



St Peter's Church, Birstall

APCM Booklet 2025

Prepared by Rev'd Jess Davis

Parish of St Peter's Birstall Annual Report 2024
for the Annual Meetings 2025 to be held in the church
on Sunday 18th May 2025 at 10.15am

Agendas:

Annual Meeting of Parishioners

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting (28th April 2024)
3. Minutes of the special meeting (22nd September 2024)
4. Election of Churchwardens
5. Closing of Meeting

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting (28th April 2024)
3. To receive and consider the Electoral Roll
4. To receive a report on the proceedings of the PCC
5. To receive a report on the financial affairs of the parish including:
 - a. the independently examined statement of accounts of the PCC for the year ending 31st December 2024.
 - b. to appoint an independent examiner;
 - c. to receive a report on the financial affairs of the Governors of St Peter's School.
6. To receive a report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church.
7. To receive a report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod.
8. To receive a report on Health and Safety.
9. To receive a report on Safeguarding
10. To receive an APCM Report 2024
11. To receive any other reports of parochial or church interest.
12. To appoint one representative to the Deanery Synod
13. To elect up to three members of the laity to the PCC to serve for three years and one member of the laity to the PCC to serve for two years.
14. Any other business.

15. Closing Prayers.

PCC Membership

Ex-officio:

1. Rev'd Jess Davis (Priest-in-Charge)
2. Wendy Harper (Reader / LLM)
3. Philip Walls (Reader / LLM)
4. Churchwarden (to be elected 2025)
5. Churchwarden (to be elected 2025)

Deanery Synod (Retire 2026)

1. Raymond Gallagher
2. Kathleen O'Shea
3. Vacant

PCC (Retire 2025)

1. Alison Sowden
2. Janice Mitchell
3. Solly Wilson

PCC (Retire 2026)

1. Alan Graves
2. Chris Taylor
3. Jonathan Keer

PCC (Retire 2027)

1. Martin Price
2. Rosie Price
3. Vacant

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parishioners held on 28th April, 2024

Present: Thirty-six attended the meeting and they were:

Rev'd Jess Davis, Denise Gosling, Stephen Lister, Kathleen O'Shea, Rebecca Lau, Margaret Bell, Jean & John Frankland, Chris & Kathryn Taylor,, Alan & Margaret Graves, David & Pat Chapman, Ian & Jayne Cromack, David & Alison Sowden, Carol Lynch, Martin & Rosie Price, Joanna Earnshaw, Andy & Linda Rhodes ,Philip Walls, Jack Leeson, David Barker, Trish Wynn, Pauling Cowan, Stuart Spencer, Eva Lockett, Judith Hartley, Solly Wilson, Elaine Jackson , Sue Charlton & Wendy Harper. The meeting commenced at 12 noon and Rev'd Jess welcomed all to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Andy Kennedy, Karen Robinson, Ann Walls, Miles & Sue Lawson, Susan Ghosh, Emma Nicholson, Sarah and Hilary Whitfield.
2. **Minutes of the meeting** held on 23rd April 2023 were read and passed. Proposed by Wendy Harper and seconded Raymond Gallagher. Unanimous
3. **Election of Churchwarden**

Rev'd Jess informed the meeting that Miles Lawson was not standing. There was only one candidate who was Andy Rhodes who was proposed by Chris Taylor and seconded by Stephen Lister. There being no further candidates Andy was elected.

Minutes of the Special Parishioners Meeting held at St Peter's Church in the Parish of Birstall on Sunday 22nd September 2024 at 10am

Present: Twenty-nine parishioners attended the meeting.

Rev'd Jess Davis, Denise Gosling, Margaret Bell, Sue Charlton, John & Jean Frankland, Anne & Philip Walls, Alan & Margaret Graves, Stuart Spencer, Judith Hartley, Eva Lockett, Joanna Earnshaw, Trish Wynne, Elaine Jackson, Solly Wilson, Pat Caunt, Raymond & Dorothy Gallagher, Chris & Katharine Taylor, Miles Lawson, Jane Cromack, Rebecca Lou, Hilary and Sarah Whitfield, Emma Nicholson & David Gill.

Jess welcomed everyone to the meeting. She informed the meeting that Andy Rhodes on the advice of the diocese had stepped down as Churchwarden. Andy is in training to be a licensed lay minister. Jess offered a tremendous thank you for all the work Andy has done whilst being Churchwarden.

1. Election of Churchwarden.

Denise Gosling was proposed by Raymond Gallagher and seconded by John Frankland. There being no further candidates Denise Gosling was elected.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

**Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
held on 28th April 2024**

Present: Thirty-Six members attended the meeting (listed on the meeting of parishioners 28th April 2024)

1. Apologies for absence (listed on the meeting of parishioners 28th April 2024)
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2023 were read and passed.
Proposed Joanna Earnshaw and seconded by Dorothy Gallagher
Unanimous

3. To receive and consider the Electoral Roll.

Dorothy Gallagher's report was included with the agenda. There are 97 names on the Electoral Roll. It was proposed by Margaret Bell and seconded by David Barker to accept the report. Unanimous
Jess offered a vote of thanks to Dorothy who would be retiring this year as Electoral Roll Officer.

4. To receive a report on the proceedings of the PCC.

Denise Gosling report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Denise. It was proposed by Andy Rhodes and seconded by pat Chapman to accept the report. Unanimous.

5. To receive a report on the financial affairs of the parish.

- a) **The Annual Accounts and Treasurers Reports** for year ending 31st December 2023 were included with the agenda. It was proposed by David Chapman and seconded by Andy Rhodes to accept the reports. Unanimous. Jess commented we need to raise more money from our giving and fund raising.
- b) **To appoint an Independent Examiner.** A vote of thanks was offered to Stephen Lister. It was proposed by John Frankland and seconded by Jack Leeson to appoint Stephen as Independent Examiner. Unanimous.
- c) **To receive a report on the financial affairs of the Governors of St. Peter's School.** Alison Sowden's Report was included with the agenda. It was proposed by Elaine Jackson and seconded by Wendy Harper to accept the report. Unanimous. A vote of thanks was offered by Jess to Alison and the governors. Judith Hartley asked if a tour of the old school could be organised before it was demolished. Jess would speak to the school.

6. To receive a report on the fabric and ornaments of the church

Miles Lawson and Andy Rhodes report was circulated with the agenda. It was proposed by Jack Leeson and seconded by Raymond Gallagher to accept the report. Unanimous
Andy commented the biggest job in the near future is the repair to the boundary wall between the old graveyard and Kirklees property.
Jess offered a huge thank you to Miles and Andy.

7. To receive a report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod

Kathleen O'Shea's report was included with the agenda. It was proposed by Jack Leeson and seconded by Dorothy Gallagher to accept the report. Unanimous. Jess reported David Barker had resigned from the Deanery Synod. Kathleen O'Shea and Raymond Gallagher are still our representatives at the Deanery Synod.

8. Management of health and Safety

Pat Caunt's report was included with the agenda. It was proposed by John Frankland and seconded by Elaine Jackson to accept the report.
Unanimous

Jess commented the church had a lot of policies but someone using them may not know the procedures,

9. To receive an APCM report 2023 from Rev'd Jess which was circulated with the agenda.

It was proposed by Dorothy Gallagher and seconded by John Frankland to accept the report. Unanimous. Denise Gosling asked if after 3 years Jess would become vicar of St Peters as promised by the bishop. Jess replied eventually yes but the plan for her to be accepted as priest in charge at St Saviours is yet to be finalised. When she is settled as priest in charge at St Saviour's then she will become vicar of St Peter's and St Saviour's.

10. To receive any other reports of parochial or church interest.

- a) **Tower Captain** . Miles's report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Miles and his team.
- b) **Safeguarding**. Janice Mitchell's report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Janice
- c) **Children's Ministry**. Sue Lawson's report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to all volunteers at Junior Church.
- d) **Church Wood**. Andy Rhodes report was included with the agenda. He commented the church was working with Liam Plumber of Woodlands Trust to restore the wood back to ancient woodland. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Andy and his team.
- e) **Verger's Report**. Solly Wilson's report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Solly and asked how many spaces are left in the graveyard. Solly informed the meeting there are approximately 20 grave spaces and 16 spaces for ashes.
- f) **St Peters Playtime**. The Playtime Team report was included with the agenda. Jess thanked the team, and commented playtime had a good standing in the community.
- g) **Audio/Visual**. Chris Taylor and Martin price report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to all the people who helps with Audio/Visual, but we need more helper especially at the 9am service. Full training will be given.
- h) **Eco Church**. Martin and Rosie Price report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to Martin and Rosie

and commented we had been awarded a Bronze Eco Church in December 2023, and we are working towards a silver award.

- i) **To receive a reader by the Readers.** Wendy Harper, Philip Walls and Anne Walls report was included with the agenda. Jess offered a vote of thanks to all the readers, and she was saddened to report the death of Leif Wilks who will be sadly missed.
- j) **Welcome Space.** Due to a mix up Warm Space's report was not circulated. Allison Sowden reported Welcome Space is an outreach which is responding to our community. We have a safe and important place for people in need. Jess offered a vote of thanks to all the volunteers of Warm Space.

It was proposed by Wendy Harper and seconded by David Barker to accept the reports 10(1) to 10(10). Unanimous

- 11. **To appoint one representative to the Deanery Synod** There were no candidates, but Jess informed the meeting that if anyone wanted to be a Deanery Rep they could be appointed by the PCC

- 12. **To elect up to three members of the laity to the PCC to serve for three years.** Martin Price, Rosie Price and David Barker were nominated and they each had a proposer and seconded who were members of the elector roll. They were elected to serve for three years.

- 13. **Any other business**

Raymond Gallagher offered a vote of thanks to Jess for doing an excellent job.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.

To receive and consider the Electoral Roll.

A verbal report to be given at the meeting.

To receive a report on the proceedings of the PCC

We have had six meetings this year. There are fourteen members on the PCC, and they have achieved 78% attendance

Denise Gosling
PCC Secretary

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Firstly, I would like to give my sincere thanks to all those who donate towards the running of the church, and those who give of their time, skills and gifts to support us and to all who attend our church.

The Financial Accounts for the year ended December 2024 are detailed in Appendix 1. These have been independently examined by Stephen Lister and agreed by members of the PCC at a meeting on 11th March 2025. May I thank Stephen for his time.

Page 1 gives brief details of the Receipts and Payments for 2024. Our overall Receipts of £73,966 for 2024 are down considerably compared to 2023, whilst the Expenses totalling £79,723 have risen slightly. The result is that our expenses have exceeded income by £5,757. Without a reduction in our Parish share as referred to below, our annual loss for the year would have been £15,379.

Our main source of income is regular voluntary contributions received from church members. The income we receive enables us to carry out our Mission, to Worship and to maintain our church building and grounds. We are a registered charity and like any other charity, we rely heavily upon donations. I claim tax back on donations made from taxpayers and on other small donations, which is represented by the 'Gift Aid Recovered' figure. If you do pay tax and have not yet completed a Gift Aid Declaration, please let me or any other member of the ministry team know. This will enable me to claim tax back at the rate of 25p in the £1 without any additional cost to you. Similarly, I need to know if, at any point you will no longer be eligible to pay tax.

There are numerous ways available for you to give, if you wish, including by standing order, by the envelope scheme, by contactless/chip and pin, payroll giving, cash on the offertory plate, the QR Code, through PayPal, or via the donate button on our web page.

Our other main sources of income are itemised on Page 2:

- a) Fundraising and community events of various kinds.
- b) Statutory fees due to the church for performing weddings, funerals and burials.
- c) Investment income which relates mainly to dividends received on Endowment Funds. A breakdown of these investments and income received is given on Page 4.
- d) Grants were obtained totalling £2,430.

You will see under Payments that our biggest expense is the Parish Share, which represents our share of the total cost of clergy within our diocese including their stipend, housing costs, national insurance and pension contributions. This figure is £10,000 less than in 2023, as a direct result of our now sharing Reverend Jess with St Saviours. Nevertheless, our share was still £37,837.

Our other main expenses are itemised on Page 3:

- a) Church running costs totalling £19,750. A full breakdown is given.
- b) £5,400 represents donations, as listed below, which we have made in support of other registered charities as part of our Christian Mission.
- c) our utility bills i.e. gas, electric and water.
- d) Major expenses being graveyard wall repairs and boiler repairs.

As you will see, the income and expenses are subdivided into Unrestricted, Restricted and Endowment Funds. Unrestricted Funds means money which is available to fund the ongoing running of the church, some of which is put aside (Designated) by the PCC towards future expected expenses. Restricted funds are made up of money which donors have specified is only to be used for a specific purpose, for example the Tower/ Bells Fund. The other type are Endowments where funds have been given in the past usually by Will and the donors have specified that their donation should be retained and only the income is to be used for a named purpose. A full breakdown of these funds is given on Page 4.

Below is a schedule of the charities to whom the Church has made mission donations of £400 each, on your behalf.

A Rocha UK	Batley Food Bank	Bible Society (The)
Kirkwood Hospice	Martin House Hospice	Doctors without Borders (MFS)
North Kirklees Women's Refuge	Save The Children	St Georges Crypt
Tear Fund	Woodlands Trust	Zephaniah Trust

In addition, we donated £200 to the Gaza Humanitarian Appeal which included funds donated from the congregation.

If you have any queries, please let me know.

F. Alan Graves, Treasurer to the PCC

**To receive a report on the financial affairs
of the Governors of St Peter's School.**

The governors of your school continue to work hard to ensure that our children, staff and all who visit our school are safe and have a comfortable place to study and work, as well as learning to care for each other, the communities where they live and the wider world as they learn about God and begin to understand Christian values, feeling cared for and accepted, with a staff team who really do go the extra mile for all children. Work has continued the building of the new school, which is fully DFE funded, hopefully the building will be complete by October. We will keep you informed. There will be events planned for when the time comes to say goodbye to our current school as we know many people at church helped raise vital funds to build and equip it almost 57yrs ago as well as contributing to governors for ongoing projects.

Presently there is no money being spent on the current building, so there have been no new expenses for the governing body, hopefully with the new build there will be nothing for a few years.

We are still repaying steadily around £4,000 to school which has helped with the governors 10%, we continue to be thankful for the small donations we receive from individual church members.

Finally, have you ever considered becoming a governor, please ask one of us what it entails (Jan, Alison, Jess, Karen)

Thank you
A Sowden

To receive a report on the fabric, goods, and ornaments of the Church

I have checked and identified all items in the Church's Inventory and can confirm that all were present in the church and signed off accordingly.

Churchwarden's Report:

The services to the twin boilers, clock, entry alarm, and fire extinguishers have been carried out.

On the 1st November 2024 Innova Electrical upgraded the electric box in the vestry. Spot lights were fitted to highlight the Frampton Mural. 6ft LED strip lights were fitted in the kitchen and choir stalls.

An outside security light was fitted at the corner of the south and east outside wall.

The Quinquennial Inspection was completed by our architect and urgent works were highlighted.

The report brought extra challenges with it.

Roof- Chancel north and south slope- architect budget is £2000-£9,999

The Lychgate desperately needs repair work and for Health and Safety reasons we have had to close it. We need £6500 to repair the Lychgate and the PCC are trying to raise the funds.

The down pipes are free flowing, and the soak ways are regularly cleaned.

I became churchwarden on 22nd September 2024, and I am extremely grateful for all the help that I have received.

Denise Gosling
Churchwarden

To receive a report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod.

The Deanery Synod has met twice this year. In June we were at St. Micheal and All Angels. Thornhill. The speaker was Keith White whose subject was 'Christians in Politics'. Mr. White spoke eloquently on promoting Christian values in our political decisions whatever party we support.

In October, at St. John's Carlinghow, the Archdeacon talked about his visit to Taize. The Taize style of worship has become world famous and at Taize large numbers of, mostly younger, people gather to explore their faith in discussion groups and worship.

At each meeting we receive reports from General Synod and Diocesan Synod. Issues relating to the deanery are discussed and officers elected. One of our representatives died during this year. David Barker was a loyal member of the Deanery Synod and will be sadly missed.

Kathleen O'Shea

To receive a report on Health and Safety.

This Report covers the period March 2024 to March 2025.

1.VISIT BY TONY DOWLING OF AVIVA INSURANCE ON 19 JULY 2024

1.1 Background

I joined Alan Graves (AG) (PCC Treasurer) for an Inspection of the Church Building and grounds, by Tony Dowling (TD) of Aviva Insurance. The following matters were discussed:

1.2 Church Yard

AG explained that the church yard is used by the public, especially dog walkers; and that Kirklees MDC have responsibility for grass cutting, tree trimming and keeping pathways clear and safe for use. However, due to tightening budgets, the level of care has reduced over the last few years. Recent work includes trimming of tree branches and replacing paving slabs near the North entrance.

TD noted that:

(a) The Church roof has an anti-vandal protection system. AG explained this was installed following the theft of lead, which left the roof badly damaged. CCTV surveillance and roof alarms were also installed, which, if activated, alert the Police.

(b) Security alarms are provided on the three external doors ie the North Porch, South Porch and the Vestry Door. In addition, there are padlocked gates at the North Porch, South Porch and the stairway to the cellar.

(c) Rubbish bins are kept within the locked gate of the North Porch, so access by mischief makers is prevented.

1.3 Burial Ground

AG explained that the PCC is responsible for care and maintenance of the Burial Ground whilst it is still in use, but once full, responsibility will pass to Kirklees MDC. To manage the work load, a distinction has been made between the old (Victorian) part; and the new (in use) part. In the former, only main pathways are kept clear, hence the area is untidy and overgrown, whilst in the latter, the grass is mown and the area kept tidy. Checks are also made here for loose head stones; and if one is found, it is deliberately toppled to lie flat on the grave.

An Arboriculturist carried out a survey of the trees in 2016 and again in 2021. In each case, the immediate recommendations were acted upon.

1.4 Church Woods

AG pointed out the public right of way which runs through the Burial Ground and into Church Woods, which is a five-acre site, in frequent use, especially by dog walkers. Andy Rhodes, PCC Member, takes responsibility for the Woods; and periodically organises a “working party”; to carry out maintenance work. TD said he did not need to go into the Woods.

1.5 The Church Building

1.5.1 Fellowship Area

TD was shown the Fellowship Area, including the Kitchen, Toilet, Tower Room and Children’s Room. We explained that the kitchen is used to prepare snacks such as sandwiches and salads. The gas rings may be used to heat up soup; and if hot food is required, eg pies and pastries, these are prepared off site, then brought to the kitchen to be heated up in the oven.

We informed TD that the Church Member who takes responsibility for the kitchen is professionally trained; with Qualifications in Catering. Other

Church Members who help to prepare and serve food are trained to Level 2 of the Food Safety and Hygiene Vocational Qualification. (Certificates on display in the Kitchen.) We also informed him that after the last two inspections from Kirklees Environmental Health, we were awarded the highest rating of 5 (“Very Good”) under the Food Standards Agency Inspection Scheme.

We pointed out that cleaning products used are of a domestic standard, with the exception of the dish washer fluid. This is a commercial product, supplied in 5 litre carboys, stored beneath the dish washer. When required for use, the top is removed; and a vacuum line attached, which draws fluid directly into the machine.

The only adverse comment TD made was that the microwave should be plugged directly into a wall socket, rather than into an extension lead. I explained the difficulty in installing wall sockets, due to the stone walls and the fact the Church is a Grade II Listed building. I said the risk of an electrical incident is judged negligible, because the extension lead is in a protected position; and the plug is never removed, so there is no wear or tear. TD agreed the risk is very low, but he was drawing it to our attention as a matter of “good practice”.

TD was shown the main gas inlet pipe and the shut off valve, which are in a cupboard near the kitchen sink. He used a thermal imaging camera and explained that any gas leakage is shown as a colour change on the image. A change of up to 20 “units” is allowed before there is any concern. Our image showed a change of only 5 “units”.

TD had no further comment about the Fellowship Area, Toilet, Tower Room or Children’s Room.

1.5.2 Church Tower

TD said he didn’t need to go into the Tower.

1.5.3 The Central Heating Boilers

One boiler is in a cupboard, accessed from the North Porch. TD’s thermal imaging camera showed the colour change as being well below the 20 ‘units’. However, he was concerned about items being stored in the cupboard, as these created a fire risk.

The second boiler is in the same location, but on the other side of the partition wall, so is accessed from the back of the North Aisle of the Church. This also passed the test with the thermal imaging camera, but again drew negative comments; because of items being stored in the cupboard.

ACTION: As soon as TD finished his visit, wooden brooms and cardboard boxes were removed from the Boiler Cupboards. Jess Davis (Priest-in-Charge), who was on site, was informed; and she said she would discuss it with Andy Rhodes, PCC Member (who was Church Warden at that time). She said a sign would be made for each cupboard, stating that items should not be stored inside.

1.5.4 Vestry

TD asked to see where we stored valuable items such as cash and silverware. He was satisfied when he saw these were kept in locked safes in the Vestry.

1.5.5 Cellar

AG collected the keys from the organ cupboard, then unlocked (a) the padlock on the gate at the top of the outdoor stairway, which leads to the Cellar; and (b) the Cellar door. TD wanted to see where the main electrical supply enters the building, so he could check the installation with his thermal imaging camera. Again, the screen image showed a colour change well within acceptable limits. TD acknowledged the cellar houses the air blower for the organ; and that nothing else is stored in there.

He advised a hand rail should be provided on the cellar stairway. I said the risk arising from a slip, trip or fall is judged very low, since this area is accessed only very infrequently. TD agreed that this is not a priority matter.

1.6 Documentation

TD examined the Health and Safety Folder which contained our:

Summary of Essential Health and Safety Information

Checklist for a Health and Safety Inspection

Policy on Safe Use of Ladders

Fire Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for Safety in the Kitchen

Document for Managing Asbestos

Intruder Policy and

Risk Assessment for Safety during Worship and Other Public Events

We also had these documents available for him to see:

Electrical Engineer's Inspection Report (2024)

Annual Check of the Roof Security System (2024)

Arboricultural Report (2021) and

The latest Insurance Report.

TD advised that the Church was under-insured. He recommended revaluation every 5 years.

ACTION: To arrange for a valuation of the Church, then reconsider the insurance cover.

1.7 Conclusion: TD had no further comments. A written Report was sent, which I have not seen.

2. QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION BY ULRIKE KNOX OF KNOX MCCONNELL ARCHITECTS IN OCTOBER 2024

2.1 Background

The Church of England Diocese imposes a requirement for the fabric of the Church to be inspected by a professionally qualified person, once every five years, to ensure the PCC is aware of what is needed to keep the building in good repair. An inspection was due; and this was carried out in October 2024.

I was not involved in the Inspection; and although I briefly saw the written Report, I was not asked to look at it in detail. As I understand it, the work recommended for immediate and urgent attention involves a cost in excess of £6K. This is disturbing because finances are not robust enough to support this expenditure.

I have since asked to see a copy of the Quinquennial Report, so I could include some comments in this Report.

2.2 Items for immediate attention

2.2.1 Chancel Roof, both North and South slopes (a) Ridge needs repointing and (b) lead cover flashings on abutments need replacing.'

2.2.2 On the North side of the building: downpipes, gullies and soakaways must be maintained so rainwater is carried away. (A blocked fall pipe is believed to have led to damaged stonework on the north elevation of the North Inner Aisle.)

2.2.3 The Lychgate: (a) roof needs repair due to decaying timber, (b) stonework needs repairing and repointing due to cracks, flaking and open joints and (c) gates need to be rehung with non-ferrous fixings.

2.3 Items for urgent attention, within 12 months

2.3.1 Roofs: (a) North Porch Roof – the flashing and the ridge need repointing and (b) South Porch Roof – vegetation must be removed from the gutters and the joints repointed.

2.3.2 Exterior Walls: Chancel, North Aisle, North side – (a) open joints around the East Window need repointing and (b) sill and mullion bases of the West Window needs attention due to flaking stonework.

2.3.3 Interior Walls: Work required In the Nave (a) South Wall – open joint in centre arch needs attention; and repointing needed around the clerestory windows and (b) South and North Walls – salt damage to stonework needs to be addressed.

2.3.4 Tower: (a) To prevent water ingress, the leak at the base of the flagpole must be attended to, and the arrangement for rainwater drainage must be maintained (b) Repair the wire mesh used to keep birds out (c) Repair the damaged belfry louvres (d) Holes in the floor of the belfry must be repaired (e) A qualified structural engineer should check the stability of the corner pinnacles and (f) The timbers in the ceiling of the Tower Room should be checked for decay.

2.3.5 Pedestrian access to the Church from Westgate: (a) At the East Access, stability of the wall coping stones needs assessing and (b) At the North Porch Access, neither the handrail nor the ramp meets current standards for public access.

3. ELECTRICAL INSPECTION BY J W ELECTRICAL ON 11 MARCH 2024.

An Inspection was carried out by J. Woffenden of J W Electrical, Woolley Grange, Barnsley. He identified “danger” and required immediate action be taken, because there was no residual circuit protection; and no switch to isolate lighting circuits to The Lady Chapel, South Chancel, North Chancel, Roof Light, the Reredos and the Clock Timer. He advised the consumer unit be replaced with one which incorporates these protections.

This work was promptly carried out.

This Report was produced by Pat Caunt, Church Member with responsibility for Health and Safety; and is dated Monday 24 March 2025.

To receive a report on Safeguarding

Safeguarding continues to be a priority and a strong focus for the Church of England and St Peter’s Church. We want to make sure that we have a safe, caring environment for everyone who attends by ensuring that we have strong procedures in place to protect everyone.

We have adopted the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed annually by the PCC. The Policy and contact details of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team are on display on the noticeboard in the fellowship area. We have strong links with our Diocesan Safeguarding Officers who are always available for help and advice.

Safeguarding training is compulsory for many roles in church including Junior Church, Healing Ministry, PCC members and anyone in leadership roles. Leeds Diocese provides these training courses online. Although these courses are compulsory for some people, they are very useful for anyone to take, and they offer very helpful advice. If anyone wants further information on any of these courses, please see me or Jess.

Not everyone has access to the Internet or feels confident to do this training online, Jess arranged face to face training in April, which was done jointly with St Saviour's and was very successful and well attended.

DBS checks and Confidential Self Disclosures are up to date. I have recently renewed my Pathway Leadership qualification, which was very interesting and informative.

It is up to each and every one of us to play our part in keeping our church a safe place for all, by adhering to the guidance, and being vigilant.

If you have any concerns, please contact either myself or Jess, or in an emergency or if we are not available, use the contact details for the Leeds Diocesan Team on the notice board in the fellowship area.

Report prepared by Jan Mitchell
Parish Safeguarding Officer
May 2025

To receive an APCM report 2024

"Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Ephesians 6.10-12

This past year has felt like a bit of a spiritual battle. Alongside so many things to be thankful for, we have faced a barrage of hardships. Many of our number have been facing extreme challenges with health and with personal circumstances. We have lost some dear ones. The deaths of David Barker, June Williams and Christine Ainsworth have hit us particularly hard as a congregation alongside those of you who have personally lost loved ones. It often feels like we are living under a cloud of grief and carrying many burdens that are weighing heavily upon us. And yet, God is still good, he is still present, and he walks with us through the dark valleys.

As we go through these dark times, it has been encouraging to see the ways that the church has pressed into prayer, worship, and care for one another and our wider community. We now have a regular fortnightly prayer meeting on a Monday evening called Ignite, Welcome Space on a Wednesday lunchtime continues to support many in our congregation and wider community with a warm welcome, food, and friendship. The pastoral team continue to contact and visit people who need a bit of extra support and take communion to those who can't make it to our services in person.

2024 in Review

2024 was mainly about me preparing to take on a second church and learning the best way to juggle them; I think that we're slowly getting there as we make a few adjustments along the way.

Here are just a few of the good things that happened in 2024:

1. A media team has been established who began working on improving our media presence in the community and our church communications (including a new logo).
2. Welcome Space was established and has been going from strength to strength.
3. At fortnightly prayer meeting, Ignite, has been established and is well attended.
4. We managed to run a successful Alpha course.
5. Andy Rhodes has come on board as a LLM (Licenced Lay Minister) in training.
6. Despite me being shared, seasonal services were all able to go ahead with a minimal amount of disruption to the usual pattern and

worship on Sundays and Wednesdays has been able to continue with minimal disruption.

7. A curate has been secured, Vicky Angel, to start in June 2025 and will be living in St Saviour's Vicarage.
8. A six-monthly joint PCC meeting has been established with St Saviour's to discuss issues and plans affecting both churches.

Plans for 2025

2025 is all about getting organised and sorting out some of our processes so that things run a bit more smoothly. These are a few of the things that I am hoping to achieve.

1. To look at "in-house" communications between team members to ensure that we are all on the same page and that processes happen smoothly.
2. To introduce a new way of sharing communion to ensure that it is fully inclusive of those who are unable to share the common cup.
3. To re-establish Messy Church.
4. To establish an Open the Book team going into St Peter's School
5. To run a Bereavement Journey Course by the end of the year.
6. To identify sources of funding and to commence repair work on the church as detailed in the quinquennial report.
7. To establish a regular pattern of accessible safeguarding training to ensure that this continues to be a high priority.
8. To continue to work towards our Net Zero goals.

Overall, our focus needs to be on mission. Whilst we appear to be in a relatively healthy position compared to some of the other churches in the area, we are at risk of steep decline in the next few years if we do not prioritise mission and numerical growth.

To enable us to do this, it takes all of us playing our part. We need to share and support our events, we need to be bold in inviting others along, and we need to be welcoming to new people and visitors, chatting to them and helping them to belong.

We can do this if we all work together.

Rev'd Jess Davis (Priest-in-Charge)

To receive any other reports of parochial or church interest.

a) Tower Captains Report:

- The band has merged with the ringers from Cleckheaton, St Johns as they are unable to ring their bells due to woodworm in the ringing chamber entrance. It may not be possible to ring the Cleckheaton bells for some time as they also have major roofing issues.
- We have 10 ringers when they all manage to get to practice. This allows us to ring all eight bells on a practice night. We will be putting up a message in Birstall Matters to request more ringers. We find that if we get 12 people we only retain about 2 or 3 who want to continue. That is about a 75% attrition rate which is the average everywhere in the UK. However, we always welcome anyone who wishes to try it out.
- With more learners, the band requested to practice on Tuesday evenings as well as Thursday evening practice to make progress more quickly.
- Maintenance work has been ongoing on the bells slider system. This commenced because no work had been done on them since they were installed in 1918. Work has been completed on 5 of the bells with the remaining 3 to be completed. The impact has been major, and the bells are so much easier to ring. We have had some very positive feedback from visiting ringers.
- We have been collecting £1 per ringer each week. This has paid for our Yorkshire Association Subs, and we are in the process of designing a shirt with a combined ringers logo for St Peters Ringers and Cleckheaton Ringers.
- There have been two full peals and one quarter peal rung on the bells this last year. We have had two groups of visiting ringers.
- There have been no weddings this last year. The band rang for the Christingle service where they were heard by a full church and St. Peter's School Choir. The band also rang for a couple of Sundays, but we ran into problems with sickness and holidays and have struggled to get going again. The bells were also rung for seeing in the New Year.
- Our plans are to complete the maintenance work and also complete painting the steel frame part of which had not been finished during the last attempt to paint the frame. This is important to protect the frame from rust. The Quinquennial Report identified that the Louvers needed some work to be sympathetically restored. This work is to be

planned with the Churchwarden and Revd. Jess overseeing the work reporting back to the PCC.

b) **Eco Church Report**

We registered for the Eco church award Scheme in October 2022

Through the A Rocha UK Eco Church award structure we have been guided and encouraged to think about and become more aware of the importance of caring for God's creation. <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

Achievements since the Eco Church group was formed:-

- Ongoing conversations about environmental issues with many people
- Planted an Oak tree on the old bonfire site stimulating new growth from the ashes
- Wildlife hedge planted with the help of the community and St Peters School - this is looking great
- Gardening tools now stored in a purpose built unit to help with events and maintenance
- Bronze award achieved Dec 2023
- Our community bee hive is thriving and we now have a second hive.
- Installed 10 bird boxes in the churchyard
- Promoting environmentally friendly alternatives to reduce environmental impact. Ethical, Fairtrade, recycled toilet paper, locally sourced food, less harmful chemicals, reduce single use plastics.
- Committed to work towards ethical banking
- Trimming of trees and bushes to make the churchyard more attractive.
- Adding new plants to the Churchyard to attract more wildlife such as butterflies, bees etc.
- Started the NEW Silver award assessment
- No Church money has been spent on Eco church activities so far

We will now continue to work together as a church towards the next award.

The A Rocha scheme provides a road map towards a more sustainable future as a church. It involves everything from our heating to our land management to our detergent use to our banking.

Plans for 2025

- Easter Saturday Community event
- Regular community events going forward showing we are part of the community

- Working with the gardening team to encourage more church and community involvement.
- Making and installing more bug hotels for bees, butterflies and other insects
- Working through the Eco Church Silver questionnaire to get as close as we can to the next award.
- Picking litter and tidying up the church grounds - ONGOING
- Gardening to remove some brambles then planting wildflowers and shrubs to increase biodiversity of our land STARTED
- Garden composting to continue, building on our biodiversity. More sites will be set up
- Put up signs to explain what we are doing and inviting others to get involved. STARTED
- Invite guest speakers with specialist environmental organisations, A Rocha, Christian Aid etc.
- Propagating plants for Summer Fair
- Increasing habitats with wood piles and conservation areas STARTED

There's lots of work to do! Eco Church is a whole congregation effort. If you would like to know more and get involved speak to Martin & Rosie Price, St Peter's Environmental officers, or Rev. Jess.

c) **Media Team Report**

The media team was set up in early 2024

The aim is to enhance our internal and external communications for the improvement of St Peters.

Pooling our talents to collaboratively invigorate and streamline information gathering, sharing and advertising

Achievements since the Media Team was formed:

- Established a new Church Logo to project ourselves to the outside world
- Installed two banner frameworks to advertise events and demonstrate we are open and something is happening.
- Two New Christmas Fair banners in place 1 month before the event
- 1000 glossy leaflets designed and printed for advertising Christmas and regular activities. Delivered to over 500 homes, given to children at school and shared with the congregation and friends.
- Christmas lights added to the entrance, lit throughout December 2024 for part of the evening

- Some stained-glass windows lit up during December - Feedback on Facebook was positive.
- Jet washed the church entrance to remove some of the green mould and make the first thing newcomers see a more welcoming space
- New notices on screens in church before and after service.

Plans for 2025

- Update the church website, new look and feel, and lots of new features
- Improve events and activities advertising both physical and digital
- Banners for Summer fair to design
- Other banner opportunities to be discussed, what about Alpha?
- Maybe next year we have Easter banners
- Another Christmas leaflet but with a bigger print run delivered to more houses?

There's lots of work to do! If you would like to know more and get involved speak to Chris, Emma, Alex, Martin, Rosie or Rev. Jess.

d) **Church Woods Report**

Very little has been done in church wood over last year. Progress seems to have gone ahead a pace with controlling the Himalayan Balsom, the bike track which was demolished last year has just about returned to the natural state. We have let the brambles grow as they are a natural deterrent to unwanted activity such as building BMX tracks.

Andy Rhodes

e) **Junior Church Report**

This year has seen us grow if only in small steps. We have a core attendance of regulars which are frequently added to with five other children who attend on a less regular basis. Our age ranges very from 3 to 13 years who are all catered for with the aid of our helpers.

This year we have studied many of the biblical topics which in church have been based. If not in that current week, then a short while later. The lessons follow a format of a Bible reading about the topic with all of the children taking it in turns to read. This is followed by a discussion about the topic (relating it to our lives). This can be quite wide ranging and very

interesting to hear the children's views. Afterwards we have a mixture of arts and crafts linked to the topic or a game or a quiz that related to it. After which we allow time for prayers relating to the topic and any other prayers that children have thought of on their own.

During the course of the year, Junior Church has supported the Summer and Christmas fairs by running the games stall and providing craft activities.

Penny and Rachel

f) Ignite Report

The St Peter's Ignite Prayer meeting has been running since September 2024. It meets every other Monday evening at 7pm. The focus of the group is to pray for our church family as a whole, our services & activities. We pray together to ask God to help us build unity among our church family & to give us guidance as we seek to grow as a church & welcome new people in. We share our prayers with each other, and in doing so learn from each other & support each other.

We usually start our sessions with some informal worship and ask the Holy Spirit to fill us and guide us during our time together. We sometimes pray together as a whole group, if we are not many in number, but the flexibility is there for everyone to pray in a way that works for them – be it alone or in a small group.

The numbers attending the meeting vary between 6 and 13. Anyone is most welcome to join us.



Registered Charity No. 1133854

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
OF BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH
IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS**

**ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 December 2024**

**PREPARED BY: F. ALAN GRAVES
TREASURER TO THE P.C.C**

**EXAMINED BY: STEPHEN LISTER
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary Receipts:						
Regular Giving		42,825			42,825	43,744
Misc. Collections at Services	a)	2,138			2,138	2,024
All other giving	b)	1,917	180		2,097	3,613
Gift Aid Recovered		10,414			10,414	9,856
Grants Received	c)	0	2,430		2,430	495
		<u>57,294</u>	<u>2,610</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59,904</u>	<u>59,732</u>
Fundraising Activities:	d)	5,790			5,790	7,488
Investment Income	e)	742	39	2,275	3,056	2,823
Statutory Fees		4,716			4,716	7,468
Income from lettings:		90			90	270
Sundries	f)	410			410	372
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u>69,042</u>	<u>2,649</u>	<u>2,275</u>	<u>73,966</u>	<u>78,153</u>
PAYMENTS						
Costs of Fund raising Activities:	h)	535			535	1,505
Church Activities:						
Mission Giving/Donations	i)	5,400			5,400	5,081
Diocesan parish Share		37,837			37,837	47,815
Clergy & Staffing costs		356			356	415
Church Expenses:						
Mission & evangelism costs	j)	389	45		434	167
Church Running Expenses	k)	19,475	275		19,750	14,497
Church utility bills		7,767			7,767	7,548
Major Capital Expenses:	l)	6,174			6,174	2,499
Other Expenses – tree felling			1,470		1,470	0
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u>77,933</u>	<u>1,790</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>79,723</u>	<u>79,527</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		(8,891)	859	2,275	(5,757)	(1,374)
Transfers between funds		2,275	0	(2,275)	0	0
		<u>(6,616)</u>	<u>859</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(5,757)</u>	<u>(1,374)</u>
Cash at Bank as at 1 January 2024		20,871	12,199	0	33,070	34,444
Cash at Bank as at 31 December 2024		<u>14,255</u>	<u>13,058</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,313</u>	<u>33,070</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS

Assets	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
Cash Funds					
Bank current account	4,379	8,684		13,063 *	18,820
CBF Deposit Fund	14,250			14,250	14,250
	<u>18,629</u>	<u>8,684</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>27,313</u>	<u>33,070</u>
Investment Assets					
Diocese – Chancel Fund Deposit			93	93	93
C of E Investment Fund shares		7,816	83,679	91,495	88,447
	<u>0</u>	<u>7,816</u>	<u>83,772</u>	<u>91,588</u>	<u>88,540</u>
TOTAL ASSETS – see Fund Analysis					
Cash Funds as above	18,629	8,684	0	27,313	33,070
Investment Assets as above	<u>0</u>	<u>7,816</u>	<u>83,772</u>	<u>91,588</u>	<u>88,540</u>
	<u>18,629</u>	<u>16,500</u>	<u>83,772</u>	<u>118,901</u>	<u>121,610</u>

* Note:- Bank balance as at 31/12/2024 = £12,797 add funds awaited of £1,210 less outstanding cheques to be presented of £944 = £13,063

BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS

FURTHER ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
RECEIPTS					
a) Collections at Services:					
Cash received	1,860			1,860	1,424
Sundry collections	278			278	600
	<u>2,138</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,138</u>	<u>2,024</u>
b) All other Giving/Voluntary Receipts:					
Sundry Donations – Gift Aided				0	255
Sundry Donations – Not G/A	1,627			1,627	2,335
Donations to Tower Fund		180		180	0
St Patrick's Church Donation	100			100	0
HSBC – donation				0	500
Disaster Emergency Appeals	60			60	375
Ecclesiastical Insurance	130			130	0
Miscellaneous collections				0	148
	<u>1,917</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,097</u>	<u>3,613</u>
c) Grants Received:					
Woodlands Trust		1,470		1,470	0
Bishops Development Fund		960		960	0
Listed Places of Worship				0	495
	<u>0</u>	<u>2,430</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,430</u>	<u>495</u>
d) Fund Raising Activities:					
Summer Fête	1,362			1,362	1,670
Summer Fair Sponsorships	405			405	365
Christmas Fair	1,431			1,431	1,529
Afternoon Cream Teas	372			372	0
Sponsored hair dye	522			522	0
Brass Band concert	0			0	1,223
Swing Band concert	0			0	478
Murder Mystery	0			0	790
Play Group	600			600	400
Tea & coffee	600			600	300
Pete's Produce	400			400	311
Book sales	5			5	90
Greeting card sales	60			60	209
Miscellaneous activities	33			33	123
	<u>5,790</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,790</u>	<u>7,488</u>
e) Investment Income:					
Income on CBF Deposit	742			742	545
Income on CBF Investments		39	2,275	2,314	2,278
	<u>742</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>2,275</u>	<u>3,056</u>	<u>2,823</u>
f) Sundries:					
Cheque not presented	400			400	200
Refund on broadband				0	32
SSE goodwill payment				0	100
Miscellaneous	10			10	40
	<u>410</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>372</u>

BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS
FURTHER ANALYSIS OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS – NOTES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	TOTAL 2024	TOTAL 2023
PAYMENTS					
NOTE					
h) Costs of Fund raising activities:					
Summer Fete	415			415	386
Christmas Craft Fair	80			80	76
Brass Band concert				0	650
Murder Mystery				0	373
Afternoon Teas	40			40	0
Miscellaneous				0	20
	<u>535</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>1,043</u>
i) Mission Giving and Donations:					
Tithe Payments to Charities	5,200			5,200	4,706
Disaster Emergency Appeals	200			200	375
	<u>5,400</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,400</u>	<u>5,081</u>
j) Mission & Evangelism costs:					
Flyers and booklets	219			219	97
Yorkshire Ass. of change ringers	10			10	10
Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust	40			40	40
Churches Together in Birstall				0	20
Alpha Course	120			120	0
Kitchen Equipment		45		45	0
	<u>389</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>434</u>	<u>167</u>
k) Church Running Expenses:					
Church Building running expenses	17,065			17,065	10,358
Costs of Services	1,809	275		2,084	2,916
Office Expenses	601			601	1,223
	<u>19,475</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,750</u>	<u>14,497</u>
l) Major Capital Expenses:					
Alarm system replacement				0	900
Graveyard wall repairs	4740			4740	0
Heating maintenance and repair	1,434			1,434	1,539
	<u>6,174</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,174</u>	<u>2,499</u>
ADDITIONAL ANALYSIS OF PAYMENTS:					
Church Building Running Expenses (see k) above):					
Building Insurance				5909	5749
Organ repairs/service				358	167
Fire Extinguisher service				222	288
Grass cutting				3162	3167
Kitchen and boiler service				296	450
Architects Fees – quinquennial report				1560	0
Electrical report and repairs				3061	25
Telephone/internet				277	254
Clock Servicing three year contract				840	0
Cleaner costs and materials				811	0
Electronic cabling				274	0
Defibrillator pad replacements				87	0
Alarm system servicing				84	0
Miscellaneous				124	258
				<u>17065</u>	<u>10358</u>

BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS

FUND ANALYSIS

	Reference	No. of Shares	2024 Valuations	2024 Dividends/ Interest	2023 Valuations
Endowment Investment Funds held by the Diocese:					
Chancel Fabric Fund	3016985-001	834	19,284	523	18,853
Choir Fund	3016986-001	134	3,098	84	3,029
Church Cottages Fund	3017016-001	1787	41,320	1,121	40,396
Curate Fund	3016984-001	328	7,584	206	7,415
Sunday School Prizes	3017013-001	110	2,543	69	2,486
			73,829	2,003	72,179
Chancel Fabric – Deposit	3017011-001		93	5	93
			73,922	2,008	72,272
Endowment Investment Funds held by the PCC:					
Curacy Fund	640002003S	128	2,960	80	2,893
Longbottom Bequest	640002001S	298	6,890	187	5,736
Total of Endowment Funds			83,772	2275	80,901
Restricted Investment Funds held by the PCC:					
Altar Linen Fund	640002004S	62	1,434	39	1,401
Birstall Schools Building Fund*	640002002S	276	6,382	0	6,239
			7,816	39	7,640
Restricted Cash Funds held by the PCC:					
Community Fund			4,035		3,115
Disadvantaged families at school			40		40
Kitchen Renovation Fund			2,057		2,057
Re-ordering/Maintenance Fund			708		708
Sunday School Prize Fund			662		867
Tower Room/Bells Fund			1,182		1,002
			8,684	0	7,789
Total of Restricted Funds			16,500	39	15,429
Unrestricted Designated Cash Funds held by the PCC:					
Altar, Linen, carafe & organ refurbishment Fund			(1,900)		(1,939)
Audio Visual Fund			(80)		
Energy Reserve Fund			2,500		2,500
Environmental Fund			2,215		2,215
Flower Festival Fund			189		189
Graveyard Fund			6,070		11,625
Parish Training Fund			1,940		1,940
St Peter's Playtime Fund			498		498
Tithe Fund			887		1,363
			12,319	0	18,391
General Fund held by the PCC:			6,310		6,890
Total of Unrestricted Funds			18,629	0	25,281
Total Assets:					
Endowment Funds			83,772	2,275	80,901
Restricted Funds			16,500	39	15,429
Designated/unrestricted Funds			18,629	549	25,281
			118,901	2,863	121,611

Notes:

- 1 * Dividends on the Birstall School's Building Fund are paid directly to the School
- 2 Based on the closing price of the shares held in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund income units the price per share as at 31 December 2024 was 2,312.27p and at 1 January 2024 was 2,260.53p

BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS

MOVEMENT OF FUNDS HELD UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE P.C.C

	Balance 01/01/24	Income/ Donations	Expenses/ Transfers	Balance 31/12/24
MOVEMENT ON RESTRICTED FUNDS HELD BY THE P.C.C				
Church Wood				
Movement	0	1470	1470	0
Community Fund				
Movement	3,115	990	70	4,035
Disadvantaged Families at St Peter's School				
Movement	40	0	0	40
Kitchen Renovation Fund				
Movement	2,057	0	0	2,057
Re-Ordering and Maintenance Fund				
Movement	708	0	0	708
Sunday School Prize Fund				
Movement	867	69	274	662
Tower Room and Bells Fund				
Movement	1,002	180	0	1,182
	<u>7,789</u>	<u>2,709</u>	<u>1,814</u>	<u>8,684</u>

MOVEMENT ON DESIGNATED FUNDS HELD BY THE P.C.C

Altar Linen, Carafes & Organ Refurbishment Fund				
Movement	(1,939)	39	0	(1,900)
Audio Visual Fund				
Movement	0	195	275	(80)
Energy Reserve Fund				
Movement	2,500	0	0	2,500
Environmental Fund				
Movement	2,215		0	2,215
Flower Festival Fund				
Movement	189	0	0	189
Graveyard Fund				
Movement	11,625	2,346	7,901	6,070
Parish Training Fund				
Movement	1,940	0		1,940
St Peter's Playtime Fund				
Movement	498	0	0	498
Tithe Fund				
Movement	1,363	4,524	5,000	887
	<u>18,391</u>	<u>7,104</u>	<u>13,176</u>	<u>12,319</u>

MOVEMENT ON GENERAL FUND – GENERAL CHURCH INCOME AND EXPENSES

Movement	<u>6,889</u>	<u>65,477</u>	<u>66,056</u>	<u>6,310</u>
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BIRSTALL PARISH CHURCH IN THE DIOCESE OF LEEDS

Notes to the Accounts:

- 1 These Financial Statements prepared on behalf of and agreed by the PCC, are in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, as amended by the Charities Act 2011, using the 'Receipts and Payments' basis and are in accordance with the 'Return of Parish Finance'.
- 2 Endowment Funds arise where the capital must be held permanently but the income can be used as directed by the donor.
- 3 Restricted Funds arise where capital is to be held for the specific purpose for which it was given unless that purpose no longer exists in which case the PCC can direct how the money is to be used.
- 4 Designated Funds represent general Church funds which have been set aside by the PCC for the purpose as described in the title of each fund but the money could be used for other purposes as agreed by the PCC.
- 5 In accordance with the Accounting Regulations referred to above, the following adjustments have been made to the actual income received and/or payments made:-
 - a) Income from fund raising activities as detailed in note d) to these Accounts is shown gross without deduction of costs, which appear separately in note h).
 - c) Fees which have been received specifically on behalf of the vergers, organist, P/A operator, grave digger, etc., for blessings, weddings, funerals etc. and subsequently paid to the appropriate parties have been excluded from these accounts.
 - d) Funds raised through collections on behalf of other Charities and immediately paid to those charities have been excluded, for example the Royal British Legion.

Signed



Date

11/03/2025

F. Alan Graves
Treasurer, Birstall Parish Church of St Peter



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

The Parochial Church Council of St Peters Church,
Birstall in the Diocese of Leeds

On accounts for the year ended

31st December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1133854

Set out on pages

1 to 5 of the financial statements

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives 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 no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 9th March 2025

Name: Mr Stephen Lister

Relevant position (if
any):

Finance Manager, BCA Leisure Ltd, HX5 9HF

Address: 12, Welbeck Road

Birstall

WF17 9QG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.