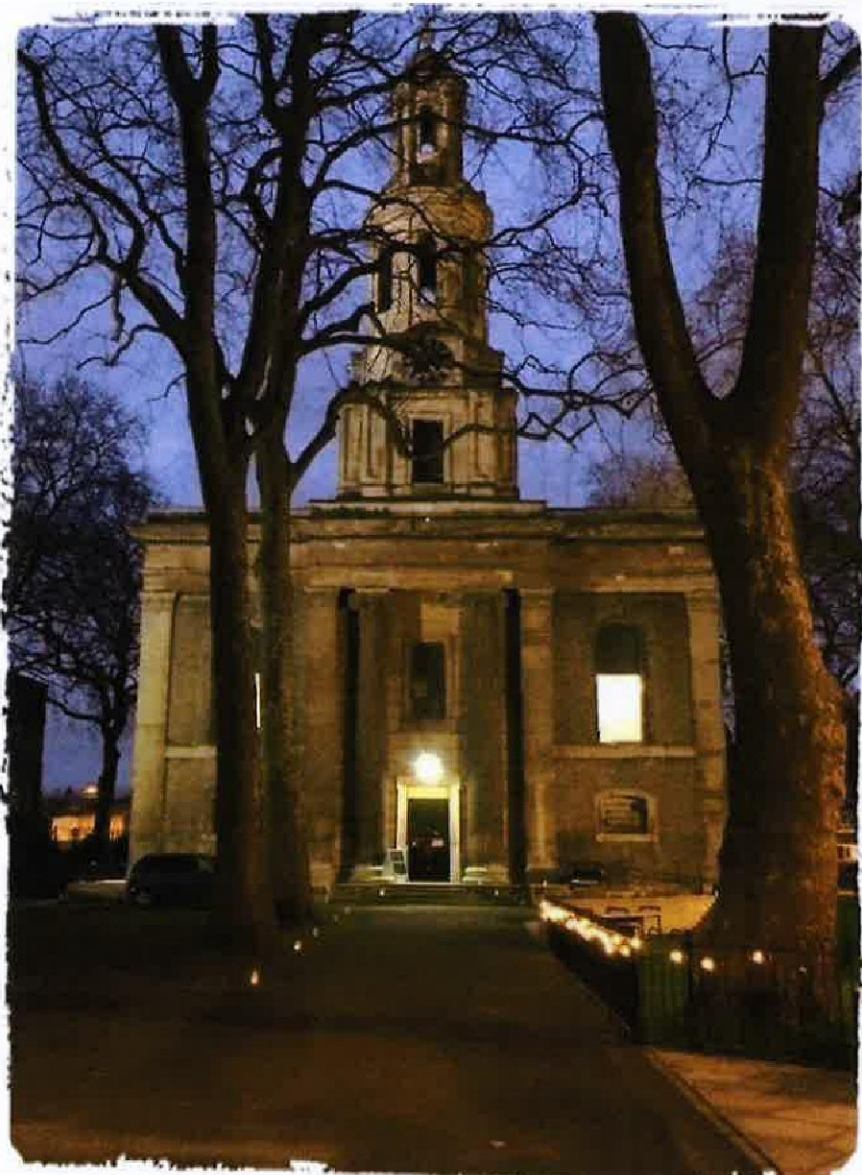




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JOHN'S
HOXTON



ST JOHN'S HOXTON PCC
Charity Registration number : 1133109

**REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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Introduction & Administrative Information

This Annual Report is made by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist with Christ Church Hoxton (St John's Hoxton). It sets out the governance structure of the church, lists council members and administrative officers, and reports on the activities of the reporting year. It also presents statutory financial statements and notes. We have pleasure in presenting this information to the wider public.

Structure, Governance & Management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. Since 9th December 2009 the PCC has been registered with the Charity Commission as "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist with Christ Church Hoxton (Diocese of London)" and has the charity registration number 1133109. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All regular attendees at St. John's are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and are able to vote and to stand for election to the PCC.

In accordance with the PCC (Powers) Measure 1956, St John's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, Revd Graham Hunter, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church - evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical. It undertakes religious activities for the benefit of the general public by making grants to organisations, by providing service, and by providing buildings, facilities and open space. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church premises of St John's which are registered as a Grade II* listed building.

Related Trust & Companies

The **St John's Hoxton Management Company Ltd** was established in October 2009 as a wholly owned trading subsidiary of the PCC of St John's Hoxton. It was formed to manage the car parking operations of the church. It is registered with Companies' House (07039922). The company directors are appointed by, and report to, the PCC. The company directors throughout 2023 were: Revd Graham Hunter, Mr Larre Olajide and Mr Aaron Rodewald. The PCC has no other related trusts or companies.

Administrative Details

Principal Office

St John's Church, Pitfield St, London, N1 6NP

Bankers

NatWest Plc, Islington Angel Branch, 2/3 Upper St, London, N1 0QF

Insurer

Ecclesiastical Insurance Ltd, Benefact House, 2000 Pioneer Avenue, Gloucester Business Park, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4AW

Quinquennial Inspecting Architect

Alex Sherratt, Matthew Lloyd Architects, 1B, The Hangar, 38 Kingsland Rd, London E2 8DD

Independent Examiner

C J Goodhead, Knight Goodhead Ltd, 7 Bournemouth Rd, Chandler's Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 3DA

Ecclesiastical Information

St John's is in the *Hackney Deanery* in the *Stepney Episcopal Area* of the *Diocese of London*.

Diocesan Code: 05-26

Council Members 2023

Ex Officio Members

Incumbent

Revd Graham Hunter

Curates

Revd Louise Cathrow

Revd Andrew Large

Churchwardens

Ann-Marie Nye

Larre Olajide

Deanery Synod Representatives

(To 7th May)

Vera Arkhurst

Stephen Millar

Larre Olajide

(From 7th May)

Stephen Millar

Daniel Pratt

Elected Members

(To 7th May)

Maria Demetriou

Alice Howell

Anita Masih

Barizoge Neenwi

Daniel Pratt

Olivette Thompson

(From 7th May)

Maria Demetriou

Alice Howell

Anita Masih

Richard Neasham

Fiona Hollow

Officers / Roles

Electoral Roll

(To 7th May)

Daniel Okuniewski

(From 22nd May)

Maria Demetriou

Children's Champion

(To 7th May)

Barizoge Neenwi

(From 22nd May)

Alice Howell

Secretary

Stephen Millar

Treasurer

Daniel Pratt

Lay Vice-Chair

(To 7th May)

Larre Olajide

(From 22nd May)

Anita Masih

The PCC met 6 times during 2023 including a Vision & Strategy Day with staff in September.

Council Members' Report

Vision Statement

'to be a beacon of hope for Hoxton'.

Mission Statement

Worship God | Make Disciples | Share Jesus | Transform Hoxton

Values

Rooted

- We are confidently Christian: focused on prayer and worship, we are attentive to the voice of God in Scripture and work within the inherited structures of the Church of England.
- We are committed to loving and serving Hoxton and being ambassadors of the kingdom of God.
- We are rooted in our relationships to the wider church: within our parish and diocese but also with Christians from other traditions. We will honour their gifts, and humbly seek to work and learn together.

Relational

- We are committed to sharing life together with all its ups and downs – rejoicing together and weeping together.
- We want fun, food and friendship to be hallmarks of our church: welcome and hospitality a fundamental part of our approach to our corporate life.
- We're cautious about making any negative judgements about people – and want to embrace the great diversity and variety of people in our neighbourhood.
- We are determined to pay particular attention to the biblical justice issues of equality, diversity and inclusion. We seek to remain a multi-generational, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural church family in which strangers become friends.

Responsive

- We're responsive to the changing shape of our church and neighbourhood, and we continually adapt our mission and ministry to reflect the context. We're happy to experiment creatively, and we recognise that fruitfulness does not always mean short-term visible outcomes.
- We want to ensure our compassionate ministry addresses real local needs.
- We want our church ministries to express the variety of our members' gifts and vocations – not fit people into a predetermined model.

Risk-Taking

- We trust in a God who is able to do 'immeasurably more' than we can ask or imagine – this has been our experience over the past years.

- We will be attentive to the voice of the Spirit, and willing to step out in faith
- We will not shy away from making changes if we believe that God is calling us into something new.

In September 2021, the PCC approved a new five-year Mission Action Plan to outline the specific objectives towards which we will apply our financial and human resources. More details of the year's activities and results are outlined below in the general report.

Electoral Roll Report

A new electoral roll was created during March-April 2024. The previous electoral roll from 2023 had 150 members. 12 former members who have moved from the area, deceased or not attended church in over a year were removed. 21 new members joined the roll. The newly created Electoral Roll includes 159 members.

Maria Demetriou, Electoral Roll Officer

Hackney Deanery Synod Report

Report on the proceedings of the Hackney Deanery Synod 2023

The Deanery Synod's main functions are:

- to promote in Hackney Deanery the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical
- to consider matters concerning the Church of England and to make provision for such matters in relation to the Deanery
- to bring together the views of the parishes of the Deanery on common problems, and to discuss and formulate common policies on those problems
- to foster a sense of community and interdependence among those parishes
- to be the point of contact between those parishes and the Diocesan Synod

During 2023 the Hackney Deanery Synod met on three occasions:

27 April 2023. St Peter De Beauvoir Town. The theme for the evening was the Synod learning more about the work of Hackney Council, educating itself about the Council's strategic planning, and thinking about how the church and the Council can work well together. *First*, a presentation was given by Sonia Khan, Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery. Sonia introduced Hackney's Strategic Plan – 'Working Together for a Better Hackney' and supplied information about applying for Council Funding for project work. *Secondly*, Cllr Joe Walker spoke about the setting up of Clapton Commons. Cllr Joe had also been involved in some recent meetings with the church about Estates ministry. Felt that it was important that the church always seeks to work in partnership, rather than thinking that there is nothing already happening in communities and that they were going to come in and save them. *Later in the meeting*, the Synod gave its blessing to the 'Child Q Working Group' to continue its work, consulting with Diocesan Safeguarding, the Diocesan Youth Team, the Racial Justice Priority Group - about the wording of the Charter. *Other items:* plans explained for the coach outing to Bishop Waltham Deanery in the Portsmouth Diocese to mark the end of the formal link with Hackney Deanery – which will take place on 10 June 2023; and a report on the work of Diocesan Synod.

2023 saw the end of the formal link between Hackney Deanery and Bishop Waltham Deanery. The end was marked with a day of thanksgiving for the link in Bishop Waltham Deanery, which involved a coach outing from Hackney, a meal, a visit to a summer fayre, and a church service.

The previous Triennium of the Synod ended on 30 June 2023. Thank you to all Synod reps who served up until then!

17 July 2023. St Mary's, Stoke Newington. At a 'Special Meeting of the House of Laity' Desiree Crump was elected as the lay Joint Chair of the Deanery Synod for the next three-year life (triennium) of the Synod. The Deanery Synod (laity & clergy together) met immediately afterwards. Synod officers were elected (Hannah Foakes, the Revd Sue Makin, the Revd Lizzie Campbell, the Revd Steve Gayle. Vacancy for Synod Secretary). The Revd Andy Rider, the Stepney Area Dean of Mission, gave a presentation on the Stepney Area 'Mission Strategy'. The Revd Daniel Gerrans gave an introduction to the 'Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing'. Christina Sosonya reported on the work of Diocesan Synod. Janet Taylor was appointed as Synod School Governor for the Primary Advantage federation.

21 November 2023. St Olave's, Woodberry Down. Mrs Folake Roberts, Area Vice President of the Mothers' Union for the Stepney Area, gave a presentation about the work of the Mothers' Union. Encouraged churches to set up their own Mothers' Union branches. People could also become individual (or couple) Diocesan members. Open invitation to joining the monthly St Olave's Zoom meeting. A presentation was given about the Hackney & Islington Mission Project. The Revd Laura Luz spoke about the youth strand. The Revd Andrew Wilson about 'Catholic Mission & Renewal' and Estates work. The Revd Sue Makin reported on the work of General Synod, especially developments in relation to 'Living in Love & Faith'. Announced that the Revd Shana Maloney is now Priest-in-Charge of St James, Clapton and the Revd Charis Enga is now the Vicar of St Andrew's, Bethune Road, having previously been Priest-in-Charge.

Stephen Millar & Daniel Pratt, Deanery Synod Representatives

Vicar's Introduction

For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

Habakkuk 2:3

In January 2024 I spent an hour or two listing some of the challenges and changes we have experienced over the course of 2022-23. I listed 26 significant changes in our core ministry team - as people joined, left or changed role within the team. I noted a range of significant building issues: leaking roof; flooding crypt; unsafe playground; inefficient heating. I reminded myself of the financial challenges: static congregational giving; falling car park income; increased utility costs; a significant VAT liability in our trading subsidiary. Taken as a whole, I saw a picture of contraction: a reduction in the overall size of our worshipping community from 2019; a decline in our revenues; fewer staffing hours invested in mission and ministry. All of this could have led me to feel quite gloomy - but I found myself actually feeling encouraged. In this context, our church has continued to reach towards our vision of being 'a beacon of hope for Hoxton'.

Our mission on the margins saw incredible growth and fruit: young people accessing our midweek youth groups built deep relationships of trust with their leaders and some came to other youth events where they encountered Christian worship and teaching; the Sunday football project grew with extraordinary speed - and saw several local asylum seekers join our church through the football programme, and others also attended outreach events such as the men's breakfasts; and our warm welcome space drew in the lonely and the vulnerable and offered practical support and friendship. All in all, it was clear that God was drawing people to himself regardless of the practical challenges we faced as a local church. Much of this is due to the amazing dedication shown by staff and volunteers in our congregation as they opened spaces and welcomed people.

I am perhaps more persuaded that biological and seasonal metaphors are more helpful than industrial ones for thinking about God's mission in the local church. Growth and development are rarely linear or straight-lined. They tend to be cyclical and seasonal. Fruitfulness may be found in different parts of the garden in different seasons. I'm reminded of St Paul's words: 'I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.' (1 Corinthians 3:6) Whether we are planting or watering - none of us can make things grow! We simply play our part.

I have been tempted to think of this season in our church's life as a sort of 'winter' season - where we should be expecting significant growth but should rather prepare the beds for planting again in the spring. While I think there is some truth in this description of our particular context - and this does help us have grace with ourselves and one another - it could lead us to accept a season of decline and decay as inevitable. This itself does not take account of the actual growth and development in the life of our church.

The other risk of this 'wintering' mentality is that it could cause us to 'shrink back'. There is practical wisdom in the old proverb 'cutting one's garment to fit your cloth', but the risk of reducing our missional activity to match our contracted resources is that it undermines our prayerful faith and dependence on the God who provides for all that he commands. Indeed, Hebrews 10:39 warns us explicitly against this: 'we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.'

I remain convinced that it is God's intention that St John's Hoxton remain an instrument for the 'ministry of reconciliation that is entrusted to us' (2 Corinthians 5:19). To that end, I still believe that we are to pursue the goals prayerfully discerned and articulated in our Mission Action Plan. I believe that we should pursue the building redevelopment plans expressed in our #LoveHoxton project. I take heart in the words given through Habbakuk: *'the vision awaits its appointed time... If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come.'*

Rev'd Graham Hunter, Vicar

Worship God

Sunday service continued weekly at 10.30am and 4pm throughout 2023. Attendance at the morning service remained healthy throughout the year with around 100 adults and children attending Sunday services each week. The attendance at the 4pm service has gradually declined throughout the year, and we recognise that the service needs fresh vision and leadership to develop a stable congregation.

The exception to the low attendance at the 4pm service is the continued health of our Fresh Expression 'Fun@4'. This service is usually held on the third Sunday of every month and is specifically planned with neurodiverse children and young people in mind. Neurodiversity covers a wide range of different ways of experiencing the world and would include those who may have autism, ADHD, Speech and language challenges, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Tourette's, physical challenges relating to sight and hearing loss and also includes cognitive functioning difficulties. Fun@4 was developed out of a desire to provide a fun place where children and young families could experience and develop their faith in a welcoming and wholistic way through music, storytelling, crafts, prayer, sensory activities, consistent structure, experiencing different foods with attention to the environment through lighting and sound. The service has seen up to fifty people attend regularly and it has been heart-warming to see families, children and young people across our community mixing with such positive, warm interactions, seeing their varied contributions valued, supporting adults growing in their knowledge and response to neurodiversity and drawing others into a very organic, developing space.

Preaching series continued to be guided by the lectionary and also to explore bible texts or themes in more detail. Sermon series looked at various bible books and topics: Prayer; the book of James; Jonah; Habakkuk; Zephaniah. As well as sermons from the Clergy and Ordinand, we also made space for a Licensed Lay Minister-in-Training, Daniel Pratt, to begin preaching. Various members of the wider congregation were involved in preaching in our annual Summer Psalms series during August.

In addition to our regular Sunday services, special services were held for a variety of purposes and to mark various occasions. Midweek services were held for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Ascension Day. We also offered a Bereavement service and Wave of Light service in the autumn.

Our Carols by Candlelight service was very encouraging after several years affected by Covid. The church was full downstairs with around 170 adults and children sitting in the round. It was more interactive and engaging for children and families this year, and there were a good number of visitors to hear an evangelistic message from our Curate, Louise. Other Christmas services had surprisingly low attendance - with very few people attending the Christmas Eve Crib Service or Midnight Holy Communion. We think this was due to Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday - so that many people had attended in the morning already - and of course, many regular families had left London for the Christmas period.

Our music and worship ministry continued to be a central feature of our Sunday worship services. The quality of musical provision at St John's remains very high. We were sad to say goodbye to our Music & Worship Minister Jeremy Fallow in March as he moved on to a new full-time ministry role in another church. We held various rounds of recruitment throughout the year, but were unable to appoint anyone. Our LLM Sara Hunter stood in as Music & Worship Ministry Overseer for the duration of the year, and developed the team and the worship ministry. Various guest worship leaders came to assist us on Sundays. A new development in the worship team from within was seeing Caleb Hunter, one of our teenagers, begin to lead sung worship on Sundays.

Make Disciples

We recognise that the responsibility for growing in discipleship rests with every individual follower of Jesus, but that the church can provide programmes and activities to assist every person in that task. For adults, we principally see discipleship as occurring through involvement in ministry teams, connect groups and special events. 13 Connect Groups were run during 2023, with around 40-50

adults involved at some stage in the year. Some people grow in active service through serving on ministry teams - and around 50 adults were regularly involved in serving in ministry teams through the year. Others volunteered to serve on an occasional basis.

Much adult discipleship continued to take place in the context of Sunday services through the preaching ministry and in pastoral conversations. Men's Breakfasts were offered in both March and October - and this gave an opportunity for around 35-40 men at each event to gather for a talk and for prayer. These occasions were also evangelistic, in that non-Christian friends were invited by church members.

Discipleship support for young people was mainly offered through the Sunday morning SJH Kids & Youth programme. It has been encouraging to see growth in our youth ministry in particular. Around 15-20 young people are usually attending the SJH Youth group on a Sunday morning. From September we introduced Scripture Union curriculum for our 5-18s to ensure that groups were always engaging with the bible. Diddy Disciples resources were used for under-5s.

Beyond Sundays, midweek Kids Connect groups were offered for primary school age children on Mondays and Tuesdays weekly during term-time. Members of SJH Youth attended YouthEast to join with around 80-100 young people from across east London every couple of months. Several of our young people became involved in leading the worship ministry at YouthEast.

We took just over 80 adults, youth and children away to Focus for 5 days in July. We gathered with around 8,000 other Christians from across the HTB Network at Newark Showground in Nottinghamshire. Focus provides worship and teaching sessions in the morning and evening, in the 'Big Top', for the adults with separate venues and programmes for the children and youth. There is also a separate smaller and quieter venue for young people with additional needs and a programme of very varied seminars which run in the afternoons.

St John's hires a large communal marquee which forms the heart of our camp and in which we can cook (we have a communal meal every evening), eat, make drinks, and sit and chat and get to know each other. We provided tents, sleeping bags and air-beds for those who had no equipment, and we arranged affordable transport. The whole holiday is run through a bursary fund to enable anyone to attend who would like to. Focus is a wonderful opportunity to experience worship, be exposed to great teaching and get to develop friendships within St John's, as well as make friends from other churches across the Network.

Share Jesus

We continued to run the Alpha Course every term if possible, in a variety of different ways to enable wide participation: 'online only' courses; courses in both daytime or evening; course in person with food served. Around 25 people signed up across the three courses during 2023, and around 15 attended and completed the course.

We continued to work in close partnership with St John the Baptist Primary School - our associated church primary school. Our Children's Minister, Ruth Etang, continued in her role as School Chaplain for part of the year, delivering regular assemblies, services, lunchtime and after-school clubs and class visits to church. In her absence, Revd Graham Hunter supported the work with the school.

One particularly exciting project in 2023 was a partnership with the school and two other east London church schools to go on a CPAS Schools Venture. This involved taking around 40 children from year 5 away on a residential activity weekend in Essex. A combination of church volunteers and school teachers led the weekend away, including 4 members of our church. The weekend provided an opportunity to share the Easter story and to explore the evidence for the empty tomb with the children.

A significant part of our Christian outreach amongst young people took place in our midweek open youth group 'Hangout' and the Wednesday night football coaching for 10-16s. The numbers attending grew significantly in 2023, and at points it was quite hard to manage behaviour and keep everyone safe. We were at peak seeing around 50 individual teenagers every Tuesday and Wednesday at the sessions. It was with sadness that we closed down this programme in the summer due to funding and staffing constraints. We hope to be able to reintroduce youth outreach programmes in 2024.

Perhaps the most fruitful space for evangelism amongst local adults has been the Sunday evening football project. Having begun a few years ago, this has grown significantly, and the pitch is hired for two hours every Sunday evening to provide a space for men from the church, local young adults, and local, asylum seekers to gather together to play football. There's a capacity of about 40 spaces per week for people to play - but the associated WhatsApp group now has around 130 members! A new innovation in 2023 was to use the group evangelistically - with members being invited to share a 'bible verse of the week' and offer points of testimony or requests for prayer. A small group of leaders gather early on Wednesday mornings every fortnight to pray for the football project. Several men have joined the church through the football project.

Transform Hoxton

'Seek the peace [prosperity / welfare] of the city where the Lord has placed you: in its peace is your peace.' (Jeremiah 29:7)

St John's continues to prioritise the biblical call to pursue justice, social transformation and the common good - to love our neighbour as ourselves. At the start of 2023 Lorraine Flack, as part of her training to become a Commissioned Pastoral Assistant, pioneered a new project 'Wednesday Warm Welcome' to create an open and hospitable space for anyone in the neighbourhood. We had a small grant from Hackney to allow us to offer hot drinks, pastries, fruit and a simple soup lunch. This project continued throughout the year - with a short break in the summer. Many people have benefited from the space - and it has even provided a pathway for some to come on the Alpha Course and to begin attending church. One regular volunteer has begun to offer a simple prayer and meditation exercise as part of the session.

We developed our Benevolent Fund through the year, and raised donations in our #LoveChristmas appeal in both December 2022 through January 2023 and again in December 2023. We also raised funds through grants. We distributed these funds to people in need in the form of supermarket gift cards and energy top-up payments with our Payzone machine.

Our Curate, Revd Louise, continued to run an 'SEN Coffee & Chat' space as part of the offer at the Wednesday Warm Welcome sessions, and our Ordinand Bosede continued to support people with household finance concerns. These two members of the team, along with our Pastoral Assistant Lorraine were able to provide a significant boost to our wider pastoral care for people not just in the church, but also the wider community.

During the first half of 2023 a significant feature of our programme of local transformation was the work with young people in midweek groups. The Tuesday evening Hangout space and Wednesday football coaching were attracting as many as 50 young people every week. While some of these young people were members of our church family, and attending services and groups on Sunday, the larger proportion were young people from the local neighbourhood. This raised some new challenges concerning behaviour - we had some very troubled young people engaging with our activities, and several incidents were logged through our safeguarding report form noting some poor behaviour and even criminal damage being done to our property by some young people. While frustrating, we recognise that it's a good problem to have: managing challenging behaviour of young people because they're here in our building rather than somewhere else.

Leadership & Administration

As was noted in our Vicar's Report, 2023 was characterised by significant contraction in the financial and staffing resources available to us. Our Music & Worship Minister moved on to a new role in March, and our LLM Sara Hunter stepped in to cover the ministry. Our Children's Minister had a period of compassionate leave at the end of 2022 and a phased return to work during the first half of 2023. The PCC considered the resourcing of our kids and youth ministry at length, and resolved that it should be restructured to provide greater coherence between the two age groups. To that end, we resolved to make the post of Children's Minister redundant, and to begin recruitment for a full-time Kids & Youth Minister. After almost 11 years of service, there was great sadness as we said thank you and goodbye to Ruth Etang - but also deep gratitude for all that she brought to the life of our church over so many years. Juliet Johnson worked as Kids & Youth Ministry Assistant until the summer, but left to begin an MA programme. Renatha Hoga, having stepped into the breach in 2022, also decided in the summer to relinquish her youth ministry responsibilities. These changes combined to create a space for the recruitment of a new full-time post.

It should be noted that throughout the year there were significant periods of time during which our Curate Louise was covering all the kids and families ministry, and our Vicar Graham was covering youth ministry and schools ministry. Carrying these extra responsibilities was a heavy burden, and reduced their capacity for other ministries. We're grateful for all they took on over the course of the year to ensure continued provision.

Another change in the summer was the Ordination of Revd Louise Cathrow and Revd Andrew Large as Priests in the Church of England. This began a new phase of their ministry, as they began to celebrate Holy Communion. To make space for them to develop in this new role, Revd Rachel Greaves-Brown ended her involvement supporting us with Holy Communion. We're very thankful for all that she contributed over the course of two years on our ministry team.

Our Ordinand Bosede continued her training at St Mellitus College, and expects to be ordained to begin a curacy with us in summer 2024. Her responsibilities changed in the autumn as she began a one day per week placement on the chaplaincy team at Homerton hospital. Our PCC Treasurer, Daniel Pratt, went through the discernment process to determine whether he might be licensed as a Lay Minister in the church. He was recommended for training and after having completed two years of theological study in 2021-23 he began his final year of training to become a Licensed Lay Minister in the summer of 2024. In July we were delighted to celebrate with Lorraine Flack the culmination of a year's training as she was Commissioned as a Pastoral Assistant in our parish. She is focusing on Wednesday Warm Welcome space and also undertaking lots of pastoral visits.

The church finances were a significant focus of attention throughout the year, and the Treasurer's report below highlights some of the main issues. In summary, there were five major issues for us to address:

- 1) Major repairs to the playground and the heating controls system required us to apply for an Area Grant:Loan to undertake the required repairs and improvements.
- 2) The VAT liability incurred by the St John's Hoxton Management Company - and referenced in our 2022 Annual Report - required resolution during the year. The SJHMC was unable to raise the funds to repay HMRC, and so the church again applied for support from the Area Grant:Loan scheme. The PCC effectively waived dividends from SJHMC totalling £54,000. But in doing so, the PCC has taken on some further debt. Combined with the borrowing for playground repairs, we now owe around £32,000 to the Diocese of London.
- 3) Income from the SJHMC continued to suffer a downturn due to the changed nature of car use in London. Hybrid working, and a drop in local construction has led to us having fewer customers, and having to find new partners to work with to make sales.
- 4) Congregational giving remained stable - but did not increase to cover the increased costs of utilities and general building costs.
- 5) Staffing restructure and redundancy was costly and required us to draw on reserves.

Part of our response for financial management was to redesign our chart of accounts, to make book-keeping more simple and easier to monitor income and expenditure. We also established a Stewardship Action Team to pay particular attention to congregational giving and how to encourage greater financial giving in 2024.

Safeguarding Report

Our safeguarding policy was reviewed and adopted by the PCC, as usual, in May 2023. Over the past year we have received 17 records of concern or incident reports. This is an increase in reports or concerns from 2022, but this is partly due to better awareness of the reporting form, and also due to the successes of our youth programme in 2023 leading to more behavioural issues with some of the young people. All reports and concerns are reviewed by the Safeguarding Officer and / or Senior Leadership Team during the year to decide on appropriate action. Advice has been sought from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team in several cases. Most have needed no further action. Safeguarding is now a standing item at all PCC.

During the year our Vicar, Revd Graham Hunter, took on much of the responsibility for managing Safeguarding while our Church Safeguarding Officer was on compassionate leave and phased return to work. In the autumn, the PCC appointed Pauline Millar as Interim Church Safeguarding Officer pending the appointment of a new Kids & Youth Minister.

The Safeguarding Dashboard remains a useful tool for managing the practical implementation of our safeguarding policy. Various forms have been provided in digital formats to make it easier for Confidential Declarations and Role Descriptions to be signed, as well as for references to be taken up. It remains challenging to keep volunteers fully up-to-date on their training programme and this will be a focus of our new Church Safeguarding Officer in 2024.

PCC Treasurer Report

The financial year just completed has seen a significant drop in the financial performance at St John's Hoxton. Overall, the 2023 year ended with a reported loss of £62,075 (2022: £21,615 loss). Though there has been an increase in income- donations, charitable activities and grants, this does not match our budget with the corresponding budgeted increased activities and increased expenditure. Giving increased from £113,706 (including gift aid, Net £94,342 total of 898 givers) in 2022 to £140,159 (Including gift Aid, Net £114,243 total of 878 givers) in 2023.

Car Park income (£15,539 to £21,035) and Premises rental (£70,136 to £80,120) both increased whilst Live at St John's was discontinued.

The management company made a deficit of £7,452 (Income £95,708 Expenditure £103,160). An unexpected VAT liability of £54K was settled by a combination of grants and loans from the diocese, loans will be repaid over several years. We were unable to pay the full common fund cost due to our finances.

The cash flow and cash reserves have been depleted over the last 2 years from £86,094 (start of 2022) to £53,088 (start of 2023) to £32,336 (end of 2023). The PCC reserves policy of unrestricted funds "free reserves" held reaching 3 months normal running costs has not been met. This was a result of a cost-of-living grant application not being successful. Other implications of the unsuccessful grant application include the impact on the warm welcome project and delayed recruitment of the youth and kid ministry.

Actions that have been taken so far include cost control with both the curtailing of some activities and prevailing costs. Common Fund overhead decreased from £78,000 to £68,270 and office and administration cost from £19,148 to £12,957, wages and salaries £155,679 to £138,280. However, building and premises costs increased from £52,566 to £90,153 due to some ongoing maintenance and repairs; Mission and ministry also increased from £46,669 to £58,062.

We have been actively engaged in various campaigns to increase the income of the church. We are actively working towards pledges to raise voluntary income via congregational giving; external grant-raising opportunities e.g. the youth minster and other projects such as car parking options. With prayers, success of these measures will change the financial situation of SJH. The PCC established a Stewardship Action Team (SAT) and made cashflow management an important and regular item in meetings. The budget approved by the PCC was balanced, this has since gone to a deficit budget. I am very hopeful.

Daniel Pratt, PCC Treasurer

Building & Premises

During the course of 2023 our Operations Manager, Daniel Okuniewski, undertook a range of building maintenance programmes. He spent time dealing with various external contractors to set in place agreements for roof repairs, gardening, electrical works, drainage, and internet distribution. We had another set of issues concerning the flooding of the crypt, which led to an insurance claim to repair the faulty pumps and to make good damaged flooring and carpet. As a result, the crypt has been substantially improved, and is a more enjoyable space for church and external users.

Outstanding items from the 5-yearly electrical inspection were completed in 2023, and our certificate awarded.

Two big items of work concerned the installation of heating controls and a pressurisation cylinder for the church heating system. These enabled the heating to be run more efficiently - circulating hot water from the boilers around the building much more rapidly than before. By the end of 2023 we had noted a reduced expenditure on our heating - and therefore a reduction in our gas use. This is a helpful step towards the Church of England net-zero carbon ambition. Our annual RoSPA check on the playground revealed various faults that needed to be addressed - and as has been noted above, we were able to apply for support from the Area Grant:Loan scheme to undertake these works along with the heating system improvements. We're grateful to the Stepney Area Finance team for their support.

Day to day management of the premises and gardens was undertaken by the Building & Premises team: Chris Cummings, Ian Shepard and Peter Chareka. We're grateful for their hard work and diligence. They were supported and overseen throughout the year by Daniel Okuniewski.

#LoveHoxton

Little progress was made on our redevelopment project. We spent a significant chunk of free reserves on the funding of a full condition survey in 2021. We're fully aware that the project for conservation repairs and reordering will cost somewhere in the region of £2million - and so a major project with Natinal Lottery Heritage Funding is the only viable solution. A meeting with the Archdeacon and a Diocesan fundraiser was held in October, but there's very little capacity within the Diocese to support projects like ours.

We are aware that the building faces significant challenges in terms of maintaining fabric and also in providing appropriate spaces for generating income and fulfilling our mission and ministry programme. We will continue to raise our concerns with the Bishop of Stepney and the wider Diocesan team, as we think it's important for them to recognise the significant challenges of both pursuing church growth in terms of mission and ministry, and also managing a major conservation and redevelopment project.

The project aims are summarised under the following headings:

- 1) CONSERVE: Conserve and enhance this amazing Grade II* listed Georgian church, including a. ceiling and roof repairs; b. improved heating and lighting; c. enhanced seating and AV provision; and d. fully accessible toilets.
- 2) CREATE: Create fully accessible new church and community facilities by constructing an annexe and refurbishing the existing crypt.
- 3) CONTRIBUTE: Contribute c25-30 genuinely affordable, permanently rented flats for the Hoxton neighbourhood as well as new school and community sport facilities.

Concluding Remarks

An amazing array of people have contributed to the worship, mission and ministry of the church over the past year – too many to list by name. However, we'd like to pay tribute in particular to our staff team who continues to work tirelessly through the week to support the life of our church.

Louise Cathrow - Curate

Peter Chareka - B&P Assistant

Chris Cummings – B&P Assistant

Ruth Etang – Children's Minister

Jeremy Fallow – Music & Worship Minister / Youth Ministry Assistant

Lorraine Flack - Commissioned Pastoral Assistant

Renatha Hoga - Office & Ministry Administrator / Youth Ministry Assistant

Sara Hunter – Licensed Lay Minister

Juliet Johnson – Kids's & Youth Ministry Assistant

Andrew Large - Curate

Daniel Okuniewski - Operations Manager

Bosede Owa – Ordinand

Daniel Pratt - Licensed Lay Minister-in-Training

Ian Shepard - B&P Assistant

Financial Review

Risk Policy

The PCC has examined the principal areas of the church's operations and considered what major risks may arise in each of these areas. In the opinion of the PCC the church has established resources and review systems which, under normal conditions, should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day to day operations.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the PCC is that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets and fixed asset investments ('the free reserves') held by the church should reach three months normal running costs. At the year ended 31st December 2023, the free reserves had not reached this level and the PCC is striving to meet this as soon as possible. Our 2023 budget is set as a balanced budget, but without any allocation to reserves. We continue to hope that increased income and cost control may enable us to allocate some funds to reserves.

Pensions Policy

St John's Hoxton participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF (Church Workers Pension Fund) for lay staff. CWPF is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the CWPF assets separately from those of the Employer and other participating employers.

CWPF has two sections:

1. the Defined Benefits Scheme
2. the Pension Builder Scheme, which has two subsections;
 - a. a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic, and,
 - b. a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

Both sections of the Pension Builder Scheme are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum which members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. Discretionary bonuses may be added before retirement, depending on investment returns and other factors. The account, plus any bonuses declared is payable, unreduced, from age 65.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs charged to the SoFA in the year are the contributions payable (2023: £1,565, 2022: £4,034).

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the 2019 valuation revealed a deficit of £4.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2024, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 5% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2023. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the 2019 valuation revealed a surplus of £5.5m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time. The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2022. Calculations for this are currently under way.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, St John's Hoxton could become responsible for paying a share of the failed employer's pension liabilities.

This valuation has not yet been communicated to the PCC.

Statement of PCC Members Responsibilities

The PCC Members are required to ensure financial statements are prepared for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the PCC and of the surplus or deficit of the PCC for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the PCC Members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the PCC will continue in operation

The PCC Members are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the PCC and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102) 2019 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. In addition, they are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the PCC and hence for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the PCC



Revd Graham Hunter
Vicar

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ST JOHN'S HOXTON PCC

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the consolidated accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's report

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those accounting 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.

C J Goodhead FCA



KNIGHT GOODHEAD LIMITED
Reporting Accountants

25 April 2024

7 Bournemouth Road
Chandler's Ford
EASTLEIGH
Hampshire SO53 3DA

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME					
Donations and legacies		114,967	25,192	140,159	113,706
Charitable activities		101,155	-	101,155	88,205
Trading activities		545	1,300	1,845	3,026
Grants		45,528	250	45,778	38,194
Investments		231	106	337	77
Other income		18,232	-	18,232	23,806
Management company		95,708	-	95,708	118,422
Total income	3	376,366	26,848	403,214	385,436
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable activities	4	358,201	27,928	386,129	390,934
Management company		79,160	-	79,160	16,117
Total expenditure		437,361	27,928	465,289	407,051
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		(60,995)	(1,080)	(62,075)	(21,615)
Transfers between funds		2,787	(2,787)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(58,208)	(3,867)	(62,075)	(21,615)
FUND BALANCES AT 1 JANUARY 2023		51,959	19,363	71,322	92,937
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	14	(6,249)	15,496	9,247	71,322

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Group 2023 £	2022 £	Charity 2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9	-	-	10	10
Tangible assets	8	9,212	9,584	9,212	9,584
		9,212	9,584	9,222	9,594
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	15,022	19,273	16,236	14,245
Cash at bank and in hand		32,336	53,088	32,092	51,200
		47,358	72,361	48,328	65,445
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year:	11	(22,925)	(10,623)	(16,453)	(3,717)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		24,433	61,738	31,875	61,728
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		33,645	71,322	41,097	71,322
CREDITORS DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR	12	(24,398)	-	(24,398)	-
NET ASSETS		9,247	71,322	16,699	71,322
FUNDS	13-14				
Unrestricted:					
Designated		4,540	42,346	4,540	42,346
Other unrestricted		(10,789)	9,613	(3,337)	9,613
		(6,249)	51,959	1,203	51,959
Restricted		15,496	19,363	15,496	19,363
TOTAL FUNDS		9,247	71,322	16,699	71,322

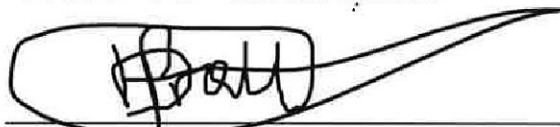
Signed on behalf of the PCC by:



Revd Graham Hunter – Vicar / Chair of Trustees

25th March 2024

Date



Daniel Pratt – Treasurer

25th March 2024

Date

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
NET CASH FLOW PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1	(19,210)	(24,981)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Interest received		337	77
Purchase of fixed assets		(1,879)	(8,102)
NET CASH FLOW		<u>(20,752)</u>	<u>(33,006)</u>
		2023 £	2022 £
Cash at the end of the year	2	32,336	53,088
Cash at start of the year		53,088	86,094
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year		<u>(20,752)</u>	<u>(33,006)</u>

NOTES TO THE CASHFLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
2		
Net movement in funds for the year	(62,075)	(21,615)
Dividends and interest received	(337)	(77)
Depreciation	2,251	1,875
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	4,251	1,862
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	36,700	(7,026)
Net cash flow from operating activities	<u>(19,210)</u>	<u>(24,981)</u>

2 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	32,336	53,088
	<u>32,336</u>	<u>53,088</u>

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (effective January 2019) and the Charities Act 2011.

The PCC meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The accounts are prepared on the historical cost basis.

The accounts are prepared on the going concern basis.

(b) Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds are those funds donated for specific purposes.

Designated funds are funds earmarked by the trustees for a specific project/purpose.

(c) Income

Donations and other income are recognised when received and an estimate of income tax recoverable is recognised when the related donations are recognised.

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

Sales of books and magazines from the church bookstall are accounted for gross.

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

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded.

(d) Expenditure

The diocesan Common Fund is accounted for when paid. Any Common Fund unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Expenditure incurred in the operation of the church is classed as charitable activities.

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(e) Fixed assets

In the absence of an actual cost, the insurance valuation has been used as the deemed cost for operational assets, with no depreciation charge being made during the year due to the long life of the asset and regular maintenance.

Consecrated property and moveable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10 of the Charities Act 2011.

Moveable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory which can be inspected (at any reasonable time). For inalienable property acquired prior to 2003 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. No such items have been acquired since 1 January 2003.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings or on the repair of movable church furnishings acquired before 1 January 2003 is written off.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Additions to buildings comprise refurbishment of the institute and are depreciated over their expected useful life of five years.

Only items of greater than £1,500 are capitalised. Church worship equipment comprises a number of electrical and other items connected with sound, vision and worship. They will be depreciated over five years from date of first use. Computer and office equipment and furnishings are depreciated over four years from date of first use. Catering equipment is written off over five years from date of first use. Church chairs are depreciated over ten years. The boiler is depreciated over an estimated useful life of thirteen years.

(f) Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectable.

(g) Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial instruments issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The charity is unincorporated and was registered on 3 December 2009 with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. The registered number is 1133109.

The registered office of the charity is St John's Church, Pitfield Street, London, N1 6NP.

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

3 INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
DONATIONS AND LEGACIES				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aided	75,724	-	75,724	58,421
Non gift aid	2,184	-	2,184	13,163
Tax recovery	19,177	-	19,177	15,223
	<u>97,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,085</u>	<u>86,807</u>
Other giving:				
One off giving	5,026	320	5,346	1,214
Collections	4,178	20,216	24,394	12,962
Special appeals and collections	5,555	1,040	6,595	8,582
Tax recovery	3,123	3,616	6,739	4,141
	<u>17,882</u>	<u>25,192</u>	<u>43,074</u>	<u>26,899</u>
Total donations and legacies	<u>114,967</u>	<u>25,192</u>	<u>140,159</u>	<u>113,706</u>
ASSET BASED INCOME				
Church car parking	21,035	-	21,035	15,539
Live at St John's	-	-	-	2,530
Premises rental	80,120	-	80,120	70,136
	<u>101,155</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,155</u>	<u>88,205</u>
TRADING ACTIVITIES				
Balanced life events	-	-	-	326
Traded services	545	1,300	1,845	2,700
	<u>545</u>	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,845</u>	<u>3,026</u>
GRANTS				
Grants	<u>45,528</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>45,778</u>	<u>38,194</u>
INVESTMENTS				
Interest	<u>231</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>337</u>	<u>77</u>
OTHER INCOME				
PCC fees	533	-	533	469
VAT recoverable	4,492	-	4,492	4,737
Miscellaneous income (including insurance claims)	13,207	-	13,207	18,600
	<u>18,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,232</u>	<u>23,806</u>
St John's Hoxton Management Company	<u>95,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,708</u>	<u>118,422</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>376,366</u>	<u>26,848</u>	<u>403,214</u>	<u>385,436</u>

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

4 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Grants and donations				
Holiday bursary fund payments	43	16,204	16,247	9,587
PCC grants and donations - mission	1,910	250	2,160	13,349
Vicar's discretionary donations	-	-	-	1,336
Benevolent fund	3,479	6,182	9,661	981
	5,432	22,636	28,068	25,253
Common Fund Overhead	68,270	-	68,270	78,000
Building and premises costs				
Church gardens	4,158	-	4,158	1,625
Church maintenance and supplies	33,128	-	33,128	17,015
Church major redevelopment and repairs	14,304	-	14,304	8,342
Insurance	7,184	-	7,184	6,601
Cleaning supplies and consumables	1,015	-	1,015	238
Depreciation	2,251	-	2,251	1,875
Facilities furniture and equipment	10,296	45	10,341	2,507
Other PCC property costs	-	-	-	64
Utilities	17,681	91	17,772	14,299
	90,017	136	90,153	52,566
Mission and ministry				
CAP debt centre costs	-	-	-	2,475
Children's work resources	1,203	53	1,256	1,448
Clergy expenses and training	1,787	12	1,799	5,094
Curate accommodation	14,447	-	14,447	8,527
Community organising	1,463	-	1,463	1,002
Evangelism and discipleship	655	-	655	825
Hospitality and café supplies	6,265	87	6,352	5,431
Missions projects	11,364	2,371	13,735	4,476
Interns	-	-	-	1,505
Payroll and recruitment costs	1,521	-	1,521	6,682
Publicity	221	-	221	-
Live at St John's	-	-	-	2,566
Services resources	1,783	-	1,783	808
Special Events	202	90	292	909
Website	-	-	-	61
Worship and AV	2,567	-	2,567	1,868
Youth Work	1,960	350	2,310	2,011
	45,438	2,963	48,401	45,688
Office and administration				
Communication	2,186	114	2,300	2,779
Fundraising	1,428	344	1,772	1,605
IT equipment and licenses	2,161	-	2,161	2,178
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	1,472
Accountancy	2,898	-	2,898	2,772
Office equipment and stationery	1,386	-	1,386	1,276
Staff training	2,405	35	2,440	7,066
	12,464	493	12,957	19,148

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

4 EXPENDITURE (continued)	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries				
Ministry team	50,509	1,700	52,209	74,177
Operational team	82,034	-	82,034	74,089
Employers NI	2,472	-	2,472	3,379
Employers pension	1,565	-	1,565	4,034
	<u>136,580</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>138,280</u>	<u>155,679</u>
St John's Hoxton Management Company	<u>79,160</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,160</u>	<u>30,717</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>437,361</u>	<u>27,928</u>	<u>465,289</u>	<u>407,051</u>

Included within accountancy above are amounts due to the independent examiners in relation to the independent examination of £1,920 (2022: £1,920) and £978 for other work (2022: £852).

5 GRANTS

Grants and donations totalled £18,407 (2022: £24,272) and were all paid by the charity. The following donations were made to institutions and totalled more than £1,000:

London Citizens	£1,200
-----------------	--------

6 STAFF COSTS

No employees received emoluments over £60,000 in the year.
The average number of employees during the year was 7 (2022: 10)

Staff costs relate to all direct and indirect staff costs.

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	134,243	148,266
Social security costs	2,472	3,379
Pension costs	1,565	4,034
	<u>138,280</u>	<u>155,679</u>

See note 15 for disclosure of payments made to related parties.

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

7 NET INCOME FROM TRADING ACTIVITIES OF SUBSIDIARY

The charity owns 100% of the issued share capital of St John's Hoxton Management Company Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales (company number: 07039922).

The results of the company before consolidation are summarised as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	95,708	118,422
Expenses	(103,160)	(60,716)
Taxation	-	-
Net profit	<u>(7,452)</u>	<u>57,706</u>
Dividend paid to St John's Hoxton	-	(51,668)
	<u>(7,452)</u>	<u>6,038</u>

8 TANGIBLE ASSETS

Group / Charity	Property improvements £	PA/AV equipment £	Shipping container £	Total £
COST				
At beginning of year	8,102	4,222	2,040	14,364
Additions	-	1,879	-	1,879
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At end of year	<u>8,102</u>	<u>6,101</u>	<u>2,040</u>	<u>16,243</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At beginning of year	623	2,865	1,292	4,780
Charge for year	623	1,220	408	2,251
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At end of year	<u>1,246</u>	<u>4,085</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>7,031</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At end of year	<u>6,856</u>	<u>2,016</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>9,212</u>
At beginning of year	<u>7,479</u>	<u>1,357</u>	<u>748</u>	<u>9,584</u>

9 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Charity	Investment in subsidiary undertakings £	Total £
Cost or market value of investments at 1 January 2023	10	10
Gain on revaluation of investment assets	-	-
Cost or market value of investments at 31 December 2023	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

The charity owns 100% of the issued share capital of St John's Hoxton Management Company Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales (company number: 07039922).

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

10 DEBTORS	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Gift aid tax recoverable	3,555	1,895	3,555	1,895
Prepayments and accrued income	1,222	1,148	1,222	1,148
Other debtors	10,245	16,230	3,843	5,034
Amounts due from subsidiary undertaking	-	-	7,616	6,168
	<u>15,022</u>	<u>19,273</u>	<u>16,236</u>	<u>14,245</u>
11 CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	8,559	1,383	6,999	1,383
Loans payable	6,652	-	6,652	-
PAYE/NI	882	414	882	414
VAT	4,112	6,106	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	2,720	2,720	1,920	1,920
	<u>22,925</u>	<u>10,623</u>	<u>16,453</u>	<u>3,717</u>
12 CREDITORS: amounts falling due in more than one year	Group		Charity	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Loans payable	24,398	-	24,398	-
	<u>24,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,398</u>	<u>-</u>

Bank loans relate to interest free loans from the Diocese. These are fully repayable within 5 years.

13 FUNDS

The restricted funds are established for the following purposes:

#Love Hoxton project	To fund major conservation and redevelopment plans.
Holiday Bursary fund	Contributions to the cost of taking members of our church to our annual church holiday, Focus, and also other retreats and residentials throughout the year.
Digital inclusion campaign	A 2021 project established to help households without access to digital devices for home-schooling during Covid. This fund is now closed.
Len and Eve Dye memorial	A special collection in memory of a long-term church member who died during Covid. It will be paid out to Leprosy Mission - a cause they supported over many years.
Benevolent fund	Holds monies to give to people in need. Funds are usually distributed in the form of supermarket gift cards or energy donations.
Children and Youth Ministry	This fund is established to hold any funds raised through special events, grant applications or other donations specifically to support the kids and youth ministry at St John's Hoxton. It may be spent on any resources, staffing or activities which are for the benefit of under 18's in our church or neighbourhood.

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

13 FUNDS

The designated funds are established for the following purposes:

Free Reserves

The Free Reserves are established to meet our responsibilities articulated in our Reserves Policy to maintain funds equivalent to 3 months of usual operational expenditure.

Vicarage maintenance

Maintained for the purpose of providing budget for the PCC to meet its responsibility for internal redecoration and refurbishment of the Vicarage as well as for garden maintenance.

13 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Restricted funds					
#Love Hoxton Project	8,732	226	(2)	-	8,956
Holiday bursary fund	2,834	18,139	(16,807)	(2,834)	1,332
Digital inclusion campaign	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Len and Eve Dye memorial	172	-	(172)	-	-
Benevolent fund	4,690	6,833	(6,315)	-	5,208
Children's Ministry	-	1,550	(1,550)	-	-
Youth Ministry	1,935	100	(2,082)	47	-
	<u>19,363</u>	<u>26,848</u>	<u>(27,928)</u>	<u>(2,787)</u>	<u>15,496</u>
Designated funds					
Free reserves	40,000	-	-	(40,000)	-
Vicarage maintenance	2,346	-	-	2,194	4,540
	<u>42,346</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(37,806)</u>	<u>4,540</u>
Other unrestricted funds					
St John's Hoxton PCC	9,613	280,658	(358,201)	64,593	(3,337)
St John's Hoxton Management Company	-	95,708	(79,160)	(24,000)	(7,452)
	<u>9,613</u>	<u>376,366</u>	<u>(437,361)</u>	<u>40,593</u>	<u>(10,789)</u>
Total funds	<u>71,322</u>	<u>403,214</u>	<u>(465,289)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,247</u>

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

14 ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Group

Fund balances as at 31 December 2023 are represented by:

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Other unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,212	9,212
Current assets	15,496	4,540	27,322	47,358
Current liabilities	-	-	(22,925)	(22,925)
Non current liabilities	-	-	(24,398)	(24,398)
	15,496	4,540	(10,789)	9,247

Fund balances as at 31 December 2022 are represented by:

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Other unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,584	9,584
Current assets	19,363	42,346	10,652	72,361
Current liabilities	-	-	(10,623)	(10,623)
	19,363	42,346	9,613	71,322

Charity

Fund balances as at 31 December 2023 are represented by:

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Other unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,212	9,212
Fixed asset investment	-	-	10	10
Current assets	15,496	4,540	28,292	48,328
Current liabilities	-	-	(16,453)	(16,453)
Non current liabilities	-	-	(24,398)	(24,398)
	15,496	4,540	(3,337)	16,699

Fund balances as at 31 December 2022 are represented by:

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Other unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,584	9,584
Fixed asset investment	-	-	10	10
Current assets	19,363	42,346	3,736	65,445
Current liabilities	-	-	(3,717)	(3,717)
	19,363	42,346	9,613	71,322

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

15 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following related party transactions occurred during the year.

During the prior year, David Nye, the husband of a PCC member, was paid £11,909 for his work as a youth worker.

Sara Hunter, the wife of a PCC member was paid £8,600 for her work as Music & Worship ministry overseer on contract for services basis (2022: £5,176 for worship services and leading funerals).

Revd Graham Hunter holds a number of senior governance roles in related organisations:

- Streetlevel (chair of trustees)
- London Diocesan Fund (Trustee/Director)
- Haberdashers' Company Charities Committee (Member)

Three trustees were reimbursed a total of £1,933 for expenses incurred on behalf of the charity (2022: £2,312 to two trustees).

16 PARENT CHARITY

Below are summarised results of St John's Hoxton, excluding the subsidiary company:

	Total 2023	Total 2022
INCOME		
Donations and legacies	140,159	113,706
Charitable activities	113,155	106,205
Trading activities	13,845	15,026
Grants	45,778	38,194
Investments	337	51,745
Other income	18,232	23,806
Total income	331,506	348,682
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities	386,129	376,334
Total expenditure	386,129	376,334
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(54,623)	(27,652)

17 GOING CONCERN

St John's Hoxton has experienced significant financial contraction over the past couple of years, and has been required to spend a large portion of free reserves on resolving building and staffing issues. The charity had received dividends from the trading subsidiary for several previous years that proved to be higher than they should have been. The charity has raised funds from both grants and loans in 2023 to enable the St John's Hoxton Management Company to settle a VAT liability. The PCC have established a Stewardship Action Team, and made budget and cashflow management a standing item on each meeting's agenda. We are actively engaging in a campaign to raise voluntary income and pursuing opportunities for raising further grant income. The trustees are satisfied that the charity will return to a surplus position with the steps taken.

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

18 COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
INCOME			
Donations and legacies	90,121	23,585	113,706
Charitable activities	88,205	-	88,205
Trading activities	426	2,600	3,026
Grants	29,066	9,128	38,194
Investments	77	-	77
Other income	23,806	-	23,806
St John's Hoxton Management Company Limited	118,422	-	118,422
Total income	350,123	35,313	385,436
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities	346,037	30,297	376,334
Management company	30,717	-	30,717
Total expenditure	376,754	30,297	407,051
NET INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS	(26,631)	5,016	(21,615)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(26,631)	5,016	(21,615)
FUND BALANCES AT 1 JANUARY 2022	78,590	14,347	92,937
FUND BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2022	51,959	19,363	71,322

ST JOHN'S HOXTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

19 COMPARATIVE MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Restricted funds					
#Love Hoxton	8,321	411	-	-	8,732
CAP debt centre/LYN project	914	-	(914)	-	-
Holiday Bursary Fund	2,834	13,539	(13,539)	-	2,834
Digital inclusion campaign	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Len and Eve Dye memorial	172	-	-	-	172
Benevolent fund	1,106	9,635	(6,051)	-	4,690
Children's Ministry	-	3,300	(3,300)	-	-
Youth Ministry	-	8,428	(6,493)	-	1,935
	<u>14,347</u>	<u>35,313</u>	<u>(30,297)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,363</u>
Designated funds					
Free reserves	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Vicarage maintenance	2,346	-	-	-	2,346
	<u>42,346</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,346</u>
Other unrestricted funds					
St John's Hoxton	41,482	231,701	(346,037)	82,467	9,613
St John's Hoxton Management Company	(5,238)	118,422	(30,717)	(82,467)	-
	<u>36,244</u>	<u>350,123</u>	<u>(376,754)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,613</u>
Total funds	<u>92,937</u>	<u>385,436</u>	<u>(407,051)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,322</u>

