

St Nicolas

Witham and Villages

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of Witham
(CHARITY NO. 1133036)**

**St Nicolas' Church
Chipping Hill
Witham
CM8 2JS**

Annual Report & Accounts

2023

WITHAM PCC

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN THE TOWN OF WITHAM CENTRED ON THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST NICOLAS

The Parish Church is on Chipping Hill in Witham.

The correspondence address is:

The Parish Office, St Nicolas Church Hall, Chipping Hill, Witham. Essex CM8 2JS

In 2023 the Parochial Church Council has consisted of:

Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard, Team Rector

Revd Jane Quinton, Team Vicar (From 26 January 2023)

Revd Howard Schnaar, Team Vicar (From 2 May 2023)

Revd Noah Cockett, Curate (From 10 September 2023)

Revd Susan Malam, Associate Priest SSM

Revd Christine Newmarch SSM (until 16 July 2023)

Mrs Deirdre Schnaar, Reader LLM (From 10 December 2023)

Mr Andrew Holt, Churchwarden (From 14 May 2023), Vice Chair of PCC (From 13 June 2023), Electoral Roll Officer, Diocesan Synod (From 14 May 2023) & Deanery Synod Representative (From 14 May 2023)

Ms Marian Mitchell, Churchwarden, Vice Chair of PCC (Until 14 May 2023)

Mr Mike Robinson, Churchwarden and PCC Secretary (until 14 May 2023), Diocesan Synod Representative (From 14 May 2023) & Deanery Synod Representative (From 14 May 2023)

Mrs Samantha Rees, PCC Secretary (From 13 June 2023) elected

Ms Dayo Akande, PCC Treasurer (From 13 June 2023) (elected 29 August 2023)

Mr John Hassler, PCC Treasurer (Until 14 May 2023), Supporting PCC Treasurer (From 13 June 2023) (elected 29 August 2023)

Mrs Jenny Robinson, Assistant PCC Treasurer & Deanery Synod Representative (From 14 May 2023)

Mr Agboola Bemigbele, elected

Mrs Olufunke Bemigbele, elected

Mrs Christine Brown, Deanery Synod Representative (Until 14 May 2023)

Mrs Lyn Corke, elected

Mr Rodney Cullum, elected

Mrs Zoe Gilby, (elected 21 November 2023)

Ms Tracey Mackay, elected

Mr Trevor Myatt, elected

Mrs Anna Pritchard, elected

Ms Liz Tymms, elected

The PCC Standing Committee comprises the two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary and Mr Rodney Cullum.

The PCC Accounts are held by Barclays Bank plc, Witham and funds are also held by the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund, London.

The Independent Examiner is Mrs Ann Clarke, Witham.

St Nicolas' Church is part of the Witham and Villages Team Ministry which has responsibility for the town of Witham and the neighbouring parishes of Terling, Fairstead, White Notley, Faulkbourne, Rivenhall and Silver End. Each parish has its own PCC. The Witham and Villages Team Ministry is also joined with the parish of Hatfield Peverel with Ulting to form the Pilgrim Rivers Mission and Ministry Unit (MMU).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC was exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission until 2010 when it registered and was given the Charity number 1133036.

The PCC now has seven accounts which must be spent on Restricted purposes as follows;

a) Abrey Trust

The Managing Trustees [the PCC] shall apply the clear income and at their discretion the whole or part of the property of the Church Charity in or towards rebuilding, repairing, enlarging, altering, furnishing, and equipping the Church of St Nicolas in the said ecclesiastical parish.

b) Church House Fund

Under the control of the Incumbent & Churchwardens to be used to provide any building for the purposes of:

1. Divine Worship }
2. Classes or Lectures } Connected with the
3. Meetings } Church
4. Clubs }
5. Clerical Meetings & Social Conferences}
6. Any purpose in the opinion of the Incumbent & Churchwardens for improving conditions of the population of the Parish. Building may not be used in any way against the principles of the Church of England.

c) Fabric Fund

Income & capital for upkeep of the fabric of St Nicolas church and churchyard.

d) Graves Fund

Income for upkeep of graves.

e) John Suddards Memorial Fund

Income and capital to provide discretionary funds in memory of the late Reverend John Suddards.

f) Church Community Fund

Income and capital for Witham based hardship cases / people in urgent need of money. This fund is administered via Braintree Halstead & Witham CAB.

g) Bellringers Fund

In December 2023 the PCC took responsibility for a seventh Restricted Account, held in trust for the Bellringers use.

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. PCC members are recruited from the wider congregation, and all are encouraged to consider standing. New members are offered induction training by the Church Wardens on a one-to-one basis. All members are briefed on compliance with health and safety legislation, safeguarding, data protection and other like legislation. Members have completed all required safeguarding courses via the online Diocesan training portal. They also have access to training events organised on a Deanery, Area, and Diocesan basis. Provision is made for sharing information and skills from these events where appropriate.

The PCC met monthly from January to July 2023, and 6 weekly from July to November 2023, with the addition of an open PCC meeting in September, and an Extra meeting in October.

The PCC Standing Committee did not meet during the first half of the year. Standing Committee meetings started again from the 20th September and ran through to December. These meetings are 6 weekly and involve agreeing the PCC agenda, plus any other urgent business to support PCC work.

Email correspondence involves PCC agendas, relevant reports and subcommittee minutes for consideration and acceptance at PCC meetings.

The PCC also has the following sub-committees:

- a) The Medieval Fayre Committee has delegated power to organise and run the Annual Medieval Fayre. The 2023 Medieval Fayre was successfully held on 24 June.
- b) The Church Hall Committee is concerned with the fabric and facilities of the Church Hall and makes recommendations to the PCC. They met in May 2023. From November it was agreed this remit to come within the fabric Committee agenda.
- c) The Church Fabric Committee advises the PCC on fabric and property matters. Meetings started again in Sept 2023 and run 4-6 weekly.
- d) Finance and Stewardship committee has oversight of the accounts and finances, feeding back into PCC at each meeting.
- e) Social and Events Committee started in January 2023 to encourage social events and fundraising opportunities at St Nicolas. (Part of our welcome agenda). Events this year included; Quiz nights, Bring & Share meals, and Music Recitals.
- f) Eco Church Group began in August 2023 to develop an eco-focus agenda within our church, currently aiming for the A-Rocha Bronze award.
- g) Christmas Tree Festival, is developed and managed by the St Nicolas Christmas Tree Festival Committee. This working group met during 2023, and organised a successful festival over the weekend of 9-10 December.

Working groups also report to the PCC as required

- a. Outreach & Mission Group, is developing youth ministry and links with local schools. Also focussed on wider mission outreach, pastoral care, and worship activities in the Parish.
- b. Friends Of St. Nicolas Group is aimed at developing Witham Town's Business Community links with St Nicolas. This will eventually organise 2 key fundraising events.

In addition, the **First Sunday Group** exists to assist the clergy on the content and delivery of the Sunday morning All Age Eucharist on the First Sunday of the month.

The Ministry Team is led by the Team Rector who has overall responsibility for the Mission and Ministry of the Benefice of Witham and Villages. He exercises responsibility for the Parishes of Witham, Faulkebourne and White Notley. Part of his role is to engage church in its historic role within the public space of town and civic life. He is also responsible for training the Assistant Curate. There are two Team Vicars. The Team Vicar for the Villages

exercises responsibility for the parishes of Terling, Fairstead, and Rivenhall & Silver End. The Team Vicar for Neighbourhoods has responsibility for developing the Church's connections with communities in Witham's growing neighbourhoods. All members of the Team share in leading worship in each of the Churches of the Benefice. They also meet weekly for Staff Meetings and daily for Morning and Evening Prayer.

There are also distinctive and authorised lay ministries working in the parishes:

Mr Mike Robinson is a Lay Canon of Chelmsford Cathedral. He was also Lay Chair of Witham Deanery to July 2023.

Deirdre Schnarr is Reader

Pat Pullen & Heather Brewster are both Lay Funeral Ministers.

Trevor Myatt is Lay Pastoral Assistant.

David Martin, Mike Robinson, Pat Hall, and Andrew Holt are Authorised Lay Preachers (ALP)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.

The PCC is fully committed to co-operating with the clergy team in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

There has been a lot of change in both personnel and structure of the Clergy Team. Rev Christine Newmarch, whose priestly vocation was nurtured at St Nicolas, and who served her curacy here licensed as a locally deployed minister, following a change in the status of her deploy-ability, joined the Thurstable and Winstree Team Ministry in August. Two Team Vicars began their ministry in the Benefice: Rev Jane Quinton as Team Vicar for the Villages moved into the Terling Rectory and Rev Howard Schnaar became Team Vicar for Neighbourhoods, moving into the South Witham Vicarage. Both regularly preach and celebrate Communion at St Nicolas. In July we welcomed our new Curate, Rev Noah Cockett following his initial training at Ripon College Cuddesdon. At the very end of the year, Deirdre Schnaar's Reader's License was transferred to the parish.

In 2023 the clergy and funeral ministers officiated at 27 baptisms, 7 weddings, 6 funeral services in church, 7 at the crematorium, and 6 interments of ashes in the churchyard.

The church receives the services of a Director of Music, Mr David Martin, and has a paid Parish Administrator, Mrs Fiona Abbott until August 2023, and Ms Linzi Barrett from September 2023. The church is very dependent on the goodwill and hard work of the many volunteers, in particular, the church officers, church cleaning, churchyard maintenance, odd jobs, church hall letting, duplicating service sheets and the like, sacristan duties, worship organisation, and many other specific tasks are all achieved through volunteer work. Our thanks are expressed to all those who helped to carry out these duties throughout the year.

The PCC worked with the clergy to encourage the confidence of the congregation, and its growth following the long impact of COVID, and to ensure that fruitful and effective

discipleship is developed, particularly at the festival services and during Lent. Chatterbox, the toddler group for pre-school children, continued in person, meeting weekly on Mondays in term time. Our All-Age Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month continues.

Numbers coming to church services have been increasing across the year, approaching pre-COVID levels. Numbers attending Christmas services significantly increased, aided by more proactive publicity for church service, both physical and online, and encouraging a culture of invitation within the regular congregation. This was also David Martin's final set of Christmas services as our well-loved Director of Music.

There was a foiled attempt to steal lead from the church roof which has led to water damage in the Southwest corner of the church. PCC has agreed in principle to replace all of the existing lead roof with Terne Coated Stainless steel to avoid this happening in the future.

Our two major annual community events, the Mediaeval Fayre (in June) and the Christmas Tree Festival (in December), were very successful and well attended. Love where U Live was re-launched and rebranded as SPACE: thanks especially to Jo Willsher for all her work.

We have also restarted Church social events, including a Quiz night and a Talent show. There were a series of musical recitals in Church. The Mothers' Union held their usual full calendar during the year.

Our commitment to working well with our sister churches in Witham continues. We support Tuesday Praise at the URC and Churches Together in Witham. The Easter Witness, and outdoor Carol service were both held in the Grove Centre for the first time – with the Christmas Service opening the Town's Christmas Market.

Finances continue to struggle post-COVID though there are indications that regular giving is beginning to increase. There has been agreement within the Benefice to redistribute each parishes allocation of our Parish Share more equably between the Benefice churches (based on Electoral roll membership). It is likely to reduce our Parish Share by a tenth.

ACHIEVEMENT

The church enjoyed a successful year of worship and witness. Our regular 9.30am Sunday service continues, as does our regular 6.00pm Sunday Evensong service. With the successful addition to our clergy team of a new curate in September, all services are now clergy led. Our services also continue to be streamed on-line.

We have a fund named "Church Community Fund" to provide small sums of money to people in urgent need, which is administered by the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Witham. There have been no requests of support from this fund during the year.

FINANCIAL

Total receipts on ordinary unrestricted funds (General and Equipment Funds) were £110,011 (2022 £104,040) and are detailed in the financial statements.

£89,727 was spent regarding Church Activities, including the contribution of £30,000 to the Diocesan Parish Share, the formula for which requires a benefice to pay for its ministry costs plus a contribution towards central diocesan costs, which is calculated by a second formula based on church members. £6,233 has also been used for fundraising.

The net result for the year on the ordinary unrestricted funds was a surplus of receipts over payments of £9,171 (2022 surplus £16.) This £9,171 surplus represents a late payment toward our Diocesan Parish Share, so will show as a £9,171 Deficit against our 2024 Parish Share, (given the deadline for payment of 2023 Parish Share has now passed.)

In effect, we have paid £39,171 towards our Diocesan Parish Share for this year. We have not paid our Parish Share in full. The PCC have paid £39,171 but were unable to pay the balance of £60,337, to meet the Parish Share request of £99,508 to have done so would have meant depleting our unrestricted reserve to zero.

After adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balance carried forward at 31st December 2023 for the ordinary unrestricted fund totalled £42,448 (2022 £35,726). This figure is however artificially boosted by the cash funds of £9,171 (the late payment noted above to Diocesan Parish Share). In effect, the ordinary unrestricted fund after this payment should be £33,277.

RESERVES POLICY

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately four months unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £33,277 on unrestricted funds at the year-end supports this policy.

It is our policy to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Approved by the PCC on 9 April 2023 and signed on their behalf by Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard (PCC Chair)

Witham Parochial Church Council - St Nicolas Church - Charity No 1133036

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned giving	48,033				48,033	43,994
Collections and other giving	5,577				5,577	6,605
All other giving / voluntary receipts	10,574		0		10,574	6,343
Gift Aid Recovered	4,158				4,158	11,318
Total Voluntary Receipts	68,342	0	0	0	68,342	68,260
Activities for generating funds	23,888				23,888	23,758
Investment Income	184	623	1,088		1,895	74
Church Activities	4,739				4,739	6,220
Redemption of Investments	0				0	0
Other receipts	5,036		6,111		11,147	5,728
Total Receipts	102,189	623	7,199	0	110,011	104,040
Payments						
Church activities						
Parish share	30,000				30,000	45,800
Clergy and staffing costs	11,153				11,153	14,857
Church running expenses	27,869				27,869	26,045
Hall running costs	8,634				8,634	5,619
Church Repairs & Maintenance	6,300	3,073			9,373	5,856
Hall Repairs & Maintenance	2,498				2,498	0
Mission giving and donations	200				200	0
Total Church Activities	86,654	3,073	0	0	89,727	98,177
Cost of generating funds	6,233				6,233	5,717
Governance costs	130				130	130
Other payments	0				0	0
Total Payments	93,017	3,073	0	0	96,090	104,024
Excess of receipts over payments / (payments over receipts)	9,171	-2,449	7,199	0	13,921	1,210
Movements Between Funds					0	0
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan	12,574	23,152	41,269	0	76,995	75,786
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec	21,745	20,703	48,468	0	90,916	76,996

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Cash Funds						
Bank Current Account	18,567	3,685	10,693		32,945	14,931
Deposit Accounts	3,178	17,018	37,775		57,971	62,065
Totals	21,745	20,703	48,468	0	90,916	76,996
Liabilities						
Missionary and Charitable Giving	89				89	89
Church Community Fund			1,592		1,592	1,592
John Suddards Memorial Fund		3,685			3,685	3,685
Hope Community Witham Fund			2,990		2,990	2,990
Bellringers Fund			6,111		6,111	0
Parochial Fees Paid in Advance			10,302		10,302	4,760
Totals	89	3,685	20,995	0	24,769	13,116
Total Net Assets						
General Fund	21,656				21,656	12,485
Equipment Fund		17,018			17,018	19,468
Abrey Trust			17,518		17,518	16,974
Church House Fund			3,688		3,688	3,573
Fabric Fund			13,836		13,836	13,406
Graves Fund			2,734		2,734	2,734
Parochial Fees Paid in Advance			-10,302		-10,302	-4,760
Hope Community Witham Fund			0		0	0
Bellringers Fund			0		0	0
John Suddards Memorial Fund		0			0	0
Church Community Fund			0		0	0
Totals	21,656	17,018	27,474	0	66,147	63,879

Witham Parochial Church Council - St Nicolas Church - Charly No 1133036

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023

General Fund (Unrestricted) Receipts and Payments Account

	2023	2022
Receipts	Note	
Regular Giving		
Planned giving	48,033	43,994
	48,033	43,994
Collections and other giving		
Loose plate (Non-Gift Aid Donations)	5,567	4,508
One-off Gift Aid gifts	10	2,097
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered	4,158	11,318
	9,735	17,923
Other voluntary receipts		
Legacies		0
Charitable donations	200	0
Messy Church		0
Donations	9,585	5,446
Votives	389	252
Flowers - donations	400	645
	10,574	6,343
Receipts from activities for generating funds		
Mediaeval Fayre	14,742	14,079
Concerts	481	591
Christmas Tree Festival	1,548	2,052
Easyfundraising.co.uk	364	407
General Fundraising	421	791
Church hall lettings income	8,262	5,757
Magazine sales & advertising	90	81
	23,888	23,758
Investment Income	184	74
Receipts from Church activities		
Parochial fees	4,739	6,220
Choir and Organ Income	0	0
Literature Income	0	0
	4,739	6,220
Other Receipts		
Insurance Claims	0	1,475
Grants	1,045	4,253
Other Receipts	3,991	0
	5,036	5,728
	102,189	104,040
Payments		
Church Activities		
Diocesan Parish Share	30,000	45,800
Clergy and staffing costs	11,153	14,857
Church running expenses	27,869	28,045
Hall running costs	8,634	5,619
Church Repairs & Maintenance	6,300	5,856
Hall Repairs & Maintenance	2,498	0
Overseas mission and relief agencies	0	0
Home Mission and other Church societies	200	0
	86,654	98,177
Fundraising Costs		
Other fundraising costs	842	364
Magazine Costs	49	0
Mediaeval Fayre	5,342	5,353
	6,233	5,717
Other Payments	130	130
	93,017	104,024
Excess of Receipts over Payments	9,171	16
Movements Between Funds	0	0
	9,171	16
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	12,574	12,558
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	21,745	12,574

Witham Parochial Church Council - St Nicolas Church - Charity No 1133036**Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023****Fabric Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2023	2022
Receipts		
Bank Interest	430	174
	<u>430</u>	<u>174</u>
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payments	<u>430</u>	<u>174</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	13,406	13,232
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>13,836</u>	<u>13,406</u>

Church House Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund

	2023	2022
Receipts		
Bank Interest	114	47
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>114</u>	<u>47</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	3,573	3,526
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>3,687</u>	<u>3,573</u>

Abrey Trust Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund

	2023	2022
Receipts		
Bank Interest	544	220
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>544</u>	<u>220</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	16,974	16,754
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>17,518</u>	<u>16,974</u>

Witham Parochial Church Council - St Nicolas Church - Charity No 1133036**Graves Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2023	2022
Receipts		
Payments		
Bank Charges		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	2,734	2,734
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>2,734</u>	<u>2,734</u>

Church Community Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund		
	2023	2022
Receipts		
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	1,592	1,592
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>1,592</u>	<u>1,592</u>
 John Suddards Memorial Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Designated Fund		
	2023	2022
Receipts		
Net Receipts		
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	3,685	3,685
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>3,685</u>	<u>3,685</u>
 Hope Community (Witham) Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund		
	2023	2022
Receipts		
Donation	0	500
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>0</u>	<u>500</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	2,990	2,490
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>2,990</u>	<u>2,990</u>
 Equipment Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Designated Fund		
	2023	2022
Receipts		
Bank Interest	623	253
Payments		
Repair of Church Organ	3,073	0
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>-2,450</u>	<u>253</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	19,468	19,215
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>17,018</u>	<u>19,468</u>
 Bellringers Fund		
	2023	2022
Receipts		
Transfer to PCC	6,111	0
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>6,111</u>	<u>0</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	0	0
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December	<u>6,111</u>	<u>0</u>

Witham Parochial Church Council - St Nicolas Church - Charity No 1133036

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
Cash funds		
Current Accounts	32,945	14,931
Deposit Accounts	57,971	62,065
Total Current and Deposit Accounts	90,916	76,996
Liabilities (General Fund)		
Parochial Fees (paid in advance)	10,302	4,760
	10,302	4,760
Other tangible assets		
Lawnmower, cards and office equipment for our Parish and Mediaeval Fayre		

Notes

- 1 The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2008 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- 2 The following assets are recognised but not necessarily valued in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities: Moveable church furnishings held by the church wardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal.
- 3 The expenses paid to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members. No other payments were made to PCC members.

Approved by the PCC on 9th April 2024 and signed on their behalf by Revd Dr. Jonathan Pritchard (Chair)
and Mr John Hassler (PCC Treasurer)

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of St Nicolas Church, Witham

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out within the report.

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

Basis of Independent Examiners Statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

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 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts, which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

AC Clarke 4/5/24

Mrs A C Clarke
4 Abercorn Way
Witham, CM8 2UF
04th May 2024