



St Michael and All Angels Bramhall Parish Church

Annual Report from the PCC for 2023

**Prepared for approval
at**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

**Sunday 14 April 2024
at 11.30 a.m. in the Parish Centre**



St Michael & All Angels Parish Church

COMMUNITY | INCLUSION | DISCIPLESHIP
"PUTTING JESUS AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY"

St Michael and All Angels Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has responsibility for maintaining the site and buildings that comprise St Michael and All Angels Church and Parish Centre, together with the land and grounds of the church and all other properties owned by the PCC.

The Parochial Church Council of St Michael and All Angels Bramhall is registered with the Charity Commissioners (Registration No.) 1133883



Afternoon Tea at the Vicarage raising funds for Christian Aid

2023



Incumbent:

Reverend Calum Piper

Parish Office:

St Michael's Parish Centre
St Michael's Avenue
Bramhall
Stockport
SK7 2PG

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank
HSBC

Independent Examiner:

Mr Stephen Burt
3 Hobart Close
Bramhall
Stockport
SK7 1NW

Charity Number:

1133883

Website

www.bramhall.church

Front Cover Image:

Cast and Crew Members from
Follow the Yellow Brick Road
Festival

Vicar's Introduction



2023 was a year of bringing people together. The nation celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III during May, St Michael's played hosted to numerous life events for the people of our parish, and as a church we came together around a new vision strategy that will guide our life together over the coming years.

Following a period of reflection and discernment by the PCC our new vision of 'Putting Jesus at the Heart of our Community' was launched early on in the year. This statement is guided by 5 strands with our journey towards them being 2030. They are:

- **We proclaim our faith confidently**
- **We embrace a mixed ecology of worship**
- **Our membership is reflective of the wider Parish**
- **Our resources are used sustainably**
- **We serve our community actively**

We have already begun working towards these through encouraging people to join life groups and getting involved with online reflections throughout the year. There has been a reorganising of the finance team (much of the work taking place behind the scenes) to enable us to better measure our use of resources. Community life has also felt a lot busier as we have sought to serve the community with a visible presence at community events and by welcoming the wider community to a range of events on the church site.

As I have looked back on 2023 and looked to the coming year I have found myself being drawn to the story of Joseph that we find in Genesis, particularly in chapter 41. Within Chapter 41 we read of Pharaoh's dream and Joseph's interpretation. That there were to be 7 good years of abundance but that they were to be followed by 7 hard years of famine. As a reward for his wisdom Joseph was put in charge of guiding the people of Egypt (despite being a stranger to their customs, culture and even religion) through both the good years and the bad.

On occasion there is a sense that being a Christian in 21st century England is getting harder. Some nationally have even talked of the church being in exile. The bad press due to the failings of the church hasn't helped. I am grateful for the good stewardship of the church over many years that is enabling us as a church to invest in ministry now to help us not just survive but seek to thrive as Christians and as visible witnesses for Christ in Bramhall and beyond. Our finances show there has been historic plenty, and now as things are slightly harder we are able, as Joseph did with the Egyptians, to keep life going.

The story of Joseph and Egypt ends well, in that his family are welcomed into a place of abundance where there is great joy and feasting. This only happens because of Joseph's faithfulness to Lord and his unending trust in Yahweh.

It continues to be a joy to serve the parish of St Michael & All Angels and I have no doubt that as long as we remain faithful to the Lord and are trusting him to be our provider we will see the fruit of our labours.

I am incredibly thankful to everyone that calls St Michael's their home and plays a part in our collective calling to put Jesus at the Heart of our Community. Whether it's something quite onerous and visible, or something quite simple and hidden, and everything in between – thank you!

There are a number of particular thank you I want to put on record:

- The PCC for their shared leadership, wisdom and guidance.
- The Finance Team for their dedication and endless counting.
- To the ministry & staff team – Jenny Gallimore, Alex Walker, Mark Hackney, Jo Oughton & Karen Elsey

and finally

- to the Churchwarden Julie Sweeting and Sue Howgego.

One of the biggest issues that has been reported on recently for clergy in the Church of England is isolation and loneliness. Whilst I am thankful for all the hard work everyone puts in especially those listed above, I am most grateful for the shared life, the working together and the joy life and ministry is in this place. Being Vicar of St Michael's would be much harder and much less enjoyable with out those above and actually each and every member of our amazing church family.

Nehemiah 8 writes: *'The Joy of the Lord is my strength'*. The joy of Lord is sharing life together is our strength. May it continue, may it grow, may it sustain us on the journey ahead.

Revd Calum Piper

Churchwardens' Message

2023 has seen a new position made, that of Communications Officer. This was temporarily filled by Verity Beards Jones and In November 2023, a new person, Karen Elsey took over the role. Both have increased our presence on line and also produced some great posters to advertise our up and coming events. Thank you to both Verity and Karen.

During the year we changed the lighting in the vestry and flower corridors as well as the toilets. These now have motion sensor lights which should help with the electricity bill. We also replaced the flooring in the gents' toilets which had become worn out.

These types of repairs require money, and so it was decided that we would start some fundraising activities for the projects at church. These events were for everyone and not just St Michael's parishioners. We have raised approximately £4000 so far, with more events planned for 2024. We have been delighted to see new faces coming in and enjoying themselves.

We have also been involved in setting up a walking group which meets on the third Saturday of the month. Our walks have been varied in both weather and attendance but hopefully enjoyable nonetheless. A review was carried out at the end of the year and it was agreed to run more walks in 2024.

We have also been involved with the Follow the Yellow Brick Road festival. We helped with painting sets, made costumes, organised a volunteers rota for over 100 volunteers and been a thespian.

Finally, it is important that we acknowledge Calum who puts in so much effort for not only our services but also the wider parish. Up ladders checking the gutters, down on his knees inspecting underground pipes, he can be found doing all these sorts of things. THANK YOU Calum.

Sue Howgego & Julie Sweeting
Churchwardens

Review of the Church's Year 2023

People

The church was led through the year by a dedicated team – Vicar Calum Piper, Reader Mark Hackney, Ordinand Jo Oughton, Children's Worker Jenny Gallimore, Director of Music Alex Walker and Wardens Sue Howgego and Julie Sweeting. Part way through the year Verity Beards-Jones was appointed as Communications Officer, and when she resigned at Christmas to take up further study she was replaced by Karen Elsey. Janet Blackshaw served as Parish Administrator throughout the year. The Finance team is now well established, with Rob Watson as Treasurer, assisted by Julie Bamber and Elizabeth Beveridge.

The year saw the sad loss of several members of the congregation. Among those who died and will be sorely missed were Geoff Birtwistle, Emma Stewart, Margaret Berry, Jean Marley, David Daniels and Heather Johnson.

We were delighted to welcome ten new members to the regular congregation, six adults and four children.

Worship

Our worship life remained committed to ensuring that there was a range of worship styles and to making the worship of God as accessible as possible to all. Three services continued to be offered on Sundays, at 8.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m., along with a Wednesday morning service at 10.30 a.m. During the year the PCC agreed that the Wednesday morning service should always be a service of Holy Communion. The 10.00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed when possible to allow people at home to join in.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Sam Corley, Bishop of Stockport, who visited the church for a service of Confirmation on 22nd October. Bishop Sam baptised and confirmed 1 candidate and with a further 4 candidates also being confirmed.

A choir, St Michael's Voices, re-established in 2022 under the leadership of our Director of Music Alex, sang monthly at the 10.00 Sunday service, as well as for Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday, and at the service of Lessons and Carols before Christmas.

On Easter Sunday, with the inclusion of the Easter Vigil service, attendance was 289, with 247 communicants, a very significant 10% increase from 2022, and almost double the number in 2021, when the service had to be held outside. A sung service of Compline was added to Holy Week observance in 2023.

A survey of attendance over all services in October showed an average weekly attendance of 158, with an average Sunday attendance of 120, including children.

Overall Advent attendance (from Advent Sunday to 23 December) was 710 for the congregation and local community, plus 1510 attending schools carols services. Total attendance on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, including two Christingle services, was 1124. There were 186 communicants at the Christmas Midnight Communion along with the morning Christmas Day service, an increase of 12% on the 2022 figure.

The illuminated JOY artwork outside the east wall of the church was once again admired as a way of focusing attention for passers-by during Advent and Christmas. A further art installation of HOPE, created for Easter in 2022, was appreciated both by churchgoers and by passers-by.

Over the year there were four baptisms, ten weddings, eighteen funerals in church, sixteen funeral services at the crematorium, and twelve burials of ashes or simple committals.

The flower club had a busy year, starting with Easter, always a lovely time of the year after the quiet of Lent. In 2023 flowers were arranged for seven weddings, and in between them for Dedication, Lammas, Patronal Festival and Harvest, finishing with Christmas. There are eighteen members on the rota for weekly flowers arranged at both altars, sometimes arranged in memory of loved ones, and the flower club members provide the flowers when not in memory. If there is anyone reading the Annual Report who would like to join the flower club they would be most welcome; no experience is needed, just a love of flowers.

The Serving Team has continued with its usual activities throughout the year. Additional members of the team are always welcome, so if you'd like to have the opportunity to get involved in this aspect of ministry, which also helps you increase your knowledge of what happens at Services and other aspects of our worshipping life, or would like to discuss the possibility, please contact Phil Wadsworth.

A collection of food and toiletry items continued to be made during 2023 and was donated to Chelwood Food Bank in Stockport. The congregation continues to give generously.

Discipleship

Life Groups were established late in 2022 with the intention within the groups of sharing life and faith, and encouraging one another. During the year these have formed and in some cases re-formed, and by the end of 2023 comprised:

- The Life 40 group, primarily for under 40s to come together for fellowship, food and growing together in faith. This meets fortnightly at the Vicarage, and is led by Calum and Jess Piper.
- The Monday Life Doorway group, led fortnightly by Bob and Tricia Munn, has spent time exploring among other things the Lord's Prayer and the book of Proverbs.
- Tuesday Life Group led by Reader Mark Hackney met monthly to discuss the Bible and aspects of our faith we find important and fascinating. Topics have included: Women of the Bible; The Commandments; the Eucharist.
- The Thursday Fellowship, meeting in the afternoon, was initially led by Andrea Millington. Later in the year leadership passed to Pauline D'Souza took over leadership and the day moved to Wednesday.
- Towards the end of the year a new group was established meeting on the first Monday of the month at the Ladybrook pub. Led by Jo Oughton. Life Ladybrook invites people to ask Big questions about Faith and to discuss them in a relaxed environment over a drink.
- An Alpha course took place after Easter which was attended by 14 people. in xxxx? Month

During Advent recordings were made and posted on social media for each day with reflections on a line of a Christmas carol. Some of these were also used as part of the Service of Lessons and Carols.

The Library, based in the Lounge, has continued to resource the congregation, and is overseen by librarian Dorothy Wright.



Ministry to Younger Generations

Jenny Gallimore was appointed as the new Children's Worker in January 2023, with several goals in mind - to continue to improve children's ministry at St Michael's, to strengthen the church's relationships with the local primary schools, uniformed organisations and the wider community and to help support children in developing their faith and relationship with God.

Children's Groups

As of January, the ministry group for primary-aged children, **"Buds"**, started to run weekly during the 10am service on a Sunday. The number of children attending weekly was initially around 6 or 7. Over the course of the year, the number of children attending each week rose to an average of 10. "Buds" provides an opportunity for the children to play games, learn Bible stories, do crafts and learn about God in a safe and friendly environment. "Buds" also had an opportunity for outreach in the Bramhall community by taking part in the annual Bramhall and Woodford Rotary Club Scarecrow Festival in September and won Best Children's Entry with *Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat!*

Active Angels has continued to thrive as a playgroup for young children and their parents/carers. A limit of 100 people attending was put in place to prevent overcrowding; this capacity for the group was reached (or nearly reached) each week. Playgroup parties were very well attended and received over the course of the year (Pancake Party, Summer Party, Christmas Party). "Story Time" was introduced to each session which proved to be very popular with the children. Two stories are read (one secular and one Christian) and the children enjoy and listen well to both books.

An after-school club, **"Footprints"**, was set up on a Monday for primary school children. 5 children attended regularly and enjoyed bible-based crafts, games and stories. Sadly, despite best efforts, this group was not well attended due to competition with other after-school clubs based at schools, and so the group stopped meeting in December.

An **Easter Holiday Club** ran on 4th April and saw 149 people come through our doors. Everyone enjoyed crafts, garden games, snacks and hearing the Easter story.

A **Summer Holiday Club** for primary school children was held over three days in August which was a great success. 20 children attended the club (many of whom don't normally go to church).

Schools

Work on strengthening relationships with local schools was a main point of focus for Children's Ministry at St Michael's throughout the year. Jenny has done numerous assemblies at Nevill Road Junior School and Ladybrook Primary School.

Nevill Road Juniors brought Year 4 to visit us in May as part of "The Big Help Out" for the coronation.

Experience Christmas took place in December and was a great success thanks to a large group of fantastic volunteers from the congregation. 350 children and 30 adults from 5 local schools visited us over the course of the week to immerse themselves fully in the Christmas story through different interactive stations around church.

Uniformed Organisations

Another aim for Children's Ministry at St Michael's was to strengthen relationships with our uniformed organisations. Jenny did the faith badge with the 4th Bramhall Beavers and 1st Woodford Beavers, and also with the 4th Bramhall Scouts. She also visited the 4th Bramhall Rainbows to help them learn all about Harvest.

Christmas

Christmas was a great opportunity to reach out to children and their families through services such as the Christingle and the Nativity. Both services were full of children and their families, which was wonderful to see.



Active Angels Christmas Party



Active Angels Pancake Party



Summer Holiday Club (Aug '23)



Faith Badge – Beavers (Nov '23)

Festival 2023: The Wizard of Oz 2023: A Personal View

And so it began! In November 2021 a meeting, somewhat delayed by the aftermath of the pandemic, was arranged to discuss the Wonderland Festival held in 2021. The aim of the meeting was to reflect on the festival, the outcomes and discuss what if anything we should do in the future. Fortunately, between us, we were able to conjure up memories of what ostensibly had taken place 9 months previous.

Having reminisced, laughed, shared our thoughts, the conversation inevitably turned to what we would do next. Should we, could we replicate our success or should we go out on a high? If the decision was to undertake another event, what should that be? Group members were tasked with going away to think, pray and return with some suggestions in 2 weeks time. Ideas came thick and fast, Peter Pan, Wind in the Willows, a childrens' authors event. One idea shone out - The Wizard of Oz. Mindful that previous festivals had led to comments such as 'You took us to a different world' and reminded us of the desire to perhaps escape from the world if only for a short period of time. The story of the Dorothy and her journey, her friendships and the realisation that there is no place like home resonated with everyone. The Wizard of Oz was the choice. On 17th December the group sat down to watch the original film starring Judy Garland as Dorothy. Quickly ideas came to mind, scenes emerged and group members volunteered or were volunteered to undertake roles. The journey had begun. A date was fixed, meetings arranged, monthly, then fortnightly then weekly. A huge demand on peoples' time, but productive and fun.

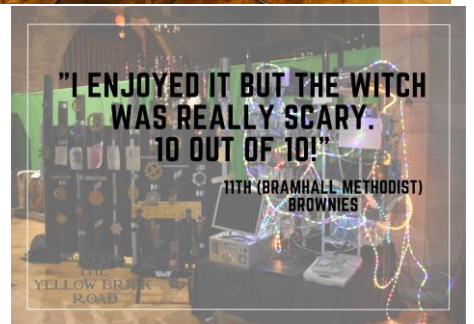
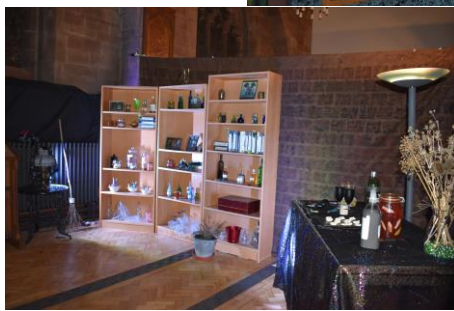
Following the by now well oiled format of previous festivals Oz started to come to life. Scenes were identified, and one by one, letting imaginations run wild, things started to come together. From the transformation of the lounge, journeying into a farmyard, complete with straw, animals etc, through Munchkinland, meeting the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Lion, surviving an encounter with the Wicked Witch, we arrived at the Emerald City. And what a city that was, designed and built by Peter Illingworth and his trusty band, who would have envisaged scaffolding in the Nave as the city grew! What a showstopper. So many talents emerged, costume designing, crafting, cake making, potion making, ticket organising. The team went into overdrive.

As 2022 progressed excitement built. How would it be, would it be compared to Narnia and Wonderland? We had already decided that this would be our last festival; we didn't want to become stale. A year into planning and requests for volunteers went out. To be guides, to staff the kitchen, to make cakes, wash tea towels, do odd job, water flowers. So many roles and St Michael's responded brilliantly.

In February 2023 we opened our doors to the community. We welcomed almost 3000 people, all excited and happy to be there. It's fair to say we were well received and people hopefully gained a different perspective on Church and our community. For all involved, the friendships, the laughter and huge sense of community will be long remembered.

There are far too many people involved to single out individuals for thanks; perhaps the exception should be Calum, who not only took an active role but allowed us to transform St Michaels into a different world. Along the Yellow Brick Road we were all reminded of the need for kindness, courage and wisdom as we journey through life, not a bad lesson to take away.

Sue Taylor 2024



**"THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR
ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN PUTTING
SUCH A GREAT SHOW ON. I
TRUST YOUR WISDOM COURAGE
AND KINDNESS RUB OFF ON US."**

NEVILL ROAD JUNIOR SCHOOL

FOLLOW
THE
YELLOW BRICK
ROAD

**"THANK YOU FOR CREATING
SUCH A MAGICAL EVENT WITH
SUCH AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE.
THE CHILDREN'S (AND ADULTS)
FACES WERE A PICTURE."**

POWELL GREEN SCHOOL

FOLLOW
THE
YELLOW BRICK
ROAD

**"I ENJOYED IT BUT THE WITCH
WAS REALLY SCARY.
10 OUT OF 10!"**

11TH (BRAMHALL METHODIST)
BROWNIES

FOLLOW
THE
YELLOW BRICK
ROAD

The Mill

The Mill is a registered charity started in the year 2000 by Churches Together. Its premises are at 42A Bramhall Lane South and are open after school each Thursday and Friday.

Part-time youth workers at the Mill are Ian and Sharon. Ian experienced a succession of health and personal problems during the year, but refused to let them affect his work. He was supported through this by all the Mill personnel, and he has been very grateful for this support. Sharon also had to deal with a sudden bereavement later in the summer, so our usual summer workshops were curtailed. The Trustees have commended the way both our youth workers determined to continue as far as possible to lead The Mill in its work. Sadly, Sharon moved south to Congleton in November. She had become a much-loved part of the team and a replacement has yet to be found. It could be you! Reagan, a trainee pastor from Ford's Lane, has been welcomed to our Thursday sessions, as well as Suzie who has also joined the volunteer team.

The sessions are populated by cheerful and bright young people happy to be able to meet together. They tumble in each session, eager to play table tennis and pool, engage in chit chat and order the amazing Mill'shakes which Ian concocts. The scrumptious chocolate and the beautiful strawberry ones are favourites.

Sharon and Ian have connected with the High School, and after a blip when the school was closed due to its structure being unsafe, there are now regular Thursday lunchtime drop-in sessions run with CIST (Christians in Schools Trust).

In October St Michael's hosted a joint fundraiser with The Mill when Ian and the band made up of his church friends entertained us with their music and we danced the night away. Thank you, St Michael's, for this. We thank all our volunteers who come faithfully and give their time so freely. We could not run the Mill without you.

So funding – The Lottery gave almost £10000 in October, which fills a big gap in the Mill resources. About £45k per year is needed to run the Mill – rent, utilities, salaries etc. New Trustees are also needed. The constitution allows for up to seven: currently there are four and two are retiring this year so a critical point in the Mill's history has been reached. Please consider if you could be a Trustee. Maybe it could be you!

St Michael's Guides

4th Bramhall (St Michael's) Guide unit has become a very close knit group of girls who have really flourished since the difficult days of lockdown. We are still small in number (although numbers are on the increase) but enthusiasm is high and we have had some fantastic times this year. Early in 2023 the girls wanted to run a cake sale for Ukraine with all proceeds going to a charity which supports Ukrainians who are living locally. A big thanks to members of St Michael's who were very generous during a meeting in the lounge!

During the Summer we had our annual trip to Lyme Park for new girls to make their Promise and to enjoy the great outdoors. We found a small trail of tiny frogs which provided great entertainment.

The Guides showed great teamwork at a Girlguiding Stockport escape room event, solving science riddles and sweet treat mysteries. It's always encouraging when they are keen to meet up at weekends for such events.

We finished the year decorating Christmas cakes for parents, which is always a lovely way to end the term.

Brownies & Rainbows

On a sad note, everyone involved in Girlguiding across Stockport was devastated by the death of St Michael's Brown Owl Ann Mason. Ann was a total stalwart of all things Girlguiding and her energy and enthusiasm never ceased, even while she was very poorly. Her funeral was attended by so many people at St Michael's, it was a truly wonderful send off. She will always be remembered for her dedication to her family, friends and everyone involved in Girlguiding - and also for her fantastic sense of humour! Currently, our Brownie Unit is not meeting and the girls have been offered places at other units. It's early days as to what happens next...

Our Rainbow Unit, led by Katie and supported by Abby, is thriving and they have a really lovely group of girls.

4th Bramhall (St Michael's) Scouts

4th Bramhall Scout Group had another successful year in 2023 with more young people joining us along with a couple new leaders. The annual jumble sale returned along with a number of camps for all sections. The county jamboree hosted at Linnet Clough was a great weekend for all involved.

We participated in the annual remembrance Sunday parade and the Ladybrook Valley District St George's Day parade in Bramhall. The Scout Association has been slowly rolling out a national transformation project, we have been implementing changes to governance and leadership as required.

Fellowship and Community

2023 saw continued fellowship within church activities and organisations. The monthly breakfast after the 8.00 Sunday service continued, and the congregation met together for a bring-and-share lunch to celebrate our Patronal Festival in September.

A new Walking Group was established and a number of very successful walks have been organised.



The walking group at White Nancy.



December walk around the local lanes and footpaths

← Walk up to Shutlingsloe through Macclesfield Forest, with low cloud

A new programme of Friday fundraising events was set up to raise funds for church projects but also for everyone to enjoy. During 2023 there were five events. They were:

- Treasure Hunt
- Pimms and hymns
- Quiz night
- Murder mystery night
- Band night, which was run jointly with the Mill and 50% of the net proceeds went to that charity.

Approximately £4000 has been raised so far. These events would not be possible without the help from the Outreach group and volunteers, so a big thank you to them for all that they have done.

Reader Mark Hackney has been able to resume leading worship in four care homes in the community, Abbeyfield, Meadway, Bramhall Manor and Ladybrook Manor. A growing number of congregants, who are currently unable to attend church, have received monthly visits for a service of Holy Communion. Two tea parties took place in church at Easter and Harvest time for residents from local care homes. They began with a short service, and were followed by a sociable gathering for residents, carers and church congregants.

A Craft Table set up as part of the Light Up Bramhall festival in the village just before Christmas was well used and appreciated by young members of the Bramhall community. The Field of Light event just before Christmas for people to light a candle in memory of a loved one had to be moved from outside into the church building because of very inclement weather. This did not detract from the power of this event, which was attended by those from the wider community as well as members of the congregation.

#The Mothers' Union has continued with monthly well-attended meetings. Prayers for its members and family life around the world following the Prayer Diary and being part of the global Wave of Prayer are an integral part of the organisation. Support has been given to "NO MORE 1 IN 3 to end gender abuse and violence" and to the MU "Rise Up against domestic abuse" campaigns. Funds raised for the mother and baby unit at HM Prison Styal have contributed towards the birthing bags for new mothers and their babies and small gifts for toddlers. 2023 has also seen the collection and sending of bags of educational materials for disadvantaged children in the Ukraine and Bulgaria as part of the joint Mothers' Union and Door of Hope Appeal.

Carrying on from the end of 2022 ACE members of ACE (Arts and Crafts Experience) continued to help with the preparations for Follow the Yellow Brick Road. After that successful festival ACE reverted to its own activities which included Card making, stencilling, stamping on fabric, Celtic knotwork, and leatherwork. Brenda Knight inspired them to record the year in embroidery by embroidering a clock, recording events and the seasons. Fun was had with acrylic pouring, a technique learnt by following instructions on a projected screen. In July an expedition was made by train to the Craft Centre in Manchester, where all were particularly inspired by an outlet specialising in cyanotype printing. Using Goldwork techniques a green pulpit fall and Lectern markers for use in Church were embroidered. Other activities included crocheting, basket-work and pyrography. The year ended with the creation of Cone table decorations and the sharing of a joint Christmas Lunch with the MU.

TGiM (Thank God it's Monday) fellowship lunches for retired people held on the second Monday of the month continued to be well attended during 2023. Often guest speakers have given presentations which have proven to be very enjoyable, interesting and thought-provoking. If you would wish to give a talk (about 45 minutes long) or know of someone who may wish to give a talk please contact John Baker directly or via the Church Office.



Buildings and Grounds

(incorporating fabric and ornaments report)

The churchwardens have carried out their annual inspection of the buildings, furniture and fittings of St Michael and All Angels, and have reported back to the PCC on their findings.

During the year there have been a couple of new items purchased, namely a couple of Nilfisk vacuum cleaners. Additionally a new television has been bought which has been fixed to the wall in the lounge. This is to aid the services held there, and is also available for hirers to use for their talks.

The shelves in the store room have been taken down as they were originally built to house music and could not be adapted for any other use. At the end of the year, a new door for the staff office was bought and hung. This door has a glass panel and allows more light in. Also, any meetings that are taking place are visible and interruptions can be prevented.

Motion sensor lights have been fitted in the toilets, and in the vestry corridor and the flower corridor, and new flooring installed in the gents' toilets.

During 2023 the final tree works from a report commissioned in October 2021 were undertaken.

The grounds continue to be maintained by a small group of volunteers. This is open to anyone who is free and would like to join in. In order to fund a gardening habit, we go to the auctions to buy plants which we sell on. The monies raised are then used to buy gardening supplies such as compost and shingle.

Health and Safety

Weekly fire alarm zone tests for the Hall were carried out throughout the year, together with a monthly functional emergency lighting test for the Hall and an annual one-hour test to prove the lighting will function on the battery back-up system to enable safe evacuation. Various repairs and replacements have taken place throughout the year. The annual inspection of the ladders and step ladders used by St. Michael's personnel was carried out in February, no concerns were expressed.

The Health & Safety Policy was reviewed and amended in February/March 2023 and signed by Calum on 27 March following approval by the PCC on that day.

The Bell frame was inspected in June 2023 and pictures taken. The condition was deemed acceptable, with just some surface rust present. It has been agreed that steelwork inspections, together with any necessary associated coatings applied, is to coincide with roped access being made available to carry out the QIs.

The architect suggested, whilst carrying out the QI this year, that a fall/arrestor system is installed. It has been agreed this would be a good solution for accessing the bell tower so it has been added to the list of items awaiting funding.

The soffits and bargeboards associated with the Hall have been noted as requiring treatment; it is hoped this work will be carried out by a contractor in the spring; however, any work necessary following the QI will have to take financial precedence, and this work is still outstanding.

A new Sidespersons' Handbook has been issued and a meeting convened to explain its content.

Safeguarding

We are committed to high standards of safeguarding practice at St Michael and All Angels. The Safeguarding team (Louise Sell, Sue Taylor, Sheila Collins) continue to meet regularly with Calum Piper and Churchwardens Julie Sweeting and Sue Howgego. The meetings are an opportunity to check that our systems and processes are fit for purpose, to review safeguarding elements of church policies and risk assessments, to discuss any formal and informal safeguarding concerns, and to respond to diocesan communication. The team work closely with the Children and families' worker to promote safeguarding in the children's ministry.

The team completed the 2023 safeguarding parish audit. Follow-up actions were to update publicity with diocesan changes, keeping up to date records of safeguarding training and DBS checks, and developing a policy regarding photographs of children.

The team continue to collate evidence of enhanced DBS checks, Church of England safeguarding basic and foundation training, and domestic violence training. This was collected for the majority of the new PCC in 2023 and for new Parish employees. Compliance with safeguarding training can be easily checked by the Parish Safeguarding Officer on the CofE safeguarding portal, and DBS checks are sent to her.

During the year the team have received the risk assessments for Active Angels, and events including holiday clubs, Experience Christmas and Easter, Pancake Day and fund raising / outreach events. They have advised on further improvements to our safeguarding culture following review of the events. The safeguarding team considered the issue of the taking of photographs of children during Church activities and sought diocesan advice. A new Active Angels registration form is now in use which sets out our policy regarding the taking of photographs during the sessions. Parents may take photos of their children but not of others' children without consent and must not post on social media.

The team advised the PCC on safeguarding requirements for a proposed lift sharing rota although in the event the rota did not go ahead.

To promote a high level of safeguarding awareness throughout our church family, we held a "Safeguarding Sunday" on 2 July 2023. The format was a brief presentation about safeguarding in the Church of England followed by interactive scenario discussions. This was well attended with good informal feedback.

The PCC

Membership

Members of the PCC either hold office *ex officio* or are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. A small number of members may also be co-opted. Elections to the PCC confer membership for one year, with a maximum service of six consecutive years, after which members must stand down for at least one year. During the year the following served as members of the PCC.

Ex-officio Members

Clergy	The Reverend Calum Piper (<i>Vicar & Chairman</i>)	
Churchwardens	Sue Howgego	Julie Sweeting
Reader	Mark Hackney	
Pastoral Worker	John Baker	
Deanery Synod Representatives to APCM 2023		
	David Beveridge	Phil Wadsworth
	Bryan Goodwin	Jo Oughton
Deanery Synod Representatives from APCM 2023		
	Sheila Collins	Phil Wadsworth
	Janet Ketteringham	David Walker
	Bob Munn	

Elected Members

Lay representatives to APCM 2023

Frances Beards	Sheila Newbon
Robert Cryer	Mike Pedley
Sally Harwood	Louise Sell
Michael Holmes	David Taylor
Jill Illingworth	Sue Taylor
Janet Ketteringham	Ann Walker
Phil Ketteringham	Rob Watson
Tricia Munn	

Coopted member

Bob Munn

Lay representatives from APCM 2023

Frances Beards	Brenda Knight
David Beveridge	Tricia Munn
Samantha Bowden	Sheila Newbon
Rachel Chadwick	Louise Richardson
Robert Cryer	Louise Sell
Joyce Devine	David Taylor
Michael Holmes	Alexandria Walker (<i>resigned 2 September</i>)
Jill Illingworth (<i>resigned 16 August</i>)	Ann Walker
Peter Illingworth	Rob Watson
Phil Ketteringham	

Coopted member

Jenny Gallimore

At the APCM in 2023 it was agreed that with effect from the APCM in 2024, lay representatives would serve for three years, with a maximum service of six consecutive years as before.

Report

The full PCC met six times during the year. The average level of attendance at meetings was 73%. Committees and working groups met between meetings, and reports of their deliberations and activities were received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

During the year the PCC received reports and discussed, among other things, re-instating the availability of the common cup at Eucharistic services, the remits of its various committees, and the change in procedure for the election of PCC members. The seeking for a vision for St Michael's as we would like it to be in 2030 remained an important item on each agenda.

Committees

The PCC operates with two permanent committees, and with working groups set up to tackle any special projects or tasks. These committees and working groups meet and report as necessary to the PCC.

Standing Committee

Membership: *Vicar, Churchwardens, PCC Vice-Chairman, PCC Secretary, PCC Treasurer*

This Committee is required by church law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. It met six times during 2023, primarily to set agendas for PCC meetings.

Finance and Buildings Committee

Membership: *Bob Munn (Chairman), Vicar, Churchwardens, Rob Watson (PCC Treasurer), Hedley Smith (PCC Health, Safety & Environmental Officer), George Foot, Mike Holmes, Louise Sell, David Taylor, Ann Walker*

The overall aim of this committee is to provide and maintain the material and other resources needed to carry out God's work at St. Michael's. It is responsible for finance; care of buildings and grounds; health, safety and environmental issues; and personnel matters. It has powers delegated from the PCC to deal with smaller and more detailed matters, and it provides advice and makes recommendations to the PCC on more substantial ones, including the annual budget and reserves. It met five times during 2023.

Among items recommended to the PCC for approval have been a revised financial policy and procedures to reflect changes in practice; refurbishing the organ; and applying to have the building listed, which would enable VAT to be reclaimed on some repairs. The new finance team has continued to settle in, banking arrangements have been improved, and better accounting software has been successfully installed. The committee has continued to deal with maintenance, improvements to support health and safety, and charges for using the church and hall.

Details of these and other matters considered by the committee are given elsewhere in this report in the reports from the Treasurer, from the Wardens on Fabric and Ornaments, and from the Health, Safety and Environmental Officer.

Eco Action Group

Membership: Hamida Adkins, Frances Beards, Robert Cryer, Doreen Donnan, George Foot, Shelagh Gall, Bryan Goodwin, Sheila Newbon, Calum Piper, Louise Richardson, Helen Russ, Phil Wadsworth (Chairperson)

Group Targets – approved and adopted by the PCC – for 2023 and their outcomes were:

- Work with the F&B Committee and the PCC to produce a 'Parish Roadmap to Net Zero'. **In progress at year end**
- Support uniformed organisations attached to St Michael's to help their members achieve 'green badges' where such are available. **In progress at year end**
- Through EAG participation in 'Bramhall's Green Network' get involved in community events such as general community clear-ups, balsam removal, etc. **Achieved**
- Reduce gross CO₂ emissions from the St Michael's site from 2022 figures. **Awaiting 2023 data**
- Increase participation in 'Grounds Days'. **Achieved (at one of the two events)**
- Conduct wildlife / biodiversity counts of the site. **Achieved**
- Observe 'Walk to Church Sunday'. **Not achieved**
- Complete an EcoChurch UK Award Survey to gauge current position against that when we gained the Silver Award. **Achieved**
- Produce a list of where various items could be taken locally for recycling. **In progress at year end**

Parish Development Group (Finance)

Membership: Louise Richardson (chair), Sue Taylor, Ann Walker (to 2023), Rob Watson, Stuart Villard, Michael Holmes (from 2023), Phil Wadsworth (from 2023).

This group seeks to support the Parish's mission and future strategies by identifying, bidding for and securing external sources of funding to support the Parish's strategies for future development, by producing, organising and evaluating an annual programme of events and activities with the dual aim of generating income and importantly enhancing community outreach and social engagement with the Church and the wider parish, and by working with existing and potentially new church groups to co-ordinate all fund-raising activities across the church organisation, in order to reduce the possibility of event fatigue and duplication.

During 2023, Ann Walker resigned from the Group but two new members were warmly welcomed – Michael Holmes and Phil Wadsworth. The group did not make any further bids for external resources during 2023. During the latter part of 2023, the terms of reference of the group were reviewed and revised during 2023 due to the creation of an Outreach and Events Group and the work undertaken by the PCC in developing the Vision 2030. Added to the terms of reference have been references to the PCC's Vision 2030 and working in collaboration with the Outreach and Events group.

The group have spent time in 2023 looking to plan two major events – one in 2024 and one in 2025. Thanks to Michael Holmes there is now a Trademarked Logo for these events. The details of the events will be released during Spring 2024. The group welcomes new members with ideas and energy for future fundraising activities. Meetings are advertised in St Michael's Today.

Electoral Roll Report

On 1st January 2023 Revision 3 of the Electoral Roll had a membership of 249, of which 182 members resided within the Parish and 67 were non-residents.

Under the Church Representation Rules, the Electoral Roll for the Church is renewed every six years and must be revised each year for presentation at the Church's APCM. Thus, Revision 4, for 2023-2024, started on 25th March 2023 and was completed on 13th May 2023. Required changes to the Electoral Roll were presented, as Amendment Lists, at each PCC meeting. During 2023 there were 6 Amendment Lists presented - 2 for Revision 3 and, 4 for Revision 4. Those changes comprised 8 additions, 11 removals and 13 changes to members' contact details.

The annual report for 2023 thus records the Electoral Roll, as of 31st December 2023, as having a membership of 246, of which 177 members reside within the parish boundary and 69 are non-residents.

Phil Ketteringham has continued to act as Electoral Roll Officer.

Vision 2030

During 2022 the PCC had spent a considerable time working to draw together a vision for the church for seven years ahead. When completed it stated:

In 2030 St Michael's will be a church where:

- **We proclaim our faith confidently**
- **We embrace a mixed ecology of worship**
- **Our membership is reflective of the wider Parish**
- **Our resources are used sustainably**
- **We serve our community actively**

The working through of this vision remained a priority in 2023, as the PCC developed its ideas on how to implement the vision most effectively.



Alpha Course



PCC Meeting

Deanery Synod

Cheadle Deanery Synod met three times in 2023. The first meeting took place on 7 March, with the main agenda item being a discussion around how the functions of the deanery could be improved. This was followed by the summer meeting in June which was an informal BBQ to thank members of the synod which was coming to an end. Deanery Synod elections took place during the 2023 APCM's and a new Synod was formed on 1 July with their first meeting being held on 4 October. During this meeting the new Interim Assistant Archdeacon of Macclesfield, Revd Leslie Currie, introduced herself and invited questions from the synod. There was also a time of encouragement by sharing what was going on in parishes around the Deanery.

Paul Cumming was commissioned as Rural Dean of Cheadle on 20 April by the Bishop of Stockport with Revd Sarah Hancock being appointed to the role of Assistant Rural Dean. The following were elected to their respective posts within the deanery during the synod on 4 October.

Graham Lowcock - Lay Chair

Revd Calum Piper – Secretary

Tony Mason – Lay Rep to the Deanery Standing Committee

Hannah Brackenbury - Lay Rep to the Deanery Standing Committee

Revd Nick Feist- Clergy with PTO Rep to the Synod

Revd Eileen Short – Clergy with PTO Rep to the Synod

Churches Together in Bramhall and Woodford

Churches Together in Bramhall and Woodford continued its ministry predominantly with ministers or leadership representatives from each of the Churches gathering together each month to pray and share encouragement. There were three main comings together of the wider church fellowships, these being the Good Friday Walk of Witness and Service of Unity, Praise in the Park during September, along with a new venture supporting the new Woodford Winterfest community event. Churches Together also enable the village nativity scene to be erected each year. Calum continued to serve as chair of Churches Together.



Good Friday Service of Unity



Public Benefit

The Charity Commission requires charities to report on how their activities carried out their aims for the public benefit. In reporting, the PCC has had regard to the Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Worship

Services are open to all, and the church is open for private prayer and meditation on weekdays. Services of worship take place each Sunday and Wednesday in the parish church and at Christmas in Bramhall Hall Chapel.

Occasional Offices

The church is normally used for baptisms, weddings and funerals. During 2023 there were 4 baptisms, 10 weddings, 18 funerals in church, 16 funeral services at the crematorium, and 12 burials of ashes or other committals.

Education

Contacts have been made with some local schools, and links are maintained with uniformed organisations. Learning about the Christian faith is fostered by sermons, by all-age services, by short study programmes, and by a variety of house groups, sometimes meeting digitally. Parties of local school children visit the church as part of their curriculum and are introduced to the building and the activities that go on in it. A local school sometimes borrows equipment. This work takes place in the context of our Strategy for Children and Young People.

Concerts

The church building is available for booking by organizations that present concerts and book readings. 9 concerts were held in church during 2023, along with 4 school carol concerts.

Pastoral Care

The church has been able to resume leading worship in four care homes in the community, Abbeyfield, Meadway, Bramhall Manor and Ladybrook Manor. A growing number of congregants, who are currently unable to attend church, have received monthly visits for a service of Holy Communion. Two tea parties took place in church at Easter and Harvest time for residents from local care homes. The clergy have visited and ministered to those in hospital or hospice.

Scouts and Guides

St Michael's sponsors the 4th Bramhall Scout Group and 4th Bramhall Guides and Brownies, each of which has a policy of open recruitment. The Scouts have their own premises, but the Guides meet in the Church Hall. Both organizations use the church grounds for outdoor activities such as games and cooking.



Active Angels

Active Angels provides activities for pre-school children with their mothers or other carers.

Parish Centre

The Parish Centre is available for hiring when not required for church use. It is often the venue for meetings of charities and other bodies, and various special events and parties.

Missions and charities

The PCC gives to missions and charities from any surplus voluntary income. Missions and charities also benefit from funds raised by special collections and fund-raising activities.

Chelwood Food Bank

A collection of food and toiletry items is made every week, normally at both morning services, and donated to this Food Bank in Stockport the following day.

Giving to Missions and Charities

The surplus in 2022 enabled allocations to missions and charities. The National Association for Children of Alcoholics NACOA, The Message Trust (a UK Christian charity delivering Christian schools work) and The Mill youth centre were each awarded £1,133 from surplus after consideration and voting by the PCC. We also continue to support Newala, and a donation for porridge was agreed from 2023 accounts. The Children's Society benefitted with £1,386 from the Christingle collections over the Christmas period of 2023.

There is no surplus of collections over expenditure for the year 2023, therefore there will be no allocation made to missions and charities by the PCC.

Financial Review from the Treasurer

2023 was a challenging year demanding close watch over expenditure especially with inflationary pressures from external sources, including energy supply and other necessary expenditure like insurance costs and repair fees.

Income was higher than expected at £194.2k, against a forecast budget of £176k. This is due to some generous donations, income from filming events, increases in planned giving and high utilisation of rental assets.

Costs were just about on budget at **£196k**, (includes assumptions at worst case for Gas of **£5,2k**) (Rem energy cost fighting fund is **£2.9k**) against a forecast of £194k. The increased gas costs did occur later in the year 2023 based on a new contract in July and significant savings on Parish share were realised due to a negotiation occurring mid-year for shared living in the vicarage.

The simple calculation, therefore, shows that our costs were £2k higher than income; therefore, technically we have a deficit of £2k for the year 2023. We will use the reserved collections for energy to close this gap for a **break-even result**. Given the cost pressures, this financial performance is commendable, and we must be grateful for hard work, for generous contributions and for creativity to get to this result.

Budgets for 2024 are in place, authorising expenditure within approved limits, and including the refurbishment of the parish flooring completed in February 2024. We can expect 2024 to further challenge our creativity and diligence on expenditure; we will have a full year of the effect of high gas costs for example.

Fundraising events are starting to build funds for other church projects. The collections have resulted in reserved funds for energy, screens, organ maintenance, and legacies. These funds will be used in the future for capital projects, as per the wishes of the donors.

The finance team are working on upgrading the finance data system to a cloud-based system, based on better security, availability, and improved progress reporting. Already this year, we are running payroll for staff on the new system and will be fully in use after close of the year.

Thanks to everyone in the finance team, and also to the whole congregation for their creativity and generosity to achieve the result for 2023. Let's look forward to 2024 with faith and with great hope.

The Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall


Financial Statements Year Ending 31st December 2023

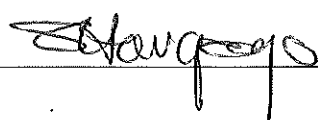
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We hereby certify that the Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2023, as set out on pages 4 to 16, were approved at the Parochial Church Council meeting held on the Wednesday 10th April 2024.


_____ **Vicar**


_____ **Churchwarden**


_____ **Churchwarden**

The Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

Personal Notes

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the members of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall,
Parochial Church Council**

1 report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of Members and Independent Examiner

The charity's members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

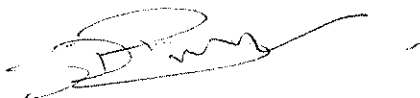
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

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 management committee 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 matter has come to my attention:

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



Stephen D Burt FCCA
3, Hobart Close
Bramhall
Cheshire
SK7 1NW

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Statement of Financial Activities (Summary Level for Comparison with previous year)

Year Ending 31 December 2023

	Note	PCC Unrestricted Funds £	PCC Restricted Funds £	Micah Project Funds £	Newala Funds £	Total Funds	
						2023 £	2022 £
Incoming Resources							
Voluntary Income	2(a)	146,814				146,814	141,786
Activities for Generating Funds	2(b)	25,336				25,336	22,416
Income from Investments (33D + int)	2(c)	15,348				15,348	14,342
Income from Charitable Activities	2(d)	23,224	7,036	551	975	31,786	12,192
Total Incoming Resources		210,722	7,036	551	975	219,284	190,736
Resources Used							
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	3(b)	85				85	79
Charitable Activities	3(a)	194,409	2,541	18,216	60	215,227	208,648
Total Resources Used		194,494	2,541	18,216	60	215,312	208,727
Net Movement in Year		16,228	4,495	-17,665	915	3,972	-17,991
Allocation to Missions and Charities for the Year	10		0	0		0	-6784
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources Before Other Recognised Gains and Losses		16,228	4,495	-17,665	915	3,972	-24,775
Gains / Losses on Investment Valuation (CCLA)		13,636				13,636	-20,082
Net Movements in Funds		29,864	4,495	-17,665	915	17,608	-44,857
Balances Brought Forward at 1 January		533,267	2,251	92,466	4,424	632,408	677,265
Balances Carried Forward at 31 December		563,131	6,746	74,801	5,339	650,016	632,408

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Year Ending 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	362,567	373,333
Current Assets			
Debtors		6,124	12,384
Short Term Deposits		40,580	35,805
Investments	7b	128,421	114,785
Cash at Bank		150,528	128,309
		<u>325,654</u>	<u>291,283</u>
Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year			
Creditors and Accruals	8	38,204	32,208
Net Current Assets		<u>287,450</u>	<u>259,075</u>
Net Assets		<u>650,017</u>	<u>632,408</u>
Funds	9		
Unrestricted	PCC	563,131	533,267
Restricted	Newala	5,339	4,424
	Micah Project	74,801	92,466
	ChProjects	4,202	0
	Flower Club	886	593
	Church Textiles	1,658	1,658
		<u>650,017</u>	<u>632,408</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the SORP applicable to Churches, the Charities Act 2011, together with the applicable accounting standards

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those of informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Restricted funds represent donations received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given.

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. Included in the General Funds are funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC which are also unrestricted.

Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not invest separately for each fund; interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

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 only when received.

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

Rental income from the letting of church property is recognised on an accrual basis

Interest is accounted for when received.

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

Resources Used

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for any mission are dealt with as a restricted fund. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s.10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

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

Expenditure on buildings is depreciated on a straight line basis over 50 years being the useful life of the asset.

Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over the useful life of the asset. Specifically:

Chairs:	10 years
Equipment:	5 years
Restoration of Chandellers	10 \ 10 years

Individual items of equipment with a purchase value of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Current Assets

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit with the CBF Church of England Deposit Funds.

Investments are cash placed in 2014 in 3 Church of England Income Investment funds, managed by CCLA, as a long term investment due to the low interest paid on normal bank deposits

The funds can be available at short notice which may result in a loss due to the valuation of the shares at the time of disposal. Dividends on the funds are paid 4 times a year, and are only accounted for when received.

Missionary and Charitable Giving

The PCC agreed to work to a balanced budget for the year and also agreed that any surplus in the year would be allocated to Missionary and Charitable giving up to £6,000. The allocation of funds will be made at the first PCC meeting following the APCM.

Capital Expenditure

No additional capital expenditure occurred in the year.

A new TV was purchased from a specific donation

St Michael & All Angels PCC, Bramhall - 1133883
Analysis of income and expenditure
Selected period: 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Incoming resources						
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>						
Voluntary income						
11A10 - Gift Aid Planned Giving	97,407	—	—	—	97,407	94,272
11A30 - IT Recovered Planned Giving	24,352	—	—	—	24,352	23,470
11A50 - Non-Gift Aid Planned Giving	11,547	—	—	—	11,547	12,637
11B10 - Collectns - Services	2,233	—	—	—	2,233	1,634
11B20 - Collectns - B/W/F	148	—	—	—	148	203
11B40 - Other Tax Recovered	1,037	—	—	—	1,037	860
11D00 - Sundry Donations	3,989	—	—	—	3,989	3,316
12F00 - Parish Events	6,101	—	—	—	6,101	1,316
2(a) Voluntary income Sub-totals	146,814	—	—	—	146,814	137,708
Activities for generating funds						
14B10 - Hall hire CO	1001	—	—	—	1001	—
14B11 - Hall - Hire Charges FR	24,335	—	—	—	24,335	20,954
2(b) Activities for generating funds	25,336	—	—	—	25,336	20,954
Investment income						
13A00 - Bank & BSoc Interest	4,775	—	—	—	4,775	3,988
13B10 - Rent: 33 Dawlish	10,573	—	—	—	10,573	10,254
2(c) Investment income Sub-totals	15,348	—	—	—	15,348	14,243
Incoming resources from	187,498	—	—	—	187,498	172,905
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>						
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
14C10 - Children's Ministry - Income	1,389	—	—	—	1,389	289
14C20 - ACE Income	428	—	—	—	428	—
14E00 - PCC Fees - B/W/F	7,046	—	—	—	7,046	5,479
14E20 - Charitable Fund-raising	1,228	—	—	—	1,228	640
14F00 - Use of Church Facilities	3,904	—	—	—	3,904	5
14F10 - Donations Use of Church	3,197	—	—	—	3,197	3,169
6699-Agency fees BWF	3,702	—	—	—	3,702	—
Incoming resources from	20,894	—	—	0	20,894	9,582
2(d) Incoming resources from charitable activities Totals	20,894	—	—	0	20,894	12,832
Other incoming resources						
Other incoming resources						
11B25 - Special Collections	-13	—	—	—	-13	2,044
14C00 - Flower Club	—	—	2,834	—	2834	2,392
12D00 - Funds for Church Proj	-4,202	—	4,202	—	—	—
14F20 - Newala Diocese Tanzania	—	—	975	—	975	1,388
14F35 - Gardening Income	1,030	—	—	—	1,030	1,450
14F44 - Micah Grant Income	—	—	551	—	551	99
14F50 - CDBF Grant Income	5,515	—	—	—	5,515	—
2(d) Other incoming resources	2,330	—	8,562	—	10,892	4,991
Incoming resources	210,722	—	8,562	—	219,284	190,728

Resources used 2023
Costs of generating funds

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
3(b) Costs of generating voluntary income						
23B00 - Thanksgiving Sunday	85	—	—	—	85	78
Costs of	85	—	—	—	85	78
Costs of	85	—	—	—	85	78
22A10 - Parish Share	92,227	—	—	—	92,227	96,208 in of Vicarage
22A31 - Incumbent - Car mile	288	—	—	—	288	272
22A32 - Incumbent - Telephone	196	—	—	—	196	192
22A34 - Incumbent - Postage	48	—	—	—	48	—
22A35 - Incumbent - Car Park	—	—	—	—	—	10
22A37 - Incumbent - Travel &	—	—	—	—	—	20
22A38 - Incumbent - Bks & St	96	—	—	—	96	26
22A39 - Incumbent - Hospital	33	—	—	—	33	75
22A3B - Incumbent - Computer HW	178	—	—	—	178	—
22A3C - Incumbent - Computer SW	830	—	—	—	830	192
22A99 - Ministry Other	400	—	—	—	400	134
22A78 - Asst Staff - Bks & S	—	—	—	—	—	62
22A7A - Asst Staff - Trainin	—	—	—	—	—	168
Subtotal Ministry	94,296				94,296	97,357
Cost of Ministry	94,296				94,296	97,357
Church Maintenance						
22C10 - Church Maint - Organ	816	—	—	—	816	288
22C30 - Church Maint - Heatl	—	—	—	—	—	125
22C50 - Church Maint - Light	—	—	—	—	—	2,997
22C70 - Church Maint - Sound	—	—	—	—	—	270
22C80 - Church Maint - Bldgs	9,081	—	—	—	9,081	1,462
22C90 - Church Maint - Other	—	—	—	—	—	3,408
Subtotal Maintenance	9,897				9,897	8,550
Cost of Maintenance	9,897				9,897	8,550
UpKeep of Services						
22D10 - Altar Requisites	170	—	—	—	170	73
22D20 - Liturgical Sundries	98	—	—	—	98	1,684
22D53 - Music - Expenses	593	—	—	—	593	1,117
Subtotal Services	861				861	2,874
Cost of Services	861				861	2,874
Training and Education Costs						
24B25 - Micah Expenditure	—	—	16828	—	16,828	15,408
22H35 - Children's	—	—	1389	—	1,389	289
Subtotal Training and Ed	0		18,217		18,217	16,698
Cost of Training and Ed	0		18,217		18,217	16,698
Upkeep of Churchyard						
22E30 - Upkeep - Grounds	64	—	—	—	64	1,948
22E35 - Gardening Club Expendure	1,030	—	—	—	1,030	1,460
Subtotal Churchyard	1,094				1,094	3,408
Cost of Churchyard	1,094				1,094	3,408
Parish Events						
22H50 - Parish Events	10,472	—	—	—	10,472	1,095
Subtotal Parish Events	10,472				10,472	1,095
Cost of Parish Events	10,472				10,472	1,095
Running expenses						
22B10 - Church - Gas	13,978	—	—	—	13,978	8,112
22B30 - Church - Electricity	5,456	—	—	—	5,456	3,961
22B50 - Church - Insurance	7,344	—	—	—	7,344	5,581
Subtotal Running Expenses	26,778				26,778	17,654
Cost of Running Expenses	26,778				26,778	17,654
Hall Running Costs						
22I12 - Hall - Cleaning Cost	3,590	—	—	—	3,590	4,603

22830 - Hall - Water Rates	472	---	---	---	472	401	
22870 - Hall - Routine Maint	---	---	---	---	---	3,096	
22890 - Hall - Refreshments	444	---	---	---	444	389	
22C85 - Church Maint - Fire	3,004	---	---	---	3,004	3,265	
22B72 - Depn - P&M	10,766	---	---	---	10,766	11,524	
Subtotal Hall Running Costs	18,278				18,278	23,278	
Cost of Hall	18,278				18,278	23,278	
Flower Club							
22J00 - Flower Club		---	2,541	---	2,541	2,335	
Subtotal Flower Club			2,541		2,541	2,335	
Cost of Flower Club			2,541		2,541	2,335	
Other PCC property							
22K55 - Dawlish Cl - Repairs	336	---	---	---	336	60	
22K57 - Dawlish cl - Insuran	389	---	---	---	389	241	
22K63 - Property Management	2,292	---	---	---	2,292	1,335	
Subtotal Dawlish	3,017				3,017	1,656	
Cost of Dawlish	3,017				3,017	1,656	
Church Management and Admin							
24A10 - Admin - Printing & P	3,334	---	---	---	3,334	1,898	
24A15 - Publicity & Display Materials	20	---	---	---	20	315	
24A30 - Admin - Stationery	46	---	---	---	46	527	
24A31 - Office Furniture/Equip	---	---	---	---	---	1,609	
24A43 - Admin - Bank Charges	639	---	60	---	699	622	
24A45 - Admin - Phone in Par	867	---	---	---	867	733	
24A47 - Admin - Software	402	---	---	---	402	754	
24A49 - Admin - Other	33	---	---	---	33	501	
Subtotal Ch Mangment Admin	5,341		60		5,401	6,959	
Cost of church Mangment admin	5,341		60		5,401	6,959	
Salaries							
24B30 - Staff Salaries	13,599	---	---	---	13,599	10,167	
Subtotal Salaries	13,599		0		13,599	10,167	
Cost of Salaries	13,599				13,599	10,167	
Vicarage							
22A51 - Vicarage - Council T	5,094	---	---	---	5,094	4,243	
22A53 - Vicarage - Water Rat	466	---	---	---	466	400	
Subtotal Vicarage	5,560		0		5,560	4,643	
Cost of Vicarage	5,560				5,560	4,643	
Charitable Funds							
21B00 - Home Missions	-989	---	---	---	-989	8,828	
21E20 - Charitable Funds Distribution	3,955	---	---	---	3,955	---	
Subtotal Charitable Funds	2,966		0		2,966	8,828	
Cost of Charitable Funds	2,966				2,966	8,828	
Charitable activities Sub-totals	192,167	---	20,818	---	217,604	215,431	204502
3a Charitable activities Totals	192,167	---	20,818	---	217,604	215,431	
Other resources used							
Other resources used							
22H95 - CDBF Grant Expenditure	2,252	---	---	---	2,252	-330	
Other resources used Totals	2,252	---		---	2,252	-330	
Resources	194,409	---	20,818	---	215,227	215,179	

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

4 Staff Costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Extracted from Resources Used (see Notes 3)		
Micah reported on Page 3 and Micah breakdown		
Total staff costs:	13,599	25,061

During the year the PCC paid for the services of an Organist, 1* Parish Administrators, Children and Families Worker and a Verger. None of those employed earned £40,000 or more per annum. The verger and The Children and Families Worker were also a members the PCC, the aggregate employment costs of PCC members were £17,054. The Parish Administrator post is now dedicated. Childrens and family worker is reported in Micah Restricted Fund analysis.

5 Fixed Assets for Use by the PCC

Tangible Fixed Assets	Freehold Land & Buildings		Chairs	Equipment	Total
	Dawlish Close	Parish Centre			
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Book Value					
At 1st January 2023	225,000	167,624	55,136	93,043	540,803
Additions	0	0	0	0	0
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0
Grants / Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Gain / Loss on Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
Gain / Loss on Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2023	<u>225,000</u>	<u>167,624</u>	<u>55,136</u>	<u>93,043</u>	<u>540,803</u>
Depreciation					
At 1st January 2023	0	30,958	52,861	83,651	167,470
Charge for the year	0	3,352	2,274	5,140	10,766
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2023	<u>0</u>	<u>34,310</u>	<u>55,135</u>	<u>88,791</u>	<u>178,236</u>
Net Book Value					
At 1st January 2023	<u>225,000</u>	<u>136,666</u>	<u>2,275</u>	<u>9,394</u>	<u>373,335</u>
At 31st December 2023	<u>225,000</u>	<u>133,314</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4,252</u>	<u>362,567</u>

A Market Appraisal was made on the 7th May 2015 of 33 Dawlish Close Bramhall by Snapes which recommended an asking price of £190,000. According to Zoopla website the current average price at 31 Dec 2019 £225,000

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

6 Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	£	£	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets	362,567		362,567	373,333
Current Assets	239,856	85,798	325,654	291,283
Current Liabilities	-38,182		-38,182	-32,208
	<u>564,241</u>	<u>85,798</u>	<u>650,039</u>	<u>632,408</u>

7a Debtors

		2023 £	2022 £
51A00 Income Tax Recoverable		6,114	6,249
Z05 Accounts rx Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	10	10	6,135
		<u>6,124</u>	<u>12,384</u>

7b Investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Market Value 1st January	114,785	134,867
Revaluation gain / loss	13,636	-20,082
Market Value at 31st December	<u>128,421</u>	<u>114,785</u>

8 Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

		2023 £	2022 £
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	Notes 11	38,182	32,208
NEST Pension creditor		22	
		<u>38,204</u>	<u>32,208</u>

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

9 Funds

Restricted Funds Movement in the Year

	Balance 1st January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance 31st December 2023 £
Church Textiles	1,658	0	0	1,658
Flower Club	593	2,834	2,541	886
<i>Porridge donation Actioned in FY 24</i> Newala Fund	4,424	975	60	5,339
Micah Project	92,466	551	18,305	73,712
*new ChProj	0	4,202	0	4,202
Total Restricted Funds	99,141	8,562	21,906	85,797

Church Textiles Fund (known as the Kneeler Fund until 1 January 2005) was started in 1993.
During 2008 the Servers Robe Fund (also started in 1993) was combined with the Church Textiles Fund.
The object of the fund is to provide for the repair and replacement of Church Textiles & Servers Robes.

The object of the Flower Fund is to provide for floral decorations within the church

The Newala Fund was started in 2010, the object of the fund is to provide monies for the development of a partnership link with the newly formed diocese of Newala Tanzania.

The Micah Project was started in 2020, the object of the fund is to provide monies for the development of the church, including employment of additional staff members

The "ChProj" fund is set up as Church Projects funding to raise monies to cover urgent repairs and updates to Church owned assets.

Unrestricted Funds Movement in the Year

	Balance 1st January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Recognised Gains / Loss £	Balance 31st December 2023 £
General Funds	533,267	210,722	194,494	13,636	563,131
	<u>533,267</u>	<u>210,722</u>	<u>194,494</u>	<u>13,636</u>	<u>563,131</u>
Total Funds (Gen+Rest)	632,408	215,582	216,400	13,636	648,928

The General Fund is available for the PCC ordinary purposes.

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall
Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

10 Missionary and Charitable Giving

	2023 £	2022 £
Funded by Special Collections		
The Children's Society	0	1,321
Toilet Twinning		45
Dec Ukraine Appeal		460
Give Hope (Childrens Society)	0	136
CAP		82
Allocated by PCC 2023		
NACOA (National Association Children of Alcoholics)	1,133	
The Message Trust	1,133	
The Hill	1,133	
Archdeacon of Halesfield	100	
	3,499	2,044
As Newwala Accounts		
Hostel		5,500
Water Harvesting Project		2,500
School Potridge		1,500
Inclinator		258
Medicine - Action Medeor		1,000
	0	10,758
Total as Page 9	3,499	12,802
To Be Allocated by New PCC		6,784
Amounts sent Direct		
The Children's Society		
Children Society Buses	2667	
Total sent Direct	0	0
Total	3,499	19,586

The sum allocated to Mission and Charities from any surplus in any year is paid out to missions and charities agreed by the PCC in the subsequent year once the accounts are approved

During 2023 The Church or Rooms were provided on a FOC basis on 14 occasions which resulted in a donation of £ 1,672 if charged at our normal hiring rate.

The Childrens Society collections for "Give Hope" and from the Christigle candles will be settled asap in 2024.

St Michael & All Angels PCG, Bramhall - 1133883
Nominal accounts throughput and closing balances - Details
Selected period: 01 December 2023 to 31 December 2023

		Transaction Totals		Balances	
		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
Totals		339.38	38,512.51	=	38,162.12
Made Up as Follows:-					
Date	Reference	Description			
General fund, Unrestricted					
	Opening Balance		7,024.37		
31/12/2023		339.38			
31/12/2023			339.38		Transfer of Accounts now paid Correction to opening bal (PAYE 4 Jan. not 29 Dec)
31/12/2023	22810 Church - Gas		5,118.80	— Church Gas	General Use
31/12/2023	22830 Church - Electricity		467.21	— Church Electricity	General Use
31/12/2023	22663 Property Management		371.73	— Parish Management fee	General Use
31/12/2023	13810 Rent 31 Dawlish		3,441.76	— Parish Rent Receipt	General Use
31/12/2023	11E01 Restricted Donations - Energy		2,863.61	— Donations for Energy	General Use
31/12/2023	11E10 Restricted Donations - Screens		1,950.31	— Donations for Screens	General Use
31/12/2023	11E20 Restricted Donations - Organ Maint.		1,809.00	— Donations for Organ	General Use
31/12/2023	12000 Legacies		5,208.00	— Legacies	General Use
31/12/2023	12000 Fundraising for church projects		4,202.40	— Church Projects	General Use
31/12/2023	14C10 Children's Ministry - Income		4,359.00	— Children's Ministry	General Use
31/12/2023	14F35 Gardening Income		155.28	— Gardening Club	General Use
31/12/2023	14F59 CDEP Grant Income		1,321.54	— CDEP	General Use
Agency collection, Restricted					
	Opening Balance		517		
Totals		339.38	38,512.51		

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

11 Payments to PCC Members

Expenses paid to the clergy may contain a small element which relates to their Function as a PCC Member
No other payments were made to PCC members apart from staff costs which are disclosed under note 4

12 Newala Project	2023	2022
	£	£
Income		
Donations		
Personal Planned Giving	780	
	780	780
Events		
Produce Sale - Marmalade	0	413
Gift Aid Recovered on Planned Giving	195	195
	<u>975</u>	<u>1,388</u>
Expenditure		
Projects		
Hostel	4,000	
Water	2,500	
School Porridge	1,500	
	0	10,758
Bank Charges	60	153
	<u>60</u>	<u>10,911</u>
Balance at 1st January	4,424	13,947
Balance at 31st December	5,339	4,424

Parochial Church Council of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ending 31 December 2023

13	Micah Project	2023 £	2022 £
	Income		
	Interest	551	99
		<u>551</u>	<u>99</u>
	Expenditure		
	Phone, Postage, Software, etc.	1,388	516
	Employment Cost	16,828	14,893
		<u>18,216</u>	<u>15,409</u>
	Balance at 1st January	92,466	107,776
	Balance at 31st December	<u>74,801</u>	<u>92,466</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the members of St Michael & All Angels, Bramhall,
Parochial Church Council**

1 report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of Members and Independent Examiner

The charity's members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's members consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

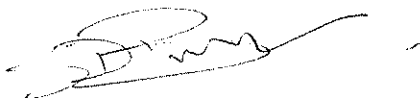
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

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 management committee 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 matter has come to my attention:

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



Stephen D Burt FCCA
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Bramhall
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