

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish
of St Mary the Virgin, Baldock

Registered Charity No. 1133060

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

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Rector (From 13 September 2023)	Treasurer
The Reverend Phillipa Maddox	Steve Thomas
The Rectory	38 High Street
9 Pond Lane	Baldock
Baldock	
Principal Bankers	Independent Examiner
Lloyds TSB	Geoff Mann
Bancroft	Dee House
Hitchin	Highworth Avenue
	Cambridge

Church Contact Details

<http://www.stmarysbaldock.org.uk>

PCC Members & Key Role Holders	Role
The Reverend Phillipa Maddox	Rector
David Morgan	Churchwarden
Mike Maddox	Licensed Lay Minister
Katrina Nice	Licensed Lay Minister
Agnes Balmer	Lay Leader of Worship
Steven Thomas	Treasurer
Paula Lickfold	DBS Officer
Alexandra Milne	PCC Secretary
Christopher Page	PCC member
Steven Shepperson-Smith	PCC member
Andrew Clark	PCC member
Michael Muir	PCC member
Christine Caine	PCC member
Sarah West	Safeguarding Officer
Sharon Wiltshire	Junior Church Leader
Antony Copsey	Director of Music
Paul Herring	Organist
Aileen Barry	Friends of St Mary's Chairperson

1. St. Mary's Vision & Goals

2024 was a year of both change and consolidation at St Mary's Church. In February, a successful and well attended Parish Away morning helped to channel ideas and initiatives. This enabled us to use the feedback to shape the change and the direction of the church community.



Parish Away Morning February 2024

A new vision was developed following this time away together:

**Our vision is to grow in love for God, our planet,
our community and each other.**

This vision reflects our commitment as a church to be a dynamic worshipping community full of life and love. While it is encouraging to see numerical growth (Sunday attendance increased by 7% in 2024), our focus is on growing spiritually, in inclusivity, in compassion for others and in our care for the environment.

St. Mary's vision is based on our core values of:

- engaging worship;
- enjoying fellowship, food and fun;
- caring for the environment;
- inclusive welcome and access to all;
- visible presence in the community; and
- protecting our past and shaping our future.

Our Mission Action Plan (MAP) was updated in 2024 with our new priorities being:

- to increase the number of young people in the church.
- to create a generous welcome for casual and worshipping visitors to the church.
- to become more environmentally sustainable.

2. Values in Action

The vision and values of St. Mary's Church are reflected in our activities and plans for the future.

Engaging worship

Worship at St. Mary's is facilitated by a dedicated ministry team and many other volunteers. Our ministry team grew in 2024, with Mike Maddox licensed as a Lay Minister in September and Agnes Balmer licensed as a Lay Leader of Worship in October.



Mike's Licensing Service - St. Albans Cathedral September 2024

2024 saw an increase in diversity of worship provided by St. Mary's Church. Choral Evensong returned as a regular feature in our church calendar and has grown in popularity with both existing and new congregants. The Praise Be Band reformed and have started playing at our monthly Parish Praise! services. They also performed at the Christmas Tree Festival which brought in hundreds of extra visitors to our church. There have been a number of themed services throughout the year including Safeguarding Sunday, Anti-slavery Sunday and Environment Sunday.

The provision of ministry to children and families includes Junior Church twice a month in term time, a monthly all-age Parish Praise! service, monthly Messy Church and the hugely popular Crib Service on Christmas Eve when over 250 people regularly attend. Midweek worship includes Tiny Tots on Wednesdays, now at the earlier time of 10am, followed by Holy Communion at 11.15am.

The church continues to have a strong relationship with St Mary's Infant and Junior Schools. The Infant School received an encouraging SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools) report, highlighting the strong emphasis on Christian distinctiveness within the school and commending the fruitful relationship with St. Mary's church.

Prayer meetings continue three times a week online and with a monthly in-person meeting on Sunday mornings after the 9.30am service. Our Pastoral Visiting team takes worship out to the community, leading home communion services for those who are house-bound and in four different local Care Homes.

Enjoying fellowship, food and fun

The Friends of St Mary's arranged a number of events throughout the year, raising much needed funds for the church building. These included concerts for both adults and children, a theatrical production, an entertainer, a cream tea to celebrate the first anniversary of HM The King's coronation and a colour analyst consultancy event – there was certainly something for everyone! Tower trips and church tours were organised for the Baldock Festival in May, but sadly the tower trips were cancelled in December due to the weather.



enjoying fireworks and fizz after Ascension Day service.

Throughout the year, shared meals provide an opportunity for church members to relax together and develop relationships. Seasonal festivals provide additional opportunities for fellowship and fun. Highlights this year included a bring-and-share meal as part of our Maundy Thursday service and

Enjoying sparkles in the churchyard on Ascension Day

our

Caring for the Environment

The Bee and Butterfly Garden continued to spearhead St Mary's eco drive: highlights were a Churches Count on Nature bug hunt for children, signposting the garden with new artistic posters on wooden display boards and using the garden for a prayer session in Messy Church. The Eco Church Group had its annual stall in Baldock Eco-Fest, making bunting for use in a church service and connecting with the national church's Creationtide celebrations in September. Eco tips are shared in our weekly newsletter and we continue to put forward ideas for our church and hall to be more sustainable and grow towards an A Rocha Silver Eco Church award!



The Bee Garden looking glorious in the summer

Inclusive welcome and access to all

The church is open daily during daylight hours and is therefore accessible to all who wish to come in for a time of quiet contemplation, reflection, to light a candle or to look at the Book of Remembrance. New Welcome cards were introduced in 2024 that are more appealing than the previous GDPR forms and have been very popular with our visitors and new worshippers.

The Community Sponsorship committee continues to meet throughout the year, supporting a Syrian refugee family in our benefice. The family still rely reasonably heavily on members of the committee but are slowly working towards gaining more independence.



We continue to host a Trussell Trust Foodbank station twice a week in our church hall. Early in 2024, we responded to an invitation from a local family support worker, Nicki McGrinder, to help create a new model of food distribution to meet the needs of our local community. Kaotic Angels Food Station now runs weekly in the church hall, free of charge, and is supported by a number of volunteers from the church and the wider community.

Volunteers at the Kaotic Angels food station

Visible presence in the community (and beyond)

Events took place throughout the year, particularly during the Baldock Festival in May and the Christmas Fayre in December. During the Festival in May, the Friends of St Mary's hosted a stall on the High Street (turning water into wine) helping to highlight our presence in the community. St Mary's hosted many other events over the fortnight. The ever-popular Christmas Tree Festival coincided as usual with the town's Christmas Fayre. Entry to the Festival remains free of charge, so that it is not prohibitive due to costs. Footfall was down on previous years due to the torrential weather which sadly meant that the main Fayre was cancelled. However, for those who braved the weather, refreshments and mulled wine, Santa's Grotto, live music and over 50 exhibits awaited them.



Christmas Tree Festival



Our desire to show the love of Christ extends beyond our own locality. As such, the missions committee continues to meet regularly and allocated charitable giving on behalf of the church to those in need both nationally and internationally.

This year money has been given to HomeStart North Herts; Shelter UK; Christians Against

Poverty;
Appeal;

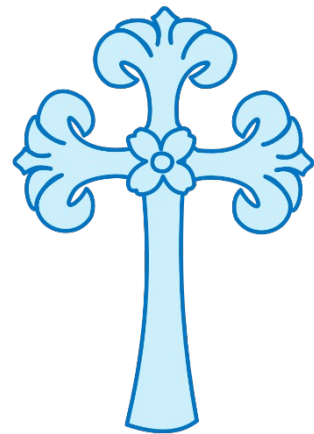
Summer jazz concert with JD Jazz band in June

UNICEF Morocco Earthquake

USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel), Embrace the Middle East - a Christian charity, "tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East"; UNICEF Gaza Emergency Appeal and Christian Aid Ukraine Appeal. At Christmas, we collected items in shoeboxes to donate to needy families in Bulgaria through the House of Opportunity charity.

Protecting our past and shaping our future

One of the symbols that can be found around the church, and on some memorials in the churchyard, is a foliated cross; a cross with leaves growing out of it. We have created a new church logo based on the image of a foliated cross as a reflection of our vision, but also recognising our valuable historic legacy. This logo was created for us by graphic artist, Alexandra Nice, and is unique to St. Mary's church.



A very popular taster session during the Baldock Festival in May has led to a new group of bellringing trainees at St. Mary's. The Baldock bellringing team (known as a 'Tower') are excited to welcome these keen new volunteers and hope to get our Tower up to full strength soon.

The Bellringing Beginners Group



A great blow came to our church and local community in the early hours of the morning on Friday 19th July, when we sadly suffered from a significant act of vandalism. Several gravestones in the churchyard were severely damaged and almost every window and door in the church hall were smashed.



Following the attack, the hall was initially completely closed, meaning that the Food Bank and other activities that take place in the hall had to be cancelled or moved to other locations at short notice. After a period of consideration, rather than just patching up the church hall to fix the damage, we decided to use the opportunity to improve the facilities for the use of the church and wider community.



Proposed plans for the church hall

Our priorities are to improve the accessibility and reduce the energy footprint, to make it a more welcoming and flexible space. This will inevitably result in a delay to the repairs and some disruption once works commence but will mean that the church hall can continue to be a valuable community space for years to come.

3. Safeguarding

Our goal at St Mary's Baldock is to have an environment where everyone feels safe and respected. We take very seriously the importance of safeguarding all people using our church facilities or dealing with representatives of our church community. We follow government, Church of England and the House of Bishops policies and good practice guidance.

In July, Paula Lickfold took up the position of Lead Recruiter. In October Chris Caine stepped down as Parish Safeguarding Officer and Sarah West was appointed as the new Parish Safeguarding Officer. We are working to develop a culture where safeguarding is understood as everybody's concern. In November, we celebrated Safeguarding Sunday with a themed worship service as part of our strategy to achieve this.

Safeguarding training

Work continues to ensure that everyone who has a responsibility for running church activities with children and vulnerable adults knows who the safeguarding team is and how to follow the process of raising concerns.

With safeguarding training taking place online we are pleased to report that those with a responsibility for children, young people and vulnerable adults, and PCC members, are trained to the appropriate level. For those who are unable to undertake online training workshops were held.

Safeguarding policies and plans

Safeguarding policies are available on our website, in a clearly signposted dedicated section of the site. Information about our safeguarding policies and procedures are displayed in the church and church hall with details of the safeguarding team. In September the PCC reviewed the safeguarding policy and action plan. We are pleased to report that risk assessments were updated and developed for church activities and working practices. This is ongoing as new activities come on stream. In addition, we updated our policies and processes on safer recruitment for volunteers and employees following the Church of England guidelines.

4. All About the PCC

Administrative Information

St Mary The Virgin is situated in Hitchin Street, Baldock. It is part of the Diocese of St. Albans within the Church of England. The Parochial Church Council is a registered charity within the Charity Commission. Registered Charity No. 1133060.

The PCC members who have served between 1st January 2024 and 31st December 2024 were:

Rector:	The Rev'd Phillipa Maddox		
Churchwardens:	Mr D Morgan	From APCM 2024 to APCM 2025	
Representatives on Deanery Synod:	Mr A Clark	Until APCM 2026	Secretary
	Mrs K Nice	Until APCM 2026	Reader
	Mr M Muir	Until APCM 2026	
Elected Members:	Mrs C Caine	Until APCM 2025	
	Mr S Thomas	Until APCM 2025	Treasurer
	Mr C Page	Until APCM 2026	
	Mr P Dougal	Until APCM 2024	Vice Chairman
	Mrs A Balmer	Until APCM 2026	Lay Leader of Worship
	Mr M Maddox	Until APCM 2027	Reader
	Mr S Shepperson-Smith	Until APCM 2027	
Co-opted Member:	Mrs A Milne	Until APCM 2027	
	Mrs P Lickfold	Until APCM 2027	
	Mrs S West	Until APCM 2025	Safeguarding Officer

Signed on behalf of the PCC

.....*Phillipa Maddox*.....

Date*4/5/25*.....

NOTE: As a co-opted member, Mrs S West is not a trustee of the Charity.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Baldock (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with Reverend Phillipa Maddox to promote the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church and the Church Hall.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community at St. Mary's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning

our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's and the Church Hall.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (Rector), readers, churchwardens and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services/members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. In addition to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, the full PCC met four times during the year - in February, June, September and November. Conflict of Interest, of which we are very mindful, is a standard agenda item at the PCC meetings.

In September, seven members of the PCC attended the Leading Your Church into Growth conference, led by a team from the Diocese. This engaging conference helped us to think about how we can generously and effectively welcome more people to St. Mary's church.



Members of the PCC attending the Leading Your Church into Growth conference in September

Statistics

Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings and key services took place throughout the year. The below table below shows a comparison in the statistics from 2017 (pre-pandemic), 2023 & 2024. It is encouraging that Sunday attendance is growing. Although seasonal services seem to have dropped, some have increased, such as Nine Lessons and Carols which nearly doubled in number from the previous year. It is also interesting to note that more of our community are choosing to have funerals led by a Minister either in Church or at a Crematorium than in previous years.

Event	2017	2023	2024
Usual Sunday Attendance (adult)	57	42	45
Usual Sunday Attendance (child)	9	5	5
Baptisms	16	9	10
Funerals led by a Minister either in Church or at a Crematorium	24	13	31
Weddings	3	2	0
Christmas Attendance	571	438	419
Easter Day Attendance	179	87	68

There are 109 people on the Electoral Roll (compared to 115 in 2023 and 134 in 2017).

Deanery Synod

Three members of the PCC sit on the deanery synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

General Data Protection Regulation

The General Data Protection Regulation have continued to be in place and monitored by the Parish Administrator, Alex Milne. All emails sent out by the church go out blind copied and all recipients have signed to agree for their details to be included in our distribution list. Designated email addresses have been set up for Messy Church and Hall Bookings.

Friends of St Mary's

The Friends of St. Mary the Virgin (FOSM), Baldock (Registered Charity: 1117542) is a separate charity with the aim of raising money for the maintenance and restoration of the fabric of the church buildings. The FOSM committee met every eight weeks or so throughout the year, principally to plan the fundraising events to assist the church maintenance and repairs and grow membership.

5. Financial Review

General Fund

At the start of 2024, the General Fund held £51,983 but during the year this reduced by £8,280 to finish at £43,703. Many of the changes over the year reflect the financial climate in general. The key points in 2024 were:

- Regular planned giving fell by 7%, and totalled £44,975 in the year (down 31% since 2020).
- Church management and administration costs were broadly similar to last year, with staff salaries increasing by 10% in line with inflation. We have also begun contributing to a staff pension fund.
- Physical attendance at Church has increased by 6% from the previous year, and with loose collections at services amounting to £4,204; an increase of 82% from 2023. Contactless donations (included in the total for *Donations, appeals, subscriptions*) amounted to a further £3,713.

Church Hall Fund

The Church Hall would have made a profit of approximately £4,000 in 2024; up from £1,588 in 2023. This improved position is a consequence of the increasing use of the hall by external organisations. Unfortunately, the hall was vandalised, and approximately £7,000 has been spent on emergency boarding and glazing of the doors, as well as a measured survey and plans for the hall restoration. Some of these costs, as well as the insurance settlement and donations towards the restoration, will be transferred to a designated Hall Restoration fund, which will be set up in 2025. The Church Hall Fund now stands at £3,616.

Restricted Funds

The PCC currently holds £80,590 (£86,519 in 2023) in surplus Restricted Funds.

Much of this money is held within the Fabric Fund. At the end of 2024 this held a total of £40,943 (2023 £40,711). The increase is due to interest earned on the deposit.

The Sound System Fund has been renamed as the Audiovisual Systems Fund to include the streaming equipment purchased in 2021 and the new microphones in 2023 – fees are charged for the optional use of this system at weddings and funerals. This fund currently has a balance of -£1,025 after we received a grant in 2024 from Hertfordshire County Council, and a number of church funeral fees.

The Community Sponsorship Fund currently holds £678 (£1,198 in 2023). The reduction is due to the cost of providing English language lessons, and insurance payments for 79 Hillcrest.

The Nave & Chancel Roof fund currently holds £29,807 (£36,590 in 2023). We are going to explore the possibility of releasing some of these funds for other purposes.

Liabilities

The total liabilities of the PCC at the end of 2024 were £8,024 (£8,206 in 2023). This includes the Quarter 4 parochial fees, December utilities used but not yet invoiced, and charitable payments that were still to be distributed. All of these liabilities will be settled within the first quarter of 2025.

Reserve Policy

- The reserves policy for unrestricted funds should cover the following items in the priority listed (all items rounded to nearest hundred pounds):
 - Funding to cover six months of critical expenditure as below:
 - ♣ Heat, Light and Water for Church and Hall (£6,580 as of 31/12/2024)
 - ♣ Insurance Payments for Church and Hall (£4,900 as of 31/12/2024)
 - Funding to cover two months of critical expenditure as below:
 - ♣ Salaries (£2,600 as of 31/12/2024)
 - Funding to cover one month of general expenditure (£6,900 as of 31/12/2024)
- Reserve funds required to meet the above amount to £20,980. The General fund balance at 31/12/2024 is £43,703, which can cover these costs.
- Cover for Emergency Repairs (e.g., Theft of Lead, Roof Repairs) (estimated at £30,000). The restricted Fabric and Nave & Chancel Roof funds together hold £70,750, which can be used to cover this class of expense.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
For the year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES							
Incoming resources from donors	2(a)	84,571	4,497	89,068	74,723	25,473	100,196
Other voluntary income	2(b)	3,608	-	3,608	1,105	-	1,105
Income from charitable and ancillary trading	2(c)	20,786	-	20,786	18,704	-	18,704
Income from investments	2(d)	3,116	273	3,389	1,674	268	1,942
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>112,081</u>	<u>4,770</u>	<u>116,851</u>	<u>96,206</u>	<u>25,741</u>	<u>121,947</u>
RESOURCES USED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	-	5,415	5,415	-	6,038	6,038
Activities directly relating to the work of the church	3(b)	106,397	7,584	113,981	101,182	10,282	111,465
Fund raising and publicity	3(c)	441	-	441	-	-	-
Church management and administration	3(d)	14,188	-	14,188	13,799	-	13,799
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		<u>121,026</u>	<u>12,999</u>	<u>134,025</u>	<u>114,981</u>	<u>16,320</u>	<u>131,302</u>
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		(8,945)	(8,229)	(17,174)	(18,775)	9,420	(9,355)
Transfers between funds	4	(2,300)	2,300	-	(2,800)	2,800	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(11,245)</u>	<u>(5,929)</u>	<u>(17,174)</u>	<u>(21,575)</u>	<u>12,220</u>	<u>(9,355)</u>
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY 2024 (2023)		<u>58,563</u>	<u>86,520</u>	<u>145,083</u>	<u>80,138</u>	<u>74,300</u>	<u>154,437</u>
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER 2024 (2023)		<u>47,318</u>	<u>80,591</u>	<u>127,909</u>	<u>58,563</u>	<u>86,520</u>	<u>145,082</u>

The notes on pages 18 to 23 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS	5		
Tangible fixed assets		-	-
Investment assets		651	651
		<u>651</u>	<u>651</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	460	-
Central Board of Finance Deposit		14,083	41,861
Cash at bank and in hand		120,739	110,776
		<u>135,282</u>	<u>152,637</u>
LIABILITIES :	8		
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		8,024	8,206
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>127,258</u>	<u>144,431</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>127,909</u>	<u>145,082</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted - General		43,703	51,983
- Designated		3,616	6,580
Restricted		80,590	86,519
		<u>127,909</u>	<u>145,082</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

Revd P Maddox
Rector

D Morgan
Churchwarden

The notes on pages 18 to 23 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions. They have been prepared under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2019 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements 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, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

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

Restricted funds represent the funds which have accumulated from money which has been given for a particular purpose or invited by the PCC for a specific purpose. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Incoming resources

Voluntary income and capital sources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC

Planned giving receivable under covenant is recognised only when received

Income tax recoverable on covenants or gift aid donations is recognised when the income to which it relates is received.

Other ordinary income

Rental income from the letting of the church premises is recognised when received.

Income from investments

Dividends and interest are accounted for when received.

Resources used

Donations

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church.

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings, the Church Hall and movable church furnishings

In so far as consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of 'charity' by Section 10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011 such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The retention of the Church Hall is bound up with the worship, mission and ministry of the Church and is considered to be 'operationally inalienable' and is also excluded from the accounts.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and separately disclosed.

Other fixtures fittings and office equipment

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight-line basis over 2 to 10 years.

Investments

Investments are carried at their book cost at 31 December.

Net current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors.

Short - term deposits include cash held on deposit with the Church Board of Finance of the Church of England.

Amounts owed by the PCC at 31 December in respect of expenses and church maintenance are shown as creditors.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2(a) <i>Incoming resources from donors</i>						
Planned giving :						
Gift Aided and non-Gift Aided	44,975	-	44,975	48,351	-	48,351
Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid	10,152	-	10,152	11,859	-	11,859
Collections at all services	4,204	-	4,204	2,304	-	2,304
Donations, appeals, subscriptions	25,240	4,497	29,737	12,209	25,473	37,682
	<u>84,571</u>	<u>4,497</u>	<u>89,068</u>	<u>74,723</u>	<u>25,473</u>	<u>100,196</u>
2(b) <i>Other voluntary income</i>						
Contributions to Rectory Gas	-	-	-	224	-	224
Social & Fundraising	3,608	-	3,608	881	-	881
	<u>3,608</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,608</u>	<u>1,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,105</u>
2(c) <i>Income from charitable and ancillary trading</i>						
Church Hall shop & Coffee Bar	693	-	693	789	-	789
Church Hall hire	12,498	-	12,498	12,791	-	12,791
Incoming Fees for Church Heating	455	-	455	100	-	100
Fees	7,140	-	7,140	5,024	-	5,024
	<u>20,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,786</u>	<u>18,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,704</u>
2(d) <i>Income from investments</i>						
Dividends	-	273	273	-	268	268
Interest received on deposits	3,116	-	3,116	1,674	-	1,674
	<u>3,116</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>3,389</u>	<u>1,674</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>1,942</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>112,081</u>	<u>4,770</u>	<u>116,851</u>	<u>96,206</u>	<u>25,741</u>	<u>121,947</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3 RESOURCES USED

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3(a) <i>Missionary and charitable giving :</i>						
Missions	-	4,195	4,195	-	5,501	5,501
Sustainability	-	-	-	-	63	63
Youth Worker	-	600	600	-	100	100
Community Sponsorship	-	620	620	-	374	374
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,415</u>	<u>5,415</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,038</u>	<u>6,038</u>
3(b) <i>Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</i>						
Ministry : parish share	61,685	-	61,685	56,511	-	56,511
clergy expenses	2,738	-	2,738	50	-	50
fees	3,559	-	3,559	5,810	-	5,810
Church running expenses						
insurance	8,057	-	8,057	7,144	-	7,144
heat, light and water	7,240	-	7,240	12,161	-	12,161
repairs, maintenance & improvements	416	7,584	8,000	1,109	9,903	11,012
upkeep of services	28	-	28	9	-	9
Rectory Gas	1,017	-	1,017	1,484	-	1,484
Organ, Choir & Music Group	3,453	-	3,453	3,552	-	3,552
Church Hall - running expenses	16,156	-	16,156	11,909	-	11,909
Church Hall shop & Coffee Bar	-	-	-	106	-	106
Resources	1,907	-	1,907	699	39	738
Gifts and Hospitality	141	-	141	638	-	638
Disabled Access					340	340
	<u>106,397</u>	<u>7,584</u>	<u>113,981</u>	<u>101,182</u>	<u>10,282</u>	<u>111,464</u>
3 (c) <i>Fund - raising and publicity</i>						
Publicity and other expenses	441	-	441	-	-	-
3 (d) <i>Church management and administration</i>						
Office Running Costs	874	-	874	1,307	-	1,307
Secretarial assistance	12,445	-	12,445	11,147	-	11,147
Bank charges	266	-	266	271	-	271
Other administrative charges	603	-	603	1,074	-	1,074
	<u>14,188</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,188</u>	<u>13,799</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,799</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	<u>121,026</u>	<u>12,999</u>	<u>134,025</u>	<u>114,981</u>	<u>16,320</u>	<u>131,301</u>

The total Salaries paid in 2024 was £15,375 (2023 £13,837) for Secretarial Assistance and Hall Cleaning.

No trustees or connected persons were paid any monies with the exception of reimbursement of expenses for items purchased on behalf of the PCC.

Other administrative charges include salary administration £462 (2023 £462) and an Independent Examination fee of £540 estimated. (2023 £539; paid in 2025)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

4	SUMMARY OF INTERNAL TRANSFERS 2024	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds
		General	Designated	
	PCC Donation to Missions Committee	(500)	-	500
	PCC Donation to Missions for Latin Link	(1,800)	-	1,800
	PCC Advance to Audiovisual System	-	-	-
	Legacy & Memorial (Designated) to PCC	-	-	-
	PCC Donation to Organ Fund	-	-	-
		<u>(2,300)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,300</u>

SUMMARY OF INTERNAL TRANSFERS 2023	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds
	General	Designated	
PCC Donation to Missions Committee	(1,000)	-	1,000
PCC Donation to Missions for Latin Link	(1,800)	-	1,800
Legacy & Memorial (Designated) to PCC	-	-	-
PCC Donation to Organ Fund	-	-	-
	<u>(2,800)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,800</u>

5	FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC	Fixtures and Equipment
	<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	£
	GROSS BOOK VALUE	
	At 1 January 2024	57,326
	Additions in the year	-
	Disposals and Revaluations in year	-
	At 31 December 2024	<u>57,326</u>
	DEPRECIATION	
	At 1 January 2024	57,326
	Provided in the year	-
	At 31 December 2024	<u>57,326</u>
	NET BOOK VALUE	
	At 31 December 2024	-
	At 31 December 2023	-

Fixtures and equipment comprise the contents of the Church Hall which are held by the PCC for continuing use in its work, and lighting and fittings and equipment installed in the Church. The contents of the Hall were acquired from PCC funds or by gift.
The Church gas boiler, lighting and fittings were acquired using amounts collected into the Fabric, Restoration and Legacies & Memorials Funds.

Investment assets

Investments were held at 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2023.

These investments were enabled by specific bequests in previous years.

427 shares are held in the CBF's Investment Fund in the UK - At 31 December 2024 Historical Cost £550 (2023 £550)

Market value £9,873 (2023 £9,652).

In addition, at 31 December 2024, £101 was held in the deposit fund. (2023 £101).

6	ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
		2024					
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Fixed assets	-	651	651	-	651	651
	Current assets	49,766	85,516	135,282	62,611	90,026	152,637
	Liabilities	(2,447)	(5,577)	(8,024)	(4,048)	(4,158)	(8,206)
		<u>47,319</u>	<u>80,590</u>	<u>127,909</u>	<u>58,563</u>	<u>86,519</u>	<u>145,082</u>
7	DEBTORS	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
		2024					
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Prepayments	-	460	460	-	-	-
8	LIABILITIES	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2024					
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Accruals and deferred income	<u>2,447</u>	<u>5,577</u>	<u>8,024</u>	<u>4,048</u>	<u>4,158</u>	<u>8,206</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

9 FUND DETAILS

FUND DETAILS 2024		Balance at 1/1/2024	Income / Donations	Dividends / Interest	Costs / Transfers	Balance at 31/ 12/ 2024
RESTRICTED FUNDS IN SURPLUS AT END 2024						
Tower		2,439	460	-	(802)	2,097
Robes & Vestment		140	-	-	-	140
Missions		418	2,297	-	(1,895)	820
Churchyard		93	-	36	-	129
Choir Scholarships		162	-	-	-	162
Community Sponsorship		1,198	100	-	(620)	678
Remembrance		315	-	-	-	315
Youth		59	-	-	-	59
Sustainability		173	-	-	-	173
Audiovisual System		(2,425)	1,400	-	-	(1,025)
Fabric		40,711	-	232	-	40,943
Youth Worker (Restricted)		4,081	-	-	(600)	3,481
Organ		2,255	240	5	-	2,500
Nave & Chancel Roof		36,589	-	-	(6,782)	29,807
Endowments		651	-	-	-	651
Disabled Access		(340)	-	-	-	(340)
TOTAL RESTRICTED		86,519	4,497	273	(10,699)	80,590
UNRESTRICTED						
Designated Funds						
Church Hall		6,581	13,191	-	(16,156)	3,616
SUBTOTAL		6,581	13,191	-	(16,156)	3,616
General		51,983	95,793	3,116	(107,189)	43,703
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED		58,564	108,984	3,116	(123,345)	47,319
TOTAL FUNDS		145,083	113,481	3,389	(134,044)	127,909

FUND DETAILS 2023		Balance at 1/1/2023	Income / Donations	Dividends / Interest	Costs / Transfers	Balance at 31/ 12/ 2023
RESTRICTED FUNDS IN SURPLUS AT END 2023						
Tower		2,549	100	-	(210)	2,439
Robes & Vestment		140	-	-	-	140
Missions		418	2,701	-	(2,701)	418
Churchyard		57	-	36	-	93
Choir Scholarships		162	-	-	-	162
Community Sponsorship		1,573	-	-	(374)	1,199
Remembrance		315	-	-	-	315
Youth		98	-	-	(39)	59
Sustainability		136	100	-	(63)	173
Audiovisual System		986	100	-	(3,510)	(2,424)
Fabric		40,483	-	228	-	40,711
Youth Worker (Restricted)		4,181	-	-	(100)	4,081
Organ		2,131	120	4	-	2,255
Nave & Chancel Roof		20,421	22,352	-	(6,183)	36,590
Endowments		651	-	-	-	651
		-	-	-	(340)	(340)
TOTAL RESTRICTED		74,301	25,473	268	(13,520)	86,522
UNRESTRICTED						
Designated Funds						
Church Hall		5,014	13,581	-	(12,015)	6,580
Legacy & Memorial		-	-	-	-	-
SUBTOTAL		5,014	13,581	-	(12,015)	6,580
General		75,123	80,951	1,674	(105,765)	51,983
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED		80,137	94,532	1,674	(117,780)	58,563
TOTAL FUNDS		154,438	120,005	1,942	(131,300)	145,085

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

9 FUND DETAILS
(continued)

FUND DESCRIPTIONS

Fund Name	Type	Purpose & Restrictions
General	Unrestricted	General Fund for PCC
Church Hall	Unrestricted	Designated Fund for Church Hall Maintenance
Tower	Restricted	For provision of work to maintain the Tower and Bells.
Robes & Vestment	Restricted	For the provision of Robes and Vestments
Missions	Restricted	Funds which have been raised by Missions Committee for causes outside St. Marys
Churchyard	Restricted	For the upkeep of the Churchyard and monuments within the churchyard
Choir Scholarships	Restricted	For the provision of Choir Scholarships
Community Sponsorship	Restricted	To support the community sponsorship programme
Remembrance	Restricted	For the provision of updating and maintaining the Book of Remembrance and other memorials
Youth	Restricted	For the provision of Youth based work at St. Marys
Sustainability	Restricted	For promoting and implementing changes to support the environment
Audiovisual System	Restricted	Funds collected via Fees for the upkeep of the Audiovisual System
Fabric	Restricted	Funds for the provision of the upkeep of the Fabric of St. Marys
Youth Worker (Restricted)	Restricted	Funds which are collected specifically to support the joint Baldock Youth Worker.
Organ	Restricted	For the upkeep of the Organ
Nave & Chancel Roof	Restricted	For the renovation of the Nave and Chancel roof
Endowments	Restricted	Investments enabled by specific bequests in previous years
Disabled Access	Restricted	For the provision and maintenance of facilities to enable access to the church and hall by disabled visitors

10 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31st December 2024 the PCC had no capital commitments.

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Baldock

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Baldock (the Church) for the year ended 31 December 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the PCC of the Church you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

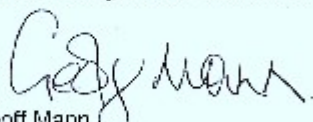
I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Church 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.


Geoff Mann
Dee House
Highworth Avenue
Cambridge