning and musical activities. The Vicar provides a weekly online Collective Worship and a face to face one on a half termly basis. The Lighthouse Club at St John's School continues to run on a Tuesday afternoon now led completely by Church members.

Pottery School came to St Peter's for their annual Christmas service.

Herbert Strutt School attends St Swithun's for their Christingle and Nativity services.

4. PCC SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

PCC Meeting	Attendance
PCC 28 th March 23	15
APCM 25 th April 23	35 plus 3 on Zoom
PCC June	15
PCC August	13
PCC October	14
PCC December	15

PCC meetings this year were all in person. All members attended at least one meeting. Patience Atkinson-Gregory continues in the role of PCC Treasurer. Two PCC Away Days have been held during the year to look at strengths and weaknesses in the Parish and to think about who would be a good fit when the current incumbent retires.

Last year saw the end of Covid restrictions but cost of living increases continue to hit everyone and the Church is certainly not excluded. After losing our beloved Monarch Queen Elizabeth II we celebrated the Coronation of our new Monarch King Charles III and held a Coronation Big Lunch on the 7th May.

Individual churches held many concerts. Concerts included: Explosive Light Orchestra, Elvis versus Jackson, Silver Sax "Swinging Spring", Judie Tzuke and Beverley Craven, Karen England (soprano), Bohemians, Salt and Light, Floyd in the Flesh, Dark Horses/Pride in Belper.

Outside spaces have again been utilised. The trees at St Peter's regularly being covered in thought provoking attire. The Woollen Woods found a new home in St Peter's churchyard, and an Easter Garden has become an annual event.

Indoor events or meetings are flourishing: craft evenings, board games afternoons, warm spaces, Summer fairs and Winter markets. Operation Orphan knitting groups, Harvest suppers, Holiday at Home. St Mark's hosts baby signing as well as their own Prams and First Shoes.

Courses have included Alpha, Lent Course and two confirmation courses and services have taken place.

John Hastings-Thomson edits our magazine 'Three in One'. Our online newsletter 'Enfold' via email is edited by Pamela Gough. Both have kept people informed and included throughout the year.

Who knows what 2024 will bring? Rev Anne, having been here for 14 years now has less than one year of leading us in ever changing circumstances. I am stepping down as PCC Secretary after many years and wish my successor well.

Jenny Wyatt
PCC Secretary

5. ST PETER'S PARISH FABRIC REPORT

All churches now have maintenance schedules drawn up so that no activity is missed during the year. Quinquennial surveys were carried out during the year and the urgent work identified addressed.

St Peter's Church

Following on from the quinquennial inspection done at the beginning of the year.

Overall, the building is in reasonable condition for its age.

The wardens carry out regular routine inspections.

- The stonework on both vestry windows needs attention. Stonemasons have been consulted; a full architect's specification is required.
- The steps up to Chesterfield Road are dangerous, they are too costly to repair. Signs have been placed at the top and bottom notifying that they are dangerous and not to be used.
- The lamp at the Church Lane entrance was in a bad state, it was repainted using Hammerite metal paint.

- The guttering and down pipes were cleaned out.
- The Church Lane notice board was repaired.
- Floorboards were replaced on the balcony.
- The clock faces were repainted, however the hand on the east facing face has sheared off and will be quite expensive to repair.
- The wire mesh covering the vestry windows was removed so a proper inspection could take place.
- A full Electrical Inspection took place. Some jobs were identified to bring the building up to current standard. These have been authorised by the TLC (Trustees Local Committee) and are awaiting completion by the contractor.
- New boilers were fitted.
- The stone boundary walls were cleared of plants, a programme of re-pointing has been recommended using lime mortar.
- A tree next to a grave on the boundary with St Peter's Croft was identified by the architect as being dangerous. Amber Valley's tree warden did not consider it so.
- The metal framework to the windows is rusting. Specialist treatment would be required to rectify/replace.
- The ground was kept neat and tidy. Thanks to the Community Payback team.
- A leak in the North side roof caused by slipped slates was repaired.
- Mould is present on the walls of both staircases; they have been washed down once but will require further treatment in Spring.
- The Choir vestry is in a bad state through damp, this will be rectified when the window problem is sorted.

QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION REPORT JOB NO. 720.01 St. Peter's Church, 6 Chesterfield Road, Belper, Derby DE56 1FD 40.00 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WORKS OF REPAIR

40.01 Urgent works requiring immediate consideration, planning and attention:

- (1) Carry out stonework repairs to the windows of both vestries (2.13, 10.02)
- (2) Clear stone boundary walls of plants and instigate a programme of re-pointing (35.02).
- (3) Obtain approval for the removal of the yew tree to the north boundary.
- (4) Consider repair of handrail and steps from Chesterfield Road to prevent further decay. This would require resin dowelling the stone step and a shoe for the existing handrail.
- (5) Consider repair of the lamp.
- (6) Contact Peter Butler who may be able to give guidance on a rolling programme of window refurbishment/repair with likely costs involved. Begin a process of applying for outside funding/grants to see if monies can be obtained. It may be necessary to obtain up to three quotations for grant applications, so the process is likely to take time and in view of that, begun sooner rather than later.
- (7) See Item 14 below – work should be carried out to areas of damage before winter wherever possible. Lime mortar cannot be used when the temperature drops below 5°C and the coming warmer and brighter months should be taken advantage of to begin what will be an ongoing process at St Peter's due to its size.

40.02 Works recommended to be carried out during the next twelve months:

- (8) Re-paint choir vestry, part of vicar's vestry, parts of south staircase (18.02) and the kitchen store (20.03). Repair plaster where necessary. Use correct specifications for materials.
- (9) Replace defective boiler (24.01). In hand.
- (10) Paint two clock faces (12.01) – in hand.
- (11) Gutter and gulley clearance spring and autumn (5.02).
- (12) Consider issue of vandalism and the mesh window screens (10.02). If works to the windows is carried out and the screens removed assess whether they are painted and refitted or left off.

40.03 Works recommended to be carried out during the quinquennial period:

- (13) Electrician to check lighting and church to consider upgrades if required (25.02).
- (14) Repair and paint second notice board (35.03).

(15) Paint rainwater goods (5.01) particularly the backs which are hard to reach and often corrode.
(16) Local repair of mullions, sills, mouldings, filling of large holes to prevent moisture ingress before winter (8.03 & 10.02). The work carried out to the boundary walls and the church at St Swithun's during the last quinquennial is a good benchmark where the correct lime mortar and pointing types have been employed. Large gaps have been filled with clay tile pieces to prevent slumping and the mortar falling away.

David Skelton, Julian Hodgson, Steve Bennett
Wardens

St Mark's Church and Hall

(Comprising church, vestry, church hall, kitchen and outside play area)

Church

- Quinquennial report – remove weeds from roof areas – 4.01, 4.02. Completed July 2023. Will be repeated in February 24
- Quinquennial report – refix loose / dislodged slates – 4.02, 7.01. Quote being obtained as coping stones to be reviewed as well
- Quinquennial report – repair and replace failed rainwater goods as necessary – 5.01. Completed July 2023.
- Quinquennial report – check metal windows, make good putty where necessary then paint. Paint sills – 10.01. Very large job – not yet commenced.
- Quinquennial report – check stain patches / flaking paint to the Nave, identify causes and re-paint with damp proof paint – 14.01, 18.03. Quotes from painters being obtained February 2024, for work to be scheduled August 2024
- Main door painted, hinges painted
- Carpets cleaned
- Organ serviced
- Projector serviced and bulb replaced
- Five-year electrical safety certificate and PAT testing conducted throughout building
- Fire extinguishers serviced throughout building

Vestry

- Quinquennial report (12 months) – ease sticking opening window in disabled toilet – 10.04. Completed September 2023
- Carpets cleaned
- Vestry door latch made more secure
- Gutters to north side cleared and repaired
- Boiler serviced

Church Hall

- Quinquennial report – check stain patches / flaking paint to the Hall, identify causes and re-paint with damp-proof paint– 14.01, 18.03. Completed August 2023
- Wooden floor sanded, stained and re-varnished
- Carpet cleaned
- Damp-proof paint applied to south wall Kitchen
- Damp-proof paint applied to south wall of hall
- Smoke detector replaced
- Boiler serviced

Outside

- Quinquennial report – clear north side paths and boundary walls of weeds – 32.02, 32. Completed August 2023. Car park wall needs repair after recent January 2024 winds
- Quinquennial report – re-build areas of loose brickwork wall – 35.04. All loose weeds removed on wall by the shed – wall is secure November 2023. Wall between kitchen and house needs re-pointing or rendering.
- Quinquennial report – replace cracked manhole cover – 6.04. New manhole cover sourced January 2024 (difficulties in obtaining one due to imperial size). To be fitted February 2024
- Quinquennial report – re-fix weather drip to bottom of kitchen exit door – 9.03. Completed and painted January 2024
- Drains regularly checked and kept clear
- Gutters and roof checked
- Garden, planters, hedges and borders kept tidy, bark chip replenished on south bed of church
- Paths pressure-washed
- Gates, fences and shed painted
- Play area cleaned

Derek Adams & Geraldine Comery
Deputy Wardens St Mark's

St Swithun's Church

In May, a Quinquennial Inspection was carried out with a few recommendations which were subsequently carried out.

Inside

- Chris Orton carried out a thorough Electrical Inspection in the autumn listing items that needed changing including a new fuse box – work to be done during 2024
- Organ service carried out by Spinks in September
- Annual boiler service carried out by James Crunden in October
- Door on north side trimmed in December to stop it sticking

Outside

- The garden has been looked after by Bell Gardens since March 2023
- The path at the side of the church, which is used by the public, was resurfaced with new tarmac
- Railings were painted
- Loose slates refitted
- Gullies unblocked
- Pointing re-done on south wall
- Drain by side door unblocked in December

Keith Wollerton
Deputy Warden St Swithun's

St Mark's House

St Mark's House, a property owned jointly by St Peter's Parish and the Derby Diocesan Board of Finance, became vacant in late October 2023 and some remedial work was needed before it could be offered for let. As the prior tenant did not pay the final month's rent their deposit was retained for this missing rent and therefore the repairs were not covered.

These repairs included a new window, minor repairs, cleaning, areas of decoration and work in the garden. Thanks to all who helped across the congregations.

The new tenant moved in on 2nd Feb 2024. This change of tenant has enabled the rental management to be moved from Your Move to Matthew Thomas Residential and the church oversight moving from Roy Stratton to Patience Atkinson-Gregory.

The property is being let for about £1000/month with a net income to the church of £904/month.

Roy Stratton and Patience Atkinson-Gregory

6 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

Accidents and Near Misses

All three churches carry out Health and Safety inspections and have accident books. Completed forms are retained securely.

St Peter's

- There were four accidents during the year: one serious which involved hospital treatment and the Health and Safety Executive.
- All equipment was PAT tested
- A full Electrical Inspection was carried out
- Regular Health and Safety walkabouts were done
- A full Health and Safety walkabout/inspection was done by a warden and an outside person
- Several members of the congregation attended a First Aid course
- All the fire extinguishers were serviced and reviewed by a new company
- Fire safety policy/instructions were prepared
- A formal Health and Safety policy was adapted

St Mark's

- All fire extinguishers were serviced
- A full health & safety walkabout/inspection was carried out by both deputy wardens
- All equipment was PAT tested
- All boilers were serviced
- A full electrical inspection was carried out
- All smoke detectors were regularly tested
- Notice placed in hall reminding users not to store items on the heaters
- Cables for laptop, piano and microphones tidied with hooks placed on the wall
- Car park wall being monitored

St Swithun's Church

- PAT testing carried out
- Regular checks carried out
- New fire blanket purchased for kitchen area

Keith Wollerton
Deputy Warden

7. SAFEGUARDING THE CHURCH FAMILY

We appoint a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), who is based at St Peter's, the largest church of the three: there are Safeguarding Links at both St Mark's and St Swithun's.

We had no specific safeguarding incidents in 2022. Our congregation is, however, very committed to maintaining good safeguarding practices and raises possible concerns if necessary. These are dealt with appropriately.

This is a large and very busy parish which has many activities for children, young people and some adults who may be considered to be vulnerable. These activities returned to the pre-Covid norm during 2023. Covid risk assessments were no longer carried out.

Our church officials and activity leaders take their safeguarding responsibilities very seriously with 57 non-clergy people holding a current DBS certificate by the calendar year end. This is a reflection on how much activity takes place in our parish. The automatic renewal option has been taken by most people, this reduces the amount of paperwork and checking in future years.

All PCC members and activity leaders have completed the Basic and Foundation online training courses. The Safeguarding Leadership course via zoom was taken by a further four people and the Domestic Abuse course by a further seven.

The Parish Safeguarding Policy v7 plus photos and contact details of the safeguarding contacts are displayed in prominent positions in the three churches.

A Safeguarding File is located in all three churches. This contains blank copies of the following forms:

- Incident record form
- Confidential declaration form
- Registration forms for all regular children's activities e.g. Sunday Clubs and Messy Church.
- Registration forms for occasional children's activities
- Reference forms for new activity leaders and helpers.

Many activity leaders are conscientious in recording these for new members of activity teams. Attendance sheets are completed whenever Sunday clubs are held.

Completed copies of forms, which are confidential, are given to the PSO and are scanned, stored on the parish office pc and the originals then shredded.

The PSO supplies a safeguarding report for every PCC meeting.

The parish dashboard is updated monthly although, as always, it can get out-of-date very quickly because of changes in personnel plus the increasing number of activities.

Sue Allen
Parish Safeguarding Officer

8. DOVE AND DERWENT DEANERY SYNOD

Dove & Derwent Deanery held two synods, in February and November.

In February we met at St Michael's, Kirk Langley where we shared our parish round up of good news and what had worked well and what hadn't.

We welcomed Steve Johnson, the Diocesan Living Generosity advisor who spoke to us about how we could encourage growth in our communities, we watched a short presentation and discussed the four elements of the acronym MINT (Mechanisms, Impact, Need & Trust) to help develop a generous culture in our churches.

Once we have created the best environment for people to give, we also need to cultivate a generous culture where we grow an understanding of God's generosity and share that generosity throughout our ministry and mission.

There are many motives for giving whether we have faith or not, but it was up to us to make the giving as easy as possible by QR codes, Contactless Giving, Parish Giving Scheme and Legacy Giving. The Diocese can advise all parishes on additional mechanisms to make giving easy.

The deanery has gone through some changes, Area Dean Jacqueline Stober resigned and moved to Canada in the spring and sadly our Lay Chair Gordon Thornhill passed away in June.

Reverend James Hughes became our new Area Dean on his return from sabbatical in September and Reverend Stella Greenwood was made Assistant Area Dean.

We had our second deanery synod at St Paul's Church Hall in Little Eaton.

Area Dean James spoke to synod members about the need to elect a new lay chair and encourage members to think if it is a role that they would like to do.

The Diocese is updating its Vision, our parishes and benefices have a vision but synod was asked about the deanery, do we have a vision, we were asked questions, what do you want from the deanery and what don't you want from the deanery, members spent time in their own benefice groups and produced a list which James collated and the feedback will be discussed at our synod on the 7th March.

We continue to have reports from General and Diocesan synods, with time allocated for further discussion if needed, such as Net Zero.

9. FINANCE REPORT

Accounts for the individual churches may be found at each church. Many givers are now doing so via the Parish Giving Scheme or direct debit.

The accounts for St Peter's Parish are made up of the funds of the PCC and those of the three individual churches. Within the Parish accounts the funds of each church are shown as a restricted fund for that particular church, although they may be made up of several separate funds, both restricted and unrestricted, within the accounts of the individual church.

During the year a piece of land which was jointly owned by the Diocese of Derby and St Peter's Parish was sold at auction with a net income of £70,524.

This money is to be placed in a high interest account operated via Insignis. The income from this is to be used as per the PCC resolution:

The Parochial Church Council of the parish of Belper St Peter, as Administrative Trustees of the trusts established by a Conveyance dated 26th November 1942 ('the 1942 Conveyance') in relation to a piece of land situate at Openwoodgate in the parish of Belper St Peter and more particularly described in a Conveyance dated 31st December 1912 ('the 1912 Conveyance') hereby resolve to request the Derby Diocesan Board of Finance Limited, as Custodian Trustees:

- 1. In accordance with the authority and subject to obtaining the consents set out in clause 2(b) of the Schedule to the 1942 Conveyance, to extend by means of a formal Deed of Variation of Trusts the trusts set out in clause 1 of the said Schedule to incorporate also:*
 - a. essential maintenance, upkeep and improvement of the building and curtilage known as St Mark's Church, Openwoodgate*
 - b. the maintenance, upkeep and improvement of the property known as St Mark's House, 11 Openwoodgate, Belper, DE56 OSD and*
 - c. missional work as defined by the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 for the benefit of the whole of the parish of Belper St Peter including, but not exclusively for, the district of St Mark's Openwoodgate which is part of the parish of Belper St Peter.*
- 2. To sell the land comprised in the 1912 Conveyance which is presently used as casual allotments and which is edged green on the plan now presented to the PCC and attached to this resolution*
- 3. To authorise the use of the net capital proceeds of sale of the land referred to at 2) of this resolution in accordance with the trusts set out in clause 1 of the Schedule to the 1942 Conveyance as will be extended by a Deed of Variation of Trusts of the 1942 Conveyance*

The original conveyance indicates that income should be used for the purpose of insuring both the church and the house at 11 Openwoodgate.

Operational Matters

The expenses of Parish ministry continue to be shared among the three churches using a formula based on attendance and electoral roll to contribute to the Diocesan Common Fund and Parish expenses. The contribution from St Swithun's was reduced during 2023.

St Peter's and St Mark's now make use of contactless giving via Sum Up and donations can be made using the linked Give a Little account. Donations and payments can also be made using a Pay Pal account. During the year the PCC agreed that money that arose due to the rental of the St John's Car Park should be used for Children and Family work across the Parish.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are held in the Church of England Deposit Fund which is regularly reviewed to ensure that the best possible interest rate is being obtained. In addition, the PCC agreed that money be deposited in Derbyshire Community Bank, even though this might not give the best return, but this is in line with the mission of the church as allowed by the Charity Commission. The Parish seeks to find the highest return for reserves. The sale money from the Allotment land is being invested via Insignis which has a variable high rate of interest and easy access.

As shown in the balance sheet on page 18, the total funds for the PCC at the end of the year amounted to £144,837 with a further fixed asset in St Mark's House valued at £265,000.

The house was revalued following the completion of the refurbishment and was let until November 2023 at £950/month and the rental handled by Your Move as our agent.

The St John's land is also owned by the Parish but there is no corresponding asset fund as this asset is fully depreciated and has a "nil" book value. It is held in trust jointly by the Derby Diocesan Board of Finance and the Church Commissioners of the Church of England on behalf of the Parish, who have now been appointed the managing trustees. The land is now leased to Belper Town Council for use as a car park. The rent was reviewed in 2023 to £8021/year with a review due in 2028. The PCC agreed that this income should be ring fenced for use on Children, Young people, families and schools work across the

Parish. £2500 was used from the fund to pay towards two teachers from St John's School visiting Scot Lane School in Kolkata.

Funds held by the individual churches are treated as restricted funds for the purposes of the particular church within the context of the Parish accounts.

Reserves at St Peter's Church amounted £34557. £20,520 is in the general fund, £2910 is in the belfry fund, £133 is designated to Pop UK for October 2023, this fund will be transferred to the ring fenced St John's Car Park fund. £5726 is restricted for future work on the organ and £5267 in in the restoration fund for completion of the work on the electrical upgrades and boiler work.

Reserves at St Mark's Church amounted to £9278, the music fund has been zeroed, the Church Hall designated fund is £2155, this shows a loss on the year for the first time. Rent on the Hall is being reviewed.

Reserves at St Swithun's Church amounted to £13693.

St Swithun's is supported by the Hanson Trust an independent Trust Fund established by the founder Mrs Hanson to maintain a Christian presence in the area of "Cow Hill" Belper. This Trust contributes to major repairs and renovations and pays the annual insurance on the building. Noted in the accounts as a recurring grant.

10. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Anyone who is on the individual church's Electoral Roll may seek election onto the PCC by being nominated and seconded by anyone else who is on the Electoral Roll.

Under the governance structure nominations are made by the individual churches and elections take place at the Annual Parochial Church General Meeting. All terms of office are for three years with one third of the council standing down each year.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. Members of the individual churches form the Trustees Local Committee (TLC) dealing with the day to day business and mission of each individual church under the guidelines and recommendations of the PCC. Other members of each local church are encouraged to be part of groups and committees. Specialist expertise is shared across the Parish.

The full membership comprises:

Ex-officio members:

The Vicar

All other clergy licensed to serve specifically in the Parish

2 Parish Churchwardens - appointed annually at the meeting of Parishioners prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Deanery Synod members - nominated by the District Church Annual meetings and elected at the APCM

Diocesan Synod Representatives

General Synod Representatives

Elected members:

- 6 members from each of the churches, the number to include the Deputy Churchwardens and District Church Treasurers and, if possible, the Parish Treasurer.

Co-opted members:

- Up to 2 co-opted members during the year

The PCC met six times during the year, dealing with business affecting the whole Parish. The APCM took place in April with people socially distanced in St Peter's Church and also present on Zoom. Additional urgent decisions were taken via email as allowed in our constitution.

The PCC has a standing committee, made up of the Vicar, Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwardens, PCC Secretary and PCC Treasurer. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC, including urgent expenditure of up to £500.

The councils of the individual churches (Trustees Local Committees TLCs) are all accountable to the PCC. Processes are in place to ensure that matters discussed at those council meetings are reported back to the PCC on a regular basis.

Administrative and other statutory information

The Parish of Belper St Peter is made up of the churches of St Peter's, St Mark's and St Swithun's. It forms part of the Deanery of Dove and Derwent in the Diocese of Derby. It is a member of Churches Together in Belper.

The PCC is a body corporate established by the Church of England and is the actual governing body within the framework of the Parish and is a registered charity. Representatives from the PCC form the Trustee Local Committee for each Church; the PCC delegates the day to day decision making of the individual churches to those TLCs.

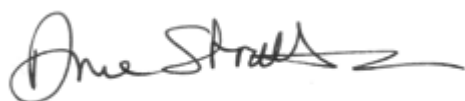
The PCC is also required to operate under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure 1956 as amended. This Measure states that the PCC "is to co-operate with the minister in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

The property of St Swithun's Church is owned by the independent charity "St Swithun's Church or Mission Hall" (registered charity no. 217994), also previously known as the "Hanson Trust". This Charity also makes grants to the St Swithun's Church TLC for major repairs and alterations in the Church and exists to serve the "social, spiritual and educational needs of the people of Cow Hill". Ex-officio members of this trust are the Vicar and the two Churchwardens of St Peter's Parish.

Under Charity Law and Church Accounting Regulations, the PCC is required to present an Annual Report together with a set of Consolidated Accounts for the whole Parish, prepared on an accruals basis and examined by an Independent Examiner.

PCC members who have served during 2023 and at the date this report was approved, are as shown in this booklet.

Approved by the PCC on 26th March 2024 and signed on their behalf



PCC Chair

PCC

Consolidated Financial Statement

For year ended

31 December 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

St Peter's Parish, Belper

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1132878

Set out on pages

19-27

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's
statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to examiner's statement undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of accounting technicians

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

15.3.24

Name:

Martin Coe

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

49 Sandbed Lane, Belper DE56 0SJ

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

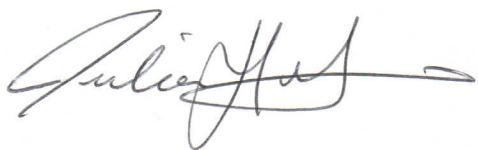
		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			TOTAL PARISH FUNDS	
		P.C.C.	P.C.C.	St Peter's	St Mark's	St Swithun's	2023	2022
				Church	Church	Church		
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources								
Activities for generating funds	2	2,784		19,780	1,499	2,575	26,638	28,744
Church activities	3	4,266		7,810	551	398	13,024	18,708
Income from investments	4	16,501		508	12,119	199	29,327	18,064
Other incoming resources	5	70,524		8,375	-	5,816	84,715	8,684
Voluntary income	6	-		93,281	33,655	17,719	144,655	133,767
Total Incoming Resources		94,076	-	129,753	47,823	26,707	298,359	207,968
Resources Used								
Cost of church activities:								
Cost of generating funds	7	243		429	-	303	976	6,471
Cost of generating voluntary income	8	46,632		38,446	12,060	13,105	110,243	81,770
Redevelopment works	9	-		11,744	-	-	11,744	6,852
Governance costs	10	442		100	50	20	612	1,405
Investment management costs	11	1,450			8,910	-	10,360	8,899
Mission and charitable giving	12			7,300	2,760	1,300	11,360	11,139
Other	13	-					-	-
Parish Share	14	-		49,950	18,163	10,582	78,695	78,697
Resources Used before transfers		48,766	-	107,969	41,944	25,310	223,990	195,233
Allocation of parish expenditure	14	(28,944)		20,850	6,677	1,418	1	(1)
Total Resources Used		19,822	-	128,819	48,621	26,728	223,990	195,232
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources								
		74,254	-	934	(797)	(22)	74,368	12,736
Balances brought forward		13,055	265,000	33,623	10,075	13,715	335,468	322,732
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2023		87,309	265,000	34,557	9,278	13,693	409,836	335,468

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023

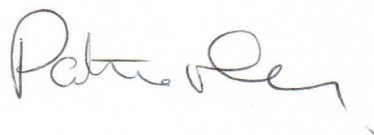
		2023		2022	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	16		265,000		265,000
Current Assets					
Debtors and prepayments	17		4,576		114
Cash at bank and in hand	18		<u>150,567</u>		<u>75,856</u>
			155,143		75,970
Current Liabilities - falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	19		<u>(10,307)</u>		<u>(5,502)</u>
Net Assets			<u>409,836</u>		<u>335,468</u>
FUNDS					
Income Funds					
Unrestricted - general	20		(31)		(47)
- designated	20		92,436		18,808
Restricted	20		<u>317,431</u>		<u>316,706</u>
			<u>409,836</u>		<u>335,468</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 26th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

(PCC Member)



PCC Treasurer



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

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2016, together with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting for Charities, issued in 2019 (SORP for Charities (FRS102)).

Funds

Unrestricted general funds represent the funds of the parish that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for use, at the discretion of the Parochial Church Council, for the general purposes of the parish.

Designated funds are unrestricted but are amounts which have been put aside at the discretion of the Church Councils.

Restricted funds are either subject to specific conditions imposed by donors or they represent the funds of the individual churches. Funds within the individual churches themselves may be unrestricted, unrestricted but designated, or restricted. They are, however, treated as restricted in the accounts of the parish as they relate to the particular local church.

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections, grants and income from fund raising efforts are recognised when received by or on behalf of the local Church Councils. All non gift aided giving is now under the heading Small Gift Aided giving. Small Gift Aid is reclaimed up to the HMRC limit of £8000 of this total for each building.

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

Income tax recoverable on Gift aid donations is recognised when donations are received.

Statutory fees from funerals and weddings are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Grants to the individual churches are accounted for as soon as that church is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt is reasonably certain.

Sales of books and the Church magazine are accounted for gross.

Income from investments

Bank interest is accounted for when received.

Land owned jointly by the Parish and Diocese of Derby was sold at Auction with a net income of £70,524. This money is to be invested. The income is to be used for insurance and major fabric works at St Mark's Church. The rest available for Mission and Ministry across the whole Parish.

Related Party Transactions

No member received remuneration except for the bona fide reimbursement of expenses.

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when payable.

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

Amounts due to the parish by the three churches are accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from these accounts by virtue of Section 96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

St Mark's House was revalued to a gross value of £265000 in 2020. No Depreciation is applied

Items of equipment are written off when the asset is acquired.

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			TOTAL PARISH FUNDS	
		P.C.C.	P.C.C.	St Peter's Church	St Mark's Church	St Swithun's Church	2023	2022
2	Activities for generating funds	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Fundraising events	90		15,963	705	1,486	18,245	13,697
	Fund raising events Gift Aided			60			60	-
	Building rental			3,756	793	1,090	5,639	13,300
	Magazines	2,164					2,164	1,598
	Photocopying income	530					530	149
		2,784	-	19,780	1,499	2,575	26,638	28,744
3	Church activities							
	Fees - Weddings and funerals	2,207		3,331	450		5,988	6,060
	certificates etc	336		26			362	160
	- organ			440	80		520	680
	Mission, Ministry & Discipleship	318		12			330	1,203
	Contributions to refreshments					98	98	297
	Belfry income			1,659			1,659	1,126
	Bookstall			172			172	213
	Organists' fees donated back			1,750			1,750	1,750
	Children & Young People	1,266					1,266	1,661
	Miscellaneous Income	139		420	21	300	880	5,558
		4,266	-	7,810	551	398	13,024	18,708
4	Income from investments							
	Interest received			508	1	199	708	248
	Car Park rental	8,021					8,021	7,700
	St Mark's house rental	8,480					8,480	10,117
	Hall rental				12,118		12,118	
		16,501	-	508	12,119	199	29,327	18,065
5	Other incoming resources							
	Sale of land	70,524					70,524	-
	Grants			6,100		4,530	10,630	7,460
	Donation for Insurance (Hanson)					1,173	1,173	1,093
	Flowers and misc			25		113	138	131
	VAT refund			2,250			2,250	-
		70,524	-	8,375	-	5,816	84,715	8,684
6	Voluntary							
	Gift Aided donations			27,628	10,668	1,950	40,246	47,320
	Small Gift Aid scheme			11,177	6,029	6,560	23,766	21,267
	Non gift aided donations			15,569	4,278	1,687	21,533	21,023
	Parish Giving Scheme			16,088	6,734	4,524	27,346	23,006
	Income tax recoverable			12,963	5,737	2,999	21,699	20,534
	Project Donations GA			4,196	209		4,405	190
	Project Donations non-gift aided			2,660			2,660	220
	Legacies and bequests			3,000			3,000	208
		-	-	93,281	33,655	17,719	144,655	133,768
	Total Incoming resources	94,076	-	129,753	47,823	26,707	298,359	207,969

Outgoing Resources		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds		TOTAL PARISH FUNDS		
	P.C.C.	P.C.C.	St Peter's Church	St Mark's Church	St Swithun's Church	2023	2022	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
7	Costs of generating funds							
	Fayres and other fund raising events - expenses		48		303	352	5,389	
	Use of Church costs		110			110	70	
	Hall Maintenance					-	502	
	Website Costs	243				243	243	
	Publicity costs		270			270	267	
		243	-	429	-	303	976	
8	Cost of generating vol income							
	Parish ministry:							
	Clergy expenses	1,209				1,209	752	
	Parish Support Staff	25,511				25,511	23,413	
	Vicarage water rates	632				632	582	
	Children & Young People	6,925	2,432			9,357	3,226	
	Mission, Ministry & Discipleship	1,489	2,847		108	4,443	2,921	
	Education and outreach	660				660	285	
	Miscellaneous expenses	116			148	264	559	
	Individual churches:							
	Church premises -							
	- heat, light, water & insurance		18,874	3,446	3,358	25,677	19,256	
	- PCC cleaning	10	1,566	4,573	1,044	7,194	6,419	
	- maintenance		1,859	676	1,561	4,096	2,735	
	-local cleaning expenses		415	204	9	628	1,923	
	- major repairs		3498			3,498	3,418	
	- equipment purchased		185	56	68	308	2,546	
	-professional fees	700	1650	1,530	1,050	4,930	240	
	- churchyard		45		4,535	4,580	141	
	Corporate worship costs		435	139	257	831	1,474	
	Organists' honoraria & fees		1,820		350	2,170	1,820	
	Music and AV Costs		939	471	206	1,617	1,107	
	Subscriptions		80	60	60	200	200	
	Miscellaneous costs	5,201	299			5,499	1,483	
	Church bookstall costs		143			143	143	
	Church belfry costs		550			550	410	
	Organ upkeep		528	396	353	1,277	1,490	
	Printing, postage, stationery and telephone	1,838	15	482		2,335	2,742	
	Photocopier	2,340				2,340	2,296	
	Bank Charges other		266	27		293	190	
		46,632	-	38,446	12,060	13,105	110,243	
							81,770	

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds			TOTAL PARISH FUNDS	
		P.C.C.	P.C.C.	St Peter's Church	St Mark's Church	St Swithun's Church	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
9	Redevelopment works			11,744			11,744	6,852
			-	11,744	-	-	11,744	6,852
10	Governance							
	Independent examination and other accountancy fees	(170)		100	50	20	-	700
	Governance costs	324					324	417
	Payroll preparation costs	288					288	288
		442	-	100	50	20	612	1,405
11	Investment mangement costs							
	Building running costs	1,450			8,910		10,360	8,899
		1,450	-		8,910	-	10,360	8,899
12	Mission and charitable giving							
	Open Doors			1,400			1,400	1,350
	Heartlink					325	325	-
	Church Army					325	325	315
	Smiles			1,400			1,400	1,350
	St Crispins, Pune			1,400			1,400	1,350
	Treetops hospice						-	315
	Deaf-initely			1,400			1,400	-
	Hope for Belper			1,400	690	325	2,415	2,378
	Cottage Project				690		690	687
	Blue Box					325	325	315
	Air Ambulance				690		690	-
	Derby Contact Centre						-	1,350
	Link for Hope			300			300	325
	MAF				690		690	-
	water aid							663
	Children's Society							55
	Special Friends belper							687
				7,300	2,760	1,300	11,360	11,140
13	Other							
	Depreciation - St. Mark's House		-				-	
			-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Parish Share							
	Diocesan Parish Share			49,950	18,163	10,582	78,695	78,697
	Proportion of Parish expenses	(28,944)		20850	6,677	1,418	1	(1)
		(28,944)	-	70,800	24,840	12,000	78,696	78,696
	Total Outgoing Resources	19,822	-	128,819	48,621	26,728	223,990	195,232

The expenditure of the Parochial Church Council is apportioned among the three churches in the ratio of the average Sunday adult attendance and electoral roll of the churches. During the year St Peter's was levied 65.77%, St Mark's 23.08% and St Swithun's 11.15% Parish share and a reduced amont levied on St Swithun's due to loss of income during Covid.

(Restricted in the individual churches' accounts)

	PCC	St Peter's	St Mark's	St Swithun's		
Parish Asset fund	265,000				265,000	265,000
Organ Maintenance		5,726	-	1	5,727	4,065
Music Fund					-	20
Church Redevelopment fund		5,267			5,267	5,030
I Sing Pop UK		133			133	2,434
Flower Fund				(22)	(22)	(36)
Churchyard				(42)	(42)	344
	265,000	11,126	-	(62)	276,064	276,855
Total Restricted funds	265,000	34,556	9,278	13,693	317,431	316,706

	Balance at 1st Jan 2023	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resource	Fund transfers	Balance at 31st Dec 2023
Movement in Funds	£	£	£	£	£
P.C.C - non TLC element					
Unrestricted - general funds					
General fund	-47	76,308	11,617		64,644
Unrestricted but designated funds					
St Mark's House Account	6,649	8,480	1,280		13,850
St. John's Property Account	6,453	9,287	6,925	-	8,815
Parish asset fund	0	70,524	-		70,524
	13,055	94,076	19,822	-	87,309

Parish Asset Fund

Restricted

St. Mark's House	265,000	-			265,000
	265,000	-	-	-	265,000
	278,055	94,076	19,822	-	352,309

St Peter's Church

Unrestricted - general funds

	Balance at 1st Jan 2023	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resource	Fund transfers	Balance at 31st Dec 2023
General fund	20,287	108,777	108,549		20,514
	20,287	108,777	108,549	-	20,514

Unrestricted but designated funds

Church Belfry fund	1,806	1,659	550		2,914
	1,806	1,659	550	-	2,915

Restricted

Organ Maintenance Stat fees	4,064	2,190	528		5,726
Church Redevelopment fund - part	5,030	17,128	16,892		5,267
I sing pop	2,434		2,300		134
	11,528	19,318	19,720	-	11,127
	33,621	129,753	128,819	-	34,556

	Balance at 1st Jan 2023	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resource	Fund transfers	Balance at 31st Dec 2023
St Mark's Church					
Unrestricted - general funds					
General fund	6,156	35,416	33,891	(558)	7,123
	6,156	35,416	33,891	(558)	7,123
Unrestricted but designated funds					
Church Hall fund	3,900	12,118	13,863		2,155
Music Fund	20	289	867	558	(0)
	3,919	12,408	14,730	558	2,155
Restricted					
	-	-	-	-	-
	10,076	47,823	48,621	-	9,278

	Balance at 1st Jan 2023	Incoming Resource	Outgoing Resource	Fund transfers	Balance at 31st Dec 2023
St Swithun's Church					
Unrestricted - general funds					
General fund	13,407	22,444	21,743	(353)	13,756
	13,407	22,444	21,743	(353)	13,756
Restricted					
					-
Flower Fund	(36)	113	98		(22)
Churchyard	344	4,150	4,535		(42)
Organ Fund	1	-	353	353	1
	308	4,263	4,986	353	(62)
	13,715	26,707	26,728	-	13,694

Specific collections and donations are treated as agency funds and go directly to the charity or organisation for which they are intended and therefore do not form part of the Parish income or expenditure.