

# **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 - 2024**

**Team Rector Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard  
Team Vicar Revd Jane Quinton  
Team Vicar Revd Howard Schnaar  
Assistant Curate Revd Noah Cockett  
Associate Priest Revd Susan Malam**

## **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 2024 the Parochial Church Council has consisted of:**

**Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard**, Team Rector

**Revd Jane Quinton**, Team Vicar

**Revd Howard Schnaar**, Team Vicar

**Revd Noah Cockett**, Asst. Curate

**Revd Susan Malam**, Associate Priest SSM

**Mrs Deirdre Schnaar**, Reader LLM

**Mr Andrew Holt**, Churchwarden, Vice Chair of PCC, Electoral Roll Officer, Diocesan Synod & Deanery Synod Representative

**Ms Marian Mitchell**, Churchwarden.

**Mr Mike Robinson**, Diocesan Synod & Deanery Synod Representative

**Mrs Jenny Robinson**, Deanery Synod Representative (Until 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2024)

**Ms Dayo Akande**, elected. PCC Treasurer.

**Mrs Samantha Rees**, elected. PCC Secretary.

**Mrs Lyn Corke**, elected (Until 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024)

**Mrs Caroline Churn**, elected (From 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024)

**Mr Rodney Cullum**, elected

**Mrs Zoe Gilby**, elected

**Mr John Hassler**, elected

**Mrs Janet Hewitt**, elected (From 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024)

**Mr Michael Hewitt**, elected (From 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024)

**Ms Tracey Mackay**, elected

**Mrs Anna Pritchard**, elected, Environment Advocate for Witham Deanery (From Feb. 2024)

**Ms Liz Tymms**, elected, Environment Advocate for Witham Deanery (From Feb. 2024)

**The PCC Standing Committee** comprises the Rector, the two Churchwardens, the PCC Secretary, Mr Rodney Cullum (Until 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024) & Mrs Tracey Mackay (From 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024).

**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 6-weekly from January to November 2024, with the addition of a Faith meeting in February; A total of 9 meetings across the year.



The PCC Standing Committee also met regularly throughout the year. Again 6-weekly; usually 2-3 weeks before the PCC meetings. They involve agreeing the PCC agenda, plus any other urgent business to support PCC work.

Email correspondence involves PCC agendas, virtual proposals & votes, 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 2024 Medieval Fayre was successfully held on 29 June.
- b) The Church Fabric Committee advises the PCC on fabric and property matters for the Church, Church grounds and Church Hall. Meetings ran 4-6 weekly throughout the year.
- c) Finance and Stewardship committee has oversight of the accounts and finances.
- d) Social and Events Committee met regularly every 4-6 weeks throughout the year 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.
- e) Eco Church Group met regularly throughout the year, to develop the ecological agenda within our church. We achieved the A-Rocha Bronze award this year.
- f) Christmas Tree Festival, is developed and managed by the St Nicolas Christmas Tree Festival Committee. This working group met during 2024, and organised a successful festival over the weekend of 7-8 December.

Working groups also report to the PCC as required

- a. Outreach & Mission Group: Continuing our 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 links and general Community links with St Nicolas.

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 (7 churches). He exercises direct responsibility for the Parishes of Witham, Faulkebourne and White Notley. Part of his remit 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:**

Déirdre Schnarr is a Reader/Licensed Lay Minister (LLM).

Pat Pullen & Heather Brewster are both Lay Funeral Ministers.

David Martin, 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 to promote throughout the parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical.

The church receives the services of a Director of Music; Mr David Martin (Until 30<sup>th</sup> March 2024) and Mr Ashley Thompson (From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024). We have a paid Parish Administrator; Ms Linzi Barrett. We also have a paid hall Cleaner; Ms Annika Halford (From 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024). 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.

This year marked David Martin's final set of Easter services after 40 years as our well-loved Director of Music.

The Clergy Team have settled well into our benefice, town, and villages with flourishing results. All regularly preach and celebrate Communion at St Nicolas, with the welcome addition of our Assistant Curate Revd Noah Cockett, who was priested at St. Botolph's Church in Colchester on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. He celebrated his first Holy Communion service at St Nicolas on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>.

The PCC worked with the clergy to encourage the congregation, and its growth to ensure that fruitful and effective discipleship is developed, particularly at the festival services, and during the seasons of Lent and Advent. Chatterbox, the toddler group for pre-school children, continues to flourish, meeting weekly on Mondays in term time. Our All-Age Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month has seen several new families join us this year and grows from strength to strength. Sunday Children's Church restarted in February, followed by a new Sunday evening discussion group for older teenagers from April. We have an effective and growing Eco group who organised and introduced an ecologically supportive churchyard plan in April. They feed creative ideas into our adult congregation and all our children's groups alike, which support growth in our church and help focus us on the need to look after God's amazing created world. All are an excellent resource for children's education and nurture in our parish.



We have been focussing on the long process of obtaining a faculty for several church Fabric projects throughout the year. Our major project and faculty process ongoing, is that to replace the existing lead roof in the South Aisle of the church with Terne Coated Stainless steel. This to make good the damage from previous lead thefts over the years, and to future proof this happening again. The full proposal and plans are currently being assessed for approval by Chelmsford Diocesan Advisory Committee. To support this project, we agreed this year's Mediaeval Fayre profits (£11,432.10) be allocated into a new designated fund, The 'South Aisle Roof Repair Fund;' this will support fundraising and grant matching applications to help us meet the costs involved in repairing the south aisle roof. In November we agreed to accept our Architects recommendation for Lodge and Sons to complete the work on this project, at a cost of £66,580 (excluding VAT). We are hopeful that this work will be completed by end of 2025.

Our two major annual community events, the Mediaeval Fayre (in June) and the Christmas Tree Festival (in December), were very successful, well attended and much enjoyed by all. We also held several social events, including Quiz nights, a Talent show and a series of musical recitals in the 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 again this year – with the Christmas Service opening the Town's Christmas Market.

Finances do continue to struggle, especially with the need to continue to allocate funds towards our Parish Share, and into the general maintenance of what is a grade 1 listed church building. And as noted above, specifically, we have a major obligation to repair our church roof which requires a significant amount of additional funding. We are pleased to note that regular giving has continued to increase during 2024. Supported by our growing congregation, effective ministry within our church and our reaching out to the local community.

We have also been effectively reviewing our bills and income in consultation with our Eco team. We are now on a green eco-friendly tariff with a new gas/electricity supplier from October 2024 which will save approx. £1,000 per year. We have significantly reduced our water bills in year, overestimated to March 2024, and have received a refund of £2,000. We have also competitively increased our Hall hire charges in line with maintenance improvements made by volunteers to our Hall premises this year.

Everything in God's grace is moving in the right direction.

## **ACHIEVEMENT**

The church enjoyed a successful year of worship and witness. Our regular 9.30am Sunday Communion Service continues, as does our regular 6.00pm Sunday Evensong service and our regular 10am Thursday Communion Service. All services are clergy led.



Numbers coming to regular church services increased across the year, with some new families attending. The 9:30am Communion service ranges between 70 to 90 with the All-Age Communion service attracting the largest numbers. Attendance at Evensong generally varies between 24 to 40 (with the notable exception of David Martin's last service where there were over 100.) Numbers attending Christmas services in 2024 also significantly increased (by 25%), building on the growth we noted last year. This was aided by continued proactive publicity for church services, both physical and online, and encouraging a culture of invitation within the regular congregation.

Holy Week services continue to be a significant high point of the churches spiritual journey through the year

In 2024 the clergy and lay funeral ministers officiated at 35 baptisms, 7 weddings, 14 funeral services in Church, 6 at the Crematorium, and 2 interments of ashes in the churchyard.

## **FINANCIAL**

Ekundayo Akande formally took over from John Hassler as treasurer on 30 May 2024.

Key items from the financial report are set out below.

Total receipts on ordinary restricted funds in 2024 was at £116,874, higher than the 2023 figure of £110,011. Expenses increased moving from £96,090 in 2023 to £116,608 in 2024 leaving a small surplus of £266.

£112,320 was spent on Church Activities, including an increase of £40,371 in 2024 from £30,000 in 2023 in contributions towards the Diocesan Parish Share (Parish Share).

Parish Share contributions are made towards ministry costs and central diocesan costs, calculated by a formula based on church members. We were unable to meet our budgeted Parish share contribution of £99,508 for 2024 and only able to contribute £40,371. This payment included £9171 (realised from Mediaeval fayre income for 2023 intended to go towards the Parish Share for 2023).

The Mediaeval Fayre continues to be the largest revenue generator with income of £16,646 up from £14,742 in 2023, bringing the total income for fundraising activities to £24,984 from £22,340 in 2023. This year, Mediaeval Fayre income was allocated to the roof fund. Expenses for organising fundraising activities also decreased from £6233 in 2023 to £4158 in 2024.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

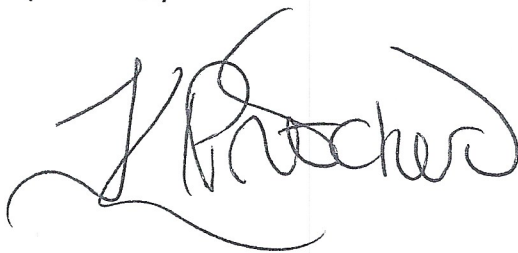
The PCC's policy requires that a balance of approximately 4 months be maintained to cover emergency requirements. Paying the total amount of £99,508 as budgeted in Parish Share would have depleted our unrestricted reserves, left us vulnerable and is

not in accordance with the PCC's policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds.

After adding bank and deposit balances brought forward on 1 January 2024, the balance carried forward on 31st December 2024 for the ordinary unrestricted funds remains as £37,730 which continues to support the policy on unrestricted funds.

We have continued to invest our funds balances with the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund.

Approved by the PCC on 8 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard (PCC Chair)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Pritchard', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

8 April 2025

**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 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>						
<b>Voluntary receipts</b>						
Planned giving	64,647				64,647	48,033
Collections and other giving	5,911				5,911	5,577
All other giving / voluntary receipts	1,392				1,392	10,574
Gift Aid Recovered	6,776				6,776	4,158
<b>Total Voluntary Receipts</b>	<b>78,726</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78,726</b>	<b>68,342</b>
Activities for generating funds	24,984				24,984	23,888
Investment Income	885	918	1,390		3,193	1,895
Church Activities	5,975				5,975	4,739
Redemption of Investments	0				0	0
Other receipts	6,304		70		6,374	11,147
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>116,874</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>1,460</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>119,252</b>	<b>110,011</b>
<b>Payments</b>						
<b>Church activities</b>						
Parish share	40,371				40,371	30,000
Clergy and staffing costs	15,500				15,500	11,153
Church running expenses	42,849		492		43,341	27,869
Hall running costs	6,593				6,593	8,634
Church Repairs & Maintenance	6,276				6,276	9,373
Hall Repairs & Maintenance	501				501	2,498
Mission giving and donations	230				230	200
<b>Total Church Activities</b>	<b>112,320</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112,812</b>	<b>89,727</b>
Cost of generating funds	4,158				4,158	6,233
Governance costs	130				130	130
Other payments	0				0	0
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>116,608</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>117,100</b>	<b>96,090</b>
<b>Excess of receipts over payments / (payments over receipts)</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,152</b>	<b>13,921</b>
Movements Between Funds (Roof Fund)	-5,903		5,903		0	0
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan	21,745	20,704	48,467	0	90,916	76,995
<b>Cash at bank and in hand at 31 Dec</b>	<b>16,108</b>	<b>21,622</b>	<b>55,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93,068</b>	<b>90,916</b>

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

Note	Unrestricted Fund	Unrestricted Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>Cash Funds</b>						
Bank Current Account	12,930	3,685	10,270		26,885	32,945
Deposit Accounts	3,178	17,937	45,068		66,183	57,971
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16,108</b>	<b>21,622</b>	<b>55,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93,068</b>	<b>90,916</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
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			2,989		2,989	2,990
Bellringers Fund			5,689		5,689	6,111
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>10,270</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,044</b>	<b>14,467</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>						
General Fund	16,019				16,019	21,656
Equipment Fund		17,937			17,937	17,018
Abrey Trust			17,980		17,980	17,518
Church House Fund			3,883		3,883	3,687
Fabric Fund			14,569		14,569	13,836
Graves Fund			2,733		2,733	2,734
Roof Fund			5,903		5,903	0
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
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16,019</b>	<b>17,937</b>	<b>45,068</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79,024</b>	<b>76,449</b>

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

## **Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024**

### **General Fund (Unrestricted) Receipts and Payments Account**

	2024	2023
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Regular Giving</b>		
	64,647	49,581
	<b>64,647</b>	<b>49,581</b>
<b>Collections and other giving</b>		
Loose plate (Non-Gift Aid Donations)	5,883	5,567
One-off Gift Aid gifts /Donations various	28	10
Gift Aid Income Tax recovered	6,776	4,158
	<b>12,687</b>	<b>9,735</b>
<b>Other voluntary receipts</b>		
Legacies	0	0
Charitable donations	0	200
Donations	621	9,585
Votives	371	389
Flowers - donations	400	400
	<b>1,392</b>	<b>10,574</b>
<b>Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>		
Mediaeval Fayre	16,646	14,742
Concerts	100	461
Easyfundraising.co.uk	93	364
General Fundraising	401	421
Church hall lettings income	7,485	6,262
Magazine sales & advertising	259	90
	<b>24,984</b>	<b>22,340</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>Receipts from Church activities</b>		
Parochial fees (fees from weddings and funerals)	5,975	4,739
Choir and Organ Income		0
Literature Income		0
	<b>5,975</b>	<b>4,739</b>
<b>Other Receipts</b>		
Insurance Claims		0
Grants		1,045
Other Receipts	6,304	3,991
	<b>6,304</b>	<b>5,036</b>
	<b>116,874</b>	<b>102,189</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
<b>Church Activities</b>		
Diocesan Parish Share	40,371	30,000
Clergy and staffing costs	15,500	11,153
Church running expenses	42,849	27,869
Hall running costs	6,593	8,634
Church Repairs & Maintenance	6,276	6,300
Hall Repairs & Maintenance	501	2,498
Overseas mission and relief agencies	0	0
Home mission and other church societies	230	200
	<b>112,320</b>	<b>86,654</b>
<b>Fundraising Costs</b>		
Other fundraising costs	160	842
Magazine Costs	0	49
Mediaeval Fayre	3,998	5,342
	<b>4,158</b>	<b>6,233</b>
<b>Other Payments</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>130</b>
	<b>116,608</b>	<b>93,017</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>9,171</b>
<b>Movements Between Funds</b>		
	-5,903	0
	<b>-5,637</b>	<b>9,171</b>
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January</b>	<b>21,745</b>	<b>12,574</b>
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b>16,108</b>	<b>21,745</b>



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

**Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024**

**Fabric Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Bank Interest	734	430
	<u>734</u>	<u>430</u>
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payments	<u>734</u>	<u>430</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	13,836	13,406
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>14,569</u></b>	<b><u>13,836</u></b>

**Church House Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Bank Interest	195	114
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>195</u>	<u>114</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	3,687	3,573
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>3,883</u></b>	<b><u>3,687</u></b>

**Abrey Trust Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Bank Interest	461	544
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>461</u>	<u>544</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	17,518	16,974
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>17,980</u></b>	<b><u>17,518</u></b>

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

**Graves Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
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
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>2,733</u></b>	<b><u>2,734</u></b>

**Church Community Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
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
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>1,592</u></b>	<b><u>1,592</u></b>

**John Suddards Memorial Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Designated Fund**

	2024	2023
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
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>3,685</u></b>	<b><u>3,685</u></b>

**Hope Community (Witham) Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Donation	0	0
Payments		
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	2,989	2,990
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>2,989</u></b>	<b><u>2,990</u></b>

**Equipment Fund Receipts and Payments Account - Designated Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Bank Interest	918	623
Payments		
Repair of Church Organ	0	3,073
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>918</u>	<u>-2,450</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	17,018	19,468
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>17,937</u></b>	<b><u>17,018</u></b>

**Bellringers Fund - Restricted Fund**

	2024	2023
Receipts		
Transfer to PCC	70	
Payments		
	0	6,111
Excess of Receipts over Payment	<u>492</u>	<u>6,111</u>
Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 1st January	6,111	0
<b>Bank Current and Deposit accounts at 31st December</b>	<b><u>5,689</u></b>	<b><u>6,111</u></b>

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

**Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024**

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st December 2024		
	2024	2023
Cash funds		
Current Accounts	26,885	32,945
Deposit Accounts	66,183	57,971
<b>Total Current and Deposit Accounts</b>	<b>93,068</b>	<b>90,916</b>
Liabilities (General Fund)		
	0	0
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
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 \*\*\* \*\* 2025 and signed on their behalf by Revd Dr. Jonathan Pritchard (Chair) and Dayo Akande (PCC Treasurer)

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of**

***The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Witham.***

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. 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;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state 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 undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; 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.

**Name:** Mrs Ann Clarke

**Signature:** 

**Relevant professional qualification or body:**

**Address:** 4 Abercorn Way, Witham, Essex, CM8 2UF

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025