

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe
Parochial Church Council

Correspondence address:-
The Rectory, 5 Cobb Lane, Plymstock,
Plymouth PL9 9BQ

Members' Report and Accounts
for the year ended
31 December 2024
Charity Number: 1133015

Team Rector Reverend Prebendary Jennie Appleby

Bankers:
NatWest, 12-16 Old Town Street, Plymouth, PL1 1DG

Independent Examiner:
Precise Accountants Ltd
Unit 4, Seaton Park, 36 William Prance Road, Derriford, Plymouth PL6 5WR

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF
PLYMSTOCK & HOOE, PLYMOUTH**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the unaudited financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Plymstock & Hooe, Plymouth for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities

The charity is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the charities act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general directions given by the charity commissioners under Section 145 (5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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


Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

have not been met: or

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

Signed by the independent examiner: 

Mr L J Hardacre (FCCA/FMAAT)

Dated 14/03/25

Name and address of the independent examiner:

Mr L J Hardacre, Precise Accountants Ltd, Unit 4 Seaton Park, 36 William Prance Road, Derriford, Plymouth, Devon, PL6 5WR.

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Aim and Purpose

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Parish of Plymstock & Hooe had responsibility in 2024 to cooperate with and to support its Clergy and Readers in promoting across its three churches the whole pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical mission of the Church. Its principal aim was to work together across the Parish.

Objectives and activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our churches and to become part of our parish family. When planning church activities the PCC considers the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. Exeter Diocese offers a three point Mission Action Plan i) to grow in prayer, ii) to make new disciples, iii) to serve the people of Devon with joy. Based on this the PCC has tried to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as if they were on a journey as God's pilgrim people through

- Connecting with God. Growing in faith through worship and prayer.
- Connecting with each other. Growing together through fellowship and discipleship
- Connecting with our local community. Growing and serving through mission and outreach work.

Achievements and Performance 2024

Worship and prayer

Regular Sunday worship follows a pattern of weekly Sunday Parish Eucharist alternating between St. John's and St. Mary's (the two largest church buildings). A midweek communion service was held on Tuesday mornings at St. Mary's followed by coffee and discussion. Monthly informal services were held in Church of the Good Shepherd on Sunday afternoons followed by tea and cake. Special services were held at Easter and Christmas. Home communions were regularly taken to housebound members of the parish and monthly services were held in two local care homes.

There were various opportunities to meet together for prayer. Prayer gatherings were held on zoom and in person throughout the year. Prayer walks took place in the summer months and prayer ministry was offered at the end of the Sunday morning Eucharist. The Mothers' Union Group met together for a monthly prayer meeting.

As part of the Give 2 Go Green Campaign during the year, the themes of Creation Care and Climate justice were followed during Lent at informal afternoon services and at the Lent Group. An Advent Group met to study a book and other Book Groups were held for discussion in the local pub.

The Global initiative Thy Kingdom Come and Christian Aid were marked at a special service. At Easter and Christmas, we took part in Ecumenical services held at the Broadway Shopping Centre and also the Refresh Gatherings which brought together local churches on three occasions during the year. In addition, church members helped to plan and participate in the annual World Day of Prayer service held locally.

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Statistics 2024

Summary statistics for the parish were as follows:

Average main Sunday service. (In addition, approx 35 others used printed service sheets at home.)	50
Worshipping Community	110
Electoral Roll	120
Baptisms	15
Marriages	2
Funerals	39

Attendance numbers greatly increased at Christmas and Easter. Baptism preparation was given to families and marriage preparation provided for couples.

Deanery Synod Report 2024

Deanery Synod met three times in 2024, in February, June and October. Each meeting of Deanery Synod has a main speaker or speakers who talk about current schemes and initiatives taking place across the deanery and diocese and how they can be accessed or applied in the parishes we represent.

In February, synod was addressed by speakers Scott Shackleton and John Williams, from Transforming Plymouth Together, who explained their work in tackling food poverty in the city of Plymouth with the support of Fairshare and Plymouth City Council.

In June the Venerable Jane Bakker, Archdeacon of Plymouth explained her role and background, as well introducing plans for the Plymouth City Deanery review. She then answered questions from members about her role, vision, Deanery Synod's role with respect to the broader governance of the Church of England and the Plymouth review.

At the October meeting, we heard from Jeremy Putnam the Diocesan Mission Enabler, who spoke to us about one of the diocesan vision next steps priorities of growing the faith, particularly with respect to children and young people. He showcased a number of initiatives currently underway.

Church Buildings and Fabric Report 2024

In 2024, significant efforts were made to maintain and repair the three Churches and three Church Halls within the Parish, ensuring they remain functional and beneficial to the community, as they are crucial to the work of mission and ministry in our Parish.

- **Church Buildings Team Revamp:** The Church Buildings Team was restructured in 2024, now consisting of seven members with diverse skills, who oversee maintenance and procure specialist services as needed. They regularly review progress and report to the PCC, focusing on priorities identified in the recent Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

St Mary & All Saints, Plymstock:

- St Mary's had its Quinquennial Inspection in July 2024.
- The largest project undertaken in 2024 was the replacement of 45 obsolescent light fittings, funded by the "Give 2 Go Green" program at a cost of £10,000.
- Regular roof repairs were carried out to address storm damage.
- The clock on the church tower was serviced.
- The lightning conductors were tested.
- Minor repairs and maintenance, including servicing the gas boiler and PAT testing, were carried out on a regular basis.
- A new smart gas meter was fitted, completing the installation of smart meters in all the church buildings.
- The Probation Service have helped to maintain the churchyard on a regular basis.
- Planned projects for 2025 include implementing Fire Risk Assessment recommendations, improving heating and energy efficiency as part of the second phase of the "Give to Go Green" program, a comprehensive scheme to repair the roof, and redecorating the clock face on the church tower.

St John the Evangelist, Hooe:

- Regular roof repairs were carried out to address storm damage.
- The lightning conductors were tested.
- Minor repairs and maintenance, including servicing the gas boiler and PAT testing, were carried out on a regular basis.
- The Probation Service have helped to maintain the churchyard on a regular basis.
- Planned projects for 2025 include implementing Fire Risk Assessment recommendations and repairing the leaking window in the church hall.

Church of The Good Shepherd, Oreston:

- Church of The Good Shepherd had its Quinquennial Inspection in September 2024.
- Minor repairs and maintenance, including servicing the gas boiler and PAT testing, were carried out on a regular basis.

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Volunteers 2024

A great deal of work was carried out by a small number of committed volunteers to keep our buildings, especially the interiors, in good shape. They are thanked unreservedly for the work they do. In 2024 our special thanks were due to churchwardens and a number of key volunteers who continued to set a pace and example for the rest of us to follow.

Mission and Evangelism 2024

During Christian Aid Week the Parish made financial donations to the charity and a Coffee Morning raised a generous sum for Macmillan.

We visited some of the local primary schools to lead assemblies for Harvest and Christmas. It was good to welcome nursery classes from a local school for Christmas. We also hosted the usual Christingle and Carol Services for local schools, attracting over 1000 children and their parents into our buildings in the run-up to Christmas.

The clergy conducted monthly communion services in care homes, Selkirk House and Furzehatt Residential Home, as well as Easter/Harvest/Christmas services. A new Carol Service at Selkirk House was led by church members and enjoyed by staff and families.

A community Carol Service was held at The Boringdon Arms and our Christingle services at St Mary's and Good Shepherd on Christmas Eve attracted a large number of local families to both churches.

Warm Welcome Space continued on a monthly basis and weekly over the winter months, meeting on Sunday afternoons in St. Mary's Church Hall. This provided a warm space, hot food, games and conversation for anyone in the parish. Regular Coffee Mornings were held at St. John's and Church of the Good Shepherd Church Halls.

A monthly newsletter continued to be sent out to all those in the worshipping community across the parish.

Other Activities 2024

The Give 2 Go Green Campaign at the beginning of the year was a huge success and motivated church members to raise funds in various ways via a Spring Fayre and Barn Dance, whilst individuals held coffee mornings and sponsored events. We successfully achieved our target of £10k and this was match funded. Further fund-raising events were held in the year for Parish Funds. A visit to Buckfast Abbey was arranged in the summer.

We continued to serve the local community by collecting contributions for Plymouth Foodbank in boxes across the Parish.

We have greatly appreciated the work of the Probation Service in continuing to keep St Mary's and St. John's churchyards tidy, particularly as all graves were made accessible, making a huge difference to the appearance of the churchyards.

Safeguarding 2024

The PCC has complied with its obligation under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. The PCC has regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults by acting within current legislation, guidance, national frameworks and the Diocese of Exeter Safeguarding procedures. It has evidenced this by the completion of the Diocesan Safeguarding Checklist which is being used for future planning. The Parish has several named Safeguarding contacts who liaise with the Parish Safeguarding Representative. Safer Recruitment, Training and DBS checking of those requiring it is ongoing.

Structure, Governance and Management 2024

Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2024

The method of appointment of PCC members is in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

Composition of the PCC in 2024 is shown as follows.

	Jan - May APCM	May - December
Clergy - ex-officio	3	3
Reader - ex-officio	2	2
Parochial Wardens - elected	2	0
Deanery Synod Members 3 yr office appointed by PCC	2	2
Diocesan Synod Members - ex-officio	1	1
Elected Members	8	9

Parish Governance was managed by teams including members of the PCC and other volunteers, to include:

Standing Committee to manage ongoing parish matters legal and material (*Under Rule M31 in Church Rep. Rules, with over 50 names on the electoral roll, the Standing Committee to consist of a) the minister, b) each churchwarden who is a member of the PCC c) at least 2 other PCC members appointed by PCC resolution*).

Ministry Team to plan worship and mission initiatives.

Administrative Information 2024

Our Parish is part of the Deanery of The City of Plymouth, in the Diocese of Exeter.

The 3 worship centres are each located as follows:

- St Mary & All Saints, Church Road, Plymstock, PL9 8BD
- St John the Evangelist, Church Hill Road, Hooe PL9 9SE
- Church of The Good Shepherd, Marine Rd, Oreston, PL9 7NN

Clergy

Team Rector Rev'd Prebendary Jennie Appleby

Curate Rev'd Joanne Parker

Associate Priest Rev'd Carl Budden

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

The PCC

This is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, and the Church Representation Rules 2006) and Registered Charity No 1133015.

PCC members in 2024

Ex Officio

Team Rector	The Rev'd Jennie Appleby	(Chairperson)
Curate	The Rev'd Joanne Parker	
Associate Priest	The Rev'd Carl Budden	
LLM (Reader)	Mr Graham Dee	
Diocesan Synod	Dr Kerry Gilbert	

Elected members

Parochial Church Wardens

Mr Graham Naylor	Until May 2024
Dr Kerry Gilbert	Until May 2024 (Lay Vice Chair of PCC)

Deanery Synod Reps (Appointed by & from PCC)

Mrs Delia Kevern	Appointed May 2023 for 3 years
Dr Kerry Gilbert	Appointed May 2023 for 3 years

Members	Mr Anthony Banbury	Elected May 2022 for 3 years
---------	--------------------	------------------------------

Mr Stephen Bawn	Elected May 2024 for 3 years
Mr. Bob Davidson	Until May 2024
Dr Frankie Dee	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Mrs Sheila Eccleston	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Mrs Elizabeth Elliot	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Mrs Mary Goulding	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Mr Richard Harvey	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Mrs Delia Kevern	Elected May 2022 for 3 years
Mr Graham Lea	Elected May 2022 for 3 years
Mrs Lorraine Pinkham	Elected May 2023 for 3 years
Miss Vanessa Thornton	Elected May 2024 for 3 years

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Trustees

All PCC Members are Trustees.

The full PCC met on 8 occasions in 2024, with an average attendance of 76%.

During 2024, the PCC continued to address its vision for the Mission Action Plan i) to grow in prayer, ii) to make new disciples, iii) to serve the people of Devon with joy.

The PCC regularly considered and acted upon local matters of finance, buildings, worship, mission, outreach, families, children, pastoral care, safeguarding and other items. In particular a successful bid was made for a match-funded grant totaling £20,000 under the “Give 2 Go Green” project, to upgrade the lighting and heating in St. Mary’s church. During the year, a Buildings Team was set up consisting of PCC members and others, to work on regular maintenance issues and planning for more major building issues to be addressed. This has been a reliable and successful step forward. Also during 2024, PCC members took on extra practical responsibilities because there were no churchwardens in place from May onwards.

And during 2024 there were regular informal meetings of the clergy and churchwardens, the Standing Committee, the Ministry team and other groups as need arose.

-0-

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Financial Report 2024

Total incoming resources for the year amounted to £113,218 (2023 £178,607), this included a very successful Give 2 Go Green (G2GG) fundraising campaign which raised £10,495 which was matched by a grant of £10,000 giving a total of £20,495. In this year the parish also received a generous legacy of £3,000 towards St Mary's Church roof.

The income in 2023 was inflated by a large legacy, however if you discount the legacies in both years and the Give 2 Go Green the underlying income has dropped by approximately £9,000. This is driven by a reduction in planned giving and a drop in income from the Parish Giving Scheme, also during this year the popular community lunch Hooe's Place ended as the team reached retirement. This loss of Hooe's Place income has been partially offset by increased Parish Hall lettings.

Total expenditure this year is £101,382 (2023 £136,031) significant non routine items of expenditure include the installation of LED lights at St Mary's (G2GG), repairs to the Parish Hall roof and the Quinquennial Inspection of Good Shepherd. The Common Fund due for 2024 was £81,574, to date a payment of £46,574 has been made leaving a balance of £35,000.

To summarise:

Summary	2024	Last Year 2023	Change
Income	£113,218	£178,607	£-65,389
Expenditure	£101,382	£136,031	£-34,649
Surplus	£ 11,836	£ 42,576	£-30,740
Common Fund Paid	£ 46,574	£ 93,767	

Hopefully this table explains the position over the last two years. Overall, the news is encouraging in that income continues to exceed expenditure, but the margins are narrow. The surplus of income over expenditure in 2024 is lower than 2023, and within the surplus of £11,836 is the balance of the Give 2 Go Green £10,480 which is restricted. This highlights why the parish has unfortunately not paid the 2024 common fund in full at this stage. The 2025 Common Fund request is reduced to £75,728.

Recognising the falling income trend there has been increased fundraising activity to generate income in 2024, with three successful church fayres. There are also now contactless terminals at each church building making it easier for people to make donations. These were used especially by visitors over the Christmas services.

Reserves Policy

The PCC have established the Reserves Policy with reference to the Charity Commission guidance. The PCC do not intend to build up reserves for unspecified purposes, the aim is to apply income to direct charitable purpose. However, the risk of the falling income trend is recognised and at this stage it is prudent to maintain a balance of general fund which equates to at least 4 months expenditure.

Management of Parish Finance

The PCC would like to give special thanks to the Deanery Treasurer for her invaluable support to the finance volunteers this year after the Treasurer stood down in the first few months.

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Statement of Accounts 2024

Parish of Plymstock and Hooe						
Receipts and Payments account for the year ended 31 st December 2024						
	PCC	St Mary	St John	Good Shepherd	Total PCC	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Planned Giving	14	5,827	1,725	0	7,566	9,179
Parish Giving Scheme	3,073	8,141	5,736	1,409	18,358	21,594
Other collections	6,282	1,016	563	0	7,860	6,318
Charitable Giving	145				145	1,094
Donations	12,714	2,220	1,467	0	16,401	9,808
Gift Aid	768	2,035	1,288	316	4,408	5,973
Legacies	0	3,116	0	0	3,116	80,937
Diocese payment to PCC	4,000				4,000	4,000
Bank and B/S Interest	2,081	407	2,164	2,323	6,975	4,696
Fees	9,527				9,527	8,114
Hall Lettings	0	15,096	7,478	1,073	23,646	22,093
Other income	32	0	0	0	32	3,510
Grants	10,000				10,000	1,290
Fundraising	1,186				1,186	
Totals	49,821	37,857	20,420	5,121	113,218	178,607
Expenditure						
Charitable Giving	723				723	1,543
Mission Giving	0				0	0
Mission Costs	136				136	211
Common Fund	46,574				46,574	93,767
Church Utilities		5,552	2,500	698	8,750	13,063
Church Insurance		4,569	2,240	1,238	8,047	7,665
Church Other	1,845	655	552	93	3,145	2,607
Church Maintenance		15,991	776	1,145	17,913	4,076
Clergy Expenses	86				86	827
Hall Utilities		2,897	1,833	2,467	7,198	8,966
Hall Insurance		932		475	1,408	1,608
Hall Other		0	0	386	386	774
Hall Maintenance		4,726	1,948	163	6,837	444
Running Costs	178				178	480
Fees						
Other						
Totals	49,542	35,323	9,849	6,667	101,382	136,031
Net receipts	280	2,533	10,570	-1,547	11,836	42,576
Common fund payments	46,574				46,574	93,767

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Parish of Plymstock and Hooe				
Statement of Assets and Liabilities				
Assets				
	General	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash at Bank				
PCC	53,800	15,928	69,728	161,008
St. Mary;s	35,663	8,126	43,789	34,521
St. John's	49,120	187	49,306	34,481
Good Shepherd	1,658	74,226	75,885	1,119
Totals	140,241	98,467	238,708	231,129
Investments				
St John's				
Exeter Board of Finance	925	0	925	904
CCLA	28,000	0	28,000	28,000
Totals	28,925	0	28,925	28,904
Liabilities				
Common Fund	0	0	0	0
Agency	0	1,773	1,773	6,512
Totals	0	1,773	1,773	6,512
Represented by funds				
Unrestricted	169,166		169,166	161,969
Restricted		96,694	96,694	91,552
Totals	169,166	96,694	265,859	253,521

The Parish of Plymstock & Hooe

Parish of Plymstock and Hooe								
Receipts and Payments account for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont/)								
General Fund	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/Loss	Adjustment	Balance	
	01-Jan-24						31-Dec-24	
	£	£	£	£	£		£	
General Fund	80,140	70,379	-66,128	1,702	21	776	86,890	
Designated Funds	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Adjustment	Balance		
	01-Jan-24					31-Dec-24		
	£	£	£	£	£	£		
St John's Church	28,000					28,000		
St John's Church	620	852				1,472		
St John's Hall	26,718	342	-1,000			26,060		
St John's Fabric	256			0	-256	0		
St Mary's Maintenance	16,601	360	-3,793	-84	-16	13,068		
Plymstock Parish Hall	9,634	15,215	-9,551	-1,623		13,675		
	81,829	16,770	-14,344	-1,708	-272	82,275		
Restricted Funds	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Adjustment	Balance		
	01-Jan-24					31-Dec-24		
	£	£	£	£	£	£		
St Mary's Legacy	3,687	3,000	-480			6,207		
Charitable Giving	141	145	-203		12	95		
Retiring Collections						0		
Mission Fund	3,643					3,643		
St Mary's Bell Fund	1,828	43				1,871		
St John's Hall	167					167		
Good Shepherd Legacy	82,052	2,323	-10,149			74,226		
Parish Goes Green		20,496	-10,015	5		10,486		
Flower Fund	35	62	-62		-35	0		
	91,552	26,069	-20,910	5	-23	96,694		
Agency Collections	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Adjustment	Balance		
	01-Jan-24					31-Dec-24		
	£	£	£	£	£	£		
EDBF	6,322	8,195	-12,941			1,576		
Organ	140	2,525	-2,515			150		
Verger	50	550	-600			0		
Bells	0	360	-360			0		
Plymstock Parish Hall	0	36	-3,500		3,464	0		
Charitable Giving	0	47				47		
	6,512	11,713	-19,916	0	3,464	1,773		

-0-

Trustees Report for 2024

Approved by the PCC and signed on its behalf

Rev Jennie Appleby (Chair)



Date

... 27/2/25