

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

England & Wales · Charity number 1133837

Details

Other names GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-01-28

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address St Nicholas Vicarage
17 Rectory Road
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 1XR

Phone 01912854111

Email sallyann.ritchie@me.com

Website www.gosforthparishchurch.co.uk

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: religious services and pastoral care, community activities and provision of facilities (buildings and open spaces) for the benefit of the residents of the parish of Gosforth St Nicholas and the wider community

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City

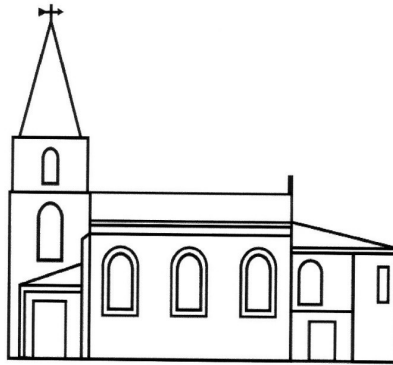
Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£161,230	£182,809	-	-
2023-12-31	£144,558	£164,294	-	-
2022-12-31	£124,253	£144,211	-	-
2021-12-31	£128,373	£146,345	-	-
2020-12-31	£130,195	£143,076	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alexander Joseph Thirlaway		2022-04-24
Barnaby John Coulson		2022-04-24
DAVID YOUNG		
Dr Cecilia Holmes		2014-04-29
Dr SallyAnn Ritchie		2022-04-24
Frances Louise Haigh		2023-04-30
GRAHAM PALMER BARNARD		2014-04-29
Hilary Harrison		2019-04-30
Keith Michael Proudfoot		2020-09-13
Molly Rebecca Allan		2022-04-24
Nicholas Beale		2025-05-11
Olwyn Black		2014-04-29
Rev Paul Anthony Baker		2022-10-13
Ron Black		2022-04-24
Simon David Andrew Ward		2025-05-11
Stephanie Jane McLaughlin		2023-04-30
Timothy Robert Watkinson		2025-05-11

Accounts



Gosforth

Parish Church
of St Nicholas

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Charity Number 1133837

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019).

1. Objectives and Activities

St Nicholas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Paul Baker, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

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

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

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 developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicholas and our church hall and annex.

2. Achievements and Performance

2024 was a year when for the first time since Covid the parish has looked towards the future with greater hope and a sense of purpose. During the year the remaining restrictions in worship and social activities ended, and the vast majority of people feel church is a safe place to be. Our continuing Zoom broadcast of our main Sunday service is still appreciated by those who are housebound or otherwise unable to attend in person.

We are grateful for the support of many individuals for making the church community a constant focus of support.

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

The church is a member of Churches Together in Gosforth and supports joint activities when these take place. This includes events like Remembrance Sunday in Central Park and an outdoor service on Good Friday.

3. Planning for the future

Working with the churchwardens and ministry team, Father Paul Baker has continued to look at raising the profile of St Nicholas' Church in our parish and community. Our aim is to be seen as a welcoming and inclusive place, which offers space for all. Close to the metro transport hub, we are in an ideal position to be seen and recognised in our locality.

The parish has strong links with local schools, including our church school, and welcomes people to a range of social events through the year. Our relationship with neighbouring Anglican parishes and churches of other denominations is important and through Fr Paul's role as area dean for Newcastle Central Deanery we seek to strengthen these links.

Our aim is also to be outward looking, and we will continue to support local charities (for example food banks, a women's refuge) as well as international causes (Christian Aid).

In the longer term we will also be working on planning for net zero and will be seeking advice and support from the diocese for this.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

4. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas	
Registered Charity Number	1133837	
Operational address	23 Ilford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3NX	
Trustees	Rev P Baker R Stradling D Hunter – elected 2019 B Coulson – elected 2022 S Ritchie – elected 2022 D Young – elected 2023 H Harrison – elected 2018 M Allan – elected 2022 G P Barnard – elected 2023 N Beale – co-opted O Black – co-opted R Black – co-opted F Haigh – elected 2023 S McLaughlin – elected 2023 D Oliver – elected 2018 C Pacitti K M Proudfoot – elected 2020 L Robertson – co-opted C T Tait – resigned April 2024 R Tait – elected 2024 A J Thirlaway – elected 2022 E Vickers – ex-officio K Wake – resigned April 2024 S Ward – elected 2024	Incumbent Assistant priest Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden, Lay Chair, and Deanery Synod rep Safeguarding officer Deanery Synod rep Reader Reader Reader Emeritus Reader Treasurer Electoral Roll Officer
Architect	Tim Bailey, Xcite	
Independent	Douglas Maltman	
Examiner	Connected Voice Business Services One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX	
Bankers	Barclays	
Investments	Brewin Dolphin	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

5. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing documents

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is a registered charity, number 1133837, registered 28 January 2010.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting they can also be co-opted during the year to fill a casual vacancy or skills gap.

Risk management

The charity is aware of the Commission's guidance on risk management including the development of a policy, identifying risks, assessing and evaluating the action(s) to be taken, review, monitor and assess periodically. Trustees work with the incumbent to ensure the continuing monitoring of risks.

6. Financial Review

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is primarily funded by donations. The total income for the year was £161,230 (2023: £144,558). This income is allocated across respective funds on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024, shows a surplus across all funds of £1,497 (2023: deficit £15,713).

The Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024 shows total funds carried forward of £841,949 (2023: £840,452) of which there are £790,567 unrestricted funds (2023: £791,850) and £51,382 restricted funds (2023: £48,602).

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's reserves policy. It is the policy of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas to retain liquid funds in current account and on short-term deposit adequate to meet 3 months of financial activity. Longer-term investments held can be realised safely without undue cost within that time frame.

7. Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. The trustees have also reviewed the charitable purposes of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain Northumbria Area Meeting, and the external environment, to make sure the Charity is still relevant and needed. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

8. Related Party

Details are included in note 16 of the financial statements' hereafter.

9. Insurance

The charity's insurance policy does not cover and provide trustee indemnity cover.

10. Report from the incumbent

As Vicar of Gosforth St Nicholas, I am delighted to be able to provide an overview of the life of our church and Parish during 2024. As I do so, I am reminded how important it is to stop and reflect on the many blessings we receive and to give thanks for all the hard work faithfulness and generosity represented here. It is so easy to take these things for granted. This report should of course be read in conjunction with the other reports presented herewith.

The heart of our church life is the rhythm of prayer and worship in smaller or larger numbers. On the one hand, are the half dozen people who come faithfully to share morning prayer, on the other there is the exuberance of the Parish Eucharist on Easter day when St Nicholas looks almost full! Here we are in the midst of our community, right next to a busy travel hub - a place which reminds us of the presence and peace of God.

We are blessed with a continuing strong musical tradition of St Nicholas in the form of our excellent organist and choir. Phil Mills has been our principal organist but during 2024 he asked if he could step back a bit while continuing to make a significant contribution and, in the autumn, we were delighted to appoint John Goodenough to that role. The choir is a wonderful collection of talent and enriches our worship week by week.

On two occasions during the year, we joined special celebrations at Newcastle Cathedral. In October, following three years of training, Nick Beale was licensed as a reader by Bishop Mark. On St Nicholas's Day, 6th of December, Ce Pacitti was installed as a Lay Canon of the Cathedral in recognition of her work as Diocesan Continuing Ministerial Formation Officer. These were both memorable occasions and a source of great pleasure and pride for our parish. Congratulations again to Nick and Ce.

Ruth has continued to make an enormous contribution to the life and worship of our parish, in addition being commissioned in August as a Street Pastor, working with the team in Newcastle City Centre.

As well as licensed clergy, our team is further enriched by the ministry of Fr Michael Douglass, Canon Richard Hill and Olwyn Black. It is so good that our parish is in a position to offer ministerial support to neighbours during clergy vacancies, sabbatical and holidays. We have done so throughout 2024 in the Deanery and beyond. My commissioning as Area Dean of Newcastle Central Deanery has added a further dimension to our connections beyond the parish.

I think it's fair to say that the age of taking Sunday schools for granted has long past and it makes us value all the more the work with children and young people that takes place at Gosforth St Nicholas. This is most visible at the end of the Sunday Eucharist when, for example, they share what they have been doing or at the Nativity Play or Sunday morning take-over of tea and coffee. It is a delight to have children here and we have been enormously blessed by Sarah Hunter and her hard-working team.

Our PCC has met regularly during the year to conduct the business of the parish and to make strategic decisions about its life. It ensures we fulfil our statutory obligations, for example in regard to our financial affairs and safeguarding. There has continued to be pressing demand with regard to Church and Hall fabric; PCC and Wardens' time have been much taken up with this. Our parish owes so much to PCC members and officers.

A special mention must be made of the role and contribution of our Church wardens over the year we have four: Barney Coulson, Dale Hunter, Sallyann Ritchie and David Young. They meet to set the PCC agenda and do detailed work with regard, especially, to fabric and the smooth running of the parish; they are responsible for so much of what goes on in our church. We are all extremely grateful to them for what they do, seen - and mostly unseen.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

I hope I may be forgiven for once again using a list to convey a flavour of what's been happening here in 2024. We have enjoyed: heritage open day; wine clubs; barbecues; craft Angels; Gardeners of Eden; holy dusters; Churches Together meetings and unity week Service; Gosforth remembers; weddings; monthly Eucharist at Abbeyfield; weekly worship at Archbishop Runcie First School; governing body school visits from and services for Archbishop Runcie; visits from and services with South Gosforth First School; Christmas lunch; placement for Yvonne Gardner; baptisms; "after evensong" concert; rock choir concert for Cancer Research UK; celebrating St Nicholas our patron at the Cathedral; Space before Christmas Service; flower arranging; Advent course; lent course; Sunday School Nativity; Christmas carols at the Three Mile and Job Bulman; beer festivals; the Moot; safeguarding Sunday; pilgrimage to Holy Island; Curry club; Hail Gladdening Light services; funerals; reading and leading intercessions; Zoom compline; distribution of Christmas and Easter cards across our parish; PCCs; Deanery Synods and chapters; walks from St Nicholas to All Saints; serving at the Eucharist; Generous Giving; safeguarding; taking bookings; bidding for funding; meetings; administration; accounting; cleaning; setting up and clearing away; reading; praying; turning up; simply being...

There is a real gift here for welcome and hospitality to which this list testifies, and it requires both leadership and cheerful dedicated teamwork to pull it off. St Nicholas 's is blessed with both.

There is so much to thank God for in the life of this church community. This is not by any means complete, I apologise for things I have missed but it is a taster of what has been happening and who we have been at St Nicholas in 2024. May this church and community continue to be a sign of hope and of God 's presence in our parish.

11. Report on the PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity which works in co-operation with the incumbent to promote the whole mission of the church, evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical which in the parish.

It is the duty of the incumbent and the PCC to consult together on matter of general concern and importance to the parish.

The PCC is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard in co-operation with Newcastle City Council.

The PCC has met eight times. The average attendance was eleven.

Much time was taken discussing repairs to the church fabric and the need to raise the money to carry them out. It was agreed that one of the houses owned by the church, 129 Church Road, be sold to enable repairs to go ahead. New boilers were installed in December. The sink hole in the floor in front of the Lady chapel was repaired, allowing its use again. The organ chamber was re-plastered, and work began on the various roof repairs.

The appointment of John Goodenough as organist/choir director was approved.

The archdeacon visitation was satisfactorily completed.

Revised parochial fees were introduced, including for organist and vergers.

Revisions to the admissions policy for Archbishop Runcie Church of England School were approved.

The PCC has conducted the business of managing the church's finances and the maintenance of the church and church hall. These subjects are discussed in separate reports.

12. PCC Members

The members of the PCC are listed in note 4 above.

13. Electoral Roll Report

The numbers entered on the church Electoral roll at 8th April 2024 is 234, of which 108 are non-resident in the parish. L Robinson is the Electoral roll officer.

14. Churchwardens' Fabric Report

This year has seen the need to carry out some major repair work on the Church fabric.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

The three existing inefficient gas central heating boilers were replaced with two gas boilers which are hydrogen ready and much more efficient, reducing the church's carbon footprint.

Work on the church roof to replace lead flashings and roof slates as required and pointing of ridge tiles was given the go-ahead.

The sink hole in the floor just outside the lady chapel has been repaired along with plaster work in the organ blower room.

There is still work required in the church including the plastering of the South wall which is on hold until a specialist lime plasterer is available to carry out the work. Once this plaster work is complete then the PCC will be looking at the painting of the church and organ blower room. The PCC have agreed that a Church Fabric team be set up to carry out minor works or plan major jobs; members of the congregation are asked to consider being part of this group.

Once each month we have teams of volunteers who do a tremendous job cleaning the church and then keeping the churchyard looking smart and tidy.

15. Deanery Synod Report

The meetings are held at different venues through the year, always chaired by Fr Paul as Area Dean. After coffee, meetings start with opening prayers. Minutes are agreed, then we consider topics for discussion which have included: financial update; motivating and understanding our givers; the Year of Seeking: where are we noticing God working in our lives and contexts?

Report from the General Synod and Diocesan Synod; sharing of other news and information from our parishes and communities. Meetings close with final prayers.

16. Junior Church Report

The Sunday school meets in the Church Hall at the beginning of the Family Eucharist service on school weeks and takes a break during school holidays. There is a steady attendance between six and 14 children some of which are accompanied by an adult. The meetings are led by the Sunday school team who ensure Church safeguarding is of the utmost importance.

Generally, the theme of the teaching follows the church calendar and includes a telling of the Nativity in the Church Hall; considering the Easter story; and Pentecost.

The children continue to do a Sunday school takeover at post-service tea and coffee once every half term when they help with the clearing and washing up.

Throughout the year we have held Sunday School activities including a Sunday school barbecue and play day; a Christmas party; and an Easter egg hunt - all were well attended.

17. Eco Church Report

Exploring avenues where we as a church community can continue and increase our efforts to minimise our environmental impact upon the world.

Current practice revolves around two specific areas.

Management of Church land members and non-members of the church community give up their free time to tidy up the churchyard on a monthly basis - regardless of the weather. The work carried out includes grass cutting, trimming, planting, leaf blowing, clearing branch debris and maintaining the paths. In the Garden of Remembrance, a lavender bed was created and a rope barrier installed to demarcate the area.

Lifestyle the collection of recyclable goods continues - donation bins are at the back of Church - and are well supported by those who bring items for recycling as well as also kindly take items to larger banks outside of the church.

As far as was practical items from the beer festival - plastic glasses, etc - were recycled.

The recent addition of a donation table at the post-service coffee time, for magazines, papers and books to be recirculated has proven popular.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

18. Health and Safety Report

Churches are covered by the statutory legislation in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and are classified as being of low risk. Under the H&S Act where a church employs less than five people a written Health and Safety plan is not required.

The church Health and Safety policy is implemented using information available from the Ecclesiastical Insurance company as posted on the Diocese of Newcastle website.

Health and Safety is an item on each PCC agenda. The Health and Safety policy is reviewed annually using the current documentation on the Church of England website.

As part of the Health and Safety program in 2024, the annual fire extinguisher testing has been carried out in both the Church and Church Hall. The annual test of the lightning conductor on the Church tower has also been carried out. An electrical contractor has been asked to give an estimate for the periodic electrical testing of the buildings.

19. Safeguarding Policy Report

This report is focused on areas in the safeguarding action plan produced by the safeguarding dashboards and monitored by the parish dashboards team and Newcastle Diocese and based on updated reports presented to the PCC.

The PCC reaffirmed agreement to have due regard to the House of Bishop 's guidance in relation to safeguarding on November 17, 2024. This includes both the handbook (which includes procedures, roles, training, reporting and church activities) and the policy statement. The same statement can be seen in the Church Hall annex, Church Hall noticeboard and the church porch noticeboard. A hard copy of the safeguarding action plan is kept by the safeguarding officer; however, all PCC members have access to the data dashboard.

We are at level three on the data dashboard however the dashboard must be constantly reviewed and on the 17th of November 2024 the PCC reviewed and agreed the following:

All PCC members must undertake the required safeguarding training as recommended by the Church of England House of Bishops. The required training can be found on the hub dashboard.

All church wardens must undertake the required safeguarding training as recommended by the Church of England House of Bishops. The required training can be found on the hub dashboard.

DBS administrators must undertake the required safeguarding training as recommended by the Church of England House of Bishops. The required training can be found on the hub dashboard.

Safeguarding arrangements must be clearly visible on the front page of the parish website.

The PCC receives a safeguarding report at every meeting.

All new PCC members' DBS checks requiring renewal are either completed or ongoing. Checks must be completed every three years; these checks are maintained by Hilary Harrison and June Douglas. Having completed a DBS check is a key requirement of anyone in a role requiring work with children and vulnerable adults whether paid or unpaid.

All PCC members and others in roles of responsibility must complete basic safeguarding, foundation safeguarding and awareness of domestic abuse. Church wardens and others in leadership roles - for example safeguarding officers, Sunday school leaders - must also complete leadership training. Members are regularly reminded of training requirements.

All training needs are up-to-date or planned. Please contact Hilary Harrison, Parish Safeguarding Officer, if you require further information.

20. Church Flowers Report

The flowers are very much a collective effort, and we enjoy our mornings of chat and coffee alongside the flower arranging. I would like to thank all those who give so generously for flowers during the year and to the flower team for all their support.

We have maintained a high standard of floral arrangements in church particularly for the major celebrations throughout the year - Easter and Christmas and, as is our custom, we had bunches of daffodils for everyone on Mothering Sunday.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2024

21. Music Report

In December 2024 John Goodenough took up the position of organist at St Nicholas Gosforth taking responsibility for the choir and working with Phil Mills who continues with a slightly more limited playing commitment. John has begun to explore development in repertoire which also develops the choir's movement within the church at communion. He will continue this work through 2025. The choir seems enthusiastic about current developments which are being taken carefully.

We have access to a list of organists who remain happy to play for Sunday services as is necessary. These organists will, I hope, continue to play for occasional services.

22. Other activities

A Church Craft Club meet in the church hall from 1.45 to 3.45 on Tuesdays promoted as "more about fellowship than creative ability". So, all are welcome.

The wine club meets over the winter once a month on a Friday night from the autumn to spring made up of a mixture of members of the congregation and non-church members. Depending on the number attendees we meet in either the main hall or annex starting at 7:00pm to sample 6 different types of red or white wines accompanied by some food.

At most meetings the wines are chosen from a particular country and in 2024 this included wines from lesser-known countries such as Greece and Portugal

Members of the congregation make up the catering team who prepare meat and cheese food platters on the night for the people attending. The cost of the food and the wine is covered by the entrance fee or donation with no cost to the church. Many thanks to Anne and Stuart Baker who run this club.

23. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The charity trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 31 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

K M Proudfoot

Trustee

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

I report on the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 11 to 22.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2022 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Fellow Member of the Association of Accountancy Technicians
Connected Voice Business Services
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 20.08.2025

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Giving, tax relief and investment	6	80,142	-	80,142	86,661
Income from operating activities	7	9,858	-	9,858	9,605
Fundraising income	8	49,272	-	49,272	26,914
Investment income	9	21,958	-	21,958	21,378
Total income		161,230	-	161,230	144,558
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Donations	10	1,561	-	1,561	2,571
Activities relating to the work of the church	11	138,640	-	138,640	136,077
Expenditure to generate funds	12	32,649	-	32,649	17,571
Church management and administration	13	9,959	-	9,959	8,075
Total expenditure		182,809	-	182,809	164,294
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(21,579)	-	(21,579)	(19,736)
Unrealised gains on investment properties		-	-	-	-
Net gains/(losses) on investments	19	20,297	2,780	23,077	4,023
Net movement of funds		(1,282)	2,780	1,498	(15,713)
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		791,850	48,602	840,452	856,165
Total funds carried forward		790,568	51,382	841,950	840,452

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form an integral part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

BALANCE SHEET

Charity Number 1133837

As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	£	Total 2024 £	£	Restated Total 2023 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	18		527,823		517,524
Investments	19		274,021		283,564
Total fixed assets			801,844		801,088
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	20	24,414		27,909	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	19,632		14,897	
Total current assets		44,046		42,806	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(3,940)		(3,442)	
Net current assets			40,106		39,364
Total assets less current liabilities			841,950		840,452
Total net assets or liabilities			841,950		840,452
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted funds			432,980		436,927
Designated fund			22,588		19,923
Revaluation surplus			335,000		335,000
Restricted fund			51,382		48,602
Total funds			841,950		840,452

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 31-May-25

and are signed on its behalf by: K M Proudfoot
Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £790,568 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.7 Fund accounting

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

Donations received for particular purposes are designated, unrestricted funds, as is the attendant expenditure.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

3.8 Endowment fund

Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office.

It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1,400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole. This is shown in the Investment Income from Dividends note.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of grant offerings and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

4.4 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

4.5 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, the charity does not currently have any tangible fixed assets:

Other fixed assets	Straight line over five years
Organ	Straight line over 40 years
Church houses	No depreciation

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable 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.

The Nicholson organ, acquired in 2000, has been capitalised and is being depreciated in the accounts over its currently anticipated useful life of 40 years on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £2,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings is written off.

Other tangible fixed assets includes equipment with an original cost of over £2,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years, starting in the year of acquisition.

5.2 Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

The investment properties are included at valuation, any change in market value over cost is reflected in these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
6 Giving, tax relief and investment income					
Planned giving & other	54,639	-	-	54,639	52,087
Collection at services	6,950	510	-	7,460	7,466
Income tax received and receivable	11,956	-	-	11,956	17,866
Donations to flowers and candles	-	567	-	567	1,518
Donations & Legacies	1,450	4,070	-	5,520	7,724
	<u>74,995</u>	<u>5,147</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,142</u>	<u>86,661</u>
7 Income from operating activities: to further the objectives of the PCC					
Parish Mission and events	4,001	-	-	4,001	3,745
Theatre visits	-	813	-	813	2,044
Fees	2,962	2,082	-	5,044	3,816
	<u>6,963</u>	<u>2,895</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,858</u>	<u>9,605</u>
8 Income from operating activities: to generate funds					
Church Hall Lettings & Grants	10,118	12,382	-	22,500	14,471
Beer festival	25,241	-	-	25,241	12,349
Grants and fundraising activities	-	1,500	-	1,500	-
Sundry income (Easy Fundraising)	31	-	-	31	94
	<u>35,390</u>	<u>13,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,272</u>	<u>26,914</u>
9 Income from investments					
Rental income from investment properties	9,583	4,273	-	13,856	14,930
Investment income - Dividends	5,331	1,400	-	6,731	5,195
Investment income - Interest received	958	413	-	1,371	1,253
	<u>15,872</u>	<u>6,086</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,958</u>	<u>21,378</u>

Income was £161,230 (2023: £144,558) of which £161,230 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £144,558) and £nil was restricted (2023: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
10 Donations					
Charitable donations	800	761	-	1,561	2,571
	<u>800</u>	<u>761</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,561</u>	<u>2,571</u>
11 Activities relating to the work of the church					
Parish Share	84,000	-	-	84,000	86,294
Diocesan fees	-	2,082	-	2,082	2,027
Clergy & worship expenses	11,400	1,702	-	13,102	11,744
Flowers & candles	283	567	-	850	970
Utilities, insurance & repairs	14,630	803	-	15,433	12,882
Junior church	1,382	1,500	-	2,882	1,973
Organ, organists and choir	4,295	-	-	4,295	5,411
Mission, outreach & events	2,359	-	-	2,359	5,687
Theatre visits	683	813	-	1,496	1,436
Depreciation	12,141	-	-	12,141	7,653
	<u>131,173</u>	<u>7,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>138,640</u>	<u>136,077</u>
12 Expenditure to generate funds					
Parish Hall	-	12,382	-	12,382	5,978
Beer festival	20,267	-	-	20,267	11,593
	<u>20,267</u>	<u>12,382</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,649</u>	<u>17,571</u>
13 Church management and administration					
Investment property repairs and other costs	-	4,273	-	4,273	3,679
Investment portfolio manager's fees	1,915	440	-	2,355	2,299
Professional fees	1,002	-	-	1,002	1,941
Printing & stationery - copier	1,438	22	-	1,460	1,259
Bank charges, less rebate	134	-	-	134	(1,161)
Safeguarding	-	-	-	-	38
Gifts & sundry expenses	735	-	-	735	20
	<u>5,224</u>	<u>4,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,959</u>	<u>8,075</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £182,809 (2023: £164,294) of which £182,809 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £164,294) and £0 was restricted (2023: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

14 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	972	972
	972	972

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2023: £nil).

15 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

The charity currently does not employ any paid staff.

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2023: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil.

16 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

The vicar and churchwardens made the following unrestricted donations to church funds in 2024 and 2023:

Name of the trustee or related party	Description of the	2024	2023
		£	£
Rev P Baker	Vicar	700	730
D Young	Trustee	831	540
D Hunter	Trustee	270	250
K Proudfoot	Trustee	1,236	1,204
B Coulson	Trustee	1,150	750
S Ritchie	Trustee	2,906	3,310
G P Barnard	Trustee	-	1,000
O Black	Trustee	480	480
H Harrison	Trustee	50	160
S McLaughlin	Trustee	488	308
D Oliver	Trustee	1,040	760
C Pacitti	Trustee	600	600
L Robertson	Trustee	120	120
R Stradling	Trustee	-	190
C T Tait	Trustee	235	360
R Tait	Trustee	480	480
A J Thirlaway	Trustee	180	180
K Wake	Trustee	540	540
S Ward	Trustee	-	50
		11,306	12,012

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

18 Tangible fixed assets

	Other fixed Assets £	Nicholson organ £	Church Houses £	Total £
Cost				
Balance brought forward	10,380	223,068	420,000	653,448
Additions	22,440	-	-	22,440
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	32,820	223,068	420,000	675,888
Depreciation				
Basis	SL	SL	SL	
Rate	20.0%	2.5%	0.0%	
Balance brought forward	2,076	133,848	-	135,924
Depreciation charge for year	6,564	5,577	-	12,141
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	8,640	139,425	-	148,065
Net book value				
Brought forward	8,304	89,220	420,000	517,524
Carried forward	24,180	83,643	420,000	527,823

Other fixed assets at cost	2024 £	2023 £
Sound System Purchased January 2023	10,380	10,380
Church boilers Purchased November 2024	22,440	-
	32,820	10,380

19 Fixed asset investments

Listed Investment	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying (fair) value at the beginning of period	240,273	241,121
Management & dealing costs	(2,355)	(2,299)
Realised gains & losses for year	3,475	287
Unrealised gains & losses for year	18,534	1,164
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	259,927	240,273

Newcastle Diocesan Social Investments	2024 £	2023 £
Bulcher/McMahon bequest 487 shares	-	11,009
Butcher bequest 836 shares	-	18,898
	-	29,907

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

19 Fixed asset investments (continued)

	2024 £	2023 £
Church hall		
Church hall investment account	14,094	13,384
	<u>14,094</u>	<u>13,384</u>
TOTAL	<u>274,021</u>	<u>283,564</u>

20 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2024 £	2023 £
Gift aid claim	24,000	26,000
Parish share 2024 (paid 2023)	-	706
Fees due from funeral director	-	722
Dividends receivable	414	481
	<u>24,414</u>	<u>27,909</u>

21 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024 £	2023 £
General fund community account	8,930	9,443
Church active saver account	10,702	5,454
	<u>19,632</u>	<u>14,897</u>

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	2,968	2,470
Accruals	-	
Independent examination of accounts	972	972
	<u>3,940</u>	<u>3,442</u>

23 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

24 Analysis of charitable funds

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	436,927	133,220	(157,464)	-	20,297	432,980
Designated funds	19,923	28,010	(25,345)	-	-	22,588
Revaluation surplus	335,000	-	-	-	-	335,000
	<u>791,850</u>	<u>161,230</u>	<u>(182,809)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,297</u>	<u>790,568</u>

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	458,940	122,333	(145,522)	-	1,176	436,927
Designated funds	16,470	22,225	(18,772)	-	-	19,923
Revaluation surplus	335,000	-	-	-	-	335,000
	<u>810,410</u>	<u>144,558</u>	<u>(164,294)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,176</u>	<u>791,850</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC
Revaluation surplus	Revaluation reserve for the church houses.
	Pat Robson provided a valuation in 2023 for the houses that had originally been included in the accounts at historical cost: £85,000. The increase to the valuation of £420,000 is shown as the Revaluation Reserve £335,000

24 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	48,602	-	-	-	2,780	51,382
	<u>48,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,780</u>	<u>51,382</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2024

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	45,755	-	-	-	2,847	48,602
	<u>45,755</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,847</u>	<u>48,602</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Endowment fund Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office. It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole.

25 Capital commitments

As at 31 December 2024, the charity had no capital commitments (2023: £nil).

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	527,823	-	-	527,823
Investments	222,639	-	51,382	274,021
Current assets	21,458	22,588	-	44,046
Liabilities	(3,940)	-	-	(3,940)
	<u>767,980</u>	<u>22,588</u>	<u>51,382</u>	<u>841,950</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	517,524	-	-	517,524
Investments	234,962	-	48,602	283,564
Current assets	22,883	19,923	-	42,806
Liabilities	(3,442)	-	-	(3,442)
	<u>771,927</u>	<u>19,923</u>	<u>48,602</u>	<u>840,452</u>

Accounts

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

Charity Number 1133837

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019).

1. Objectives and Activities

St Nicholas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent – the Reverend Paul Baker was appointed in October 2022 - in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

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

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

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 developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicholas and our church hall and annex.

2. Achievements and Performance

2023 was a year of growth, with Covid restrictions on indoor gatherings, social and outreach activities easing. As anticipated in last year's report, we have been conscious that for many elderly parishioners, especially those with health issues, the past years have been an extended period of transition during which we needed to continue to support them. Parishioners have returned at their own safe pace, many continuing to join in Sunday communion by Zoom, which remains important for many during the post-pandemic times.

We are grateful for the support of many individuals for making the church community a constant focus of support during these times.

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

The church is a member of Churches Together in Gosforth and supports joint activities when these take place.

3. Planning for the future

We also look forward to Father Paul Baker getting to know our parish and sharing his ministry, including further growth in the number of weddings and baptisms as the restrictions on the number of guests able to attend these milestone services have been lifted. We are also expanding the frequency of social events, reprising those, which were popular in previous years.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

4. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas	
Registered Charity Number	1133837	
Operational address	23 Ilford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3NX	
Trustees	K Wake – elected 2022 D Hunter – elected 2019 B Coulson – elected 2022 S Ritchie – elected 2022 K M Proudfoot – elected 2020 H Harrison – elected 2018 M Allan – elected 2022 B Bagnall – co-opted Rev Paul Baker -ex-officio O Black – elected 2018 G P Barnard – elected 2023 Rev Ruth Stradling – ex-officio R Black – ex-officio D Oliver – elected 2018 C Pacitti F Haigh – elected 2023 L Robertson – co-opted S McLaughlin – elected 2023 C T Tait – elected 2020 R Tait – elected 2021 A J Thirlaway – elected 2022 E Vickers – ex-officio D Young – elected 2023 Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden/Treasurer Safeguarding officer Deanery Synod rep PCC Minute secretary Incumbent, Chair Reader Assistant Curate Reader Emeritus Reader Electoral Roll Officer Lay Chair, Churchwarden	
Independent Examiner	Douglas Maltman FMAAT Connected Voice Business Services One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX	
Bankers	Barclays	
Investments	Brewin Dolphin	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

5. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing documents

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is a registered charity, number 1133837, registered 28 January 2010.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting they can also be co-opted during the year to fill a casual vacancy or skills gap.

Risk management

The charity is aware of the Commission's guidance on risk management including the development of a policy, identifying risks, assessing and evaluating the action(s) to be taken, review, monitor and assess periodically. Trustees work with the incumbent to ensure the continuing monitoring of risks.

6. Financial Review

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is primarily funded by donations. The total income for the year was £144,558 (2022: £124,253). This income is allocated across respective funds on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023, shows a deficit across all funds of £15,713 (2022: surplus £117,076).

The Balance Sheet at 31 December 2023 shows total funds carried forward of £840,452 (2022: £856,165) of which there are £791,850 unrestricted funds (2022: £810,410) and £48,602 endowment funds (2022: £45,755).

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's reserves policy. It is the policy of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas to retain liquid funds in current account and on short-term deposit adequate to meet 3 months of financial activity. Longer-term investments held can be realised safely without undue cost within that time frame.

7. Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. The trustees have also reviewed the charitable purposes of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain Northumbria Area Meeting, and the external environment, to make sure the Charity is still relevant and needed. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

8. Related Party

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2023 and 2022:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2023 £	2022 £
Rev P Baker	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	730	200
D Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	540
D Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	250	660
K Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,204	1,083
B Coulson	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	750	600
S Ritchie	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	3,310	2,400
			6,784	5,483

9. Insurance

The charity's insurance policy does not cover and provide trustee indemnity cover.

10. Report from the incumbent

Rev Paul Baker was installed as incumbent in October 2022.

The five year Mission Action Plan includes six key areas which are: - high standard of worship; service to the community, including use of the church hall and churchyard; safeguarding for a safer church; growing the church family through pastoral work, bible study, refreshment and connecting with the social calendar through following the liturgical year; generous giving; and care for the environment.

The work of the parish relies on many volunteers giving their time and expertise, we would particularly wish to thank Hilary Harrison for her work on safeguarding, which has led to us achieving level 2 and starting the highest level 3 and setting a standard for other churches. In future volunteers in any role will have to agree and sign a template produced by the diocese.

The use of Zoom for services continued throughout the year as parishioners gradually felt safe to return to indoor gatherings. Some "Zoomers" are physically unable to get to church, some join from vacation locations. We intend to continue using Zoom, IT equipment permitting.

The finances of the church are a concern, deficit accounts, which began during Covid lockdown and have continued in each of the last three years, are unsustainable. Generous giving remains an issue to be resolved and is a focus when considering our finances. The Deanery approach to this aspect of discipleship may help us.

11. Report on the PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity which works in co-operation with the incumbent to promote the whole mission of the church, evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical which in the parish. In the absence of an incumbent until October 2022, the PCC, under its elected secretary, had authority to deal with the financial affairs of the church including the collection and administration of all money raised.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For year ended 31 December 2023

It is the duty of the incumbent and the PCC to consult together on matter of general concern and importance to the parish.

The PCC is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard in co-operation with Newcastle City Council.

The PCC has met five times. The average attendance was seventeen.

The PCC has conducted the business of managing the church's finances and the maintenance of the church and church hall. These subjects are discussed in separate reports.

12. PCC Members

The members of the PCC are listed in note 4 above

13. Electoral Roll Report

The numbers entered on the church Electoral roll at 8th April 2022 is 222, of which 116 are non-resident in the parish.

Leslie Robertson, Electoral roll officer

14. Churchwardens' Fabric Report

In the main, the fabric of the church has been satisfactory. Apart from general maintenance, there has been very little work required to be carried out on the main building. Mr. Tim Bailey, the church architect, has carried out the majority of the quinquennial report and will advise the Church Wardens on the level work to be carried out later in 2023.

As part of the Health and Safety programme the annual fire extinguisher, testing has been carried out in both the church and church hall. The annual test of the lighting conductor on the church tower has also been carried out.

The roof continues to be the main concern with a small amount of water ingress in both the North and South areas of the roof. Regent Roofing assisted by members of the church carried out an inspection of the roof and, as a result of this inspection, the gutters were cleared of leaves and various loose slates replaced. In addition, an area of the pointing and lead work on the North roof has been renewed.

The Church sound system, which was beyond upgrade, was approved for replacement with a complete new system to be installed in January 2023. The Wardens would like to thank everyone who either helped to fundraise or donated to achieve this.

The church hall booking are made up of regular groups and we are continuing to maintain a high level of cleanliness as part of post-COVID measures. We no longer hire out the hall for children's parties and one-off events apart from church use.

The church hall is in use most days in a week with community groups that include dance, keep fit and music teaching for both adults and children.

The church uses the hall to run craft groups, a wine club and as a "warm space" (see note 22 below). There are various social events, which include parish meals (also at external venues), quiz nights and the beer festival. A weekend of activities covering the King's coronation are being planned.

The existing florescent light tubes in the annex have been replaced with energy efficient LED tubes, said to use 62% less energy and to have a life span of 25 years. This work has been carried out at no cost to the church thanks to a generous donation from a donor who is a non-church person.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

15. Deanery Synod Report

To increase the church's Deanery representation, on the appointment Father Paul as our Vicar, he together with Ella Vickers, Molly Allen and David Young were appointed by the PCC as Deanery Synod representatives.

These appointments will be confirmed at the 2024 APGM.

A meeting of the Synod at St Thomas' church discussed the refurbishment work carried out there and the role it will take within the Diocese the meeting also split into groups to discuss what resources the various churches in the Deanery have and how they can work closer together for mutual benefit.

16. Junior Church Report

Over the past 12 months, Sunday School has met in the church hall at the beginning of the service. Each week there are between 6 and 14 children attending, around half of the children are accompanied by an adult. Any children unable to use the toilet alone need to be accompanied by an adult. To ensure safeguarding, we now lock all doors to the hall and annexe during Sunday School.

Any latecomers need to be accompanied by a warden from church or regular attending parents can message the Sunday School Parents WhatsApp group to be let in at the hall door on Wardle Street.

We have moved away from using Roots on the Web as a resource as we no longer strictly follow the Gospel. Instead, we have run with themes through each term or half term, which helps to cement the children's understanding. We now pay for Twinkl, an online educational resource, which provides content about Christianity and the Bible, the colouring sheets we use at the back of church, and material we can use at events, such as the upcoming coronation.

In Sunday School during the last year, we have covered Pentecost, Parables, a New Beginning, different roles people do within the church, and the Easter Story. Sunday School aim to be back in church in time to share communion. The children enjoy gathering at the little table at the back of the North Aisle to do colouring and jigsaws. After the notices, the children share what they have been learning about in Sunday School with the congregation. At Christmas, they put on a well-received production of the Nativity in the church hall after the post-Eucharist tea and coffee.

The children have started to do "Sunday School Takeover" at tea and coffee once every half term, where the children bring biscuits for the congregation and they help with the clearing and washing up. On these days, the tea and coffee takings are allocated to Sunday School.

Sunday School donations, an Amazon wish list, and the Takeover funds have helped us to cover Sunday School craft supplies as well as funding activities throughout the year. These include a craft table at the Jubilee weekend, a Sunday School Barbecue, a Christmas Party, and an Easter Egg Hunt. All were well attended.

17. Eco Church Report

Ella Vickers continues as Parish Eco Champion, Central Deanery Eco Champion and is now also a member of the Diocesan Environmental Working Group

a) A Deanery Celtic Forest Church Service was held at St Nicholas in September. Over 105 people attended our service from across the Diocese and beyond. Due to cold and wet weather, we experienced being grounded in nature indoors - through adapting an eco-theological mindset by sitting on the wood of the pews - and enjoyed the use of the grand piano. Attendees heard positive eco stories from a Quaker, founder of the Big River Bakery, parish eco champions and Revd Mark Nash-Williams (the Bishop of Newcastle's Environmental Advisor). A folk band was formed (providing a Celtic appreciation of eco theology through the arts), two pupils from Gosforth Academy provided music from the Iona Community ('Oh the Light of the World') and the Head of Religious Studies at Gosforth Academy led the blessing.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

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This event not only promoted environmental action (through the giving of TreeBombs, a quirky eco tip list and the sharing of verbal experiences) but also deanery and diocesan integration, parish outreach (particularly in welcoming around 15 people under the age of 20) and an example of 'Community and Global Engagement' (an element of the Eco Church Award). We thank all those who helped and attended what was an uplifting post pandemic event.

b) A positive environmental change this year has been the increase in recycling in the parish. This evolved from makeshift cardboard boxes to sturdy plastic containers (for safety and tidiness) enabling the recycling of: batteries; contact lens casing; printer ink cartridges; tablet packaging; and soft plastics. The response to this mission has been astounding, particularly as parishioners have developed a rhythm of dropping off items before services. The PCC much appreciates the shared task of disposing the items at the relevant recycling locations.

c) Eco Theology At Diocesan Synod (Nov 2022) the 'Praying for the Earth' book was distributed to each parish. The book is located in the Lady Chapel for easy accessibility and to enable incorporation of environmental concerns into intercessions. EV has committed to producing a monthly pew sheet 'Eco Thought' to provide regular environmental incorporation into parish life. It is hoped that parishioners act upon such thoughts and ponder on these over each month.

d) We have progressed with bat explorations in the churchyard, which revealed that: some of the older trees may have bat roosts within them and the churchyard evidences healthy bird life including the sighting of a Jay, which is a good indicator, as Jays don't often appear in semi-urban areas. Consideration is being given to the installation of three bat boxes and for the completion of further surveys.

Outcome/Vision

The PCC will need to approve our Parish Environmental Policy. It is good to note that in seeking the Eco Church Silver Award, in the 5 Eco Church areas we are currently scoring:

1. Worship and Teaching (Gold),
2. Buildings (Bronze),
3. Land (Bronze),
4. Community and Global Engagement (Bronze)
5. Lifestyle (Bronze).

For the future, the pivotal issue of exploring our options for renewable energy needs to develop (particularly during both an energy and cost of living crisis). This is achievable through greater incorporation of the matter into PCC meetings, conferring with other parishes who have already switched to renewables, accessing the great plentitude of church funding schemes, and ensuring EV maintains her role on the Diocesan Environmental Working Group.

18. Health and Safety Report

Churches are covered by the statutory legislation in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and are classified as being of low risk. Under the H&S Act where a church employs less than five people a written Health and Safety plan is not required.

The church Health and Safety policy is implemented using information available from the Ecclesiastical Insurance company as posted on the Diocese of Newcastle website.

Health and Safety is an item on each PCC agenda. The Health and Safety policy is reviewed annually using the current documentation on the Church of England website.

19. Safeguarding Policy Report

This report is focussed on areas in the Safeguarding Action Plan produced by "Safeguarding Dashboards" and monitored by the Parish Dashboards Team, Newcastle Diocese and based on updated reports presented to the PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

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The PCC reaffirmed its agreement to have “due regard” to the House of Bishops’ guidance in relation to safeguarding in October 2022. This includes both the handbook (which includes procedures, roles, training, reporting and church activities) and the policy statement.

We now have a team of people who work as part of the safeguarding responsibilities. This team meets regularly to monitor and ensure our safeguarding policy and procedures are in line with the House of Bishops’ guidance.

We are at level 3 on the data dashboard.

All new PCC members require a DBS check and, along with those members requiring DBS renewal, are either completed or in progress. The Safeguarding team continue to maintain these checks – a key requirement of anyone in a role requiring work with children and vulnerable adults be that paid or unpaid work.

All PCC members and others in roles of responsibility must complete compulsory training – basic safeguarding, foundation safeguarding and awareness of domestic abuse. Nearly all PCC members attended a domestic abuse training held in the church hall annex - the others are completing this online.

We have had three people in leadership roles who have completed their leadership training and a further three booked to complete shortly.

The team continue to develop role descriptions and policy & procedure tailored for roles within Gosforth Parish Church. We plan to run an open session so all are aware of our responsibilities together as Christians to provide a safe and secure environment for children and vulnerable adults in church.

20. Church Flowers Report

The flower team is back to the weekly flower arranging rota, which works well with all of us coming together for special occasions.

We had very good displays of flowers for Easter, Harvest Festival, Christmas and for the weekly services, which was much admired. We had extra helpers for Christmas flowers, which was very welcome.

On Mothering Sunday, we had bunches of daffodils for everyone – it’s good to be getting back to normal. Easter flowers looked lovely with the cross outside adorned with a beautiful display of daffodils and the Easter Garden within the church and grounds make it a special time.

The flowers are very much a collective effort, and we enjoy our mornings of chat and coffee alongside the flower arranging. Carol Hunt would like to thank all who those who give so generously for flowers during the year and to the flower team for all their support.

21. Music Report

Judy Pratt, Phil Mills and Richard Tait continued to lead the music team after being asked to do this by Fr Paul upon his arrival in the Parish last year. Phil has continued to accompany the choir and congregation to provide an exceptionally high standard of organ music. These arrangements will continue for the foreseeable future.

It will be recalled that in March 2020, as a consequence of the pandemic, choral music was suspended during services and our choir leaders left, along with many who had been singing in our choir.

Music eventually resumed in churches, including at St Nicholas with depleted resources. Those singing in the re-formed choir have a wide range of experience and ability, which so far has rather limited our repertoire, but we are working on this. There is no doubt, however, that the choir with its new members remains committed to providing a high standard of choral music. The hope is that membership and level of experience will continue to increase thus widening the repertoire and opening up opportunities for the singing of anthems and other liturgical music.

For ordinary Sunday services we can rely on up to 15 singers when everyone is available but we realise that family, work and holiday commitments must come before singing duties.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

At Christmas and during university vacations the choir is supplemented by additional members. The service of Nine Lessons and Carols was particularly notable for the size of the augmented choir and quality of the singing.

On the first Sunday evening of the month, the choir joins the congregation in the Hail Gladdening Light service. The musical accompaniment is provided by Judy on the grand piano. This service with its quiet and contemplative content is a wonderful end to a busy week or an appropriate preparation for the week ahead.

We are always looking for new singers especially sopranos and basses.

The choir has also sung at several weddings and funerals during the year and would wish to continue to do so. At Christmas the choir sang at the Three Mile Inn and the Job Bulman (Wetherspoons), occasions, which have now become firm fixtures attracting large and appreciative audiences.

Phil continues to provide organ music of an exceptionally high standard taking full advantage of the splendid organ of which we are justly proud. Services are preceded and closed with voluntaries covering a wide and varied repertoire and are much appreciated by the congregation many of whom stay behind after the service for what is in effect a mini organ recital. When he is not available to play Phil arranges for substitutes - Marc Bryant and Peter Locke - and we are very grateful for their contribution.

The music team is very grateful to the Clergy and congregation for all their support and encouragement.

22. Other activities

A Church Craft Club meet in the church hall from 1.45 to 3.45 on Tuesdays promoted as "more about fellowship than creative ability". All are welcome.

The Wine club meet once a month on a Friday in autumn through to spring to sample 6 red or 6 white accompanied by some food with a theme set for each meeting. The food is donated – special thanks to Charlotte's Butchery for the meat – an entrance charge ensures these events are self-funding. The wines are introduced in a short presentation by Stuart Baker; he and Anne are the organisers of this club, ably supported by the talented catering team.

A new venture, still in the trial stage, was introduced due to the present financial crisis to provide a warm space with soup and a hot drink.

The focus is on offering comfort and companionship to everyone, so all are welcome - church and non-church attendees alike. The response to the project has been limited which could be due to the better weather arriving just as the project was introduced. The idea may resume in the autumn of 2023. The members of the congregation who form the team is limited and any offer of help would be very well appreciated.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2023

23. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The charity trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 29.05.2024 and signed on their behalf by:

K M Proudfoot

Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

I report on the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2022 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Fellow Member of the Association of Accountancy Technicians
Connected Voice Business Services Ltd
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 30.05.2024

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Giving, tax relief and investment	6	86,661	-	86,661	67,230
Income from operating activities	7	9,605	-	9,605	9,708
Fundraising income	8	26,914	-	26,914	24,965
Investment income	9	21,378	-	21,378	22,350
Total income		144,558	-	144,558	124,253
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Donations	10	2,571	-	2,571	1,387
Activities relating to the work of the church	11	136,077	-	136,077	122,980
Expenditure to generate funds	12	17,571	-	17,571	10,306
Church management and administration	13	8,075	-	8,075	9,538
Total expenditure		164,294	-	164,294	144,211
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(19,736)	-	(19,736)	(19,958)
Unrealised gains on investment properties		-	-	-	170,000
Net gains/(losses) on investments	19	1,176	2,847	4,023	(32,966)
Net movement of funds		(18,560)	2,847	(15,713)	117,076
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		810,410	45,755	856,165	739,089
Total funds carried forward		791,850	48,602	840,452	856,165

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

BALANCE SHEET

Charity Number 1133837

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	£	Total 2023 £	£	Restated Total 2022 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	18		517,524		514,797
Investments	19		283,564		281,424
Total fixed assets			801,088		796,221
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	20	27,909		39,841	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	14,897		22,436	
Total current assets		42,806		62,277	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(3,442)		(2,333)	
Net current assets			39,364		59,944
Total assets less current liabilities			840,452		856,165
Total net assets or liabilities			840,452		856,165
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted funds			436,927		458,940
Designated fund			19,923		16,470
Revaluation surplus			335,000		335,000
Restricted fund			48,602		45,755
Total funds			840,452		856,165

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 29.05.2024

and are signed on its behalf by:

K M Proudfoot
Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £791,850 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.7 Fund accounting

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

Donations received for particular purposes are designated, unrestricted funds, as is the attendant expenditure.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

3.8 Endowment fund

Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office.

It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1,400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole. This is shown in note 7 Investment Income from Dividends.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of grant offerings and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

4.4 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

4.5 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, the charity does not currently have any tangible fixed assets:

Organ	Straight line over 40 years
Church houses	No depreciation
Audio system	Straight line over five years

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable 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.

The Nicholson organ, acquired in 2000, has been capitalised and is being depreciated in the accounts over its currently anticipated useful life of 40 years on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £2,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings is written off.

The audio system, with an original cost of £10,380, is depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years starting in the year of acquisition.

5.2 Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

The investment properties are included at valuation, any change in market value over cost is reflected in these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
6 Giving, tax relief and investment income					
Planned giving & other	52,087	-	-	52,087	51,914
Collection at services	7,466	-	-	7,466	-
Income tax received and receivable	17,866	-	-	17,866	12,000
Donations to flowers and candles	548	970	-	1,518	225
Donations & Legacies	1,693	6,031	-	7,724	3,091
	<u>79,660</u>	<u>7,001</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,661</u>	<u>67,230</u>
7 Income from operating activities: to further the objectives of the PCC					
Parish Mission and events	3,745	-	-	3,745	825
Theatre visits	608	1,436	-	2,044	1,152
Fees	1,789	2,027	-	3,816	7,731
	<u>6,142</u>	<u>3,463</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,605</u>	<u>9,708</u>
8 Income from operating activities: to generate funds					
Church Hall Lettings & Grants	8,606	5,865	-	14,471	17,758
Beer festival	12,349	-	-	12,349	5,954
Grants and fundraising activities	-	-	-	-	1,137
Sundry income (Easy Fundraising)	94	-	-	94	116
	<u>21,049</u>	<u>5,865</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,914</u>	<u>24,965</u>
9 Income from investments					
Rental income from investment properties	11,251	3,679	-	14,930	15,420
Investment income - Dividends	3,795	1,400	-	5,195	5,947
Investment income - Interest received	436	817	-	1,253	983
	<u>15,482</u>	<u>5,896</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,378</u>	<u>22,350</u>

Income was £144,558 (2022: £124,253) of which £144,558 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £124,253) and £nil was restricted (2022: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
10 Donations					
Charitable donations	933	1,638	-	2,571	1,387
	<u>933</u>	<u>1,638</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,571</u>	<u>1,387</u>
11 Activities relating to the work of the church					
Parish Share	86,294	-	-	86,294	82,545
Diocesan fees	-	2,027	-	2,027	2,199
Clergy & worship expenses	10,079	1,665	-	11,744	8,244
Flowers & candles	-	970	-	970	1,030
Utilities, insurance & repairs	12,023	859	-	12,882	14,607
Junior church	1,973	-	-	1,973	101
Organ, organists and choir	5,411	-	-	5,411	6,854
Mission, outreach & events	5,680	7	-	5,687	1,490
Theatre visits	-	1,436	-	1,436	333
Depreciation	7,653	-	-	7,653	5,577
	<u>129,113</u>	<u>6,964</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>136,077</u>	<u>122,980</u>
12 Expenditure to generate funds					
Parish Hall	-	5,978	-	5,978	5,086
Beer festival	11,593	-	-	11,593	5,220
	<u>11,593</u>	<u>5,978</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,571</u>	<u>10,306</u>
13 Church management and administration					
Investment property repairs and other costs	-	3,679	-	3,679	3,575
Investment portfolio manager's fees	1,861	438	-	2,299	2,407
Professional fees	1,941	-	-	1,941	1,050
Printing & stationery - copier	1,184	75	-	1,259	2,226
Bank charges, less rebate	(1,161)	-	-	(1,161)	269
Safeguarding	38	-	-	38	-
Gifts & sundry expenses	20	-	-	20	11
	<u>3,883</u>	<u>4,192</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,075</u>	<u>9,538</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £164,294 (2022: £144,211) of which £164,294 was unrestricted or designated (2022: £144,211) and £0 was restricted (2022: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

14 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	972	972
	<u>972</u>	<u>972</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2022: £nil).

15 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

The charity currently does not employ any paid staff.

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2022: nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil.

16 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2023 and 2022:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2023 £	2022 £
Rev P Baker	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	730	200
D Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	540
D Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	250	660
K Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,204	1,083
B Coulson	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	750	600
S Ritchie	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	3,310	2,400
			<u>6,784</u>	<u>5,483</u>

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

18 Tangible fixed assets	Audio system £	Nickolson organ £	Church Houses £	Total £
Cost				
Balance brought forward	-	223,068	420,000	643,068
Additions	10,380	-	-	10,380
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	10,380	223,068	420,000	653,448
Depreciation				
Basis	SL	SL	SL	
Rate	20.0%	2.5%	0.0%	
Balance brought forward	-	128,271	-	128,271
Depreciation charge for year	2,076	5,577	-	7,653
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	2,076	133,848	-	135,924
Net book value				
Brought forward	-	94,797	420,000	514,797
Carried forward	8,304	89,220	420,000	517,524
19 Fixed asset investments				
Listed Investment	2023 £	2022 £		
Carrying (fair) value at the beginning of period	241,121	272,847		
Management & dealing costs	(2,299)	(2,407)		
Realised gains & losses for year	287	(1,522)		
Unrealised gains & losses for year	1,164	(27,797)		
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	240,273	241,121		
Newcastle Diocesan Social Investments	2023 £	2022 £		
Bulcher/McMahon bequest 487 shares	11,009	10,062		
Butcher bequest 836 shares	18,898	17,273		
	29,907	27,335		
Church hall	2023 £	2022 £		
Church hall investment account	13,384	12,968		
	13,384	12,968		
TOTAL	283,564	281,424		

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

20 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift aid claim	26,000	38,500
Rents due from agent	-	970
Parish share 2024 (paid 2023)	706	-
Fees due from funeral director	722	-
Dividends receivable	481	371
	27,909	39,841

21 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investment community account	-	75
General fund community account	9,443	5,823
Church hall community account	-	11,535
Church active saver account	5,454	5,003
	14,897	22,436

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,470	1,361
Accruals	-	
Independent examination of accounts	972	972
	3,442	2,333

23 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

24 Analysis of charitable funds

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	458,940	122,333	(145,522)	-	1,176	436,927
Designated funds	16,470	22,225	(18,772)	-	-	19,923
Revaluation surplus	335,000	-	-	-	-	335,000
	<u>810,410</u>	<u>144,558</u>	<u>(164,294)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,176</u>	<u>791,850</u>

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	508,138	105,967	(126,024)	-	(29,141)	458,940
Designated funds	16,371	18,286	(18,187)	-	-	16,470
Revaluation surplus	165,000	-	-	-	170,000	335,000
	<u>689,509</u>	<u>124,253</u>	<u>(144,211)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140,859</u>	<u>810,410</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC
Revaluation surplus	Revaluation reserve for the church houses. Sanderson Young provided a valuation in 2020 for the houses that had been included in the accounts at historical cost: £85,000. The increase of £165,000 to the valuation of £250,000.

24 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	45,755	-	-	-	2,847	48,602
	<u>45,755</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,847</u>	<u>48,602</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	49,580	-	-	-	(3,825)	45,755
	<u>49,580</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,825)</u>	<u>45,755</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Endowment fund Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office. It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments.

25 Capital commitments

As at 31 December 2023, the charity had no capital commitments (2022: £nil).

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	517,524	-	-	517,524
Investments	234,962	-	48,602	283,564
Current assets	26,435	16,371	-	42,806
Liabilities	(3,442)	-	-	(3,442)
	<u>775,479</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>48,602</u>	<u>840,452</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	514,797	-	-	514,797
Investments	235,669	-	45,755	281,424
Current assets	45,906	16,371	-	62,277
Liabilities	(2,333)	-	-	(2,333)
	<u>794,039</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>45,755</u>	<u>856,165</u>

Accounts

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2022**

Charity Number 1133837

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2022. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

1. Objectives and Activities

St Nicholas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent – the Reverend Paul Baker was appointed in October 2022 - in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

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

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

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 developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicholas and our church hall and annex.

2. Achievements and Performance

2022 was a year of growth, with Covid restrictions on indoor gatherings, social and outreach activities easing. As anticipated in last year's report, we have been conscious that for many elderly parishioners, especially those with health issues, the past years have been an extended period of transition during which we needed to continue to support them. Parishioners have returned at their own safe pace, many continuing to join in Sunday communion by Zoom, which remains important for many during the post-pandemic times.

We are grateful for the support of many individuals for making the church community a constant focus of support during these times.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

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

The church is a member of Churches Together in Gosforth and supports joint activities when these take place.

3. Planning for the future

We also look forward to Father Paul Baker getting to know our parish and sharing his ministry, including further growth in the number of weddings and baptisms as the restrictions on the number of guests able to attend these milestone services have been lifted. We are also expanding the frequency of social events, reprising those, which were popular in previous years.

4. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas	
Registered Charity Number	1133837	
Operational address	23 Ilford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3NX	
Trustees	K Wake – elected 2022 D Hunter – elected 2019 B Coulson – elected 2022 S Ritchie – elected 2022 K M Proudfoot – elected 2020 H Harrison – elected 2018 M Allan – elected 2022 B Bagnall – co-opted N Beale – elected 2018 O Black – elected 2018 G P Barnard – ex officio K F Gibson – elected 2022 M Murch – resigned 2022 D Oliver – elected 2018	Lay Chair Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden Churchwarden/Treasurer Safeguarding officer Deanery Synod rep PCC Minute secretary Reader

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

	C Pacitti – elected 2018	Reader
	T Peto – elected 2020	
	L Robertson – co-opted	Electoral Roll Officer
	C Smith – elected 2020	
	D Smith – elected 2020	
	C T Tait – elected 2016	
	R Tait – elected 2021	
	A J Thirlaway – elected 2022	
	W Thurtle – elected 2016	
	E Vickers – ex-officio	Deanery Synod rep
	D Young – co-opted	Deanery Synod rep
Independent	Douglas Maltman	
Examiner	Connected Voice Business Services Ltd One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX	
Bankers	Barclays	
Investments	Brewin Dolphin	

5. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing documents

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is a registered charity, number 1133837, registered 28 January 2010.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting they can also be co-opted during the year to fill a casual vacancy or skills gap.

Risk management

The charity is aware of the Commission's guidance on risk management including the development of a policy, identifying risks, assessing and evaluating the action(s) to be taken, review, monitor and assess periodically. Trustees work with the incumbent to ensure the continuing monitoring of risks.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

6. Financial Review

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is primarily funded by donations. The total income for the year was £124,253 (2021: £128,373). This income is allocated across respective funds on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022, shows a surplus across all funds of £117,076 (2021: £3,757).

The Balance Sheet at 31 December 2022 shows total funds carried forward of £856,165 (2021: £739,089) of which there are £810,410 unrestricted funds (2021: £689,509) and £45,755 endowment funds (2021: £49,580).

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's reserves policy. It is the policy of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas to retain liquid funds in current account and on short-term deposit adequate to meet 3 months of financial activity. Longer-term investments held can be realised safely without undue cost within that time frame.

7. Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. The trustees have also reviewed the charitable purposes of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain Northumbria Area Meeting, and the external environment, to make sure the Charity is still relevant and needed. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.

8. Related Party

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2021 and 2022:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2022 £	2021 £
Rev Jane Natrass	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	0	930
Rev Paul Baker	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	200	0
Barnaby Coulson	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	600	0
SallyAnn Ritchie	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	2400	0

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

David Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	540
Dale Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	660	660
Keith Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,083	1,040
			3,170	3,170

9. Insurance

The charity's insurance policy does not cover and provide trustee indemnity cover.

10. Report from the incumbent

Rev Paul Baker was installed as incumbent in October 2022, prior to that the churchwardens, supported by many willing volunteers, managed the church activities.

The five year Mission Action Plan includes six key areas which are: - high standard of worship; service to the community, including use of the church hall and churchyard; safeguarding for a safer church; growing the church family through pastoral work, bible study, refreshment and connecting with the social calendar through following the liturgical year; generous giving; and care for the environment.

The work of the parish relies on many volunteers giving their time and expertise, we would particularly wish to thank Hilary Harrison for her work on safeguarding, which has led to us achieving level 2 and starting the highest level 3 and setting a standard for other churches. In future volunteers in any role will have to agree and sign a template produced by the diocese.

The use of Zoom for services continued throughout the year as parishioners gradually felt safe to return to indoor gatherings. Some "Zoomers" are physically unable to get to church, some join from vacation locations. We intend to continue using Zoom, IT equipment permitting.

The finances of the church are a concern, deficit accounts, which began during Covid lockdown and have continued in each of the last three years, are unsustainable. Generous giving remains an issue to be resolved and is a focus when considering our finances. The Deanery approach to this aspect of discipleship may help us.

11. Report on the PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity which works in co-operation with the incumbent to promote the whole mission of the church, evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical which in the parish. In the absence of an incumbent until October 2022, the PCC, under its elected secretary, had authority to deal with the financial affairs of the church including the collection and administration of all money raised.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

It is the duty of the incumbent and the PCC to consult together on matter of general concern and importance to the parish.

The PCC is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard in co-operation with Newcastle City Council.

The PCC has met five times. The average attendance was seventeen.

The PCC has conducted the business of managing the church's finances and the maintenance of the church and church hall. These subjects are discussed in separate reports.

During the vacancy caused by the departure of Reverend Jane Natrass in September 2021 David Young, Lay Chair and Secretary to the PCC, chaired the PCC.

12. PCC Members

The members of the PCC are listed in note 4 above

13. Electoral Roll Report

The numbers entered on the church Electoral roll at 8th April 2022 is 222, of which 116 are non-resident in the parish.

Leslie Robertson, Electoral roll officer

14. Churchwardens' Fabric Report

In the main, the fabric of the church has been satisfactory. Apart from general maintenance, there has been very little work required to be carried out on the main building. Mr. Tim Bailey, the church architect, has carried out the majority of the quinquennial report and will advise the Church Wardens on the level work to be carried out later in 2023.

As part of the Health and Safety programme the annual fire extinguisher, testing has been carried out in both the church and church hall. The annual test of the lighting conductor on the church tower has also been carried out.

The roof continues to be the main concern with a small amount of water ingress in both the North and South areas of the roof. Regent Roofing assisted by members of the church carried out an inspection of the roof and, as a result of this inspection, the gutters were cleared of leaves and various loose slates replaced. In addition, an area of the pointing and lead work on the North roof has been renewed.

The Church sound system, which was beyond upgrade, was approved for replacement with a complete new system to be installed in January 2023. The Wardens would like to thank everyone who either helped to fundraise or donated to achieve this.

The church hall booking are made up of regular groups and we are continuing to maintain a high level of cleanliness as part of post-COVID measures. We no longer hire out the hall for children's parties and one-off events apart from church use.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2022

The church hall is in use most days in a week with community groups that include dance, keep fit and music teaching for both adults and children.

The church uses the hall to run craft groups, a wine club and as a “warm space” (see note 22 below). There are various social events, which include parish meals (also at external venues), quiz nights and the beer festival. A weekend of activities covering the King’s coronation are being planned.

The existing florescent light tubes in the annex have been replaced with energy efficient LED tubes, said to use 62% less energy and to have a life span of 25 years. This work has been carried out at no cost to the church thanks to a generous donation from a donor who is a non-church person.

15. Deanery Synod Report

To increase the church’s Deanery representation, on the appointment Father Paul as our Vicar, he together with Ella Vickers, Molly Allen and David Young were appointed by the PCC as Deanery Synod representatives.

These appointments will be confirmed at the 2023 APGM.

A meeting of the Synod at St Thomas’ church discussed the refurbishment work carried out there and the role it will take within the Diocese the meeting also split into groups to discuss what resources the various churches in the Deanery have and how they can work closer together for mutual benefit.

16. Junior Church Report

Over the past 12 months, Sunday School has met in the church hall at the beginning of the service. Each week there are between 6 and 14 children attending, around half of the children are accompanied by an adult. Any children unable to use the toilet alone need to be accompanied by an adult. To ensure safeguarding, we now lock all doors to the hall and annexe during Sunday School. Any latecomers need to be accompanied by a warden from church or regular attending parents can message the Sunday School Parents WhatsApp group to be let in at the hall door on Wardle Street.

We have moved away from using Roots on the Web as a resource as we no longer strictly follow the Gospel. Instead, we have run with themes through each term or half term, which helps to cement the children’s understanding. We now pay for Twinkl, an online educational resource, which provides content about Christianity and the Bible, the colouring sheets we use at the back of church, and material we can use at events, such as the upcoming coronation.

In Sunday School during the last year, we have covered Pentecost, Parables, a New Beginning, different roles people do within the church, and the Easter Story. Sunday School aim to be back in church in time to share communion. The children enjoy gathering at the little table at the back of the North Aisle to do colouring and jigsaws. After the notices, the children share what they have been learning about in Sunday School with the congregation. At Christmas, they put on a well-received production of the Nativity in the church hall after the post-Eucharist tea and coffee.

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For year ended 31 December 2022

The children have started to do "Sunday School Takeover" at tea and coffee once every half term, where the children bring biscuits for the congregation and they help with the clearing and washing up. On these days, the tea and coffee takings are allocated to Sunday School.

Sunday School donations, an Amazon wish list, and the Takeover funds have helped us to cover Sunday School craft supplies as well as funding activities throughout the year. These include a craft table at the Jubilee weekend, a Sunday School Barbecue, a Christmas Party, and an Easter Egg Hunt. All were well attended.

17. Eco Church Report

Ella Vickers continues as Parish Eco Champion, Central Deanery Eco Champion and is now also a member of the Diocesan Environmental Working Group

a) A Deanery Celtic Forest Church Service was held at St Nicholas in September. Over 105 people attended our service from across the Diocese and beyond. Due to cold and wet weather, we experienced being grounded in nature indoors - through adapting an eco-theological mindset by sitting on the wood of the pews - and enjoyed the use of the grand piano. Attendees heard positive eco stories from a Quaker, founder of the Big River Bakery, parish eco champions and Revd Mark Nash-Williams (the Bishop of Newcastle's Environmental Advisor). A folk band was formed (providing a Celtic appreciation of eco theology through the arts), two pupils from Gosforth Academy provided music from the Iona Community ('Oh the Light of the World') and the Head of Religious Studies at Gosforth Academy led the blessing. This event not only promoted environmental action (through the giving of TreeBombs, a quirky eco tip list and the sharing of verbal experiences) but also deanery and diocesan integration, parish outreach (particularly in welcoming around 15 people under the age of 20) and an example of 'Community and Global Engagement' (an element of the Eco Church Award). We thank all those who helped and attended what was an uplifting post pandemic event.

b) A positive environmental change this year has been the increase in recycling in the parish. This evolved from makeshift cardboard boxes to sturdy plastic containers (for safety and tidiness) enabling the recycling of: batteries; contact lens casing; printer ink cartridges; tablet packaging; and soft plastics. The response to this mission has been astounding, particularly as parishioners have developed a rhythm of dropping off items before services. The PCC much appreciates the shared task of disposing the items at the relevant recycling locations.

c) Eco Theology At Diocesan Synod (Nov 2022) the 'Praying for the Earth' book was distributed to each parish. The book is located in the Lady Chapel for easy accessibility and to enable incorporation of environmental concerns into intercessions. EV has committed to producing a monthly pew sheet 'Eco Thought' to provide regular environmental incorporation into parish life. It is hoped that parishioners act upon such thoughts and ponder on these over each month.

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d) We have progressed with bat explorations in the churchyard, which revealed that: some of the older trees may have bat roosts within them and the churchyard evidences healthy bird life including the sighting of a Jay, which is a good indicator, as Jays don't often appear in semi-urban areas. Consideration is being given to the installation of three bat boxes and for the completion of further surveys.

Outcome/Vision

The PCC will need to approve our Parish Environmental Policy. It is good to note that in seeking the Eco Church Silver Award, in the 5 Eco Church areas we are currently scoring:

1. Worship and Teaching (Gold),
2. Buildings (Bronze),
3. Land (Bronze),
4. Community and Global Engagement (Bronze)
5. Lifestyle (Bronze).

For the future, the pivotal issue of exploring our options for renewable energy needs to develop (particularly during both an energy and cost of living crisis). This is achievable through greater incorporation of the matter into PCC meetings, conferring with other parishes who have already switched to renewables, accessing the great plentitude of church funding schemes, and ensuring EV maintains her role on the Diocesan Environmental Working Group.

18. Health and Safety Report

Churches are covered by the statutory legislation in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and are classified as being of low risk. Under the H&S Act where a church employs less than five people a written Health and Safety plan is not required.

The church Health and Safety policy is implemented using information available from the Ecclesiastical Insurance company as posted on the Diocese of Newcastle website.

Health and Safety is an item on each PCC agenda. The Health and Safety policy is reviewed annually using the current documentation on the Church of England website.

19. Safeguarding Policy Report

This report is focussed on areas in the Safeguarding Action Plan produced by "Safeguarding Dashboards" and monitored by the Parish Dashboards Team, Newcastle Diocese and based on updated reports presented to the PCC.

The PCC reaffirmed its agreement to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding in October 2022. This includes both the handbook (which includes procedures, roles, training, reporting and church activities) and the policy statement.

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We now have a team of people who work as part of the safeguarding responsibilities. This team meets regularly to monitor and ensure our safeguarding policy and procedures are in line with the House of Bishops' guidance.

We are at level 3 on the data dashboard.

All new PCC members require a DBS check and, along with those members requiring DBS renewal, are either completed or in progress. The Safeguarding team continue to maintain these checks – a key requirement of anyone in a role requiring work with children and vulnerable adults be that paid or unpaid work.

All PCC members and others in roles of responsibility must complete compulsory training – basic safeguarding, foundation safeguarding and awareness of domestic abuse. Nearly all PCC members attended a domestic abuse training held in the church hall annex - the others are completing this online.

We have had three people in leadership roles who have completed their leadership training and a further three booked to complete shortly.

The team continue to develop role descriptions and policy & procedure tailored for roles within Gosforth Parish Church. We plan to run an open session so all are aware of our responsibilities together as Christians to provide a safe and secure environment for children and vulnerable adults in church.

20. Church Flowers Report

The flower team is back to the weekly flower arranging rota, which works well with all of us coming together for special occasions.

We had very good displays of flowers for Easter, Harvest Festival, Christmas and for the weekly services, which was much admired. We had extra helpers for Christmas flowers, which was very welcome.

On Mothering Sunday, we had bunches of daffodils for everyone – it's good to be getting back to normal. Easter flowers looked lovely with the cross outside adorned with a beautiful display of daffodils and the Easter Garden within the church and grounds make it a special time.

The flowers are very much a collective effort, and we enjoy our mornings of chat and coffee alongside the flower arranging. Carol Hunt would like to thank all those who give so generously for flowers during the year and to the flower team for all their support.

21. Music Report

Judy Pratt, Phil Mills and Richard Tait continued to lead the music team after being asked to do this by Fr Paul upon his arrival in the Parish last year. Phil has continued to accompany the choir and congregation to provide an exceptionally high standard of organ music. These arrangements will continue for the foreseeable future.

It will be recalled that in March 2020, as a consequence of the pandemic, choral music was suspended during services and our choir leaders left, along with many who had been singing in our choir.

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Music eventually resumed in churches, including at St Nicholas with depleted resources. Those singing in the re-formed choir have a wide range of experience and ability, which so far has rather limited our repertoire, but we are working on this. There is no doubt, however, that the choir with its new members remains committed to providing a high standard of choral music. The hope is that membership and level of experience will continue to increase thus widening the repertoire and opening up opportunities for the singing of anthems and other liturgical music.

For ordinary Sunday services we can rely on up to 15 singers when everyone is available but we realise that family, work and holiday commitments must come before singing duties. At Christmas and during university vacations the choir is supplemented by additional members. The service of Nine Lessons and Carols was particularly notable for the size of the augmented choir and quality of the singing.

On the first Sunday evening of the month, the choir joins the congregation in the Hail Gladdening Light service. The musical accompaniment is provided by Judy on the grand piano. This service with its quiet and contemplative content is a wonderful end to a busy week or an appropriate preparation for the week ahead.

We are always looking for new singers especially sopranos and basses.

The choir has also sung at several weddings and funerals during the year and would wish to continue to do so. At Christmas the choir sang at the Three Mile Inn and the Job Bulman (Wetherspoons), occasions, which have now become firm fixtures attracting large and appreciative audiences.

Phil continues to provide organ music of an exceptionally high standard taking full advantage of the splendid organ of which we are justly proud. Services are preceded and closed with voluntaries covering a wide and varied repertoire and are much appreciated by the congregation many of whom stay behind after the service for what is in effect a mini organ recital. When he is not available to play Phil arranges for substitutes - Marc Bryant and Peter Locke - and we are very grateful for their contribution.

The music team is very grateful to the Clergy and congregation for all their support and encouragement.

22. Other activities

A Church Craft Club meet in the church hall from 1.45 to 3.45 on Tuesdays promoted as "more about fellowship than creative ability". All are welcome.

The Wine club meet once a month on a Friday in autumn through to spring to sample 6 red or 6 white accompanied by some food with a theme set for each meeting. The food is donated – special thanks to Charlotte's Butchery for the meat – an entrance charge ensures these events are self-funding. The wines are introduced in a short presentation by Stuart Baker; he and Anne are the organisers of this club, ably supported by the talented catering team.

A new venture, still in the trial stage, was introduced due to the present financial crisis to provide a warm space with soup and a hot drink.

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For year ended 31 December 2022

The focus is on offering comfort and companionship to everyone, so all are welcome - church and non-church attendees alike. The response to the project has been limited which could be due to the better weather arriving just as the project was introduced. The idea may resume in the autumn of 2023. The members of the congregation who form the team is limited and any offer of help would be very well appreciated.

23. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The charity trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 30.10.2023 and signed on their behalf by:

K M Proudfoot

Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2022

I report on the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 14 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

have come across other matters in connection with the examination which attention should be drawn to in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Doug Maltman FMAAT
Connected Voice Business Services Ltd
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 30.10.2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Giving, tax relief and investment	6	68,142	-	68,142	84,193
Income from operating activities	7	15,662	-	15,662	4,408
Fundraising income	8	18,099	-	18,099	18,169
Investment income	9	22,350	-	22,350	21,603
Total income		124,253	-	124,253	128,373
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Donations	10	1,387	-	1,387	805
Activities relating to the work of the church	11	127,170	-	127,170	124,913
Expenditure to generate funds	12	6,116	-	6,116	7,189
Church management and administration	13	9,538	-	9,538	13,438
Total expenditure		144,211	-	144,211	146,345
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(19,958)	-	(19,958)	(17,972)
Unrealised gains on investment properties		170,000	-	170,000	-
Net gains/(losses) on investments	19	(29,141)	(3,825)	(32,966)	21,729
Net movement of funds		120,901	(3,825)	117,076	3,757
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		689,509	49,580	739,089	735,332
Total funds carried forward		810,410	45,755	856,165	739,089

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 16 to 25 form an integral part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

BALANCE SHEET

Charity Number 1133837

As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	£	Total 2022 £	£	Restated Total 2021 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	18		514,797		350,374
Investments	19		281,424		316,630
Total fixed assets			796,221		667,004
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	20	39,841		26,727	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	22,436		47,377	
Total current assets		62,277		74,104	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(2,333)		(2,019)	
Net current assets			59,944		72,085
Total assets less current liabilities			856,165		739,089
Total net assets or liabilities			856,165		739,089
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted funds			458,940		508,138
Designated fund			16,470		16,371
Revaluation surplus			335,000		165,000
Restricted fund			45,755		49,580
Total funds			856,165		739,089

The notes on pages 16 to 25 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on:

30.10.2023

and are signed on its behalf by:

K M Proudfoot
Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective October 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £856,165 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.7 Fund accounting

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

Donations received for particular purposes are designated, unrestricted funds, as is the attendant expenditure.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

3.8 Endowment fund

Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office.

It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1,400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole. This is shown in note 7 Investment Income from Dividends.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of grant offerings and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

4.4 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

4.5 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, the charity does not currently have any tangible fixed assets:

Organ	Straight line over 40 years
Church houses	No depreciation
Other tangible fixed assets	Straight line over five years

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable 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.

The Nicholson organ, acquired in 2000, has been capitalised and is being depreciated in the accounts over its currently anticipated useful life of 40 years on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £2,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings is written off.

Other tangible fixed assets includes equipment with an original cost of over £2,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years, starting in the year of acquisition.

5.2 Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

The investment properties are included at valuation, any change in market value over cost is reflected in these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
6 Giving, tax relief and investment income					
Planned giving & other	51,914	-	-	51,914	58,609
Income tax received and receivable	12,000	-	-	12,000	13,241
Grants & Fundraising activities	1,137	-	-	1,137	-
Donations & Legacies	60	3,031	-	3,091	12,343
	<u>65,111</u>	<u>3,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,142</u>	<u>84,193</u>
7 Income from operating activities: to further the objectives of the PCC					
Parish Mission and events	888	7,043	-	7,931	-
Fees	5,532	2,199	-	7,731	4,408
	<u>6,420</u>	<u>9,242</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,662</u>	<u>4,408</u>
8 Income from operating activities: to generate funds					
Church Hall Lettings & Grants	17,758	-	-	17,758	17,671
Donations to flowers	-	225	-	225	390
Sundry income (Easy Fundraising)	116	-	-	116	108
	<u>17,874</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,099</u>	<u>18,169</u>
9 Income from investments					
Rental income from investment properties	11,845	3,575	-	15,420	15,000
Dividends	4,547	1,400	-	5,947	5,806
Interest received	170	813	-	983	797
	<u>16,562</u>	<u>5,788</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,350</u>	<u>21,603</u>

Income was £124,253 (2021: £128,373) of which £124,253 was unrestricted or designated (2021: £128,373) and £nil was restricted (2021: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
10 Donations					
Charitable donations	-	1,387	-	1,387	805
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,387</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,387</u>	<u>805</u>
11 Activities relating to the work of the church					
Parish Share	82,545	-	-	82,545	82,545
Diocesan fees	-	2,199	-	2,199	1,808
Clergy & worship expenses	6,844	1,400	-	8,244	9,958
Utilities, insurance & repairs	13,794	813	-	14,607	16,502
Junior church	51	50	-	101	104
Organ, organists and choir	5,854	1,000	-	6,854	8,294
Mission, outreach & events	-	7,043	-	7,043	125
Depreciation	5,577	-	-	5,577	5,577
	<u>114,665</u>	<u>12,505</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,170</u>	<u>124,913</u>
12 Expenditure to generate funds					
Parish Hall	5,086	-	-	5,086	6,319
Flowers	805	225	-	1,030	870
	<u>5,891</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,116</u>	<u>7,189</u>
13 Church management and administration					
Investment property repairs and other costs	-	3,575	-	3,575	7,696
Investment portfolio manager's fees	1,912	495	-	2,407	2,627
Professional fees	77	-	-	77	-
Printing & stationery - copier	2,226	-	-	2,226	1,803
Bank charges, less rebate	269	-	-	269	380
Gifts & sundry expenses	12	-	-	12	9
Independent examination fees	972	-	-	972	924
	<u>5,468</u>	<u>4,070</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,538</u>	<u>13,438</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £144,211 (2021: £146,345) of which £144,211 was unrestricted or designated (2021: £146,345) and £0 was restricted (2021: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

14 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2022 £	2021 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	877	924
	<u>877</u>	<u>924</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2021: £nil).

15 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

The charity currently does not employ any paid staff.

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2021: £nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil.

16 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2022 and 2021:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2022 £	2021 £
Rev J Natras	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	-	930
Rev P Baker	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	200	-
D Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	540
D Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	660	660
K Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,083	1,040
B Coulson	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	600	-
S Ritchie	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	2,400	-
			<u>5,483</u>	<u>3,170</u>

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

18 Tangible fixed assets	Nickolson organ £	Church Houses £	Total £
Cost			
Balance brought forward	223,068	250,000	473,068
Additions	-	170,000	170,000
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	223,068	420,000	643,068
Depreciation			
Basis	SL	SL	
Rate	2.5%	0.0%	
Balance brought forward	122,694	-	122,694
Depreciation charge for year	5,577	-	5,577
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	128,271	-	128,271
Net book value			
Brought forward	100,374	250,000	350,374
Carried forward	94,797	420,000	514,797
19 Fixed asset investments			
Listed Investment	2022 £	2021 £	
Carrying (fair) value at the beginning of period	272,847	257,622	
Management & dealing costs	(2,407)	(2,627)	
Realised gains & losses for year	(1,522)	12,129	
Unrealised gains & losses for year	(27,797)	5,723	
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	241,121	272,847	
Newcastle Diocesan Social Investments	2022 £	2021 £	
Bulcher/McMahon bequest 487 shares	10,062	11,405	
Butcher bequest 836 shares	17,273	19,578	
	27,335	30,983	
Church hall	2022 £	2021 £	
Church hall investment account	12,968	12,800	
	12,968	12,800	
TOTAL	281,424	316,630	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

20 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gift aid claim	38,500	26,500
Rents due from agent	970	-
Dividends	371	227
	<u>39,841</u>	<u>26,727</u>

21 Cash at bank and in hand

	2022	2021
	£	£
Investment community account	75	576
General fund community account	5,823	9,932
Church hall community account	11,535	26,868
Church active saver account	5,003	10,001
	<u>22,436</u>	<u>47,377</u>

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,361	1,095
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	972	924
	<u>2,333</u>	<u>2,019</u>

23 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

24 Analysis of charitable funds

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	508,138	105,967	(126,024)	-	(29,141)	458,940
Designated funds	16,371	18,286	(18,187)	-	-	16,470
Revaluation surplus	165,000	-	-	-	170,000	335,000
	<u>689,509</u>	<u>124,253</u>	<u>(144,211)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140,859</u>	<u>810,410</u>

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	510,430	114,950	(132,865)	-	15,623	508,138
Designated funds	12,551	13,423	(13,480)	-	3,877	16,371
Revaluation surplus	165,000	-	-	-	-	165,000
	<u>687,981</u>	<u>128,373</u>	<u>(146,345)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,500</u>	<u>689,509</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC
Revaluation surplus	Revaluation reserve for the church houses.
	Sanderson Young provided a valuation in 2020 for the houses that had been included in the accounts at historical cost: £85,000. The increase of £165,000 to the valuation of £250,000.

24 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	49,580	-	-	-	(3,825)	45,755
	<u>49,580</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,825)</u>	<u>45,755</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	47,351	-	-	-	2,229	49,580
	<u>47,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,229</u>	<u>49,580</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Endowment fund Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office. It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments.

25 Capital commitments

As at 31 December 2022, the charity had no capital commitments (2021: £nil).

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	514,797	-	-	514,797
Investments	235,669	-	45,755	281,424
Current assets	45,906	16,371	-	62,277
Liabilities	(2,333)	-	-	(2,333)
	<u>794,039</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>45,755</u>	<u>856,165</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	350,374	-	-	350,374
Investments	267,050	-	49,580	316,630
Current assets	57,733	16,371	-	74,104
Liabilities	(2,019)	-	-	(2,019)
	<u>673,138</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>49,580</u>	<u>739,089</u>

Accounts

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL
PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 31 December 2021**

Charity Number 1133837

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31 December 2021. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

1. Objectives and Activities

St Nicholas Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent – the Reverend Jane Nattrass, until 30 September 2021 - in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

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

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

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 developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Nicholas and our church hall and annex.

2. Achievements and Performance

2021 was another difficult year with Covid restrictions on indoor gatherings curtailing social and outreach activities. Having parishioners partaking in Sunday communion by Zoom was a real focus for many during the challenging times. As restrictions eased there were many, for whom the risks in returning to even a socially distanced church service and Zoom continued to be important. We are grateful for the support of many individuals for making the church community a constant focus of support during these times.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

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

The church is a member of Churches Together in Gosforth and supports joint activities when these are able to take place.

3. Planning for the future

As we look forward to an eventual return to “normal” in 2022 we remain conscious that for many elderly parishioners and especially those with health issues this will be an extended period of transition during which we will continue to support them. We also look forward to a return of weddings and baptisms as more guests are able to attend these milestone services.

4. Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

Charity Name	The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas	
Registered Charity Number	1133837	
Operational address	23 Ilford Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3NX	
Trustees	Gill Mitchell - Churchwarden K Wake K F Gibson E L Vickers A J Thirlaway S Ritchie R Tait K M Proudfoot - Churchwarden H Harrison L Robertson T Peto N Beale D Hunter - Churchwarden O Black G P Barnard C Holmes L Robertson C T Tait D Young - Churchwarden D W Oliver	
	Treasurer	Safeguarding officer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

Independent Examiner	Philippa Gardiner Connected Voice Business Services Ltd One Strawberry Lane Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BX
Bankers	Barclays
Investments	Brewin Dolphin

5. Structure, Governance and Management

Governing documents

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is a registered charity, number 1133837, registered 28 January 2010.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by election at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting they can also be co-opted during the year to fill a casual vacancy or skills gap.

Risk management

The charity is aware of the Commission's guidance on risk management including the development of a policy, identifying risks, assessing and evaluating the action(s) to be taken, review, monitor and assess periodically. Trustees will be working with the new incumbent, when appointed, to ensure the continuing monitoring of risks.

6. Financial Review

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is primarily funded by donations. The total income for the year was £128,373 (2020: £130,196). This income is allocated across respective funds on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021, shows a surplus across all funds of £3,757 (2020: £157,534).

The Balance Sheet at 31 December 2021 shows total funds carried forward of £739,089 (2020: £735,331) of which there are £689,509 unrestricted funds (2020: £687,981) and £49,580 endowment funds (2020: £47,351).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

Reserves policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's reserves policy. It is the policy of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas to retain liquid funds in current account and on short-term deposit adequate to meet 3 months of financial activity. Longer-term investments held can be realised safely without undue cost within that time frame.

7. Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and planning its future activities. The trustees have also reviewed the charitable purposes of The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain Northumbria Area Meeting, and the external environment, to make sure the Charity is still relevant and needed. This annual report will aim to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.

8. Related Party

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2020 and 2021:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2021 £	2020 £
Rev Jane Natrass	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	930	1,000
David Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	644
Dale Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	660	660
Keith Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,040	980
			3,170	3,284

9. Insurance

The charity's insurance policy does not cover and provide trustee indemnity cover.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

10. Report from the incumbent

Much has happened during the year despite the lockdown and restrictions caused by the Covid 19 pandemic. The ability to return to church combined with the continued use of Zoom has grown the church family. It is pleasing to note that some who cannot attend church in person could make use of Zoom. This will continue.

Members have had outlined the aims of the five year Mission Action Plan which is being prepared, to be published when complete and start in September if possible. The six areas are:- high standard of worship; service to the community, including use of the church hall and churchyard; safeguarding for a safer church; growing the church family through pastoral work, bible study, refreshment and connecting with the social calendar through following the liturgical year; generous giving; and care for the environment.

The work of the parish relies on many volunteers giving their time and expertise, we would particularly wish to thank Hilary Harrison for her work on safeguarding, which has led to us achieving level 2 and starting the highest level 3, and setting a standard for other churches. In future volunteers in any role will have to agree and sign a template produced by the diocese.

Social events are being planned. The showing of the film Chocolate and the discussions, which followed, were successful in Lent. Generous giving remains something we still have not managed to achieve and as a result is a continuing problem for our finances. This needs to be looked at and there is a deanery approach to this aspect of discipleship planned for the autumn.

11. Report on the PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity which works in co-operation with the incumbent to promote the whole mission of the church, evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical which in the parish. In the absence of an incumbent since September 2021 the PCC under its elected secretary has authority to deal with the financial affairs of the church including the collection and administration of all money raised, also responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard in co-operation with Newcastle City Council.

The PCC has met seven times. The average attendance was ten.

The PCC has conducted the business of managing the church's finances and the maintenance of the church and church hall. These subjects are discussed in separate reports.

During the vacancy caused by the departure of Reverend Jane Natrass in September David Young, Lay Chair and Secretary to the PCC, has chaired the PCC.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

12. PCC Members

Lay Chair

David Young

Ex Officio

Canon R Black	Reader
Mrs O Black	Reader
Dr C Pacitti	Reader
Mr D Hunter	Churchwarden (elected 2019 completed 3 rd year)
Mr G Mitchell	Churchwarden (elected 2011 completed 11 th year)
Mr K Proudfoot	Churchwarden (elected 2020 completed 2 nd year)
Mr D Young	Churchwarden (elected 2009 completed 13 th year)
Ms E Vickers	Deanery Synod representative
Mr G Barnard	Deanery Synod representative

Elected Members

Mr P Ryder	Completed 5 th year
Mr C Tait	Completed 2 nd year
Mr A Thirlaway	Completed 3 rd year
Mr N Beale	Completed 4 th year
Mr B Coulson	Completed 4 th year
Mr D Oliver	Completed 3 rd year
Mrs O Black	Completed 2 nd year
Mr H Harrison	Completed 3 rd year
Mrs T Peto	Completed 4 th year
Mr R Tait	Completed 2 nd year
Mrs L Robertson	Completed 4 th year
Dr C Pacitti	Completed 5 th year

13. Electoral Roll Report

The numbers entered on the church Electoral roll at 8th April 2022 is 216.

Leslie Robertson, Electoral roll officer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

14. Churchwardens' Fabric Report

In the main the fabric of the church has been satisfaction so apart from general maintenance there has been very little work carried out on the main building. Mr. Tim Bailey was appointed as the church architect and from Diocesan Advisory Committee approved list as his replacement. Tim will acquaint himself with quinquennial report and advise the Church Wardens on the level work to be carried out.

As part of the Health and Safety programme the annual fire extinguishers, testing has been carried out in both the church and church hall. The annual test of the lighting conductor on the church tower has been carried out.

An inspection on both the North and South areas of the roof to try to find areas water ingress into the church. Although it was not obvious where the rain is getting into the church some of the flashing and the pointing around the roof ridge tiles and copping stones need replacing.

There was very little putty still remaining around the circular windows in the main roof. Work carried out on behalf of the church by Regent Roofing seems to have solved this problem. There has been no water coming into church for at least four months.

Work has been carried out by Classic Masonry Limited to resolve the crack in the South wall with included the removal of an area of the plasterwork. Classic Masonry have produced a report on the state of the wall and any necessary remedial work required. The report is given below.

The church hall booking are made up of regular groups and we are continuing to maintain a high level of cleanliness as part of COVID measures. We no longer hire out the hall for children's parties and one off events apart from church use.

15. Deanery Synod Report

The Revd Rachel Wood has been installed as Archdeacon of Northumberland. Bishop Christine retired on October 31st with Bishop Mark Wroe as acting bishop.

16. Junior Church Report

Since September, Sunday school has met in person, moving into the church hall to give us more room. We have an average of 8 primary school children from new borns to aged 10.

We continue to use Roots, an online support website that helps with ideas linked to the readings. We broadly follow the Gospel reading of the day with occasional variations (sometimes intentionally when the message is hard for little ones and sometimes by accident!)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

Sunday school aim to be back in church in time to share communion. The children enjoy gathering at the little table at the back to continue colouring.

17. Eco Church Report

Rev'd Jane Natrass has approached Ella Vickers to become Parish and Central Deanery Environmental Champion.

Environmental report and Environmental Policy below.

18. Health and Safety Report

Churches are covered by the-statutory legislation in the Health and Safety at work, Act 1974 and are classified as being of low risk' Under the H&S Act where a church employs less than five people a written Health and Safety plan is not required.

The church Health and Safety policy is implemented using information available from the Ecclesiastical insurance company as posted on the Diocese of Newcastle website.

Health and Safety is an item on the PCC agenda.

The Health and Safety policy is reviewed annually using the current documentation on the Church of England website.

19. Safeguarding Policy Report

Report for Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Action Plan is produced by "safeguarding Dashboards,, and monitored by the parish Dashboards Team, Newcastle Diocese and based on update reports presented to the PCC.

Handbook and Policy

The PCC agreed on 16.3.21 to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops, guidance safeguarding' in relation to safeguarding. This includes both the handbook (which includes procedures, roles, training, reports and church activities) and the policy statement.

Areas of Concern

Safeguarding training

DBS checks

Sunday School and Safeguarding

Hire of church hall facilities

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

20. Church Flowers Report

As covid restrictions lifted, we went back to the weekly flower arranging rota, which works well with all of us coming together for special occasions. We had a good display of flowers for Harvest Festival, which was much admired. We had extra helpers for Christmas flowers, which was very welcome.

On Mothering Sunday, we had bunches of daffodils for everyone and with the weather being good and refreshments served in the Annexe it seemed that we were getting back to normal at last.

Easter flowers looked lovely. The cross outside survived the weather this year, thanks to Derek who made us a new flower container. The Easter garden outside was made by the Sunday school. The flowers are very much a collective effort, and we enjoy our mornings of chat and coffee alongside the flower arranging.

I would like to thank all whom those who give for so generously for flowers during the year and to the flower team for all their support.

21. Music Report

The more observant among you will have noticed that of late our choir numbers have been diminishing. This is for understandable reasons eg: family, health, employment issues ect. However, if we are to maintain our enviable choral tradition, we will need new choir members. This is therefore an appeal to you to consider joining us.

The level of commitment is modest - Sunday Parish Eucharist, the monthly Hail Gladdening Light service and occasional additional services.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For year ended 31 December 2021

22. Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The charity trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 19.06.2023 and signed on their behalf by:

K M Proudfoot
Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 December 2021

I report on the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 12 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

have come across other matters in connection with the examination which attention should be drawn to in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Philippa Gardiner
Connected Voice Business Services Ltd
One Strawberry Lane
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BX
Date: 20.06.2023

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<u>Income from:</u>					
Giving, tax relief and investment	6	84,193	-	84,193	88,815
Income from operating activities	7	4,408	-	4,408	3,345
Fundraising income	8	18,169	-	18,169	16,092
Investment income	9	21,603	-	21,603	21,945
Total income		128,373	-	128,373	130,197
<u>Expenditure on:</u>					
Donations	10	805	-	805	975
Activities relating to the work of the church	11	124,913	-	124,913	123,297
Expenditure to generate funds	12	7,189	-	7,189	11,327
Church management and administration	13	13,438	-	13,438	7,479
Total expenditure		146,345	-	146,345	143,078
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(17,972)	-	(17,972)	(12,881)
Unrealised gains on investment properties		-	-	-	165,000
Net gains/(losses) on investments	19	19,500	2,229	21,729	5,416
Net movement of funds		1,528	2,229	3,757	157,535
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>					
Total funds brought forward		687,981	47,351	735,332	577,797
Total funds carried forward		689,509	49,580	739,089	735,332

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST
NICHOLAS**

BALANCE SHEET

Charity Number 1133837

As at 31 December 2021

	Notes	£	Total 2021 £	£	Restated Total 2020 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>					
Tangible assets	18		350,374		355,951
Investments	19		316,630		297,519
Total fixed assets			667,004		653,470
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	20	26,727		36,906	
Cash at bank and in hand	21	47,377		45,933	
Total current assets		74,104		82,839	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(2,019)		(977)	
Net current assets			72,085		81,862
Total assets less current liabilities			739,089		735,332
Total net assets or liabilities			739,089		735,332
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted funds			508,138		510,430
Designated fund			16,371		12,551
Revaluation surplus			165,000		165,000
Restricted fund			49,580		47,351
Total funds			739,089		735,332

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 19.06.2023

and are signed on its behalf by: K M Proudfoot
Treasurer

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £739,089 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

3.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

3.6 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.7 Fund accounting

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

Donations received for particular purposes are designated, unrestricted funds, as is the attendant expenditure.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

3.8 Endowment fund

Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office.

It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1,400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole. This is shown in note 7 Investment Income from Dividends.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of grant offerings and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

4.4 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

4.5 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis, the charity does not currently have any tangible fixed assets:

Organ	Straight line over 40 years
Church houses	No depreciation
Other tangible fixed assets	Straight line over five years

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable 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.

The Nicholson organ, acquired in 2000, has been capitalised and is being depreciated in the accounts over its currently anticipated useful life of 40 years on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £2,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings is written off.

Other tangible fixed assets includes equipment with an original cost of over £2,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years, starting in the year of acquisition.

5.2 Investments

Fixed asset investments in quoted shares, traded bonds and similar investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale or pending their sale and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

The investment properties are included at valuation, any change in market value over cost is reflected in these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
6 Giving, tax relief and investment income					
Planned giving & other	58,609	-	-	58,609	63,132
Income tax received and	13,241	-	-	13,241	17,599
Grants & Fundraising activities	-	-	-	-	5,000
Donations & Legacies	11,000	1,343	-	12,343	3,084
	<u>82,850</u>	<u>1,343</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,193</u>	<u>88,815</u>
7 Income from operating activities: to further the objectives of the PCC					
Fees	2,600	1,808	-	4,408	3,345
	<u>2,600</u>	<u>1,808</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,408</u>	<u>3,345</u>
8 Income from operating activities: to generate funds					
Church Hall Lettings & Grants	17,671	-	-	17,671	15,732
Donations to flowers	-	390	-	390	360
Sundry income (Easy Fundraising)	108	-	-	108	-
	<u>17,779</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,169</u>	<u>16,092</u>
9 Income from investments					
Rental income from investment properties	7,304	7,696	-	15,000	14,811
Dividends	4,406	1,400	-	5,806	6,307
Interest received	11	786	-	797	827
	<u>11,721</u>	<u>9,882</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,603</u>	<u>21,945</u>

Income was £128,373 (2020: £130,196) of which £128,373 was unrestricted or designated (2020: £130,196) and £nil was restricted (2020: £nil).

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
10 Donations					
Children's Society	-	165	-	165	500
Alzheimer's Society	-	-	-	-	100
NSPCC	-	-	-	-	125
St Oswald's	-	-	-	-	250
RNLI	-	120	-	120	-
People's Kitchen	-	500	-	500	-
Christian Aid	-	20	-	20	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>975</u>
11 Activities relating to the work of the church					
Parish Share	82,545	-	-	82,545	82,545
Diocesan fees	-	1,808	-	1,808	1,956
Clergy & worship expenses	8,498	1,460	-	9,958	7,059
Utilities, insurance & repairs	15,716	786	-	16,502	20,563
Junior church	104	-	-	104	17
Organ, organists and choir	8,294	-	-	8,294	5,295
Mission, outreach & events	125	-	-	125	284
Depreciation	5,577	-	-	5,577	5,577
	<u>120,859</u>	<u>4,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124,913</u>	<u>123,297</u>
12 Expenditure to generate funds					
Parish Hall	6,290	29	-	6,319	11,147
Flowers	480	390	-	870	180
	<u>6,770</u>	<u>419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,189</u>	<u>11,327</u>
13 Church management and administration					
Investment property repairs and other costs	-	7,696	-	7,696	3,095
Investment portfolio manager's fees	2,171	456	-	2,627	2,127
Printing & stationery - copier	1,753	50	-	1,803	1,676
Bank charges, less rebate	380	-	-	380	514
Gifts & sundry expenses	9	-	-	9	67
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	924	-	-	924	-
	<u>5,236</u>	<u>8,202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,438</u>	<u>7,479</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £146,345 (2020: £143,078) of which £146,345 was unrestricted or designated (2020: £143,078) and £nil was restricted (2020: £nil)

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

14 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2021 £	2020 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	924	-
	924	-

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2020: £nil).

15 Analysis of staff costs and the cost of key management personnel

The charity currently does not employ any paid staff.

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2020: £nil)

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the Trustees. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £nil.

16 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

The vicar and churchwardens made the following donations to church funds in 2020 and 2021:

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction	2021 £	2020 £
Rev J Natras	Vicar	Unrestricted donation	930	1,000
David Young	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	540	644
Dale Hunter	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	660	660
Keith Proudfoot	Trustee	Unrestricted donation	1,040	980
			3,170	3,284

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

18 Tangible fixed assets	Nickolson organ £	Church Houses £	Total £
Cost			
Balance brought forward	223,068	250,000	473,068
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	223,068	250,000	473,068
Depreciation			
Basis	SL	SL	
Rate	2.5%	0.0%	
Balance brought forward	117,117	-	117,117
Depreciation charge for year	5,577	-	5,577
Disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	122,694	-	122,694
Net book value			
Brought forward	105,951	250,000	355,951
Carried forward	100,374	250,000	350,374
19 Fixed asset investments			
Listed Investment	2021 £	2020 £	
Carrying (fair) value at the beginning of period	257,622	256,088	
Management & dealing costs	(2,627)	(2,127)	
Realised gains & losses for year	12,129	4,547	
Unrealised gains & losses for year	5,723	(886)	
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	272,847	257,622	
Newcastle Diocesan Social Investments	2021 £	2020 £	
Bulcher/McMahon bequest 487 shares	11,405	9,977	
Butcher bequest 836 shares	19,578	17,127	
	30,983	27,104	
Church hall	2021 £	2020 £	
Church hall investment account	12,800	12,793	
	12,800	12,793	
TOTAL	316,630	297,519	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

20 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gift aid claim	26,500	28,500
Prepayments	-	8,246
Dividends	227	160
	26,727	36,906

21 Cash at bank and in hand

	2021	2020
	£	£
Investment community account	576	417
General fund community account	9,932	5,215
Church hall community account	26,868	29,287
Church active saver account	10,001	11,014
	47,377	45,933

22 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,095	977
Accruals		
Independent examination of accounts	924	-
	2,019	977

23 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

24 Analysis of charitable funds

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	510,430	114,950	(132,865)	-	15,623	508,138
Designated funds	12,551	13,423	(13,480)	-	3,877	16,371
Revaluation surplus	165,000	-	-	-	-	165,000
	<u>687,981</u>	<u>128,373</u>	<u>(146,345)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,500</u>	<u>689,509</u>

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	521,165	119,960	(134,355)	-	3,660	510,430
Designated funds	9,281	10,235	(8,721)	-	1,756	12,551
Revaluation surplus	-	-	-	-	165,000	165,000
	<u>530,446</u>	<u>130,195</u>	<u>(143,076)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,416</u>	<u>687,981</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund	The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds
Designated funds	Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC
Revaluation surplus	Revaluation reserve for the church houses.
	Sanderson Young provided a valuation in 2020 for the houses that had been included in the accounts at historical cost: £85,000. The increase of £165,000 to the valuation of £250,000 is shown separately within unrestricted funds.

Analysis of charitable funds

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	47,351	-	-	-	2,229	49,580
	<u>47,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,229</u>	<u>49,580</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF GOSFORTH ST NICHOLAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2021

24 For the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income resource £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Gains / (losses) £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds						
Endowment fund	47,351	-	-	-	-	47,351
	<u>47,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,351</u>

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor

Endowment fund Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office. It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments.

25 Capital commitments

As at 31 December 2021, the charity had no capital commitments (2020: £nil).

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	350,374	-	-	350,374
Investments	267,050	-	49,580	316,630
Current assets	57,733	16,371	-	74,104
Liabilities	(2,019)	-	-	(2,019)
	<u>673,138</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>49,580</u>	<u>739,089</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	355,951	-	-	355,951
Investments	250,168	-	47,351	297,519
Current assets	66,468	16,371	-	82,839
Liabilities	(977)	-	-	(977)
	<u>671,610</u>	<u>16,371</u>	<u>47,351</u>	<u>735,332</u>

Accounts

The Ecclesiastical Parish of Gosforth St Nicholas Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

**Including Agenda for Annual Parochial Church
Meeting to be held 9 May 2021 at 7pm**



Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens

To be held in Gosforth Parish Church on Sunday 9 May 2021 at 7pm



1. Opening Prayers
 2. Apologies
 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th Sept 2020 – Appendix I, page 16
 4. Election of churchwardens - 4
-

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Gosforth Parish Church of St Nicholas Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held in Gosforth Parish Church on Sunday 9 May 2021 at 7pm following the meeting for the election of churchwardens

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the annual parochial church meeting held on 13 Sept 2020 – Appendix I, page 16
3. Matters Arising which are not covered by the reports
4. The reports
 - (i) The Vicar's Report
 - (ii) The electoral roll – number at May 2021
 - (iii) Annual report of the PCC
 - (iv) Financial report
 - (v) Annual fabric report – presented by churchwardens
 - (vi) Safeguarding
 - (vii) Deanery Synod report
 - (viii) Other reports which may include Sunday School, Sexton, Sacristan, Flowers, Hospitality, Holy Dusters, Choirs, Readers, hall use, churchyard etc
5. Election of representatives to Deanery Synod – 2 vacancies
6. Election of PCC 6 members
7. Appointment of independent examiner
8. Any other business
9. Closing prayers

Meeting of the PCC of Gosforth Parish Church. The APCM will be followed by a PCC meeting

AGENDA

1. To appoint a PCC secretary
2. To appoint a PCC treasurer
3. Date of next PCC meeting

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Agenda Item 4 Annual Reports

The ecclesiastical parish of Gosforth St Nicholas is a charity (Charity number: 1133837) for religious services and pastoral care, community activities and provision of facilities (buildings and open spaces) for the benefit of the residents of the parish of Gosforth St Nicholas and the wider community

i. The Vicar's Report

This is my second Vicar's report for Gosforth Parish Church of St Nicholas and it is probably the shortest time in the church's history between APCMs due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Our last APCM was in Sept 2020 so, a year which is only 8 months between meetings.

Grateful thanks are due to everyone who provide a warm welcome at church and for those who are continuing to use Zoom. Special thanks go to the churchwardens, David Young, Anne Moran, Gill Mitchell and Dale Hunter for their sterling work. We introduced some classes in the hall under the auspices of the NHS with social prescribing done by GPs to provide time together for those who had become isolated. The hall now has some regular bookings to support children and it is hoped that bookings for the hall will take up once restrictions have lifted further. The Hall Annexe will be used for Mission and Ministry by the church.

We had beautiful Christmas services, celebrated Epiphany, Candlemass, Ash Wednesday and a Passover Supper, sent out Palm Crosses and Easter Cards, held two Lent group meetings about Chocolat and we also studied the Lord's Prayer using the Pilgrim course material. Meeting with others for Morning Prayer continues to be a gift to a vicar.

Sadly, to date over 127,000 people have died from COVID 19 in the UK with almost 4.5 millions cases reported in the UK to date. Globally, the figures stand at over 154 million cases confirmed and over 3 million deaths worldwide. The pandemic is still with us. Gosforth Parish Church, like many other churches, synagogues, mosques and temples throughout the UK, and internationally, have slowly opened the doors for worship and access to the buildings. We continue to use social distancing (staying 2 metres apart, or 1 metre with the use of face coverings and copious amounts of cleaning fluids and hand sanitiser) and we have re-introduced a small group of singers to enhance worship.

The Pastoral Group works hard to keep in touch with as many people as possible during a very difficult time during lockdown – thank you.

Worship

Even though we could not worship in church, we continue to make use of digital technology and held services and meetings via Zoom, Facetime, Whatsapp, telephone etc. The numbers continue to rise with some weeks over 125 in attendance on Zoom and in church. It has been a delight to see the Sunday School team finding ways to use Zoom and make connections with families.

We record our thanks to St Martin's in the Field, London, for the music resources they provide when we need to use recording through A Church Near You. Music is a great gift for enhancing worship and it is hoped that choirs will be built up again once COVID regulations are relaxed. We have reluctantly accepted the resignation of Mike and Penny Green as Choir Directors. There will be an opportunity in the coming weeks for them to be church so that we can give thanks for their tremendous gifts and work in their contributions to church music and the life of our church.

We are very grateful to a group affectionately known as St Nicholas Voices, singing in church. Plans are being put in place for the future. Phil Mills, Marion Peutherer (organ scholar) and Joseph Lord have also helped to provide both recorded and live organ music – thank you. It was good to hear live singing again in church for the Parish Eucharist and recordings for the Hail Gladdening Light service. It has also been good to see servers in church albeit on a smaller scale than usual. The role of musicians and servers who enhance the beauty of worship is one where they are seen but not noticed – thank you to them all for their part in worship.

We record our thanks to Rev'd Michael Douglass, Rev'd Richard Hill and our Readers, Ce Pacitti and Olwyn Black. Ron Black has now retired and was granted the honour of Reader Emeritus. There will be an opportunity to give thanks for Ron's work. We are also pleased to report that Nick Beale will be attending a Reader Selection conference in 2021. He also took over the role of organising the rota for readers and servers. We record our grateful thanks to Derek Oliver for his decades of work in that role.

Being in church with limited numbers and the use of Zoom is providing the possibility of us worshipping together as a church family as best we can. It has been an innovation which allows people to attend church wherever they are in the world and most importantly for those who are housebound. Thank you to everyone who plays a part in ensuring that the hospitality of the Eucharist and Spiritual Communion is offered every week by reading, leadings intercessions, preaching, leading the responses, Creed and the Lord's Prayer, operating Zoom, helping with slides and music, being crucifer or acolyte, being a communion assistant, being a sidesperson, looking after the flowers, cleaning, laundering the linen, looking after the register of those attending church, ensuring the beauty of the churchyard, and being a PCC member or churchwarden and being part of a small group of singers – we are grateful for all they are doing.

Worship in the context of funerals and weddings since March 2020 has been challenging with numbers limited to 30 once the Government allowed these celebrations in church. We have used Zoom to allow grieving families to meet together and to have time to talk to each other after services, this was well received. Weddings have been restricted but we hope that couples will be welcomed as soon as the restrictions allow.

Looking ahead.....

Building on discussions in Feb 2020 The Parochial Church Council continues to explore Christian Hospitality – responding to our generous God with the Eucharist at the heart of all we do – what can we do together and what should we be doing as a church family which is open to all? At a recent meeting we discussed a Mission Action Plan:-

The Five Marks of Mission of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

And, from the parish profile 2019 – tasks for the incumbent

1. To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Gosforth St Nicholas.
2. To encourage and lead the congregation to grow in faith and in numbers through preaching, worship, teaching, prayer, and service to the community.
3. To lead the parish in the development of its vision and strategy for growth, recognizing and sustaining the thriving ministry among older people, and seeking to extend work with children, young people and their families.
4. To grow sustainable local ministry that recognises the talents and skills of lay people, and encourages, motivates and enables their use in worship, service and outreach.

Draft aims – Mission Action Plan
Gosforth Parish Church will be known for Christian Hospitality
through service to the community,
valuing all and using the gifts of a growing church family.

1. Offer high standards of worship.

2. Encourage service to the community using the assets of the hall and churchyard.

3, To be a safer church - Safeguarding and safer recruitment.

4. Value growing the church family. This included pastoral work, bible study, refreshments, connecting with the social calendar though following the liturgical year.

5. To be Generous givers.

6. To Care for the environment

When complete the Mission Action Plan will be publicised

Concluding remarks

What a year! These have been challenging times for us all and continue to be so. Thank you for all your love and support given to me and to each other.

Rev'd Jane Natrass

ii. **The electoral roll** – number at 22nd April 2021 - 217

iii. **Report on the PCC 2020-21**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity which works in co-operation with the incumbent to promote the whole mission of the church, evangelistic, pastoral, social and ecumenical within the parish. It is the duty of the incumbent and the PCC to consult together on matters of general concern and importance to the parish. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of the church including the collection and administration of all moneys raised for church purposes and for the keeping the accounts in relation to such affairs and moneys. The PCC is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the churchyard in co-operation with Newcastle City Council.

The PCC has met three times via the Zoom link since the APCM held in September. The average attendance was sixteen. The resignation of Mags Border and Stephanie McLaughlin was accepted with regret and thanks.

The PCC has conducted the business of managing the church's finances and the maintenance of the church and church hall. These subjects are discussed in separate reports.

During a difficult year the matters discussed included:-

Measures to keep the church Covid secure and the use of Zoom for services

Arrangements for Christmas and Easter services

Music for services and future of the choirs

Parish giving and the parish share

Provision of WiFi in the church hall – deferred

Mission Action Plan and Safeguarding

Repairs and maintenance.

Bev Bagnall, Minutes Secretary to the PCC, 28.April 2021

iv. Financial report

The accounts for the year ended 31 December show a net operating expenditure of £12,881, compared to a net expenditure of £25,654 in 2019. We are grateful to those who contribute to the work of the church through regular giving which increased by approximately £2k during the year. We are aware that cash on the plate at services has reduced due to the pandemic and that the decrease, in the main, has not been converted into standing orders or giving via the internet. A Deanery initiative for generous giving is in the planning stage. We record grateful thanks for the generous donations towards the cost of installing Wi-fi and condenser microphones in the church to allow us to use Zoom for services.

We were grateful to received grants from the Government via Newcastle City Council to help to cover running costs for the church and the hall during the pandemic.

The churchwardens meet regularly with the financial advisors regarding investments.

Gosforth Parish Church of St Nicholas

Annual Accounts for the Year to 31 December 2020

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated /restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Giving, tax relief and investment income	2 a	86,268	2,545	88,813	81,121
Income from operating activities	2 b	1,389	1,956	3,345	10,590
Fundraising income	2 c	15,612	480	16,092	28,717
Investment income	2 d	16,691	5,254	21,945	22,820
Total income		119,960	10,235	130,195	143,247
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Donations	3 a	185	790	975	2,035
Activities relating to the work of the church	3 b	119,031	4,265	123,296	123,865
Expenditure to generate funds	3 c	11,147	180	11,327	34,130
Church management and administration	3 d	3,992	3,486	7,478	8,870
Total expenditure		134,355	8,721	143,076	168,900
Net operating Income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(14,395)	1,514	(12,881)	(25,654)
Realised & unrealised gains / (losses) on investments for the year	5	3,660	1,756	5,416	33,745
Unrealised gain on investment properties	4	165,000	0	165,000	0
Net Movement in Funds		154,266	3,270	157,536	8,092
Funds brought forward at 1st January		521,165	56,632	577,797	569,705
Funds carried forward at 31st December		675,430	59,902	735,332	577,797

Balance sheet
as at 31st December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4		355,951		196,528
Investments	5		257,622		256,088
Central Board of Finance deposits					
Church Hall		12,793		12,739	
Church Fabric bequests	6	27,105		25,349	
			39,898		38,088
CURRENT ASSETS					
Bank accounts	8				
Cash at bank & in hand		45,933		41,105	
Debtors & prepayments	7	36,906		46,212	
			82,839		87,317
LIABILITIES - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR					
Creditors & Provisions			(977)		(224)
NET ASSETS	9	£	735,332	£	577,797
FUNDS					
General fund including parish hall (unrestricted)					
PCC account at 1st January		521,165		517,494	
Realised/unrealised gains & losses on investments		3,660		29,750	
Unrealised gain on investment properties		165,000		-	
(Deficit) for year		(14,395)		(26,079)	
			675,430		521,165
Other designated funds					
At 1st January		9,281		4,860	
Unrealised gain on investments		1,756		3,995	
Raised less spent during year		1,514		426	
			12,551		9,281
Endowment fund (restricted)					
At 1st January		47,351		47,351	
Movement for year		0		0	
			47,351		47,351
		£	735,332	£	577,797

Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities

for the year ended 31st December 2020

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 as amended by the Church Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2001 together with applicable accounting standards and the charities SORP.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

Funds

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

Donations received for particular purposes are designated, unrestricted funds, as is the attendant expenditure.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law.

Incoming resources

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

Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when receivable.

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

Dividend income is recognised when received by us or by our agents.

Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on the revaluation of investments at the end of each financial year.

Resources used

The Diocesan parish share is accounted for when due and paid.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by virtue of s96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable 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.

The Nicholson organ, acquired in 2000, has been capitalised and is being depreciated in the accounts over its currently anticipated useful life of 40 years on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, individual items under £2,000 or on the repair of movable church furnishings is written off.

Other tangible fixed assets includes equipment with an original cost of over £2,000 and are depreciated on a straight line basis over 5 years, starting in the year of acquisition.

Investments

Investments are included at market value as at 31 December.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

The let properties are included at valuation for the first time this year, the increase in market value over cost is thus fully reflected in these accounts.

Endowment Fund

Over many years donations have been given to the church with the specific intention to help the clergy in their role within the parish, such funds are classed as "Restricted and Designated". The income generated from the Endowment Fund assets - stocks and shares - is applied to the specific purpose of the fund. In accordance with the practice of many years the income is applied as follows: 25% to the General Fund to meet the requirements of the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance, the balance to the incumbent to help meet expenses of the office.

It would be disproportionately expensive to have the endowment fund managed separately to the other investments. £1400 has been calculated as the appropriate proportion of the income, at present, to go to the expenses of the incumbent. The amount is reviewed annually against the performance of the investments as a whole.

Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2020

2 Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated / restricted funds	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
2 a Giving, tax relief and investment income				
Planned giving & other donations	63,132	0	63,132	61,225
Income tax received and receivable	17,599	0	17,599	13,126
Grants & Fundraising activities	5,000	0	5,000	0
Donations & Legacies	538	2,545	3,083	6,770
	<u>86,268</u>	<u>2,545</u>	<u>88,813</u>	<u>81,121</u>
2 b Income from operating activities: to further the objectives of the PCC				
Parish Mission & events	0	0	0	7,826
Fees	1,389	1,956	3,345	2,764
	<u>1,389</u>	<u>1,956</u>	<u>3,345</u>	<u>10,590</u>
2 c Income from operating activities: to generate funds				
Church Hall Lettings & Grants	15,612	120	15,732	27,592
Donations to flowers	0	360	360	1,125
Sundry income	0	0	0	0
	<u>15,612</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>16,092</u>	<u>28,717</u>
2 d Income from investments				
Rental income from investment properties	11,716	3,095	14,811	14,680
Investment income - dividends	4,907	1,400	6,307	7,236
Investment income - interest received	68	759	827	904
	<u>16,691</u>	<u>5,254</u>	<u>21,945</u>	<u>22,820</u>

Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities (cont'd)

for the year ended 31st December 2020

3 Resources expended

	Unrestricted funds	Designated / restricted funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
3 a Donations				
Charitable donations	185	790	975	2,035
	<u>185</u>	<u>790</u>	<u>975</u>	<u>2,035</u>
3 b Activities relating to the work of the church				
Parish Share	82,545	0	82,545	80,926
Diocesan fees	0	1,956	1,956	2,186
Clergy & worship expenses	5,659	1,400	7,059	8,344
Utilities, insurance & repairs	19,804	759	20,563	11,061
Junior church	17	0	17	35
Organ, organists and choir	5,145	150	5,295	6,672
Mission, outreach & events	284	0	284	9,062
Depreciation	5,577	0	5,577	5,577
	<u>119,031</u>	<u>4,265</u>	<u>123,296</u>	<u>123,865</u>
3 c Expenditure on operating activities: to generate funds				
Parish Hall	11,147	0	11,147	32,375
Flowers	0	180	180	1,755
	<u>11,147</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>11,327</u>	<u>34,130</u>
3 d Church management and administration				
Investment property repairs and other costs	0	3,095	3,095	4,185
Investment portfolio manager's fees	1,736	391	2,127	2,189
Printing & stationery - copier	1,676	0	1,676	1,860
Bank charges, less rebate	514	0	514	627
Gifts & sundry expenses	67	0	67	10
	<u>3,992</u>	<u>3,486</u>	<u>7,478</u>	<u>8,870</u>

Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st December 2020

4 Fixed Assets

	Nicholson Organ	Church Houses	Other fixed assets	Total 2020
Cost	£	£	£	£
At beginning of year	223,068	85,000	0	308,068
Revaluation during the year	0	165,000	0	165,000
Additions during the year	0	0	0	0
At end of year	223,068	250,000	0	473,068
Accumulated depreciation				
At beginning of year	111,540	0	0	111,540
Charge for year	5,577	0	0	5,577
At end of year	117,117	0	0	117,117
Net book value at 31 December 2020	105,951	250,000	0	355,951
Net book value at 31 December 2019	111,528	85,000	0	196,528

	2020 £	2019 £
5 Investments		
Portfolio market value at 1 January	256,088	228,527
Management & dealing costs	(2,127)	(2,189)
Realised gains & losses for year	4,547	14,514
Unrealised gains & losses for year	(886)	15,236
Portfolio market value at 31 December	£ 257,622	£ 256,088

6 Newcastle Diocesan Society Investments

Bulcher/McMahon bequest	487 shares	9,977	9,331
Butcher bequest	836 shares	17,127	16,018
		£ 27,105	£ 25,349

7 Debtors & prepayments

Gift Aid claims: tax recoverable	28,500	46,000
Prepayments	8,246	0
Dividends receivable	160	212
	£ 36,906	£ 46,212

8 Cash at bank & in hand

Investment Community account	417	2,915
General Fund Community Account	5,215	4,564
Church Hall Community Account	29,287	13,555
Church Active Saver Account	11,014	20,071
	£ 45,933	£ 41,105

9 Analysis of Net Assets

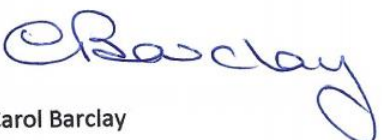
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted / Designated funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	355,951	0	355,951	196,528
Investment assets	250,168	47,351	297,519	294,176
Current assets	70,288	12,551	82,839	87,317
Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year	(977)	0	(977)	(224)
£	675,430	59,902	735,332	577,797

Independent Examiners Report

Carol Barclay, Newcastle upon Tyne
13 March 2021

I have completed my assessment of the above's financial accounts for the year 2020 and find them to be an accurate portrayal of the financial situation for that year and balance to the various accounts held by external finance organisations. My assessment covered an in depth audit of your monthly accounts for the months of March/June/September/December 2020

Yours sincerely



Carol Barclay

v. Annual fabric report

In the main the fabric of the church has been satisfactory so apart from general maintenance there has been very little work carried out on the main building. Keith and I met with Tim the architect where we carried out an inspection of the South roof and the crack in the South wall to try to resolve the ingress of water. We are currently awaiting Tim's report and recommendations of any work necessary. As part of the church boilers annual service a new gas valve was fitted on boiler No2 and a new control panel on boiler No3. The above the sink water heater in the North East wash area was faulty and replaced with a new one. The painting of the vestry corridor and toilet has been carried out in-house at very little cost by Derek Oliver.

As part of the Health and Safety programme the annual fire extinguishers testing has been carried out in both the church and church hall under Covid social distancing rules. The annual test of the lighting conductor on the church tower has been carried out.

Regular inspections of the church hall have been carried out during the Covid lockdown and small ingress of water was discovered in the annex which was caused by a slight lifting of the roof felt. This was repaired by the roofing contractor at no cost to the church. As part of legal running requirements emergency lighting must stay illuminated for at least an hour during a simulated main fails. The emergency light fitting above the annex double doors failed to switch on this may be because of the ingress of water in that area. A new emergency light fitting is on order and will be replaced as soon as possible. The boiler and gas water heater annual service at the same time as the church boilers.

David Young
On behalf of Churchwardens
May 2021

vi. Safeguarding

Under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 all authorised clergy, bishops, archdeacons, licensed readers and lay workers, churchwardens and PCCs **must have** 'due regard' to safeguarding guidance issued by the House of Bishops (including both policy and practice guidance). A duty to have 'due regard' to guidance means that the person under the duty is not free to disregard it but is required to follow it unless there are cogent reasons for not doing so. ('Cogent' for this purpose means clear, logical and convincing.) Failure by clergy to comply with the duty imposed by the 2016 Measure may result in disciplinary action. During the year, the PCC had due regard.

This report is focussed on areas in the Safeguarding Action Plan produced by "Safeguarding Dashboards" and monitored by the Parish Dashboards Team, Newcastle Diocese and based on updated reports presented to the PCC on 16.3.21 and 20.4.21.

Handbook and Policy The PCC agreed on 16.3.21 to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding. This includes both the handbook (which includes procedures, roles, training, reporting and church activities) and the policy statement.

Safeguarding training: Since the last APCM on 13th September 2020, eleven units of training have been completed (this includes basic, foundation and leadership training). It is important we keep our safeguarding training up to date and individuals need to refresh their training every three years.

DBS checks: All DBS checks are up to date and people have been very supportive during lockdown regarding renewal of their DBS checks and showing documents - a variety of ways has been used for this during the pandemic - skype, what's app, zoom, delivering documents etc.

Sunday School and Safeguarding All Sunday School staff have completed appropriate training and have followed the Social Media policy regarding working with children on zoom.

Hire of church hall facilities: There are new documents available to be given to the hirer to ensure that our safeguarding policy and procedures are followed. The hirer must sign to agree this unless they have their own acceptable policy and procedures in place. Due to the pandemic and lockdown the church hall has not been used since the new documents were put in place.

Safer Recruitment: The main area for action is Safer Recruitment. The Diocese produce a template for a volunteer role in the church and this will be sent to all volunteers to agree and sign. In the future, references will need to be taken for all roles for new people. Since the last APCM this has been done for external roles new to church e.g. student organists.

Updated information on areas for future action (since 13.9.20):

Ensure a rigorous safer recruitment policy is in place so those applying for paid and volunteer posts are aware of the requirements for DBS checks and regular training (**ongoing; process followed for all external posts**)

Ensure website information is accurate and up to date (**update following pandemic**)

Ensure all those already in post complete training (**ongoing, almost all complete**)

Ensure all are aware of our safeguarding responsibilities as parishioners.

Ensure by next APCM we are at (or very close to) level 3 (**NB received notification of promotion to level 3 on Saturday 24th April** (after PCC meeting) Hilary Harrison Parish Safeguarding Officer

vii. Deanery Synod report

In the year to 31 December 2020 Newcastle Central Deanery Synod met on 18 Feb in person then on Zoom on 26 Nov due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The May meeting was cancelled. The Deanery Development Group and Standing Committee met on 6 May , 22 July and 4 Nov. The new triennial Synod was elected during the year.

Deanery Synods potentially have a significant role in the synodical system. They are located between PCCs at parish level and the higher synodical levels of Area and Diocese. One of the most important objectives of the Synodical Government Measure 1969, was to strengthen church organisation at deanery level. The task of the deanery synods, as set out in the Measure is as follows:

- to consider matters concerning the Church of England and to make provision for such matters in relation to their deanery, and to consider and express their opinion on any other matters of religious or public interest;
- to bring together the views of parishes of the deanery on common problems, to discuss and formulate common policies on those problems, to foster a sense of community and interdependence among those parishes, and generally to promote in the deanery the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical;
- to make known and so far as appropriate put into effect any provision made by the Diocesan Synod;
- to consider the business of the Diocesan Synod, and particularly any matters referred to that synod by the General Synod, and to sound parochial opinion whenever they are required or consider it appropriate to do so;
- to raise matters, as the deanery synod consider appropriate, with the Diocesan Synod.

Transformation

The Synod welcomed Rev'd Rob Sainer-Haigh, Newcastle Diocese Director of Mission and Ministry to the Nov meeting. Rob highlighted the work to date on the transformation agenda and the work to submit a bid for funding in 2021. He highlighted the theological underpinning of the bid which would see a central role of partnership working, in pairs, in mission. The consultation has resulted in understanding a thirst for discerning the gifts of the laity to further the Kingdom of God which should help to bring plans to see the Diocese of Newcastle growing church and bringing hope.

The Deanery gathered via Zoom for the Ascension Day service in 2020. On Ash Wednesday 2021 over 200 people from the Deanery gathered on Zoom for the for the Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes with Bishop Christine.

viii. Other Reports

Sunday School Report

Well, what a year. Its over a year since Sunday School has been able to 'meet' in the choir vestry joyfully crashing back into the service in time to share the peace. But the magic of Zoom has meant that Sunday School can continue with our small team of leaders Sarah Hunter, Danielle & Chris Smith & SallyAnn Ritchie. We are regularly joined by around 6 families, including new friends from Nottingham!

Early on back in the first lockdown craft bags were delivered to some of our families- supplies of pens, coloured paper, tissue paper & glue. These have been used, and used again, to great effect making an amazing array of things - flowers, crosses, hearts & handprints to name a few. We have planted seeds, hunted Easter eggs, and made Advent wreaths - following the church's year.

The children (Edward in particular) greatly enjoy reporting back at the end of the service.

This year we have started to use a wonderful resource called Roots to help with planning and ideas. We are very grateful for the funding to enable this.

We are keen to have more families join us for around 15 minutes at 10am on Zoom - spread the word to friends & family. We are hopeful of a return to in person Sunday School soon but will need to follow national church guidance carefully. Please speak to any of us, or The Vicar, for more information.

SallyAnn Ritchie, on behalf of the Sunday School team.

Flower Report

In view of the difficult year of restrictions the flower team have managed to keep the flowers in Church for the zoom services. This year Christmas flower decorations were small by St Nicholas standards but we made a big effort at Easter as the Church was open on Saturday afternoon. I think everyone agreed the Church looked good. Thanks to Ce and Mags for their help with the Easter Garden. I would like to thank Lorna Oliver for her invaluable advice she gives me and all the team for their support. Carol Hunt

Other Reports which may include Pastoral Group, Hospitality, Holy Dusters, Choirs, Readers,, Wine Club, Lunch Club, Beer Festival etc may be given verbally at the meeting.

Agenda item 5 Election of Deanery Synod Members - 2 vacancies

Agenda item 6 Election of PCC members. Those who were elected in 2018 and one who was elected in 2020 for one year have ended their term and can stand for re-election. There are 8 places to elect.

Vacancies: One for 1 year, Two for 2 years, 5 for three years

PCC members Gosforth Parish Church following 13.9.2020 APCM			
	Ex-officio		Notes
	David Young	Churchwarden	
	Gill Mitchell	Churchwarden	
	Dale Hunter	Churchwarden	
	Keith Proudfoot	Churchwarden	
	Cecilia Holmes	Reader	
	Graham Barnard	Deanery Synod Rep	
		Deanery Synod Rep	Two vacancies
	Members serve for 3 years	Year elected	
1	Colin Tait	Elected 13.9.2020	
2	Richard Tait	Elected 13.9.2020	
3	Olwyn Black	Elected 13.9.2020	
4	Stephanie McLaughlin	Elected 13.9.2020	Resigned April 2021
5	Derek Oliver	2019	2 nd year
6	Mags Boarder	2019	Resigned
7	Hilary Harrison	2019	2 nd year
8	Paul Ryder	2019	2 nd year
9	Anne Baker	2019	Elected 13.9.2020 for one year
10	Nick Beale	2018	3 rd year
11	Barnaby Coulson	2018	3 rd year
12	Danielle Smith	2018	3 rd year
13	Chris Smith	2018	3 rd year
14	Tracy Peto	2018	3 rd year
15	Lesley Robertson	2018	3 rd year

Appendix I

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in the Church and via Zoom Sunday 13th September 2020 at 6.30pm

Chair: Reverend Jane Nattrass

Present: Anne Baker, Stewart Baker, Nick Beale, Olwyn Black, Ron Black, Mags Boarder, Barnaby Coulson, Revd Michael Douglass, Diane Ford, Dorothy Gibson, Keith Gibson, Hilary Harrison, Richard Hill, Dale Hunter, Dorothy Keenlyside, Stephanie McLaughlin, Gill Mitchell, Anne Moran, Derek Oliver, Tracy Peto, Andrew Proud, Peggy Proud, Keith Proudfoot, Richard Tait, William Thurtle, David Young and six others on line.

1. The meeting opened with prayers.

2. **Apologies** were received from Graham Barnard, Ce (Holmes) Pacitti, Colin Tait, Simon Ward, Vera Ross.

In attendance: Bev Bagnall (minutes)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the Vestry Meeting and APCM held on 30 April 2019

The motion to accept the minutes as a true record was proposed by Olwyn Black, seconded by Stephanie McLaughlin and approved unanimously.

4. ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS (Vestry Meeting).

The following were nominated to stand as Church Wardens:

Gill Mitchell	nominated by Keith Proudfoot, seconded by Nick Beale
Dale Hunter	nominated by Nick Beale, seconded by David Young
David Young	nominated by Colin Tait, seconded by Gill Mitchell
Keith Proudfoot	nominated by Gill Mitchell, seconded by Nick Beale

There being no further nominations these four were unanimously elected to serve.

Introducing the meeting the Vicar said that the Bishop has required the APCM to be held by the end of October. The induction of the churchwardens has yet to be arranged. Anne Moran is standing down on completing four years service. Her term will end when the new churchwardens are admitted. Keith Proudfoot to be co-opted until he is admitted.

The Vestry Meeting was then closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** See above

2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the APCM held on 30 April 2019.** See above

3. **MATTERS ARISING.** None were raised.

4. REPORTS

(i). The Vicar's Report. The Vicar began by recording the sad death of the Reverend Canon Philip Cunningham on 27 August. She thanked everyone for their warm welcome to her new parish and the evidence of fellowship and friendship shown. She thanked the churchwardens for all they did and especially Ann Moran who was retiring from the role, who largely led the improvements to the vicarage and garden and had first shown her round. She wanted the vicarage to be a resource for the parish, to be ours to use and not a home for her alone.

These were difficult times, funerals more than usually so, and the restrictions brought extra problems and work to follow the guidance on holding services and social gatherings, extra cleaning, distancing etc. She thanked the Lay Pastoral Group for their hard work in keeping in touch, especially with those living on their own. She saw loneliness as a problem in Gosforth. The PCC was already considering ideas for the future, building up Christian hospitality in the community.

(ii). Electoral Roll. The number showed no significant change between 31 December 2019 (217) and 30 September 2020 (216). The number was significant in that the size of the PCC was proportionate to the size of the electoral roll.

(iii) Annual report of the PCC. The Annual Report covering the issues dealt with by the PCC was received and circulated to those attending, as well as put on line.

(iv) Financial report. The total fund stands at £577,797. During a wide ranging discussion an explanation was asked and given for the terms "Unrestricted Fund" - the general fund used to pay bills and everyday expenses – and "Restricted Fund" – legacies or other money given or held for a specific nominated purpose. The restricted Endowment Fund (£47,351) is to be looked into to determine how it accumulated, what restrictions apply, etc.

It has been determined that the church hall is owned by the diocese, the church by the diocese and the vicar. The hall is not registered for VAT. There are no mortgages on any of our buildings.

The church houses (nos 129 and 131 Church Road) are shown under Fixed Assets as valued at £85,000. At the request of the PCC a revaluation took place this year and the new valuation of £260,000 will appear in next year's accounts.

A vote of thanks was given to Gill Mitchell and the accounts were approved unanimously.

(v) Annual Fabric Report. The church wardens reported that the east window in the Lady Chapel had been repaired and re-installed in September. New rainwater goods and re-pointing had been carried out to prevent water ingress round the south aisle east window (next to the organ) which had caused a large internal crack. The situation would be monitored over the winter.

(vi) Safeguarding. Hilary spoke to a report she had previously emailed (copy attached). She thanked Carol Owens for her previous work in the role. Policies were in place and the necessary training had been done by all; generally compliance with diocesan advice and training are proceeding satisfactorily.

(vii) Deanery Synod. The changes in personnel resulting from the appointment of Revd Mark Wroe as Archdeacon of Northumberland were set out in the Annual Report. The Vicar was licensed as Area Dean of Newcastle Central Deanery on 5 December 2019.

(viii) Other reports. The report on the Sunday School is in the annual report. Grateful thanks were given to all who had contributed during the year to this, to the pastoral group, music, wine and lunch clubs, beer festival and other social events, Holy Dusters, flowers etc.

5. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO DEANERY SYNOD

There are two representatives to be elected. Gill Mitchell did not wish to continue. Graham Barnard and Stephanie McLaughlin, proposed by Nick Beale, seconded by Derek Oliver, were elected to serve for three years.

6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE PCC.

There were five vacancies to be filled, one for two years and four for three years. Graham Barnard was nominated but is a member *ex officio* as Deanery Synod Representative.

The following were elected to serve three years

Colin Tait	nominated by Rebecca Tait, seconded by Rachel Allan
Olwyn Black	nominated by Derek Oliver, seconded by Lorna Oliver.
Richard Tait	nominated by Mags Boarder, seconded by Keith Gibson
Stephanie McLaughlin	nominated by Colin Tait, seconded by David Young

Ann Baker was elected to serve two years. Nominated by Gill Mitchell, seconded by Derek Oliver

As Stephanie is also *ex officio* as Deanery Synod representative Jane will consider who might be co-opted.

7. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER.

As Keith Proudfoot has been elected church warden he cannot continue to fill this position. The PCC will consider appointing a successor, who should be a professional accountant.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Referring back to the Fabric Report, Jane said she had not met the church architect yet but will arrange to do so and work with him to report to the PCC on work to be done.

There being no further matters raised the meeting closed with The Grace at 7.20pm.

Signed:

Date: