

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Clement's, Oxford**

Registered Charity Number: 1132918

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended

31st December 2024

Wenn Townsend

Chartered Accountants

Oxford

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2024

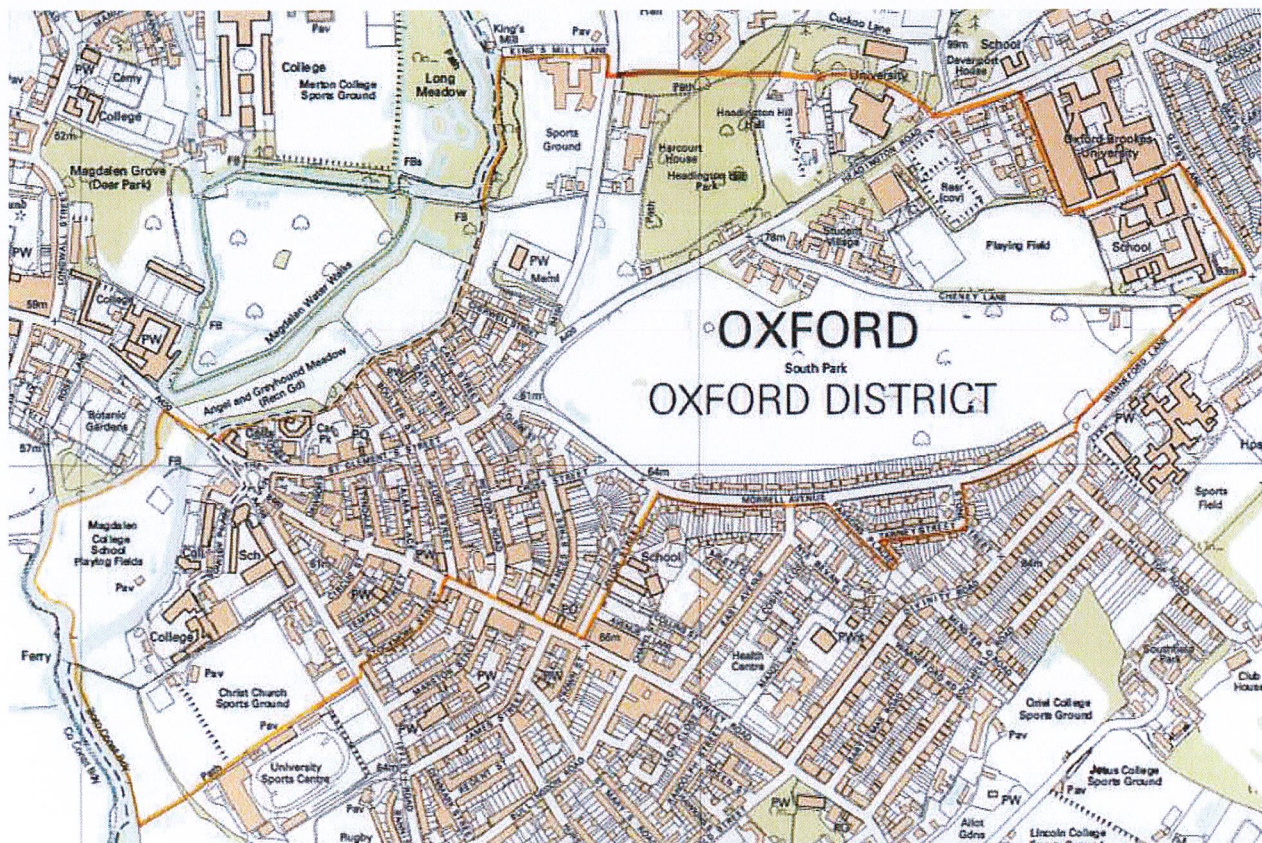
Objectives and activities

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the group of people who, with the Rector, run St Clement's Church. We describe who we are, how we are elected and how we organise ourselves in this report. Our objectives derive from the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. We are 'to cooperate with the minister [Rector] in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical'. We have the 'power jointly with the minister to determine the objects to which all moneys to be given or collected in church shall be allocated'. With the churchwardens, all members of the PCC are responsible for the maintenance of the church building.

The 2004 report 'Mission-shaped church' sets out the meaning of the 'whole mission of the church' as currently interpreted by the Church of England. Worship lies at its centre. It aims to transform people through faith in Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit; is welcoming; relates to local culture and is open to change when new members join.

St Clement's is an Anglican church serving a parish that is part of the Cowley Deanery within the Diocese of Oxford. Cowley Deanery covers the eastern half of the City of Oxford.

Our parish is itself varied and interesting. Much of it is green space, including South Park, but there are also two busy retail thoroughfares: St Clement's Street, where the Old Mission Hall ('The Mish') sits, and the western end of the Cowley Road. Cheney School (a state secondary school) and part of Oxford Brookes University lie at the eastern end of the parish. Magdalen College School (a private school) and St Hilda's College (part of the University of Oxford) are at its western end. A major Islamic Centre is at the north, while the Bangladeshi Community Centre and Mosque sit towards the south. The Cowley Road Methodist Church is near the western end. The homes of our parishioners form much of the rest of our parish.



Objectives and activities (continued)

Our church building is set back off the Marston Road. It was completed in 1828 in a 'Norman revival' style, replacing an earlier building in a different part of the parish. Our nearest postcode is OX4 1FN.



Our overarching objective is that all who want to do so may come to know the love of God and experience the richness of His goodness towards us in every aspect of our lives. This is what motivates all our more specific objectives and activities described below. Our activities provide public benefit to the parish and the wider community, in line with guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

We describe our achievements and performance for each of these activities in more detail in the next section

Objectives	Activities
1. Worship – to give all our parishioners, as well as church members from outside the parish, the opportunity to participate in Christian worship. We want to experience God and the joy that comes from knowing Him.	We provide two services each Sunday – a lively morning service and a smaller, more contemplative evening service. Our styles of worship, supported by our music group , are varied. Refreshments are served after our morning service and provide an opportunity for us to welcome newcomers and to get to know each other better.
2. Prayer and Bible study – to deepen our knowledge of God and to follow Him more closely, both collectively and individually.	We aim to understand God's general purposes through Bible study and to discover what he wants for us individually through prayer. Many of us meet in Home Groups to explore our walk with God in more depth. We encourage all our church members to pray and study the Bible regularly as part of their personal devotions, and to pray together through weekly and monthly prayer gatherings .

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2024 (continued)

Objectives and activities (continued)

Objectives	Activities
3. Pastoral care – to support each other in the routine pressures of daily living and through times of crisis.	Individual friendships, including through our Home Groups , form the focus of our care for each other. More structured pastoral care supports those in specific need. We have a fund to help church members facing short-term financial emergencies. We hold a memorial service every year open to all, but particularly to people who have lost a relative or close friend in recent years.
4. Young people and children – to give our younger members the opportunity to explore the Christian faith in ways they find meaningful.	Our youth work provides a wide range of activities for those of secondary school age. These include meetings on Tuesday evenings and on Sunday mornings. Our children's work , for those of primary school age and younger, is focused on Sunday mornings. On the first Sunday of each month, our young people and children join our main morning service.
5. Community and social concern – to express the love of God in practical ways to the local community of our parish.	Our work in the community covers the young, the old and those in financial need. We run a babies and toddlers group for children of pre-school age, along with their carers, on Thursday mornings. Our Cafe Club provides social activities and refreshments once a month for older members of the Church family and local community. We are core participants in the Oxford Churches Debt Centre , set up in partnership with the national organisation Christians Against Poverty (CAP) UK, to help anyone with problem debt. CAP money management courses help people learn to budget and manage their money better. Our related charity the St. Clement's Community Property Trust provides space for a wide range of community activities .
6. Outreach – to present the gospel to those around us in our parish, our deanery and the wider world, fulfilling our evangelistic and ecumenical objectives.	Many beyond our regular members attend our services at major Christian festivals and use our services for baptisms, weddings and funerals . We run occasional enquirers' courses for those wanting to explore the Christian faith. We join with all the Church of England churches in Cowley Deanery in pooling most of our congregational giving; this helps those parishes in the Deanery in most need. We look beyond Oxford through our annual Mission Gift Fund which provides support to other organisations in the UK and abroad with which we have links.
7. Future generations – to preserve and enhance for future generations the built and natural heritage of which we are the current guardians.	We want our church to be a continuing centre of Christian worship for generations to come, as it has been for the last two centuries. We have continued to restore the church fabric and improve our beautiful churchyard so that it is a pleasure for visitors and a good home for a range of plant, bird and animal species.

Achievements and performance

The objectives and activities in this section follow the same sequence as the table in the previous section. What we offer is available to all, mostly without charge. Where we charge fees or seek donations, it is only to help defray costs.

The Revd. Mark Hay and his wife Kate joined us on 9 April 2024 after a year of vacancy. We are most grateful for the help and support provided by the Diocese and local clergy during the vacancy and for the support of our Patron's representative, Helen Lamb and Bishop Steven, during the selection process.

The St Clement's PCC is immensely grateful to the many willing volunteers who have enabled so much to continue during the period of vacancy and since Mark's appointment. We also could not have done all we have without our dedicated staff to whom we also express our deep thanks.

There were 100 on the Electoral Roll at the date of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 21 April 2024. Average Sunday attendances in October 2024 comprised 94 adults and 28 children under 16.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2024 (continued)

1. Worship

Worship Group: The group contributed to the musical part of our worship at all morning and some special services across the course of the year.

Hospitality Group: Teams of church members offered refreshments after morning services and at special church events as part of our continual building of a welcoming church.

Flower arranging group: The group arranged flowers for our services, as part of our valuing of God's creation and our welcome and worship of God.

2. Prayer and Bible study

Home groups: We have seven Home Groups, each with its own distinctive style, involving c. 60 church members who meet weekly or fortnightly on a variety of week-day evenings. The purpose of these groups is to provide a small group context where members can explore and grow in faith, deepen friendships, and support each other in all aspects of our lives. Home Group leaders meet approximately once a term for mutual support, equipping and encouragement.

3. Pastoral care

Structured pastoral care: the Clergy team, supported by a small number of volunteers, offered pastoral care for those facing particular challenges and difficulties, especially those with long term health conditions. This included the regular provision of home communions where appropriate. The Clergy team and licensed minister take communion each month to Abbeyfield, a residential home in the parish

Hardship Fund: There is a small Rector's Discretionary Fund available to give, with the Wardens' agreement, modest donations to people facing immediate financial hardship. This Fund was not used during 2024.

Memorial service: Our memorial service takes place every Autumn and provides a quiet space for those who want to remember loved ones who have passed away. The names of those who are mourned are read out as part of this service. We invite all who have attended a funeral or burial in the past two years, but the service is open to all and is advertised locally. In 2024, 24 people attended.

A Blue Christmas: This year, as part of our Christmas program, we held a special service for those who find the festive season difficult for whatever reason. We plan to run this again in future years.

4. Young people and children

Youth work: We have continued to run a Sunday youth group, increasing this from twice a month to every Sunday except for all-age Sundays, getting around 4-8 attending each week, wrestling with big life questions in relation to the Bible and faith.

We have continued Overflow Youth on Tuesday nights for young people, getting around 8-12 attendees each week. The group is a mix of young people from families connected with St Clement's and young people with no connection to church beyond this group and has a mixture of social activities and Christian input.

We have previously used resources like Youth Alpha and Stir to introduce faith discussions with this group, and have since been centring discussion around 'big questions' submitted by the young people at the 2024 residential.

Children's work: Our Kingdom Kids group (for children 5-11 years old) enables children to worship, pray, learn and have fun in a welcoming mixed-age group, taking place 3 Sundays out of 4 in term-time. During 2024 the average attendance at Kingdom Kids has been around 15 children. Kingdom Tots is for the active under-5's, with worship, crafts, stories and play to explore faith with an average of 10-15 children attending. Our children's work is flourishing.

We have also started a 'Young Leaders' programme which currently has 1-2 members of our youth taking part in being regular leaders in our children's groups.

Social Events: We have continued to host socials for our children and young people, with a kids trip going to play bowling and older kids and youth trampolining at Jump Inc. We have been getting an average of 12 (aged between 7-15 years old) attending.

Achievements and performance (continued)

Three of our young people also attended NightLife at St Aldates (a termly youth event) in the autumn term and we are expecting to take them (and a few more) back again in future terms.

We ran our own weekend away again this year at, Rock UK's Frontier Centre, a Christian activity site, with 13 children and young people attending aged 8-14 years old

5. Community and social concern

Toddler group: Our Baby and Toddler Group serves the local community during school term-time. Volunteers provide activities for a two-hour drop-in session once a week, including light refreshments. Since September 2022 our numbers have consistently been around 45-65 parents/carers and toddlers each week.

Local Schools: In July 2024 we had a local secondary school, Cheney School, bring their year 7 students to the church on a school trip to explore the church and learn more about Christianity. This was the second time they came to do this visit with the year 7s, following a successful visit in 2023. They have already booked in for the year 7 classes to come again in 2025.

We now regularly go into St Michael's CE Primary School in Marston to run 'J10' after-school club. We have around 15 children attending that group weekly, aged between 7-11 years old. We have now gone into the school and run assemblies. We have also helped to run a Prayer Space with BeSpace in the school that lasts a week and the whole school attends. We are being allowed to advertise our church events there and are going to have the school come into St Clement's Church for a visit in 2025.

Café Club: Our Café Club provides refreshments, social engagement, talks and other activities for members of the Church family and local community who are around during the day. It now meets on the third Wednesday of every month. Church members are encouraged to invite their friends and neighbours. We have seen a number of new friends joining us over the last year.

Oxford Churches Debt Centre and CAP Money Management Courses: The Oxford Churches Debt Centre is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission (number 1155834) and run in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP) UK. St Clement's is one of four full partner churches. A number of our church family are involved in different ways, such as being a Trustee and being a Befriender. St Clement's is committed both to pray for and to give financially to the work of the Centre. Our Trustee in 2024 was Claire Bishop.

Community activities: St Clement's church family members are involved in a number of activities led by others in our local community. These include the Oxford Winter Night Shelter, an initiative of Oxford churches to provide shelter for the homeless in the winter month; Street Pastors: supporting a local food bank through weekly and Harvest Service food donations and in most years OxClean, which is an annual event to tidy up our local area.

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6. Outreach

Major Christian festivals: Easter and Christmas are the festivals when most occasional visitors come. These services were well attended, especially our Carol Service, Christingle and Christmas Day and Easter Services. We also much enjoyed welcoming our local community to join us for our early December Light in the Darkness event, including carol singing, refreshments and activities such as wreath making, a prayer station, biscuit decorating and more. We made this into a whole weekend event, inviting those who attended the Light in the Darkness Saturday event to Christingle the next day in church and then the Crib service on Christmas Eve.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
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Achievements and performance (continued)

Baptisms, weddings and funerals: As a parish church, we offer the 'occasional offices' of baptisms, weddings and funerals to residents of the parish. We also offer this ministry to those living beyond the parish who worship with us or have a strong connection with us. In 2024, we conducted 6 baptisms, 1 wedding, 3 funerals and 4 interments of ashes in the churchyard.

Fabric: 2024 saw the arrival of our new Rector so no new work on the building was undertaken. The stonemasons returned to complete the final small items of repairs on the first phase of the stonework upgrade. The second phase will be carried out in the future when volunteer capacity is increased and we have enlisted the help of a new architect. We did upgrade the sound system to include new in ear monitors which will help with the reverberation issues. We have also updated the keyboard and drum kit.

We have continued to improve our churchyard. Trees and shrubs have been regularly cut back to improve welcome, visibility and safety. A number of working parties further helped to beautify the area. The churchyard is managed by a small number of keen volunteers who are always looking to grow their number.

Cowley Deanery: We are part of the Cowley Deanery, which brings together the thirteen parishes in the eastern half of Oxford. The Rector, Curate and three church members are members of the Cowley Deanery Synod.

Across the denominations: We continue to maintain our links with other local churches.

Mission beyond Oxford: We continue to support and pray for several Mission Partners with links to our church, as well as 7 Mission Agencies. Church members raised a total of £5,805 (plus Gift Aid) for our annual Mission Gift Fund, which we distributed between our Mission Partners and Agencies.

Future generations: We want our church to be a continuing centre of Christian worship for generations to come. Our aim is to make the church as welcoming and useable for worship and hospitality as possible, while respecting and valuing its historic features. The ongoing improvements to our fabric seek to strike this balance.

The same considerations apply to further work planned in our churchyard. We want to keep it well maintained, so visitors can easily find and see the graves of their loved ones and the church can be as visible as possible to those interested in a historic place of Christian worship. It is a peaceful green space on the edge of our parish. We aim to draw locals in by making the churchyard as welcoming as possible with a balance of planted and naturally occurring flowers as well as managed mown and unmown areas to encourage wildlife and diversity of plants. Our mature trees are regularly surveyed to aid with the overall management of the churchyard.

Financial review

Principal funding sources

Giving from the congregation is a vital income source. Overall giving was higher than in 2023, reflecting the generosity of the church family.

An annual grant from the Charity of Thomas Dawson is our main external funding source. The generosity of Thomas Dawson, who set up his charity in 1521, enables us to operate on a scale that would otherwise be impossible. The grant of £125,000 for 2024 was a major contribution to the Church's finances, for which we are hugely appreciative.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Volunteer shortages and fatigue remain our greatest risk. Although members of the Church family give generously of their time, the church has a largely working age congregation with work and family responsibilities.

Our main financial risk is the need for any future works to **repair our church fabric**.

Our reliance on just **a few main funding sources** clearly presents risks. However, our reserves remain strong thanks to careful financial management.

Financial review (continued)

Like all small organisations run by volunteers, we face the general risk of **getting things wrong**. Our principal risks in this respect lie in the areas of finance, data protection, safeguarding, health and safety and employment practice. Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants support us in financial matters and we receive help from experienced volunteers and advisers in health and safety and employment matters. The Diocese also provides help in a number of areas.

We welcome **children and vulnerable adults** and our designated Parish Safeguarding Officer oversees all work with them. She was formerly our Children's Worker and ensures that all those who work with children and young people or vulnerable adults are safely recruited, including being appropriately DBS checked, as well as subsequently trained. As required by the Church of England, we continue to comply with our duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 to have regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Finally, there is the risk that the PCC cannot deal adequately with all the growing requirements of Government legislation and guidance from the Church of England. We undertake risk assessments, make other regular checks and organise training for staff and volunteers to try to ensure compliance. Most of our staff and activities are based in the St Clements Centre which, together with 'The Mish', belong to St Clement's Community Property Trust, so the Church works closely with that charity's General Manager and Trustees.

Investment policy

We do not have funds to invest over the medium-term or long-term. Our general unrestricted reserves are a support for our normal annual expenditure. Our designated and restricted funds are for work that we hope to complete over the next 1-3 years. The need to invest over the short-term arises when there is a delay between receiving funds and being able to use them. This happens mainly when the Charity of Thomas Dawson makes large grants. In such circumstances we can find ourselves with funds to invest for more than 12 months. Our policy for short-term investment is to balance security, liquidity and return, while striving to invest ethically. Overall, this means using a combination of interest-paying bank accounts.

Reserves

Our reserves policy is to achieve a position on our general fund where we hold an amount to match our annual reliance on the Dawson grant, which is never guaranteed, and to provide an additional amount equal to 3 months' normal expenditure paid out of the general fund and Charity of Thomas Dawson grant. We held £211,554 (2023: £226,366) in the general fund at the end of 2024, so we achieved our policy intention. We assign £50,000 to the Dawson cashflow fund to ensure we start the year with enough cash to last us until the Dawson grant arrives in late summer. The Dawson Trust Fund is effectively our fabric fund.

We have various restricted funds, details of which are laid out in note 8 to the accounts.

The **Dawson Trust** fund is by far our largest. It holds amounts received from the Charity of Thomas Dawson as a 'contribution towards the upkeep and repair of the fabric of the Parish Church of St Clement's, and the maintenance of the services and furniture therein and subject thereto in furtherance of the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England, in the said ecclesiastical parish as the Parochial Church Council think fit'. Our policy is to spend it in line with these conditions as quickly as is consistent with good financial management. The grant was not fully expended in the year.

All our other restricted funds hold **gifts and donations** for specific purposes. The Mission Gift Fund, the Oxford Churches Debt Centre Fund and our various special collections in church are for missional giving. Our policy is to donate them within the year, or as soon as possible afterwards in the case of collections around Christmas.

Other funds, such as the Welcome Fund, the Children's Fund and the Youth Worker Fund have been donated for specific uses within St Clement's Church. We aim to spend them in line with the conditions attached as quickly as is consistent with good financial management.

Plans for the future

Priorities for 2025

- Run a Lent Course exploring issues in sexuality and marriage
- Continue to explore ways of increasing connections with our local community, raising our visibility
- Increase our engagement with students, especially from Brookes U.
- Continue to champion and grow our children's and youth ministries, including All Age worship
- Increase opportunities to pray in varied and creative ways
- Strengthen our AV & musical worship provision with equipment, volunteers, training and development
- Grow the number of church members in Home Groups, adding new groups, and growing and developing new and existing leaders
- Begin to work on a new vision plan for St Clement's.

Structure governance and management

The **PCC** is a corporate body established by the Church of England. Our objectives derive from the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956. It is elected by church members recorded on the Electoral Roll, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. It is charged with consulting together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It met 7 times in 2024.

The PCC has created a structure of Ministry Teams to help it take a strategic view of church policy and expenditure, whilst also ensuring that its responsibilities receive the detailed attention they need. All report to the PCC with recommendations, action plans and, where relevant, budgets and then assist with implementing decisions made. In addition, certain volunteers and staff members have delegated spending authority up to defined limits, but must report their spending to the PCC through the Treasurer.

The **Standing Committee** deals with issues between PCC meetings. It helps to set the agenda for PCC meetings and retains responsibility for confidential matters relating to staff, such as salaries. It also receives reports on risk management from the Risk Management Coordinator. It may act on its own initiative, but must report to the next PCC. Some of the work it usually undertakes was taken on by the Leadership Team appointed to oversee the Ministry Teams. It therefore only needed to meet three times in 2024.

PCC Ministry Teams

The Fabric and Churchyard Team is responsible for assessing the need for repair, maintenance and improvement of the fabric of St Clement's Church, including having regard to the Architect's Quinquennial Report. It also takes a lead on matters relating to the use and care of the churchyard.

The Operations & Finance Team is responsible for overseeing arrangements for staff and volunteers including recruitment, administration, data protection, risk management and finance. Its remit includes internal and external communications, the development of the church website and the provision of IT support. It also oversees financial strategy and the church's approach to the stewardship of money.

The Congregational Care & Mission Team is responsible for pastoral care, safeguarding, the running of Home Groups and social activities, welcome, hospitality and Mission within the parish and beyond. Mission includes reviewing the partners and agencies supported by our Mission Gift Fund and proposing the amount of support to be allocated to each.

The Worship & Services Team is responsible for helping grow the church family in faith, discipleship and worship. During the vacancy, it took on the role of planning services and providing leaders for them, including visiting clergy in particular for services of Holy Communion.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
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Other Groups

The Staff Team comprising the Parish Administration Manager, the Children & Families Worker, the Youth Worker and the Church Cleaner as well as the Curate and Rector.

The Leadership Team comprising those with oversight for the Ministry Teams.

Home Group Leaders comprising those with oversight of Home Groups.

Audio Visual and Sound Desk Teams who provide sound control and audio visual support for services.

Regulatory matters

The PCC Secretary, Risk Management Co-ordinator, Parish Safeguarding Officer and Treasurer, assisted by our professional advisers, arrange for regulatory changes, Diocesan guidelines and other advice in areas such as health and safety to be brought to the PCC's attention as appropriate and for regulatory checks and required training to be undertaken as and when required.

Related Charities

The Rector is a trustee of the following charities, in addition to the PCC, as a consequence of being the Rector:

- St Clement's Parochial Charities *(Registered Charity 201989)*
- St Clement's Community Property *(Registered Charity 1200229)*
- The Charity of Thomas Dawson *(Registered Charity 203258)*

Reference and administrative details

The full name of the PCC is 'The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford'. It is also variously known as 'St Clement's Parochial Church Council', 'St Clement's PCC' and 'St Clement's Church'. The Diocese of Oxford uses 'St Clement Oxford'. Our Charity Commission registration number is 1132918.

Correspondence address

St Clement's Parish Office, St Clement's Centre, Cross Street, Oxford OX4 1DA

T: 01865 246674

E: parish.office@stclements.org.uk

W: www.stclements.org.uk

PCC members (trustees) during the year

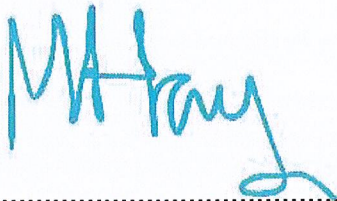
Incumbent (Rector)	Revd Mark Hay (from 9 April 2024)
Assistant Curate	The Rev Joanna Catherine Tarassenko (from 6th July 2021)
Churchwarden	Mr Steve Rumford (from 21/04/2023 to the APCM in 2025)
Deanery Synod Reps	Mr Colin Price (from 23/04/2023 to the APCM in 2026) Mr John Livingstone (from 23/04/2023 to the APCM in 2026) Ms. Maikki Aakko (from 23/10/2023 to the APCM in 2025)
Elected Members	Miss Sue Cleave (Hon Secretary) (from 30/04/2018 to the APCM in 2025) Mr John Deans (from 24/04/2016 to the APCM in 2025) Dr Claire Gilroy (from 30/04/2017 to the APCM in 2027) Mr Phil Gordon (from 21/04/2024 to the APCM in 2025) Mr Peter Heim (from 23/04/2023 to the APCM in 2026) Mrs Fiona Livingstone (from 22/04/2018 to the APCM in 2027) Mr Ali Smith (from 23/04/2023 until the APCM in 2026) Dr Jeremy Spearman (from 22/04/2018 to the APCM in 2026) Mrs Kathryn Ungerer (from 21/04/2024 to the APCM in 2027)
Co-opted Member	Mrs Bethan Willis (from 21/04/2024 to the APCM in 2025)

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford
Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2024 (continued)**

Advisors and bankers to the PCC

Accountants	Wenn Townsend, 30 St. Giles, Oxford, OX1 3LE
Architect	Mr John Radice, Old Post Office, Berrick Salome, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 6JN
Bankers	Barclays Bank, Leicester, LE87 2BB National Westminster Bank, 43 Cornmarket Street, Oxford, OX1 3HA
Employment Law Adviser	Miss Pippa Greenslade, contact through St Clement's Parish Office (details above)
Health and Safety Adviser	Mr Geoffrey Roberts, contact through St Clement's Parish Office (details above)
Independent Examiner	Andrew Rodzynski FCA, Wenn Townsend, 30 St. Giles, Oxford, OX1 3LE

Signed on behalf of the PCC



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Revd. Mark Hay (Chair)

2nd April 2025

**Independent Examiner's Report to the
Trustees of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 12 to 25.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



Andrew Rodzynski FCA
Wenn Townsend Chartered Accountants
30 St Giles'
Oxford
OX1 3LE

2nd April 2025

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2024


	Note	Unrestricted Funds				Unrestricted Funds			
		General	Designated	Restricted funds	Totals 2024	General	Designated	Restricted funds	Totals 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income									
Donations and legacies	3a	150,235	-	190,402	340,637	132,311	-	139,833	272,144
Income from church activities	3b	483	-	-	483	2,469	-	-	2,469
Income from investments	3c	4,766	-	-	4,766	-	-	-	-
Total income and endowments		155,484	-	190,402	345,886	134,780	-	139,833	274,613
Expenditure									
Expenditure on church activities	4a/b	170,247	-	27,497	197,744	127,625	-	16,393	144,018
Total expenditure		170,247	-	27,497	197,744	127,625	-	16,393	144,018
Net income/(expenditure)		(14,763)	-	162,905	148,142	7,155	-	123,440	130,595
Transfers between funds	8	(49)	-	49	-	(440)	-	440	-
Net movement in funds		(14,812)	-	164,954	148,142	6,715	-	123,880	130,595
Reconciliation of funds									
Balance brought forward at 1st January 2024		176,366	50,000	135,191	361,557	169,651	50,000	11,311	230,962
Balance carried forward at 31st December 2024		161,554	50,000	298,145	509,699	176,366	50,000	135,191	361,557

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

Balance Sheet
at 31st December 2024

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	5	9,631	10,175
Current assets			
Debtors	6	7,969	7,048
Cash at bank and in hand		493,707	354,054
		<u>501,676</u>	<u>361,102</u>
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(1,608)</u>	<u>(9,720)</u>
Net current assets		<u>500,068</u>	<u>351,382</u>
Net assets		<u><u>509,699</u></u>	<u><u>361,557</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted - general	8	161,554	176,366
Unrestricted - designated	8	50,000	50,000
Restricted	8	298,145	135,191
		<u><u>509,699</u></u>	<u><u>361,557</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 2nd April 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Revd. Mark Hay (Chair)

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 31st December 2024

Reconciliation of increase in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year		148,142	130,595
Depreciation		3,044	2,544
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(921)	(1,348)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(8,112)	5,644
Interest received		(4,767)	-
Fixed asset purchase		(2,500)	(12,719)
Net cash flow from operating activities		<u>134,886</u>	<u>124,716</u>

Cash flow statement

	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash flow from operating activities	134,886	124,716

Returns on investments and servicing finance

Interest received	4,767	-
Net cash flow before management of liquid resources and financing	<u>139,653</u>	<u>124,716</u>
(Decrease)/increase in cash	<u>139,653</u>	<u>124,716</u>
Movement in cash	139,653	124,716
Net cash at 1st January 2024	354,054	229,338
Net cash at 31st December 2024	<u>493,707</u>	<u>354,054</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

1. Explanatory notes on the Financial Statements:

The accounts for 2024 are presented in a format compatible with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) gives an overall summary of the church finances for the year and the movement on the reserves, which are divided for reporting purposes between Unrestricted and Restricted Funds.

The aim of the SOFA is to summarise the church income and expenditure according to activity. The notes to the accounts divide the summarised figures in a variety of ways, which provide additional breakdown of the income and expenditure.

The balance sheet represents the assets and liabilities of the PCC at the end of December 2024. However, it does not include the church itself or the rectory, as well as some other church assets purchased in past years.

- The general fund comprises the regular income and the regular and predictable expenditure relating to core church activities.
- Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.
- Restricted funds are detailed in note 8 to the accounts and have been received for specific purposes.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined in FRS 102.

2. Accounting policies

2a Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 1 October 2019).

2b Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as specified by the donor.

The accounts 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 or those that are informal gatherings of church members.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2c Incoming resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC, as is planned giving.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised in the year the donation is received.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain.

2d Resources used

i) Grants

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

ii) Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan quota is accounted for when payable on an accruals basis.

iii) Governance costs

These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

2e Fixed assets

Office equipment

Office equipment with an initial cost exceeding £1,000 is capitalised and included within fixed assets. Items below this de minimis threshold are written off as expenditure in the SOFA. Depreciation is provided on office equipment so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over the expected useful economic life on a straight line basis at 25% a year.

Consecrated property and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by section 10(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The value of such fixed assets is not included in the balance sheet. All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

2f Current assets and liabilities

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31st December 2024 in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable. Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to expenditure; it is probable that a settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

3. Income

3a Voluntary income - 2024

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
	General	Designated	funds	
	£	£	£	£
General giving:				
Regular	121,427	-	44,777	166,204
Church services	4,775	-	-	4,775
Mission Gift Fund	-	-	4,644	4,644
Special collections	-	-	-	-
Other donations - PCC	5,781	-	12,600	18,381
Flourishing Life	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid recoverable	20,472	-	1,161	21,633
Dawson Trust - PCC	-	-	125,000	125,000
	152,455	-	188,182	340,637

Voluntary income - 2023

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
	General	Designated	funds	
	£	£	£	£
General giving:				
Regular	114,813	-	1,265	116,078
Church services	1,768	-	-	1,768
Mission Gift Fund	-	-	7,197	7,197
Special collections	789	-	-	789
Other donations - PCC	182	-	3,450	3,632
Flourishing Life	1,570	-	-	1,570
Grants	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid recoverable	13,189	-	2,921	16,110
Dawson Trust - PCC	-	-	125,000	125,000
	132,311	-	139,833	272,144

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

3b Income from church activities – 2024

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Fees – PCC	483	-	-	483
Fees- Toddler Group	-	-	-	-
	<u>483</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>483</u>

Income from church activities – 2023

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Fees – PCC	2,219	-	-	2,219
Fees- Toddler Group	250	-	-	250
	<u>2,469</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,469</u>

3c Income from investments - 2024

Interest received	<u>4,766</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,766</u>
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Income from investments - 2023

Interest received	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
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The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

4. Expenditure

4a Missionary and charitable giving - 2024

	Unrestricted funds			Total funds 2024
	General	Designated	Restricted funds	
	£	£	£	£
Asylum Welcome	-	-	850	850
Payments of MFG	-	-	5,854	5,854
Total Missionary and charitable giving	-	-	6,704	6,704

Missionary and charitable giving - 2023

	Unrestricted funds			Total funds 2023
	General	Designated	Restricted funds	
	£	£	£	£
Oxford Winter Night Shelter	-	-	222	222
The Church of England – Christmas donations	67	-	-	67
The Porch Steppin' Stone Centre	-	-	222	222
Payments of MFG – to pay out to various charities	-	-	8,996	8,996
Total Missionary and charitable giving	67	-	9,440	9,507

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

4b Activities directly relating to the work of the church – 2024

		Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
		General	Designated	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	- other	53,232	-	1,330	54,562
Parish share of diocesan quota		56,935	-	-	56,935
St Clement's Centre	- Toddlers	-	-	-	-
	- other	-	-	-	-
Gas, electricity and water		7,283	-	7,459	14,742
Church and churchyard maintenance		3,826	-	5,579	9,405
Equipment for church office		-	-	-	-
Insurance and security	- other	5,808	-	1,234	7,042
Church activities		30,843	-	4,929	35,772
Toddler Group	- other costs	-	-	262	262
Flourishing Life		-	-	-	-
Rector expenses		-	-	-	-
Sundry expenses		-	-	-	-
Diocesan fees		-	-	-	-
Allocated from support costs (see note 4d)					
	- other	12,320	-	-	12,320
		170,247	-	20,793	191,040
Grants paid (see note 4a)		-	-	6,704	6,704
Church activities		170,247	-	27,497	197,744

Activities directly relating to the work of the church – 2023

		Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds
		General	Designated	funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	- other	39,373	-	-	39,373
Parish share of diocesan quota		45,453	-	-	45,453
St Clement's Centre	- Toddlers	452	-	-	452
	- other	5,228	-	-	5,228
Gas, electricity and water		347	-	9,811	10,158
Church and churchyard maintenance		6,649	-	(7,085)	(436)
Equipment for church office		-	-	-	-
Insurance and security	- other	6,202	-	1,151	7,353
Church activities		7,958	-	2,984	10,942
Toddler Group	- other costs	-	-	-	-
Flourishing Life		1,570	-	-	1,570
Rector expenses		2,206	-	-	2,206
Sundry expenses		766	-	-	766
Diocesan fees		-	-	-	-
Allocated from support costs (see note 4d)					
	- other	11,354	-	92	11,446
		127,558	-	6,953	134,511
Grants paid (see note 4a)		67	-	9,440	9,507
Church activities		127,625	-	16,393	144,018

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

4c Staff

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	53,251	38,430
Pension costs	1,311	943
	<u>54,562</u>	<u>39,373</u>

No trustees were employed during the year (2023: nil). No remuneration was paid to trustees during the year (2023: £nil). No expenses were reimbursed to trustees during the year (2023: £nil).

Payments to related parties of the Trustees are outlined in note 10.

No employee received £60,000 or more during the current or preceding year.

The Rector is not included in the total for salaries. This is because the Rector's stipend is met under Church of England arrangements and not by the PCC.

The average number of staff employed during the year was:

	2024	2023
Administration	1	1
Youth work	1	-
Children's work	1	2
Cleaning	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

4d Analysis of support costs - 2024

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	Total
	General	Designated	£	Funds
	£	£		£
General administration	3,276	-	-	3,276
Support on H&S	-	-	-	-
Accountancy fees	6,000	-	-	6,000
Interest	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	3,044	-	-	3,044
	<u>12,320</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,320</u>

Analysis of support costs - 2023

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted	Total
	General	Designated	£	Funds
	£	£		£
General administration	2,765	-	92	2,857
Support on H&S	43	-	-	43
Accountancy fees	6,000	-	-	6,000
Interest	2	-	-	2
Depreciation	2,544	-	-	2,544
	<u>11,354</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>11,446</u>

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost		
As at 1st January 2024	12,719	12,719
Additions	2,500	2,500
As at 31st December 2024	15,219	15,219
Depreciation		
As at 1st January 2024	2,544	2,544
Charged in the year	3,044	3,044
As at 31st December 2024	5,588	5,588
Net book value		
As at 31st December 2024	9,631	9,631
As at 31st December 2023	10,175	10,175

6. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Gift Aid recoverable	7,919	6,998
Other debtors	50	50
	7,969	7,048

7. Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	229	229
Accruals and deferred income	-	9,136
Taxation and social security	867	171
Other creditors	512	185
	1,608	9,721

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

8. Fund details - 2024

	Balance at 1st January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st December 2024 £
Unrestricted					
General	176,366	155,484	(170,247)	(49)	161,554
Designated: Dawson cashflow	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Restricted					
Asylum Welcome	-	-	(850)	-	(850)
The Children's Fund	3,847	2,240	(1,330)	-	4,757
The Children's Society	19	-	-	-	19
Crèche Room	180	-	-	-	180
Dawson Trust	120,488	125,000	(14,747)	-	230,741
Homeless Fund	100	-	-	-	100
Mission Gift Fund	-	5,805	(5,854)	49	-
Rector's Discretionary Fund	94	-	-	-	94
Shared Space	214	-	-	-	214
Sound	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Student Fund	352	-	-	-	352
Toddler Group	468	-	(262)	-	206
Welcome/Light	5,480	-	-	-	5,480
Youth Work	1,449	57,357	(4,454)	-	54,352
	361,557	345,886	(197,744)	-	509,699

Fund details - 2023

	Balance at 1st January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st December 2023 £
Unrestricted					
General	169,651	134,780	(127,625)	(440)	176,366
Designated: Dawson cashflow	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Restricted					
The Children's Fund	2,000	1,847	-	-	3,847
The Children's Society	19	-	-	-	19
Crèche Room	180	-	-	-	180
Dawson Trust	-	125,000	(4,512)	-	120,488
Fireworks Collection	-	-	-	-	-
Homeless Fund	-	100	-	-	100
Mission Gift Fund	-	8,996	(8,996)	-	-
Oxford Winter Night Shelter	-	-	(222)	222	-
Porch Steppin' Stone Centre	4	-	(222)	218	-
Rector's Discretionary Fund	94	-	-	-	94
Roof Grant	-	-	-	-	-
Shared Space	214	-	-	-	214
Sound	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Student Fund	352	-	-	-	352
Toddler Group	468	-	-	-	468
Welcome/Light	5,480	-	-	-	5,480
Youth Work	-	3,890	(2,441)	-	1,449
	230,962	274,613	(144,018)	-	361,557

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

8. Fund details – (continued)

The designated fund: Dawson cashflow comprises funds set aside at the start of each year to ensure there is enough cash to last until the Dawson Trust grant arrives in late summer. The £50,000 assigned to the fund was determined on the basis of past experience.

The restricted fund: Dawson Trust represents amounts received from the Charity of Thomas Dawson as a 'contribution towards the upkeep and repair of the fabric of the Parish Church of St Clement's, and the maintenance of the services and furniture therein and subject thereto in furtherance of the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England, in the said ecclesiastical parish as the Parochial Church Council think fit'.

The restricted fund: Mission Gift Fund comprised gifts received to help support the mission partners of St Clement's (OM couple and Oxford Churches Debt Centre) and mission agencies (Open Doors UK, A Rocha UK, Prison Fellowship, , Centre for Muslim Christian Studies, Viva Doorsteps and the Oxford Pastorate)

The restricted funds: The Children's Society represents special collections at Christmas for this purpose.

The restricted fund: Porch Steppin' Stone Centre represents special collections at Christmas for this purpose.

The restricted fund: Church Welcome/Light comprises donations and regular giving specifically towards providing a more hospitable welcome to visitors to St Clement's Church.

The restricted fund: Crèche Room comprises a special donation received in 2015 specifically for furniture to make the refurbished Crèche Room a more friendly and useful place for young children. Amounts unspent by the end of 2024 will be used for similar purposes as needs arise.

The restricted fund: Toddler Group comprises surpluses built up over past years from Toddler Group activities and subsidies from the PCC. It is held to ensure the continued viability of the Toddler Group through peaks and troughs of income. It is to be used solely for Toddler Group purposes unless the PCC decides to close the Toddler Group, in which case any remaining money would revert to the general unrestricted fund.

The restricted fund: Rectors' Discretionary Fund exists to enable the Rector to respond in a loving and appropriate way to cases of urgent and extreme hardship where a short term small financial provision will make a significant difference to the well-being of the church member, or someone in our wider community.

The restricted fund: Children's Fund comprises donations to enable the church to employ a Children's worker.

The restricted fund: Youth Work Fund comprises donations to enable the church to employ a Youth Worker.

The restricted fund: Shared Space is a grant received from the Diocese of Oxford to enable this mission-based activity to take place.

The restricted fund: Student Fund is a grant received from the Diocese of Oxford to enable mission inspired work with students by St Clements.

The restricted fund: Sound consists of donations for the for the improvement of the acoustics and sound equipment in the church.

The restricted fund: Asylum Welcome comprises donations received to give to the charity Asylum Welcome which helps refugees to the United Kingdom.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Clement's, Oxford

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

9. Analysis of net assets by fund

2024	General unrestricted funds £	Designated unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £
Fixed assets	9,631	-	-	9,631
Current assets	153,117	50,000	298,559	501,676
Current liabilities	(1,194)	-	(414)	(1,608)
	<u>161,554</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>298,145</u>	<u>509,699</u>

2023	General unrestricted funds £	Designated unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed assets	10,175	-	-	10,175
Current assets	166,191	50,000	144,912	361,103
Current liabilities	-	-	(9,721)	(9,721)
	<u>176,366</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>135,191</u>	<u>361,557</u>

10. Related party transactions

The Charity of Thomas Dawson (registered charity 203258), The Parochial Charities of St Clement, Oxford (registered charity 202089) and St Clement's Community Property Trust (registered charity 1200229) are deemed related parties of the PCC as they are chaired by the PCC's Rector.

During the year the PCC received a donation of £125,000 (2023: £125,000) from the Charity of Thomas Dawson as a 'contribution towards the upkeep and repair of the fabric of the Parish Church of St Clement's, and the maintenance of the services and furniture therein and subject thereto in furtherance of the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England, in the said ecclesiastical parish as the Parochial Church Council think fit'.

During the year the PCC paid £7,284 (2023: £6,900) to St Clement's Community Property Trust (CPT) in rent for two offices and regular and occasional use of other meeting rooms.

During the year, the CPT contributed £7,009 (2023: £7,009) to the PCC towards the salary of the Children and Families Worker. In addition, the CPT provided rent-free accommodation for the St Clement's curate, the value of which is not accounted for but is considered to be in the region of £21,780 per annum

During the year, gifts of £Nil for the Flourishing Life project and £850 from the Mission Gift Fund for general work (2023: £1,570 for the Flourishing Life project and £Nil for general work) were paid to The Oxford Pastorate. Dr Bethan Willis was an employee of the Pastorate and also a member of PCC.