

# ANNUAL REPORT

2024



STOKE ST MICHAEL'S  
COVENTRY



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# 1. AIMS AND PURPOSES

Stoke, St Michael's Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the Rector in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social and ecumenical. It has maintenance responsibilities for the churches and church centres at Stoke, St Michael's

## 2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a PCC we subscribe to the threefold Diocesan commitment to worship God, make disciples and transform our communities. The parish seeks, in its own understanding of this vision, to inspire people to be alive to Christ's presence, to worship God and to serve the diverse community of Stoke and Wyken. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:-

- Worship and prayer - learning about the gospel and the love of Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Mission and outreach to people living in the parish and beyond

To facilitate this work we seek to maintain the fabric of the churches, church centre, and a worshipping presence in several local schools, in addition to this the church is committed to staffing missional projects across the city including, Street Pastors, Carriers of Hope, Clothing Coventry and Coventry Foodbank.





# 3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

## 3.1 Electoral Roll 2023/24

The total number of people on the Electoral Roll is currently 133. The changes since the last report are that 6 people have been added

Malcolm Vanston-Rumney, Electoral Roll Officer

## 3.2 Attendance at Services

The average weekly worshipping attendance in October 2023 was as follows:

Adults 92

Children 12

## 3.3 Digital Engagement

This year we continue to use our digital platforms as a way of promoting what we do and social interaction with our congregation and community. We continue to live stream our services on Facebook. Our website was also updated.

Facebook - we had 62.3k views on our content. Our reach was up by 36.8%

Our top posts were:-

Carol service with 5,347 views

Christmas Fayre 4,041 views

Barn Dance 3,968 views

Top Interaction

The rainbow photo, ordination of women, Suzanne's anniversary and Dan's Licensing



# 3.4 WORSHIP AND PRAYER

On Sundays, the following services take place:

8.00am Said Eucharist  
9.30am Pray and Play  
11.00am Sung Eucharist

During the week, the following service takes place:  
Wednesday 10.00 am Said Communion

Our worship is predominantly Eucharistic but our 9.30 is all age worship where we have communion once a month. All worship, priestly and pastoral work is supported by a strong team of Readers.

Once a month our Mother's Union group meet in the centre for worship and fellowship.

Occasional Offices last year included...

Weddings 0 Vow Renewal 1  
Baptisms 6  
Funerals 25  
Confirmations 4



# 4. REPORTS

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## Rector's Report

It has been an absolute delight to lead the ministry here over the past year, serving both our church and the wider community. My role has given me the privilege of walking alongside so many different people, whether through pastoral care, community outreach, or our work with local schools and organisations.

A key part of my ministry has been engaging with the community, particularly through my work with the Sea Cadets and local schools, including Stoke Primary and Ravensdale. As a school governor, I have had the opportunity to support and encourage the next generation, ensuring that our schools are places where children can grow and thrive.

This year also brought moments of deep sadness, particularly in the wake of the tragic losses at Pattisons. As a church, we have sought to offer comfort and support following the deaths of their headteacher Graeme and a pupil Afaf, being with the school community in their grief.

Looking beyond our own parish, I have been grateful to be part of the Stoke Alliance, working alongside other agencies to create a new group dedicated to supporting the community. By pooling our resources and working together, we are better able to serve those in need.

Similarly, our community garden has been a wonderful space of welcome, bringing new people onto our site and even providing beautiful decorations for our Harvest Festival. These moments remind us that every small act of growth—whether in a garden or in our relationships—reflects something of God's Kingdom





## Rector's Report cont..

One of the great joys of my ministry has been working alongside Bishop Ruth, whose wisdom and encouragement have been invaluable. I am also deeply grateful to those who have covered services in my absence, allowing me to represent our parish at General Synod. It was a great encouragement to have our voice heard at that level and to have our parish mentioned.

However, my greatest delight remains the time I spend with the children we work with each week. There is something truly special about sitting on the carpet, singing Old MacDonald, and seeing the joy on their faces. Moments like these remind me why ministry is so precious.

In November I was deeply honoured to be made a Canon of Coventry Cathedral a recognition that I cherish being a Coventrian. But even more exciting was to walk alongside those confirmed, Pamela, Evelyn, Donna and Debbie.

Finally I cannot help but mention and give great gratitude to our five Readers, Janet, Ann, Sue, Chris and Suzanne who have their own unique ministries, its joy to work alongside you all. The hard work of our three churchwardens, Chris, Jim and Neal. Our talented musical director, Linda, Audrey our Safeguarding officer and our superb administrator Lynda.

As we look ahead, I remain excited and hopeful for all that God is doing among us. May we continue to grow, serve, and build His Kingdom together.

Lots of love Rev Claire x



## Churchwardens Review 2024

Life gets awfully busy sometimes.

I know that only too well as I sit down at 9pm on a Monday evening after a full day in the office beginning to write out my Churchwarden's review of 2024.

Busyness for busyness sake isn't necessarily a trait we would want to celebrate in churches – if we're too busy how can we possibly stop to listen to what God is calling us to do. If, however, we're busy because there is a general 'bustle' of activity around the place that means we're providing a space for our community to come together, a space for people to worship, a space for people to socialise, a space for people to find comfort, well, in that case it's none too bad a thing to be a little bit busy. And I'm pleased to say that in 2024 we continued to be a little bit busy.

I started listing down all the things I might write about for 2024 before I realised there's an awful lot, so, in a break from tradition for these review I'm going to try and just pull out some highlights:

Socially we've been 'all-a-go' in 2024. We've flipped pancakes, thrown ourselves into Wild Messy Church, prayed our way around the Parish on a lovely social walk, sung our hearts out at Songs of Praise before filling ourselves with a hearty BBQ feast, we tested the grey matter with not one but two quizzes, we do-si-do-ed our way through a wonderful barn dance, got the full-house playing bingo, tested the water with a saunter to 'Skeggy' and refined ourselves with some 'posh-nosh' at Afternoon Tea.

Not only did we do all that we continued to hold our annual Christmas Fayre which was another great success raising over £2500.





Our lunch club has continued to thrive feeding over 50 souls on a monthly basis whilst providing a great place for people to share some much needed friendship and fellowship.

Mikes Tykes also continues to provide a wonderful place for Mums and Dads to bring their little ones for a morning of activities and, in some cases, a much need break for a nice warm brew!

We launched two new expressions of worship in 2024 – our Space to Breathe service offering people to chance to have some calm reflection and Space to Worship giving people the chance to try some different worship styles. What a wonderful thing to celebrate - it is a great thing to be part of a church that bucks the trend and, where other churches have been forced to reduce their offering, we are lucky enough to offer even more!

Before we acknowledge the folks who've made it happen there are some other honourable mentions we shouldn't forget; celebrating Suzanne's 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of becoming a reader, the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's ordination, some of our bell ringers taking part in the Ringing World National Youth Championship at St Paul's and having four of our number confirmed by Bishop Ruth.

Looking back it's clear to see that we were a good kind of busy in 2024!

Of course, all of this couldn't have happened without a cast of so many. Rev Claire continues to lead our little family in Stoke and we're all very grateful for all your hard work throughout another year with lots of ups and downs. We are forever grateful to our team of readers for their time, their prayers and their passion for ministry. Thank you to Jim who continues to be a fundamental cog in the St Michael's machine. Thanks too must go to the Lyndas / Lindas – Lynda in the office for keeping us from drowning under a mountain of admin and Linda our musical director for your continued passion in leading music at St Mikes.



There are, of course, many, many others to thank for their time and effort who I couldn't list here for fear of writing war and peace. Suffice to say, thank you, to all of you, for your love, care and commitment to carrying out God's mission here at Stoke St Michael's!

Let us hope that 2025 will be yet another year that we can celebrate some exciting events, some great community engagement and a real season of growth for faith in this community.

Blessings  
Chris





## Fabric Report 2023/24

The redecoration of the rear of the church above the kitchen area, was completed.

The general condition of the Church is good.

The Vestry refurb layout requires confirming with the various users and then we can move to obtaining quotations for the work to start and also raising funds for the Bell Tower.

The Community Centre continues to attract new voluntary groups and fees paying bookings. New users include a dog therapy group.

The garden by the centre continues to be maintained by the Growthers Team who are working really hard to provide an organic allotment.

The community payback team continue to do an amazing job each week maintaining the churchyard.

After many year of complaints around the car park it was finally re-surfaced and a new passing lay-by put in.





## Music and St Michael's

### Personnel

Numbers remain healthy with a good balance of parts. Most recent members include Titi and Ola Ajepe (great to have mother and daughter - speaking of which, Aurora put in her first appearance at our Christingle service and has been at choir practices ever since as big sister Zoe did when she was the same age!). We've also welcomed Donna Miller into our ranks taking our numbers up to 17 when Faith reappears during time away from university. We are very lucky at SSM to have such a flourishing, loyal choir.

### Activities

In addition to their attendance at all our regular Sunday and Festival services, the choir was busy in July as I st saw (and heard) them singing with the choir of St Mark's Bilton at the installation there of Dan our former curate. Friday 5th and Monday 8th they were singing 'away' again at Mary Magdalen's, Hearsall - this time it was rehearsals for a special service of evensong there on Friday 19th. This was a celebration of it being 90 years since the consecration of this church.

Fridays in August were a well earned rest period from practices but there were always sufficient numbers to form a choir for the Sunday services. Once back in September we were back again practising anthems to celebrate harvest, Advent and of-course the Christmas carol service. (We are now working on a special service for Pentecost - watch this space.)

### Training

Our newest recruits have worked particularly hard this year on their training and consequently we have been delighted to see Titi and Ola achieving their dark blue ribbons and Donna her light blue. After the three awards have been passed 'in house ' as it were, there are a few externally examined awards which are available. Faith and Alice are currently working towards awards of the Guild of Church Musicians and I am sure there will be more news on this before long.



## Children's and Families

Jesus said 'Let the little Children Come to Me'

This past year our church and myself have continued to be blessed by our contact with children, young people and their families, coming into our church and centre.

On a Sunday morning our 9:30am all-age service has been re-named PRAY AND PLAY, in an effort to help new families identify that it is suitable for them. The PLAY though is not just for the children! Here we have an interactive, imaginative mix of story, song and dance, prayer, craft, exploration of faith and care & share. You can not fail to be touched by our children's enthusiasm and insight. We have a pool of at least 12 children/teenagers who attend on a regular basis as circumstances dictate. I personally have appreciated the technical support of one of our teenagers! Once a month we seek to have Holy Communion. We have trialled Lego church on a midweek tea time, and have been slow with uptake. Moving Lego church to the occasional Pray and Play has been well appreciated.

On a Sunday morning at the 11:00am service of Holy Communion we have approximately 6 children including one baby attending on a regular basis. For their use we have a '11:00 box' containing Children's Holy Communion books, and 'Lord's Prayer' cube, as well as colouring and worksheets relating to the gospel of the day.

Messy Church – at Good Friday and times of ½ term we have put on some very well attended sessions of Messy Church; bringing into church and church yard, children from Sunday Church, St Mike's Tikes and others, with crafts, bible story, song and prayer, and usually chocolate!



St Mike's Tikes – is our pre-school parent/carer and toddler group. We meet Thursday mornings at term time. We are ran by a dedicated group of volunteers and have recently said farewell to a longstanding member. At Tikes the parents/carers find friendship and support and the children have fun with playtime, snack time, song time and recent introduction of story time.

Each week we have introduced an additional theme mainly for the 'older' children to enjoy. Recently 'World book day' was well appreciated, with many of the little one dressing up and pre-loved books donated and distributed.

Schools – At Christmas time we were once again blessed by children from our local schools (Stoke Junior, Ravensdale, Pattisons) coming into our church for scratch Nativity and carol services. We had fun taking carol singing and scratch nativity into school as well.

Rev Claire has been challenged by the children as she has gone into school to take the occasional R.E lessons, and she has given much needed support as a Governor to Stoke Primary and Ravensdale, as well as pastoral support to Pattisons.

With our children's work we have worked closely with our safeguarding officer and her help and support has been invaluable. We also look forward to working with our new curate and all that she shall bring.

Suzanne Sapiano

Reader with responsibility for work with children and young people  
Stoke St Michael's Church





## Mother's Union

Mothers' Union is a worldwide community of both women and men, which began over 140 years ago, ( in modern times you no longer need to be a mother, married or a woman).

An organisation that promotes and supports family life and aims to make a safer, fairer world for families, and encourages parents to develop the faith of their children, to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service and helps those whose family life has met with adversity.

An organisation that campaigns on social issues regarding families, women and children. It is acknowledged that MU needs to continue to be relevant in today's society where family structures take many forms.

The Mother's Union group here has continued to meet regularly, providing a supportive and welcoming environment for its members. We are pleased to report that two new members have joined our group, strengthening our sense of community and shared purpose.

One of our key activities this period was fundraising to support Mike's Rules, the local toddler group. Through our collective efforts, we successfully raised money to purchase new toys, contributing to a more engaging and enjoyable experience for the children who attend.

After thoughtful discussion, the group has decided to transition into a Friendship Group rather than continuing as a full branch. This change allows us to focus on fellowship, mutual support, and community outreach in a more flexible and informal way, while still upholding the values and mission of the Mother's Union.

We look forward to continuing our meetings and finding new ways to support each other and our wider community.



## Bell Ringing

When producing such an annual report as this, then the best possible headline is that our ringing activities continued to thrive, indeed grow, throughout the past year. On every Sunday during the year there has been ringing before the main morning service providing the reminder to those in earshot that worship continues to take place at the Church. The opportunities are also taken to ring before a service on the major festivals that fall on a weekday.

This dedication by the band also extends to our weekly Wednesday evening practices. Our technical standards and also reflected in Sunday ringing, are now probably the highest in the Diocese (along with the Cathedral which for many of the band is their second home ringing-wise!). The natural inherent learning process and progress made by our younger ringers means that they keep the rest of us on our toes as they get to the point of outstripping the abilities of some and taking others of us back to the “glory days” of our own youth.

There are also the other times when ringing takes place, not necessarily by just our own ringers. The past year has not seen any national events that have a public expectation of bell ringing as part of celebrations or commemorations. We do, however, like to pursue the more social side of our ringing together. As such there are the about hourlong ringing dedicated to a specific purpose. One of these was to congratulate Rev Claire as she was made a Canon at the Cathedral. We are grateful that our neighbours also allow the occasional three hour long performances known as peals. The bells are also enjoyed by others in the Diocese (and beyond) through guild events and Sunday afternoon gatherings of a number of the youth ringers in the area..





A traditional source of occasional ringing has been for weddings. Sadly these are very rare these days as churches in general lose out to secular venues. This is not only a loss of income to the parish in general but also a small amount of funding to the ringers for looking after the more minor aspects of bell maintenance and small recompense for our dedicated service the rest of the time. A general trend for more enquiries about ringing for thanksgiving services associated with funerals is being noticed. Satisfying such requests by finding enough available ringers at their likely timings (i.e. weekdays in working hours) is always going to be a difficult proposition.

The bells require a minimal amount of routine maintenance. This is looked after by ourselves only seeking professional assistance if this turns out to be more significant than within our capabilities. It is most helpful that Oliver is now able to use his youthful agility to get around the rather cramped bell frame we have and put to good use the valuable bell maintenance skills he continues to learn and develop. The more major work on the bells previously identified is becoming even more necessary as age takes its toll not only on the physical bell fittings but our “senior” ringers too. We are hopeful the major tower work can be done in the current year and as part of this a significant overhaul of the bells. The ringers will wish to help with fundraising towards this building work. One scheme used successfully elsewhere has been to offer some commemorative ringing for all sorts of personal events/milestones etc in return for a donation to the fund raising along with a commemorative certificate. This gives the keen ringers even more opportunities for furthering their ringing and enjoying themselves!. Once the tower work is complete then it will be necessary to address recruitment of more new bell ringers (or attracting back those who perhaps learnt and rang in the past) to sustain our level of activities and replace those who will inevitably move on as part of their general life journey.





In common with all activities these days in church, voluntary or otherwise, then we are obliged to meet numerous requirements and regulations that cover a diverse range of secular aspects of the modern world and this encompasses, amongst others, the fields of Safeguarding, Health & Safety and GDPR. Safeguarding, as we are all too aware, is a major activity across the whole of the Church of England. Ringers in general, through both the Diocese and national organisations are kept well at the forefront of ensuring best practices, relevant training and auditable processes are followed for all our ringing activities. We as ringers here have ensured compliance with the most recent recommendations on Safeguarding and an agreed implementation for ringing specific matters.

As ever the offer of educating the wider congregation is there should any other church group wish to include something about ringing, or bells in general, as part of their programme. Equally, we are quite happy to see visitors on a Wednesday evening who have any interest in knowing more about us, especially anyone who has previously rung and now finds they have the time to re-acquaint themselves with this service to the Church and absorbing pastime. We remain very grateful to Rev Claire, particularly with her very complimentary social media posts, and the rest of the Church for their interest and active support for our activities and ability to exercise our skills with little restriction.

Andrew Alldrick on behalf of St Michael's Stoke bellringers.



## Safeguarding

Here at Stoke St Michael's (SSM) we seek to ensure we create a safe culture and environment for all who worship and visit both our Church and Church Centre. I thank Rev Claire and our PCC for all their support during what was a rather turbulent year for the Church of England, General Synod and National Safeguarding.

Rev Claire and I have received several low level concerns during the last 12 months. Each of these have been recorded on an incident log and an appropriate response given. Thankfully none of these incidents have reached the threshold for action by the Diocesan Safeguarding team. The PCC have supported both myself and Rev Claire in the actions taken to ensure the health and wellbeing of those in our midst.

In June I attended a zoom event along with other parish safeguarding officers to meet the new diocesan safeguarding training officer - Liam McCormack and in January a PSO forum to receive key updates relating to National Safeguarding policy and training.

Our main tasks this year have firstly been to raise awareness of safeguarding within our parish. Rev Claire spoke at all three services on 17 November 2024, designated as Safeguarding Sunday. This coincided with the publication of the report by Keith Makin into the abuse by the perpetrator John Smyth which was widely reported in the national press and media and resulted in the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. All clergy received a pastoral letter to read to congregations from the Bishop of Stepney - Joanne Grenfell, lead bishop for safeguarding.

I have updated our parish leaflet on safeguarding to include contact details for victims and survivors of church abuse.

There is a folder at the back of church and in the church centre with a current copy of The Parish Safeguarding Handbook and details of the National Safeguarding Standards that the Church of England requires all parishes to achieve as good practice in its safeguarding work.





Secondly I keep our parish dashboard that reports to the PCC and diocese up to date. This system requires me to continually report our progress ensuring as a parish we are compliant with our national and diocesan safeguarding policies, procedures and standards. Currently our mandatory requirements are at 99%. Of the five good practice three standards are at 100%, one at 99% and one at 40%.

Areas I report on are:

- Annually the PCC review, approve and adopt required safeguarding policies and procedures.
- These documents and information are displayed in church and church centre as required.
- The PCC receive and approve a safeguarding action plan derived from the parish dashboard at each PCC meeting. A safeguarding report is given to the APCM.
- Those in leadership positions both paid and voluntary confirm they understand their role in safeguarding.
- Church leaders, members of PCC and volunteers complete mandatory training renewable every 3 years currently at 100% well done everyone!
- Annually the PCC review and authorise each church activity/group e.g. choir, bell ringers, Mikes Tikes. Each activity requires a risk assessment that is reviewed annually. Where appropriate all DBS checks have been completed. Since January 2024 all leaders and members of church groups have read and followed section 11 of the Parish Safeguarding Handbook entitled A Safe Environment and Activities.
- Annually the PCC has authorised a list of non- church activities e.g. Slimming World, craft group, Kings Chapel etc. that take place in our church buildings and grounds. All Groups have signed a hire agreement that includes a safeguarding addendum.

In conclusion I expect that Diocese will receive a safeguarding audit in 2026 to see how we are performing particularly as it is likely that more changes are on the way that will determine how the Church of England will expect dioceses and parishes to manage safeguarding in 2025 and beyond

Audrey Alldrick – Parish Safeguarding Officer





# Administrative Information

## Name of Charity:

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Caludon, Coventry

## Working name:

Stoke St Michael PCC

**Contact:** Mrs Claire Thompson (PCC Secretary)

**Rector:** Rev'd Claire-Louise McArthur

## Readers

Suzanne Sapiano

Janet Pocklington

Ann Brown

Christopher Dronfield

Sue Morris

## Ex Officio PCC Members:

### Churchwardens:

Christopher Dronfield

Jim McKay

## Deanery Synod Representatives:

Neal McGrattan (Deputy Churchwarden)

Glynis Wood

## Elected PCC Members:

Graham Medd, Ann Brown, Claire Thompson, Sue Morris

Angela Dronfield, Janet Pocklington, Suzanne Sapiano,

Adrian Williams, Alice Chapman and Audrey Alldrick

## Bankers:

Lloyds Bank Plc - High Street Branch Coventry CV1 5RE

## Independent Examiner:

Gavin Kibble Email - Gavin.kibble@sky.com

Approved by the PCC on 11/05/25 and duly signed ..... by Rev'd Claire McArthur on their behalf. Date 11/05/25

PP  (CHRISTOPHER DRONFIELD)

# Annual Accounts Summary

## RESERVES POLICY

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on free reserves (if possible) which equates to approximately six months' unrestricted payments (£55,000), to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time, such as Covid. The balance of free reserves was £xxxx in excess of this. The PCC is constantly reviewing the level of reserves and is currently looking at various essential maintenance and building projects.

## INVESTMENT POLICY

Any surplus funds are placed on short-term deposit.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

The PCC has continued to review the risks facing the Team, including the types of risk, the potential impact on the Church and means of mitigating these risks. Systems and procedures have been put in place to meet identified risks. The PCC will continue to review risks on an on-going basis.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. In November 2018, the PCC co-opted two additional members as permitted by the Rules, to enable them to have full rights as Parish Representatives in the Appointment process. All who attend our services on a regular basis are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and be eligible to stand for election to the District Church Councils and the Parochial Church Council.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how funds of the Team are to be spent.

When meeting as representatives of the districts, our clergy and PCC consider the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Parish of Caludon is situated in the Coventry East Deanery and is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England

The correspondence address for the PCC is 365a Walsgrave Road, Coventry, CV2 4BG. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity registered with the Charity Commission number 1133236.



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
COVENTRY  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income</b>					
Voluntary income	2	51,948	11,286	63,233	61,851
Activities for generating funds	3	3,386	-	3,386	4,578
Income from investments	4	52	-	52	45
Church activities	5	43,441	-	43,441	48,300
Other income	6	1,854	-	1,854	2,053
<b>Total income</b>		<u>100,681</u>	<u>11,286</u>	<u>111,966</u>	<u>116,827</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Church activities	7	171,245	10,000	181,245	149,071
Raising funds	8	2,105	-	2,105	1,590
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>173,350</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>183,350</u>	<u>150,661</u>
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<u>(72,669)</u>	<u>1,286</u>	<u>(71,384)</u>	<u>(33,834)</u>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	15	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(72,669)</u>	<u>1,286</u>	<u>(71,384)</u>	<u>(33,834)</u>
Funds brought forward	15	560,629	23	560,652	594,486
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	15	<u>487,960</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>489,268</u>	<u>560,652</u>





**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
COVENTRY  
BALANCE SHEET**

**As at 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		364,648		369,621
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	16,810		29,623	
Short term deposits		1,000		1,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		111,512		167,447	
		<u>129,322</u>		<u>198,070</u>	
<b>Creditors:</b>					
amounts falling due within one year	14	(4,703)		(7,039)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>124,620</u>		<u>191,031</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u><u>489,268</u></u>		<u><u>560,652</u></u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted funds	15		1,309		23
Unrestricted funds:					
- other charitable funds	15		487,960		560,629
			<u><u>489,268</u></u>		<u><u>560,652</u></u>

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The Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and Notes 1 to 17 were approved by the Parochial Church Council on 11th May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
COVENTRY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1 Accounting Policies**

**Basis of accounting**

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the current Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities and applicable accounting standard FRS102 and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for investment assets which are shown at market value. 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 operate independently and/or owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

**Funds**

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trustor bequest, and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be spent on the specific object for which they were given. 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.

Unrestricted funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

**Income recognition**

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

**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 is recognised.

Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement and the amount due.

Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds.

**Investment income**

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

**Gains and losses on investments**

Realised gains and losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
COVENTRY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1 Accounting Policies (continued)**

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party. All expenditure is classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that creates a binding obligation of the PCC.

The diocesan quota or parish share is accounted for when payable. Any quota unpaid at 31 December is provided in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross..

**Fixed assets**

**Consecrated land and buildings and moveable church furnishings**

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by S.10(2)(a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011.

No value is placed on moveable 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 moveable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the expected useful lives as follows:

Centre Improvements	- 50 years
Sound system	- 5 years
Office equipment	- 10 years
Solar panels	- 7 years

**Short term deposits**

These are the cash held on deposit either with the CCLA or at the bank repayable within six months notice.



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
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For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>2 Voluntary Income</b>				
Planned giving:				
Gift Aid donations and planned giving	36,437	-	36,437	38,021
Income tax recoverable	6,572	-	6,572	4,689
Collections (open plate) all services	3,118	-	3,118	4,732
Donations, appeals, etc.	4,821	1,286	6,107	1,773
Legacies	1,000	-	1,000	-
Grants	-	10,000	10,000	12,636
	<u>51,948</u>	<u>11,286</u>	<u>63,233</u>	<u>61,851</u>
<b>3 Activities for Generating Funds</b>				
Fetes, bazaars, other fund-raising events	3,386	-	3,386	4,758
	<u>3,386</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,386</u>	<u>4,758</u>
<b>4 Income from Investments</b>				
Bank and CCLA Deposit fund interest	52	-	52	45
	<u>52</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>45</u>
<b>5 Church Activities</b>				
Fees	8,239	-	8,239	14,642
Church hall lettings etc	29,090	-	29,090	29,001
Lunch Clubs	5,025	-	5,025	3,768
Groups Activities	1,017	-	1,017	877
Sundry income	70	-	70	12
	<u>43,441</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,441</u>	<u>48,300</u>
<b>6 Other Income</b>				
Solar panels	1,854	-	1,854	2,053
	<u>1,854</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,854</u>	<u>2,053</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	2023 £
<b>7 Church Activities</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving:	17	-	-	-	355
Ministry:					
- diocesan quota		61,250	-	61,250	61,250
Church utility expenses		6,342	-	6,342	5,515
Other church running costs		11,774	-	11,774	6,648
Upkeep of services		11,455	-	11,455	12,927
Upkeep of churchyard		441	-	441	356
Resurfacing of car park		31,661	-	31,661	-
Centre running costs		11,979	-	11,979	13,425
Centre refurbishment		3,314	-	3,314	1,236
Community activities and other		6,073	-	6,073	9,561
Office expenses		5,563	-	5,563	7,551
Nurture and miscellaneous		3,121	-	3,121	1,858
Staff costs	9	9,656	10,000	19,656	18,956
Depreciation		8,186	-	8,186	7,543
Independent examiner's fees					
- independent examination		430	-	430	1,890
		<u>171,245</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>181,245</u>	<u>149,071</u>
<b>8 Raising Funds</b>					
Fundraising expense		<u>2,105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,105</u>	<u>1,590</u>
<b>9 Staff Costs</b>					
Wages and salaries				18,720	18,185
Social security costs				-	-
Pension costs				936	771
				<u>19,656</u>	<u>18,956</u>
No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.					
Average number of employees				1	1
<b>10 Trustee Remuneration &amp; Related Party Transactions</b>					
The payments made to clergy may include a small immaterial proportion, which relates to their function as PCC members.					
No PCC members received any remuneration for acting as a trustee during the year. As allowed under our governing document					
no PCC members/trustee received any remuneration for services to the charity (2023 nil).					
No PCC members/trustees were paid any expenses (2023 Nil). There were no related party transactions.					
<b>11 Operating Leases</b>				<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases					
Not later than one year				1,499	1,499
One to five years				3,746	5,245
Later than five years				-	-

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Centre improvements £	Office equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
1 January 2024	377,164	3,052	380,216
Additions	*	3,213	3,213
Disposals	-	-	-
31 December 2024	377,164	6,265	383,429
<b>Depreciation</b>			
1 January 2024	7,543	3,052	10,595
Charge for year	7,543	643	8,186
Disposals	-	-	-
31 December 2024	15,086	3,695	18,781
<b>Net book amount</b>			
31 December 2024	362,078	2,570	364,648
31 December 2023	369,621	*	369,621
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	

13 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year  
Gift Aid recoverable  
Other debtors

10,737	23,289
6,073	6,334
16,810	29,623

14 Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year  
Trade creditors  
Other creditors

*	*
4,703	7,039
4,703	7,039



THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
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For the year ended 31 December 2024

15 Analysis of funds

	Balance 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	98,138	64,712	(156,341)	4,973	11,481
<b>Designated funds</b>					
Fixed assets fund	369,621	-	-	(4,973)	364,648
Fabric	75,000	-	-	-	75,000
Centre Fund	17,870	35,969	(17,008)	-	36,831
	462,491	35,969	(17,008)	(4,973)	476,479
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	560,629	100,681	(173,350)	-	487,960
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Administrator	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Small Donations	-	286	-	-	286
Poor Fund	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Ukraine	23	-	-	-	23
	23	11,286	(10,000)	-	1,309
<b>Total funds</b>	560,652	111,967	(183,350)	-	489,268

**Purpose of restricted and designated funds**

The general fund represents the free unrestricted funds of the Church available for general use.

The Fixed Assets Fund is the value of unrestricted funds represented by fixed assets.

The Fabric fund is being held for the upkeep of the Fabric of the Church. The Quinquennial Review indicates that there are problems with the roof, church tower etc. which need to be resolved within the next five years.

The Centre Fund arises from surpluses made by the Centre and will be used for further refurbishment.

The Administrator fund was given towards the cost of the administrator.

The Ukraine fund was given to support Ukraine.

Small Donations were received for Breast Cancer Now - the donation was made in 2025

The Poor fund provides support for people in financial crisis.

**E PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHA  
COVENTRY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**16 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	364,648	-	364,648	369,621
Net current assets	123,312	1,309	124,620	191,031
	<u>487,960</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>489,268</u>	<u>560,652</u>

**17 Missionary and charitable giving**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Eco Church	-	125
Coventry Sea Cadets	-	230
	<u>-</u>	<u>355</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF STOKE SAINT MICHAEL,  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

18 PRIOR PERIOD COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income</b>					
Voluntary income	2	49,081	12,770	61,851	228,374
Activities for generating funds	3	4,578	-	4,578	1,730
Income from investments	4	45	-	45	13
Church activities	5	48,300	-	48,300	24,207
Other income	6	2,053	-	2,053	1,921
<b>Total income</b>		<b>104,057</b>	<b>12,770</b>	<b>116,827</b>	<b>256,245</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Church activities	7	136,301	12,770	149,071	125,345
Raising funds	8	1,590	-	1,590	8,422
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>137,891</b>	<b>12,770</b>	<b>150,661</b>	<b>133,767</b>
<b>Net expenditure before transfers</b>		<b>(33,834)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(33,834)</b>	<b>122,478</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(33,834)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(33,834)</b>	<b>122,478</b>
Funds brought forward	14	594,463	23	594,486	472,008
<b>Funds carried forward</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>560,629</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>560,652</b>	<b>594,486</b>





## **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Stoke St Michael, Coventry**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 19 to 28.

### **Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner**

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- (1) which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements – to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or  
– to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act  
  
have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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Gavin Kibble

1 Kineton Road, Coventry,

CV2 3NR

22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2025

