

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY

England & Wales · Charity number 1133962

Details

Other names ST. MARTIN'S PCC FINHAM

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-02

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

Contact

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Activities

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

Activities: PROMOTES THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN ITS SPIRITUAL, PASTORAL, EVANGELISTIC, SOCIAL AND ECUMENICAL ROLES. PROVIDES SERVICES AND PREMISES FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IN FINHAM AND THE CITY OF COVENTRY. WE ALSO HAVE A TRADING SUBSIDIARY THAT IS A COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Coventry City
- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£227,659	£173,737	-	-
2023-12-31	£230,562	£254,889	-	-
2022-12-31	£191,515	£208,352	-	-
2021-12-31	£130,130	£145,173	-	-
2020-12-31	£121,917	£127,551	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
REV MATTHEW TIMOTHY TAYLOR	Chair	2017-10-02
Andrew Hodgson Spencer		2021-08-30
Christina Joan Watkins		2025-04-08
DAVID PAUL FOXWELL		2018-04-24
FRANCES MARION ARMITAGE MA		2020-10-13
Helen Spencer		2021-05-11
JACQUELINE ANNE CUBITT		2009-08-04
MARTIN JOHN BINT		2017-04-20
Rachel Nadine Douse		2024-04-23
Rev Elizabeth Emma Goodwin		2024-04-23
Rev John Samuel		2023-03-25
Richard John Elton		2021-05-11
Robert Geoffrey Makin		2025-04-08
Ruth Valerie Khan		2024-04-23

Accounts

**St. Martin-in-the-Fields,
Finham, Coventry**

Charity Commission Number 1133962

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31st December 2024

Incumbent: Rev. Matthew Taylor



Bank: Santander

Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Independent Examiner:

Mr. Luke Howson

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2024

AIM and PURPOSE

St. Martin's 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. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church Hall, Fellowship Room and Community Hub of St. Martin's.

The PCC is a charity that is registered with the Charity Commission, Number 1133962.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St. Martin's Church is situated in Green Lane, Finham, Coventry. It is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 136 Green Lane, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EA.

The PCC is a body corporate, operating under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 which came into effect on 2nd January, 1957 and the Church Representation Rules (within Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended).

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

At the 2001 APCM a resolution was adopted for 12 elected members to serve on the PCC. Members elected would serve for a period of three years and one third of the elected members would retire annually. Retiring members would be eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

There are 100 parishioners on the new Church Electoral Roll, of which 47 are not resident within the parish. All those attending St. Martin's are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The average church attendance on a normal Sunday in 2024 was 90 in person and many watching on live stream.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC AND TRUSTEESHIP OF THE CHARITY FOR 2024 WAS:

Vicar: Rev. Matthew Timothy Taylor: appointed 2nd October 2017.

Curate: Rev. Matthew David Ford: appointed 1st May 2022. Left the parish 28th January 2025.

Curate: Rev. John Samuel: appointed 25th March 2023.

Curate: Rev. Elizabeth Emma Goodwin: appointed 23rd April 2024.

Ordinand: Ms. Rachel Nadine Douse: appointed 23rd April 2024.

Church Warden: Mr. David Paul Foxwell: elected to the PCC 24th April 2018.

Church Warden: Mr. Stanley Gerald McCarthy: elected to the PCC 24th April 2016.

Mr. McCarthy retired as Church Warden at the Vestry Meeting on 8th April 2025 and did not seek re-election to the PCC.

Ms. Ruth Valerie Khan: elected 23rd April 2024 and at the Vestry Meeting on 8th April 2025 was elected Church Warden.

Lay Reader

Dr. Andrew James Gurney Barclay: appointed 12th March 2011. Sadly, deceased 23rd August 2025.

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Dr. Richard John Elton (Diocesan Synod): appointed 11th May 2021.

Mr. Martin Bint (Deanery Synod): appointed 20th April 2017.

Elected Members (up to 12)

Ms. Agnes Caroline Brown: elected 25th April 2016. Retired at the APCM on 8th April 2025 and did not seek re-election.

Ms. Helen Dorothy Marie Spencer: elected 11th May 2021 and re-elected at the APCM on 8th April 2025. For re-election in 2028.

Ms. Frances Marion Armitage: elected 13th October 2020. For re-election in 2026.

Ms. Jacqueline Anne Cubitt: elected 4th August 2009. For re-election in 2026.

Mr. Andrew Hodgson Spencer: elected 30th August 2021. For re-election in 2027.

Ms. Christina Joan Watkins: elected 8th April 2025. For re-election in 2028.

Mr. Robert Geoffrey Makin: elected 8th April 2025. For re-election in 2028.

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT and OBJECTIVES

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

The full PCC met 6 times during the year. The PCC has Working Teams which meet and report to the PCC, the Standing Committee meet before the PCC, on a monthly basis. The Teams meet between PCC meetings minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The Standing Committee has a core of seven members who are Rev Matthew Taylor, Rev Matt Ford, Rev John Samuel, Dr Andrew Barclay, Mrs Jackie Cubitt, Mr Andrew Spencer and Mr Stan McCarthy.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee also oversees the monitoring of income and expenditure and the preparation of the annual budget. It oversees the work of the building sub-committee which ensures that the Church, Church Hall, Fellowship Room, Community Hub and grounds are maintained in a high standard of repair and cleanliness and oversees the use of the premises.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC continues to support and encourage a wide and growing number of church and local organisations, including the Mothers' Union and a variety of youth orientated entities.

The PCC continues with its basic mission of providing an opportunity for all in the area and further afield to join in worship and celebration of the Sacraments of the Church. All are welcome to join in our services either in person or via Live Stream.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission.

VICAR'S REPORT - REV MATT TAYLOR

This year, we had a theme of Prophecy: "Then, Now, and To Come". Our verse for the year was "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19a). We began by studying Isaiah, then delved into the life of Jesus as a Prophet. We also explored Revelation and focused on various prophets.

There are so many people that I could thank, so as with every year I only have time to highlight a brief few of people's efforts. First, I want to thank Stan McCarthy for his time as Church Warden, thanking him particularly for the work he did on Gift Aid. I know it's been a tough year for him and the family and I am grateful he has agreed to continue looking after Gift Aid for us into the future.

Matt Ford, who completed his final year with us, was a great source of encouragement and pastoral care for many. We are glad that his new role in Stratford will continue to utilise his skills and giftings.

Last year, John Samuel, in his first year at St. Martin's, faced a series of setbacks early in the year. He suffered a suspected stroke and spent a few worrying days in hospital. However, thanks to the prayers of the church and the practical help of cooked meals for him and his family when he returned, St. Martin's demonstrated its love and care for him. It has been a challenging year for John as he has recovered from the trauma, but it is encouraging to see him beginning to regain his strength and confidence.

Summer Fest

One of the events that Matt spearheaded along with a great team was the 'Summer Fest'. We saw a wide variety of events, along with the talents of the 'Music Room' bringing members of their group to perform. Later in the day, a band of aged musicians also played, called 'Uncle Bob'. And of course our own Gospel Choir performed too. The event was another way of making connections with our local community, bringing us closer and opening natural opportunities to share the Gospel more widely.

Prayer Ministry team

Our prayer ministry at the 11 am service truly came into its own this year. Each week, before the service, the team meet to prepare and seek God's guidance. They often highlight 'words' that resonate with the teaching for the Sunday service. I know that many of you have benefited from their prayerful help and support. Throughout the year, we also provided training to support the team. Thanks go to Tina Watkins who leads the team and to all who make up the team.

Revive

Our coffee shop transitioned into a trading subsidiary of the charity in February 2024, recognising the potential to cross the VAT threshold. We are incredibly grateful to Martin Bint and Dave Foxwell for taking on the roles of directors and the additional responsibilities that came with it. Our accountant deserves special recognition for going above and beyond to assist us during this period, and her contributions were pivotal in helping us pass the threshold this year.

Our volunteers continued to staff the coffee shop with hard work and dedication, creating a welcoming and inclusive space for people of all ages. In February, Ellen joined the team as our second chef, and has proved to be a wonderful asset to Revive.

St Martin's Church Gospel Choir

This year, our gospel choir has flourished, providing a great platform for building community and singing together which has been proven to have positive effects on mental health. The choir comprises of a diverse group of church members, individuals from other churches, and members of the local community, being open to all to join. Their repertoire includes both older traditional and more modern gospel songs performed by people of faith and those without religious affiliation. The choir began by meeting every other week but now meet every week on a Wednesday, and it's been a pleasure to see friendships built and new members welcomed so warmly whenever they come. Throughout the year, the choir's membership grew to exceed 50 individuals. The highlight of the year was the choir's first ever concert, which sold out, featuring two hours of music, and raised an impressive amount of money for charity, which was shared equally between the Lighthouse and MND.

Treasurer

This year, we would like to extend a special thank you to Andrew for all the hard work and dedication that goes into being our treasurer. The preparation for this year's accounts was further complicated by the fact that the coffee shop needed to become a trading arm of the church, but Andrew managed to navigate these challenges with exceptional skill and expertise, for which I am extremely grateful.

Reverend Matt Taylor

CHURCH WARDEN'S REPORT

Firstly let me start by thanking you for allowing me to serve in this role and your support and help throughout the last year, it has in many ways been a steep learning curve and I am still learning many of the tasks that need performing.

At this point I would like to pay enormous thanks to Andrew Barclay for everything that he has done, I know that all of the church would join me in recognising the amazing work that he has put in both as a church warden but also in many years previous serving in a capacity of performing so many tasks that a church warden would normally have done. Most weeks it is only when we find things that need doing that we realise just what was taken onboard by Andrew, never moaning just quietly getting on in the background. Thank you so much Andrew, as a church we love and thank you so much.

Also, thank you to Stan who has done a great job in bringing the cash card reader on line, now allowing many people to pay their offering or contribution online. Also for the great work in sorting the gift aid which we can now see in the church finances as a far more accurate picture of where we really are, thank you Stan and also to Geoff Machin who I know has come on board to assist Stan.

I will move onto the bigger projects within the buildings work shortly but we should also at this point recognise people who regularly come in to complete those small tasks that without completion we couldn't function, repairs to the toilets, doors, general maintenance and repair. I know that you don't do these tasks for recognition but as a church we do so greatly appreciate your continued support and service which is often only seen by a small group of people.

We are in need of individuals with skills who can assist with small repairs and if that resonates with you please let me or Matt know, it is often in the small jobs getting done that the church functions on a practical level. Your knowledge and help would be greatly appreciated.

Buildings

A thank you to the buildings team and those who have joined in the last 12 months. I would also like to pay a huge thank you to Alan Colliver who despite no longer serving on the actual buildings team has played a major part in ensuring jobs have been carried out and offering his expertise in so many areas.

Working party: a building's team was able to carry out some much needed tasks around the church. Cleaning out of guttering particularly by the kitchen, weeding and clearing of paths particularly around drainage area. Where possible unblocking of small drains on gated side of church building. The filling of small holes by tarmac in the car park. We are aware that the car park will need much further repair and maintenance going forward.

Demolishing of the shed: we employed a company to complete this work for us.

Repair: to large window in the revive area.

Installation of a new sound desk and video cameras: fortunately we were able to use the skill sets of both Matt's in much of this work using their technical knowledge.

Boiler serviced.

Electrical work: the completion and certification for the EICR (Electrical installation condition report). This included relabelling of the fuses. We did run into issues during this work when solar inverters were disconnected then not reconnected correctly, this caused a number of problems over the weeks around installation so care must be taken with any work carried out electrically that might require any form of temporary disconnection.

Kitchen roof repair: we did have a couple of leaks on the church kitchen ceiling (Revive) that resulted in small repairs, we must be aware however that as a flat roof that there is a limited lifespan of a flat roof so this may be a concern for the future.

The Quinquennial inspection report: the report did show three big projects which we must complete to ensure that we are structurally sound going forward.

The first is the three dormer windows to the south-east elevation are in need of service and repaint of the timber sills. Alongside this is the replacement of the guttering some of which we cannot see the full extent until the PVC covering is removed. The drainage of all of this is into a soak away that appears to be blocking up.

We did have to employ the services of Metro Rod to get photos of potential blockages but the full details are still unclear except we do know that there is a blockage.

During stage one of the project we do need to complete a full inspection of the bellcote we are planning to complete this as a separate project but as part of the work completed during 2025.

The other major parts of the project are the repair of the outside wall. This will require the removal of outer cladding then a redecoration this will probably be stage 3 of our project.

There is also the repair of the interior back wall of the church, this will require the removal of the existing cladding, the allowance of a period of time maybe up to 6 to 9 months before we can then look at re cladding or similar. This will be stage 2 of our project.

These projects we are looking at completing during 2025, 2026 and 2027.

These projects are unfortunately going to cost a significant amount of money. We however serve a God who has time and time again shown us that he is in control and that we when we trust in him he has more than met our needs.

We would still love to strengthen our building team or it might be you are able to just help with a particular project, please let us know if you can help. The church functions at its very best when it's many members come together each offering their various skills.

Thank you all so much and God bless.

Dave

CHILDREN AND FAMILY WORKER REPORT

Firstly, I want to thank Kate Saxton, for all of the great work she did during her time spent in her role.

With Kate's resignation, in order to enable Stay and Play and Ignite groups to remain running, I volunteered to run them until a suitable replacement could be employed. I loved volunteering working with the children, and offered to help with school's work too. I am a nursery nurse by qualification and worked in the local primary school in Finham for 17 years. I had forgotten how much I missed working with children and a new passion was ignited. I spoke to Matt to say I felt I should be applying for the post of Children and Families Worker, as I felt a real calling for it. I also have the advantage of a Counselling Certificate which has been of immense benefit when speaking with parents and carers. The rest is history and I am now in post, starting from July 29th last year. Life has been a bit of a whirlwind since then ... Here is a brief journey, so far.

Our holiday bible club ran on Thursdays through August. It was extremely busy! We had some repeat children each week but also new ones. We had a great group of volunteers for whom we are very thankful.

Schools work:

During the year of 2024 we were able to visit Finham and Styvechale Primary Schools on a regular basis and they also visited the church. One of the first school sessions I was involved in was Easter Cracked. This takes place in the church and is attended by 150 children over 2 days. They are very busy sessions and the children and staff love attending them. The sessions are delivered in a fun but informative way, with short activities to join in with as they explore the Christian message of Easter. Our feedback from staff was great: ***"As always, you've welcomed us with such thought and care - thank you for the efforts of everyone involved in making an interesting and memorable workshop for the children."*** Also ***"We love working with St.Martins, but this is our best event all year. Thank you all so much! The year 5 team!"***

It's really hard work, but wonderful to see the children happy and excited as they explore our church and hear about Jesus and his love for them. Please pray for the Easter Cracked sessions which will take place on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th April. We will have a total of 150 children over the two days with their staff. Thank you.

During 2024, a total of 29 sessions were delivered to Finham and Styvechale Primary schools, via assemblies and lessons, either at the school or here in church.

From September 2024, a new R.E curriculum for Coventry and Warwickshire came into effect, which has given Matt and me a whole lot of extra work in order to deliver the lessons. Most of the old lessons we had are unusable and we've spent a lot of time writing new ones. Matt Ford also helped to write some of the material before he left. The new material has been accepted positively and we've had some excellent

feedback, given the subjects we've had to cover! Reconciliation lessons for year 2, with a title of "Why has the Coventry Blitz shaped Christian Worldviews locally and globally?" is just one of the new lessons. This was difficult to construct due to the age of the children, just 6 years of age, but it was received really well and feedback was very positive *"... I have been trying to plan and resource these new objectives for year 2 and finding it very hard! Adam and Eve story - good level to engage year 2 and explain why we need forgiveness and ideas for how to say sorry - children enjoyed this sheet. Thank you!"*

Another new one for a year 1 class ... "Who is Jesus?" with feedback as *"Very engaging! All children wanted to contribute or participate. I really liked how the lesson 'hooked' the class in with Superhero links. The content was not overwhelming and the class digested the information well. Thank you Matt and Wendy."*

Every time we work with the schools, either there or here, is a privilege. We are so fortunate to visit and build such great relationships with the children and staff.

Ignite Group:

This is a lovely group for school children from the age of 7-11. There are currently up to 14 children who regularly come most weeks. We play games, crafts, share a bible story, question session and tuck. There has been a lot to deal with recently within the group, especially around the area of loss. A couple of children have lost grandparents and the parents of the children have also had support. One of the parents came along, with another, to the Quiet Christmas service as a result of an invitation given by myself as she had shared about her dad being very poorly and was really struggling, especially towards Christmas. She was able to spend time with both Matts and myself, talking and receiving prayer. Sadly, her dad passed away just after Christmas, but it has been good to let her know we've been praying for her and to see her regularly bring her child along to Ignite and still offer ongoing support as she continues to grieve. It's amazing being able to build relationships like this, with these families. Please pray for this work, that God will really bless it, bring in children and that we will be able to support and encourage them during difficult as well as happy times. We are blessed with the help of Linda, Sue, Marilyn and Helen as well as visits from Matt sometimes to paint with the children which they love! Also occasional visits from others in church for a craft or other session. Thank you to each of you who give your time when you are all so busy, it is really appreciated!

Stay and Play:

It's an early start, setting up the hall. I meet Matt and Mary at 8.15 every Wednesday, then Fran joins us from around 9.00. I am so grateful to them all for being there to support me, every single week. We lost Gill's help early last year as she needed to spend more time with Andrew so I was extremely grateful to Mary for stepping in to help ... and believe me she is amazing! John has also been coming along to some sessions, now he is able and his help is much appreciated. We could desperately do with more help, even if it's just to set the hall up or put away after the session ends. Godfrey regularly comes in at the end of a session to do just that, so does Dave. You might have a gift of being able to talk to people, you would be most welcome. If you feel able to offer anything at all, please do speak to me or Matt.

Thrive:

It's been lovely to meet Fiona, the local Thrive Childrens worker. I've met with her a couple of times now and her listening ear and suggestions have been really helpful. We have a networking meeting coming up soon and I'm looking forward to meeting with other Children's workers from the local area.

Sunday Children's Work:

This is a lovely group for the children to attend. We follow the bible readings you have in church as much as we're able, though occasionally, as with Revelation for example, this can be a bit unsuitable, so we adapt the lesson accordingly. There is usually a bit of fun first with a game, followed by a bible story and then a question time, craft and a prayer. I'm thankful to have the help of Helen, Linda and Sandra already, but would welcome anyone who would like to support this work to come along and see what we do. At the moment we are out every other week as a pair, enabling us all to have time in church, which is important for our own spiritual wellbeing and growth. I'm especially grateful to Sandra for giving her already busy time to this work, considering she is also busy with worship and delivering sermons sometimes.

Movie mornings:

These take place twice a year, during October and February half term. They are a free event for families to attend and we provide popcorn and a drink. I've now hosted 2, both of which have been hugely successful, with around 30 children and their carers.

Thank you for taking your time to read my report. I have a big heart for this work and a real passion to see children and their families come to know and love Jesus as much as I do. I want them to know how much God is there for them especially now, in the difficult world we live in. Please ask me if there's anything more you'd like to know. I value your continued support with prayer and if you feel you'd like to help with anything, please speak to myself or Matt. Thank you.

God bless you, Wendy Foxwell.

YOUTH ENABLERS REPORT

2024 Youth provision

I start this report again this year by giving thanks to the people who serve our young people at Youth provision.

Our activities couldn't happen without them. By way of a small Thank You, we held a 'Coffee and Cake Thankyou' gathering at Revive on 10th July 2024 and also leaders received a gift from the group including cards and bookmarks made by the youth group. We really do appreciate each and every person that serves the youth in some way. Thank you.

First contact groups running in 2023

Wednesday - Community Bat and Chat (Including ways to bring All Ages together safely)

34 sessions were held. We naturally lost 5 young people from provision this year, 3 due to becoming 18 and moving to college/University, 2 people who moved house, out of the area so we lost their attendance too.

The local school runs enrichment activities on Wednesdays, and also introduced GCSE masterclass revision after school on Wednesdays in mid May so the numbers fluctuate during these times. Throughout the year the group has always been enjoyed by a core group of young people with 6 being the lowest number present and 16 being the highest.

We continue to run the community youth group much the same as 2023 as it is working well.

- Provides a place for first contact and community building. It continues to encourage young people to explore new activities:

- Technology free club where Active sports/games and creative crafts are encouraged. We have made coasters, keyrings, clay pots, bookmarks etc. we enjoy themed sessions on special occasions such as Wimbledon (strawberries and cream tasting)
- Regular craft table, games tables, pool, ping pong, basketball, darts etc. For the last 15 minutes, everyone joins in a group activity together.
- Regular emails to parents/carers inviting them and their young people to all that we offer at the church.
- Window display x3, Harvest, Easter and Christmas. - Young people from the provision create items to be displayed in the church window. Our provision for youth is free and it enables those attending to give back to the congregation using their creative gifts. It was a blessing to see young people from the community, contributing to the clay nativity scene using materials gifted to the Provision.

10th July 2024- We held a special end of term party for our 3 leavers who were leaving for University/ college. They each received a personalised scrapbook card, chocolates and a Gift bible (The Chosen). The youth enjoyed this celebration and they thoroughly enjoyed the local pizza.

Wednesday - The After Party (Bible studies)

These sessions continue to provide Gospel exploration, discipleship building and growing in calling. The sessions follow the same passage as the Sunday group do. We have hosted 22 sessions this year with up to 4 people attending. The young people who attend are of varying ages and engage really well together, the session provides a chance to explore the gospel and grow in confidence. Our last session of the year was held on 18th September. Later in the year we lost 3 young people to this group, 2 young people naturally turned 18 and went away to university/college and 1 moved house, out of the area. We reviewed the sessions and attendance with Matt the vicar and it was decided to take a small break from the current study and relaunch a new study in the new year.

In September and October, we started to explore Eco church and asked for expressions of interest from our young people regarding recycling items, food waste, nature etc. 19th October, after attending a church meeting with a video and allotment visit, the Genesis study was decided.

We have 9 young people interested in coming to this study.

20 Christmas selection boxes were given out to our young people, those who were staying with us also received a personal invite to this new group.



Sunday groups Snack & unwrap YOUTH Sundays & Growing in calling (ages 11-15 come out to groups, 16-18 stay in church, although any young person of Youth age group is welcome to attend the session)

These sessions provide a chance for our young people to socialise with other Christians and talk about their week. We discuss the same passage that is preached in church, although we often pick the most relevant verses from it for our young people to unwrap. These sessions have up to 6 young people attend each week, however this does not include the young people who are on the rota serving the congregation in the worship band, on vision or sound. Our Young people have served often in the service and we shall miss them greatly but wish them every success at university.

We are delighted that this year we have seen a total of 6 young people regularly on the rota to serve on a Sunday. It does mean that they miss coming out to groups but we are really pleased to see these young people grow in calling. Their service ranges between worship band, drums, guitar and keyboard, vision, the sound desk and the collection plate.

Parent/ carers prayer gathering

We have continued to hold prayer gatherings every other week in term time throughout this year. Starting promptly at 13:00 hours and finishing at 13:20. We pray in general for our provision and for volunteers to join us. We are very grateful for the people who attend this group.

Involvement in Children's provision/Transition

Youth Enabler attended:

- 18th March 2024, Easter Cracked local Junior school. 19th March 2024, Easter Cracked, local Junior school.
- 11th June 2024, Junior school transition day both local schools. 31st July – helped to set up for the Children's Holiday Club.
- 1st August – Helped at the Children's Holiday Club.
- 9th December 2024 and 10th December 2024, I planned for 2 days' attendance at Christmas

Unwrapped. I was not needed for these sessions due to the high number of volunteers so I attended after the event to help with tables and clear up.

Volunteers & Leaders

- 10th July 2024 - 'Coffee and Cake Thankyou' gathering at Revive. We included the Prayer group attendees in this as we are truly grateful for anyone who serves the youth whether face to face or from a distance.
- December 2024 - 'Leaders Thankyou' ,leaders received a gift from the group including cards and bookmarks made by the youth group. We really do appreciate each and every person that serves the youth in some way. Thank you.
- Recruited a new volunteer towards the end of 2023 who would like to help at Sunday groups, we are delighted.
- Youth enabler and some volunteers attended the first aid course on 27th April 2024 Youth Enabler and 2 volunteers attended the face to face safeguarding training (raising awareness of Domestic Abuse).



We still have a need for more volunteers at all of our youth provisions. We lost Matt our curate who we said goodbye to at the end of the year and also one of our regular volunteers from Wednesday has moved to a less flexible job and is not available any longer to serve our youth on a Wednesday.

The Youth enabler has 9 weeks unpaid holiday plus usual holiday allocation to take, youth enabler attends all youth provision groups every week in term time and Sunday groups every week. We cannot run Sunday groups during holidays unless we have more volunteers and people who are happy to lead and plan. It would be a blessing to welcome new volunteers to the provision to allow the youth enabler to take allocated annual leave.

Events to bring All Ages together safely

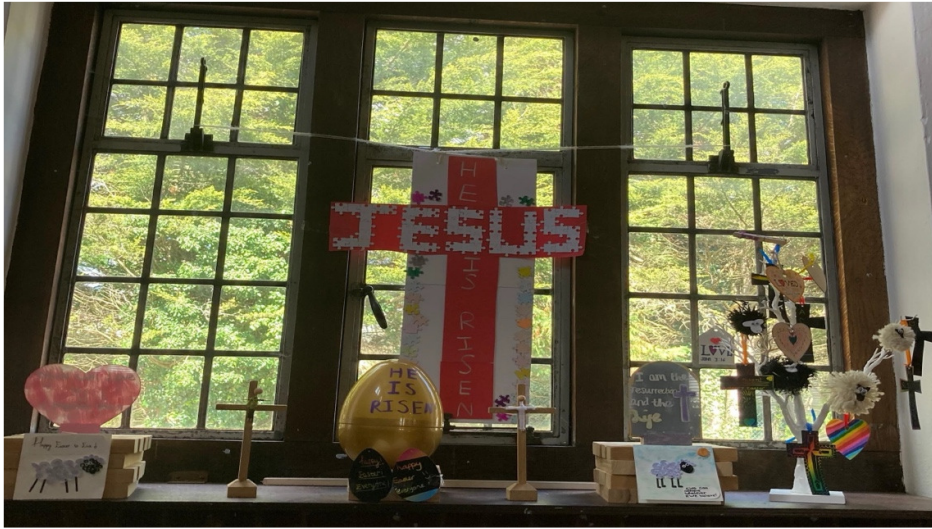
6th October 2024- For The Harvest Festival, as part of the All Age service. 11 of our Young people served the church congregation in different ways. We had a young person on welcome, 2 young people baked over 110 cakes between them, and 2 young people served them to the congregation. We had a young person on the collection plate, one reading the passage, one on vision, one on sound and 2 played in the worship band on keyboard and drums.



10th November 2024 - The Young people created a Remembrance display of poppies for the church window. One young person read the prayer at the end.

15th December 2024 - The Youth took part in the nativity service. One young person was playing in the worship band and 3 young people also narrated during the service.

The young people create these crafts for the window display while at the community bat & chat youth club. They create them especially for the church window display. This is a wonderful way to safely connect All ages. The congregation contributes towards the cost of the youth club and the Young people create a display for the congregation to view at various times in the year.



Youth created the 2024 Easter window display using a variety of craft techniques used in the community youth club.



Youth recycled items to create a window display. Harvest festival window display 2024.



Youth created a Christmas window display for the church including a clay nativity scene using materials gifted to the Provision.



Youth created a Remembrance window display for the church which they plan to add to each year.

VOLUNTEERS

Our thanks are given to all those who freely give of their time, talents and treasure to all areas of the church's ministry, from banking, dealing with Gift Aid, working with children, The Revive Coffee Shop, the Gospel Choir, Pastoral care, administration and all those other tasks which together fulfil the holistic role of St Martin's both in the Church and in the wider community. Thanks too to our Vicar, Matt, Curate John, the Churchwardens Dave and Stan. Reader, Andrew and all on the PCC for all their hard work in 2024, particularly Jackie Cubitt our PCC secretary who works so hard to ensure the APCM happens efficiently. We look to the future with confidence.

EMPLOYEES

We are particularly appreciative of Jackie Bint our Parish Administrator who did a great job also administering our Hall Bookings, our part time Children and Family worker Kate Saxton who stepped down in July and now Wendy Foxwell, who continues to make great connections with our local schools and has done a wonderful job running Stay and Play and Lisa Clamp our part time Youth Enabler who has deepened relationships and grown numbers, all of which make a significant contribution to the mission of St Martin's as we seek to help people Explore Faith, Love Jesus and serve our community.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

We continue to safely recruit volunteers for The Revive Coffee Shop, thank you to those volunteers for filling in forms, taking the Basic Safeguarding Training and for those who have completed references.

I would like again, to say a really big thank you to everyone who works with children, keeping up to date with their training, especially as they now have to complete the Domestic Abuse Course.

All members of PCC have completed all training required to be a member of PCC including the Domestic Abuse training. During the year the Safeguarding Training continues to be online. A big thank you to Wendy and Lisa, who have completed so many Risk Assessment forms for the groups during the year as the guidelines change.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016, which imposes a legal duty on the PCC *to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.*

You might wonder what it means to "have due regard", and the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) observed that this legal term was not well understood. If you would like further details, please do contact the Safeguarding Officer.

During the year the Parish Dashboard has expanded and now includes a Hub from April 2024. Everyone on the Hub is now able to access their records of training and their DBS. We were asked to join a pilot scheme for the Parish Dashboard, which now will contact people when courses are due and also adds the DBS information when the DBS checks come through, which these days only take a few days. There are eighty one people assigned to roles here at St Martin's and I am happy to say that, other than two new volunteers are required to complete the DBS everyone who requires it has done so.

There are a few people who work with young people and children who are still to take the Domestic Abuse Course, but as this has only just become mandatory they have a year to complete it.

The Safer Recruitment process continues to be used for everyone in the majority of roles within the church. This included completing an Application form, Confidential Record form and references being requested. For those who have responsibilities for managing others, they are now required to complete the Safer Recruitment and People Management online Course. We continue to keep up to date with the Parish Dashboard, even though it is continually changing.

The Parish Dashboard forms the Action Plan from the Safeguarding Policy adopted by the PCC eight years ago and is a great asset, making sure all safeguarding regulations are adhered to. There are three levels and I am pleased to say that we continue to be on level three and the Hub on Stage three. The PCC have regular updates at each PCC meeting and have reviewed the Policies on an annual basis. Safeguarding is high up on the agenda at every PCC meeting so the PCC have regular updates and receive up to date information on Safeguarding and the Action Plan from the Parish Dashboard. Please do ask if you would like to know more about the Parish Dashboard and Hub. There is more information on Safeguarding in the Narthex, Fellowship Room and the main Hall. Thank you to everyone who has made this role so much easier by completing references, filling in forms, booking on line courses and also the support I have had from our vicar, Reverend Matt Taylor, Reverend Matt Ford, Lisa, Kate and Wendy. Thank you so much.

Jackie Cubitt

Safeguarding Officer

MISSION WORKING GROUP REPORT

The PCC agreed some time ago to give to other organisations 10% of our unrestricted income, working on the previous year's income. The amount available for 2024 was £11,502.

In 2024, donations were made as follows (in most cases by direct debit):

Recipient	Focus	Region	Annual amount	Monthly Amount
Lighthouse Coventry	Health	UK	£1200	£100
Thrive	Evangelism	UK	£1200	£100
Coventry City Mission	Evangelism	UK	£1200	£100
SAT-7	Evangelism/Education	Overseas	£1200	£100
OM/Osgoods ¹	Evangelism	UK/Overseas	£4200	£350
Friends of Mvumi	Health	Overseas	£600	£50
Mercy Ships	Health	Overseas	£600	£50
A Rocha	Environment/Conservation	UK	£200	/
Andrew Smith ²	Evangelism/Returnee focus	UK/Overseas		£100

Additional

- A one-off donation of £200 was made to Hope Coventry

Emergency relief

- In our allocation of regular donations, we keep a certain amount back for emergency giving purposes. In view of the crisis in the Middle East, the congregation were invited to make donations

¹ This is reducing to £250 per month from April 2025

² Started in November 2024

and these came to £552.10. This sum was combined with the church's remaining emergency relief fund, and a total of £1254.10 was donated to three organisations (Embrace the Middle East, Tear Fund and Christian Aid).

We regularly pray for the above organisations, individuals and needs in our church services and prayer meetings, and also privately.

Mission group members

The group is greatly depleted owing to Gail Brigden's death and Andrew Barclay's illness, and now only comprises, Caroline Brown, Lynette Smith and Helen Spencer. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please let Helen Spencer know.

PARISH OFFICE REPORT 2024

The Parish Office is located at the back of church, in the Vestry and is usually open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Access to the Office is through the back church door, via video link. Jackie Bint is the Parish Administrator and has served in this role for 21 years, providing administrative support to St. Martin's church, its leadership team, Revive Coffee Shop and staff members. The role of Parish Administrator is key to the church's relationship with the wider community as it is often the very first point of contact for church enquiries, via email, telephone or in person.

- The administrative requirements and record keeping for Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations and Funerals continue to be handled by the Office. Administrative support is given to Revive Coffee Shop when required.
- The Parish Office compiles a weekly notice sheet that is printed, delivered to **6** parishioners who are no longer able to attend church in person, and distributed to almost **100** recipients by email. Its purpose is to summarise what's on at St. Martin's, share information and highlight upcoming events.
- At the end of November, St. Martin's held its annual, and very popular, Christmas Fair. The Parish Office once again planned and co-ordinated the layout and booking of stalls in both Hall and Fellowship Room; this year raising **£334.00** from the table fees from **29 different stall holders**. This money was donated to Carriers of Hope and Foodbank.
- St. Martin's church has **29** regular Hall, Fellowship Room, Church & Field users. The premises are additionally used for many private events, meetings, and parties. The Parish Office manages all hall bookings, both 'regular' and 'casual', from initial enquiry and booking, through to invoicing and revenue management.

Regular groups using the facilities at St. Martin's include the following:

Mothers' Union, Good Neighbours Men's Fellowship Group, St. Martin's Gospel Choir, Senior Citizens @ St. Martin's, Alpha Art Group, Stay & Play, Ignite, St. Martin's Youth Group, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Saints Explorers, Rainbows, 2 Brownie groups, Guides, Rangers, Drama Tots, Artventurers, Wildlings outdoor play, Nigel Watson Art Class, Textile History Group, Craft workshops, Finham WI, Coventry Adoption Group, New Horizons, Private dance tuition, Ballroom Dancing, Aao Miloh Group.

Hall Revenue

Revenue generated from hall lettings has once again increased substantially, year on year. Jan-Dec 2024 Hall lettings generated over £26,000.

The newly refurbished Fellowship Room remains popular with smaller, local crafting groups. Our large hall is particularly popular for children's activities and private parties. Although the floor was re-sanded and sealed in January, the additional footfall in the hall is considerably impacting the condition of the paintwork and walls.

*To maintain the level of revenue generated from bookings, it will be important for the PCC to discuss, plan and implement some renovations to the hall walls and repainting soon.

Weekly Intercessions list

The Parish Office now centrally co-ordinates the church intercessions list which gives the names of those who have requested prayer. The list of the sick and bereaved is updated weekly.

Jackie Bint – Parish Administrator

MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH LEADER'S REPORT

2024 has been my third year as your Branch Leader and I would like to thank our wonderful Committee for all their hard work and support. Marilyn Douglas, Gail Brigden, Sue Pickering, Barbara Barret, Christine Crout, Jean Smith and Gary Askew, Treasurer. Each one plays a particular part behind the scenes in each branch meeting that you don't always see, but this branch could not run so well without them. Also, thanks go out to Mary Greenfield and Jill Holt for their unstinting service to our branch. Mary oversaw the knitting assisted by Jill, and Jill handled the Baptism Roll. Mary also delivered your birthday card and any flowers that we've sent.

A big thank you to Val Hunt for playing the piano and Christine playing guitar for us, making our Acts of Worship sound so beautiful. Also, many thanks are given to Jackie Bint our church administrator who always puts notices of our meetings in St Martin's Newsletter, and finally, to our clergy here at St Martin's for all their continued support and prayers.

A major thank you goes to our knitting group who supply the Neonatal Unit at the hospital and also The Haven Refuge with great numbers of items that they have made and donated, and I know they are very gratefully received.

We have enjoyed a year of fellowship that has included Lenten Communion, which was enjoyed by us with hot cross buns as usual, and for Mothering Sunday our branch donated the daffodils given out at the Sunday service, thanks again go to Mary Greenfield for getting the daffodils for us.

We had several speakers over the year including MU member Rosie Lee who came to tell us about her journey of faith as she travels towards ordination. John Elton came to speak to us about Mercy Ships and MU member Anne Short explained MU's link to the Community of the Cross of Nails at Coventry Cathedral.

During the year some of our members took part in Members Days at St Peter's Wellesbourne and our Advent Service at Holy Trinity, Coventry. Members enjoyed our own 'Songs of Praise' service, and our cream tea in July raised money for the Summer of Hope Appeal.

At the Christmas Fair we again ran a cake stall. I have to thank all those members who donated the amazing homemade cakes and mince pies that we sold. The proceeds of which went to help with our donations for the year and also to our branch funds.

We had our Christmas Celebration in December, where we took part in 'The Journey' a nativity play. Gail Brigden did a marvellous job of rounding up the props and costumes, and directing and also narrating. A huge thank you to Gail for all her hard work.

Gary was Joseph and Marilyn was Mary. Sue played the angel, and other members played the shepherds and the wise men. Our Diocesan President Karen Morriss enjoyed it so much she was wiping tears of laughter from her eyes when Joseph forgot the donkey. We also sang carols and enjoyed the love of the Christmas story, and also the eating of the mince pies. We received a lovely email from Karen thanking us for inviting her and her husband, Trustee Paul Morriss and saying she thoroughly enjoyed the 'Christmas Cheer'.

Finally, thank you, members and guests who are a part of our branch and share friendship and fellowship with each other, and have supported Mothers Union in their work both at home and abroad, throughout the past year.

Lynette Askew - Branch Leader

MEN'S GROUP ON FRIDAYS

Thank you so much for letting us hire the fellowship room over the course of 2024.

We continue to see great results from men coming together and simply being able to just sit down over tea, coffee and cake and biscuits and discuss a variety of topics and subjects. There is often a lot of laughter, reminiscing, sometimes thought provoking conversation. The group is extremely friendly and very respectful of one another.

Some talk quite a lot whereas others might be very comfortable just listening but we always try to include everyone in the conversation who want to contribute. The local social prescribers see our group as a very important group in the area and we often have referrals.

95% of those who come along return and many then make it a regular group that they attend.

Here are some of the stories:

This group was recommended to me by IAPT It has been a wonderful experience for me at a time I was feeling lost and isolated. This has so benefited my mental health and I look forward to coming each week.

I lost my wife of over 50 years of marriage, I felt so alone and depressed, my son recommended the group as his sister in law knew Dave. I haven't looked back since the first week I visited, I honestly look forward to each Friday when I can meet with my friends have a great time together and enjoy their company.

My Dad has been coming to the group since its start, he thoroughly enjoys it. It is great respite for him as Mum is very ill and needs a full time carer. He can't remember what happened yesterday but he gets the chance to talk about days gone past which he clearly remembers. (We love having him along, he is a wonderful gentleman).

Although this is not a church group we do have several members of the church come along and each gets great benefit in different ways.

The other thing the group does is gives support, if anyone is missing for more than one week they will get a phone call just to ensure they are ok.

I really enjoy leading this group, it has given me the opportunity to meet some truly amazing and wonderful people and I feel many friendships have been made.

Thank you, Dave Foxwell

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2024

This year marked the transition of the Revive coffee shop at the start of February 2024 from a part of the church to a limited company acting as a trading arm of the church. The church continues to bank cash takings from Revive and in return handles its salary, fuel, cleaning and payroll bills as well as some other payments, such as for cleaning materials. The full accounts, as presented to the Charity Commission, are given as an appendix to this report.

Summary

- For many years expenditure by the church has been greater than income. 2024 marked a change, with the church achieving a cash surplus.
- Total church income fell from £230,562 in 2023 to £227,659. This is because takings by the coffee shop after the start of February 2024 are no longer included. However, the income did include just over £16,000 in payments from the coffee shop as donations and as reimbursement of bills paid by the church.
- Total church expenditure also fell, from £254,889 to £173,737, again because spending by the coffee shop from the start of February 2024 is no longer included.
- Total income exceeded total expenditure by £53,922, reversing a deficit of £24,326 in 2023.
- Total cash and investment assets rose from £222,060 in 2023 to £238,750.

Income

Congregational giving (standing orders, donations, envelopes, loose cash, refreshments after services and the card reader) fell by 6.6%, from £95,289 in 2023 to £88,801. Giving by standing order continued to increase but giving by envelopes fell as did donations, although loose cash giving held up relatively well. Giving through the card reader, installed in mid-2023, rose from £264 to £1,721 of which £1,127 was for general church funds, the remainder mainly for special appeals.

The coffee shop operated as part of the church until the end of January 2024 and thereafter as a subsidiary limited company. Its net profit over the year, before deductions to the church, was £10,507 of which £1,650 was paid to the church as rent and £4,000 as a donation. The remaining £4,857 will be donated to the church in 2025. Additional income came from cash takings in January 2024 and reimbursements of expenditure by the church on the shop's behalf, including salaries, utility costs and cleaning. The Coffee Shop's final net profit was therefore zero. A note on the Coffee Shop's status as a trading subsidiary of the church is appended to this report.

Income from hall bookings rose from £23,263 to £27,471, confirming the church's important role as a centre for community activities and functions. After difficulties in 2023, claiming of Gift Aid was resumed and no less than £30,465 was recovered for a period from late 2022 to late 2024. This boosted the year's income considerably and thanks are due to Stan McCarthy and Geoff Makin for their splendid work.

The church received a legacy of £5,000 from the estate of the late Ann Gough and this will be used to support the church's youth work. Thanks to the efforts of Frances Armitage we were also successful in obtaining a grant of £3,000 from the Golden Bottle Trust for the Walls project.

Expenditure

Parish share rose from £67,572 to £69,330 per annum at the start of 2024. The three staff members received a pay increase in April and a replacement assistant chef for the coffee shop began employment in the same month.

The solar panels brought down annual electricity consumption from a peak of 22,116 kWh in 2022 to 19,649 in 2023 and this fell further to 12,682 in 2024, their first full year of operation. Over the year we also exported 6,022 kWh back to the grid. Gas consumption is also down from 2022, although it is higher than in 2023. Even so, overall kWh use fell from 67,674 in 2023 to 64,831. As a result spending on utilities fell from £16,007 in 2023 to £8,322, although the true figure is nearer £10,500 as a bill for the last three months did not arrive until 2025.

Expenditure on the buildings was lower than in 2023 as work on the solar panels was completed, although £1,367 was spent on further survey work for repairs to the church walls. Essential and periodic inspection and maintenance, not to mention cleaning, formed the bulk of the spending with an intern attached to another church continuing to do most of the latter.

A separate report gives details of coffee shop income and expenditure. The shop continues to pay the church a share of the costs for utilities and cleaning.

Investments

To support cash flow, £9,500 was transferred from the CAF church funds account to the Santander current account in January and February and a further £4,500 from the CCLA deposit account in February. £41,000 worth of shares in the BlackRock fund were sold in February and the proceeds placed in the Santander account. The aim was to move them to a more ethical fund but there have been difficulties in achieving this; there is also uncertainty about whether this money, like the £20,000 originally invested with BlackRock and its predecessors, is an endowment and would therefore require special approval before it can be spent. The sale reduced the value of the holding with BlackRock from £61,822 at the start of the year to £21,437 at the end.

The value of the holding in CCLA income shares rose from £137,738 at the start of 2024 to £140,891 by the end of the year although there was a slight drop in the last quarter. These holdings paid out £3,823 in dividends, which were paid into the CCLA deposit account. The CCLA deposit account began the year at £5,685 and ended at £5,208, although the latter figure compares with a low point of £2,205 at the end of March.

St Martin's Church does not have an investment policy of its own but aims to adhere to the Church of England's statements on Responsible and Ethical Investment Policy as set out by its Responsible Investment Team in 2024 and summarised on the Church of England website.

Reserves

In January 2020 the PCC reviewed its policy on financial reserves and decided that sufficient accessible funds should be kept at all times to cover six months of essential expenditure. Based on 2024, the amount

to be kept in reserve is estimated to be £68,582. Unrestricted cash funds at the end of 2024 amounted to £29,857 (although releasing of the £41,000 would greatly increase this) and investment assets to £162,328.

Coffee shop

The coffee shop has continued to be a success, both in terms of patronage and profitability, and it has made a positive contribution to the church's accounts, as described above. The coffee shop has published its own annual report which gives further details. Please also note the addendum to this report.

Accounts and administration

Andrew Spencer continued as Church Treasurer. The professional accountant Alex Langlands handles the finances of the coffee shop but has also provided a great deal of advice during the complex period of the reorganisation, for which we are deeply grateful.

Mr. Luke Howson of Finansure Ltd, Wrexham, agreed to act as Independent Examiner of the church finances for 2024 and the church's Standing Committee agreed to his appointment in October 2025.

The church continued to use two current accounts, with Santander Bank and with CAF. The first is mainly for cash receipts, most standing orders and cheque payments and the latter for electronic transfers. On becoming a limited company the coffee shop opened a new account with HSBC and the former CAF coffee shop account was run down and finally closed in September 2024, with the remaining £4.00 balance transferred to the CAF church funds account.

For the first time this year we have used the Expense Plus accounting system to present the church finances although the former spreadsheet method is used as a backup. The coffee shop now handles its accounts separately as a subsidiary company.

Unrestricted and restricted funds

The church's unrestricted coffee shop fund was a legacy of the shop's previous status as part of the church's finances. It continued to handle the coffee shop's revenue and spending until the end of January. A decision as to the funds that it still holds has to be made. The former restricted coffee shop fund receives and banks cash receipts from the shop and also reimbursements for most of the expenses that the church has paid for. A new unrestricted St Martins coffee shop fund holds reimbursements from the shop for utilities and also rents and donations received from the shop.

The Solar Panels restricted fund received a £700 goodwill payment from Solax in recompense for problems with the batteries filling. There were no out-payments from the fund and we may change its scope to support other eco-projects as well. The West Wall restricted fund received the £3,000 grant from the Golden Bottle Trust and paid for the costs of surveys. It will hold any future grant money that we receive for this project.

The restricted funds for Youth and Missions contain money pledged by church members for those uses and a tithe from the church's unrestricted income was paid into the Missions fund to support the donations listed below. A restricted fund has been set up to handle donations to and payments by the Gospel Choir.

External giving

The church continues to make monthly donations of £100 each to Lighthouse Christian Care, Thrive Youth Ministries, the Coventry City Mission and Sat7 UK and of £50 each to Mercy Ships UK Ltd and the Friends of Mvumi Hospital. At its meetings in July and September the PCC agreed to donate £100 per month to

support Andrew Smith in his Returnees' Focus student work and to reduce support for the Osgoods from £350 to £250 per month, the reduction to take place from March 2025. The church also donated to Tear Fund and Embrace the Middle East to support relief work in Lebanon and Gaza, to HOPE Coventry and Through the Roof, and it began an annual donation to A Rocha.

Concluding thoughts

We thank God that last year's cash deficit of £24,326 has been converted to a surplus of £53,922. It must be borne in mind, however, that £41,000 of this results from the sale of shares in BlackRock and the status and availability of that sum have still to be clarified. Moreover, since it results from the appreciation in value of an endowment of £20,000 it is money that has accrued to the church since 1995 but it is a one-off, not a recurrent source of income.

Similarly, the amount of tax reclaimed is partly a recovery of arrears and the annual income from this source will be lower in future. The changing economic situation has already led to a fall in congregational giving; on the other hand hall bookings and the coffee shop make an important contribution.

The forthcoming work on the church walls will naturally be expensive and we will continue to look into possible grants and other sources. The Diocese has already committed some funds to support the project.

The church presents a budget to the PCC towards the end of the year at which attention is repeatedly drawn to the need to minimise and preferably remove the deficit which has been running for several years. A stewardship campaign was run in 2023 and another is to take place towards the close of 2025.

The Treasurer wishes to conclude by thanking the church leaders and members for their advice and support through the past year. God has provided; we pray that he will continue to do so and give us the wisdom and faith that we always need.

Andrew Spencer, October 2025.

Addendum: Trading subsidiary

The PCC has a wholly owned trading subsidiary called St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd, which is a company registered in England and Wales (registered number 15455624). The principal activities of St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd are the running of an unlicensed community coffee shop and event catering. The PCC beneficially owns all of the share capital of St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd through nominees. The share capital of St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd of £3 is divided into 3 ordinary shares of £1 each. These shares are held in trust by the Vicar and the two Churchwardens on behalf of the PCC. With St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd being a private company, the shares are not open to subscription from the public, and only the Vicar and Churchwardens may hold a share in the company. Upon retirement from the role of Vicar or Churchwarden, the share transfers to the next Vicar or Churchwarden.

St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd has not been consolidated into the PCC accounts as the group qualifies for exemption from preparing consolidated accounts under the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006.

St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd started trading 1 February 2024. Its year end is 31 December, the same as the PCC's. All of the distributable profits of St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd are donated to the PCC as a gift aid donation.

A summary of the results of the subsidiary undertaking in 2024 are as follows:

	£
Turnover	86,264
Cost of sales	56,878
Gross profit	29,385
Operating Costs	(20,528)
Gift Aid distribution to PCC	(8,857)
Profit before taxation	-
Taxation	-
Profit after taxation	-
Accumulated profits brought forward	-
Non-charitable trading reserves	-

Addendum: Related Party Transactions

Three members of the PCC are directors of St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd.

During the year, the PCC received the following amounts from St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd:

- Rent: £1,650
- Contribution towards light, power and heating: £4,950
- Gift aid distribution: £4,000 (followed by £4,857 accrued in the 2024 company accounts and transferred to the PCC on 12th June 2025).

Trustees' Report

Objects of the charity

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

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the above objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

Promotes the whole mission of the church in its spiritual, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical roles. Provides services and premises for the local community in Finham and the city of Coventry. We also have a trading subsidiary that is a community coffee shop.

In planning the activities, the trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to hold a minimum of £60,000 (which is approximately six months of unavoidable expenditure) as unrestricted cash, so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £29,857.

Moves are to be undertaken to release a further £41,000 for general use. Until now this money has been designated as endowment funds because they result from the appreciation in value of an original £20,000 endowment. This is subject to advice from the relevant professional and statutory persons.

Signature

This report was approved by the trustees, and is signed on their behalf by:

Name *ANDREW HODGSON SPENCER*

Signature
A.H. Spencer

Date *29/10/2025*

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Parochial Church Council of St Martin in the Fields, Coventry ('the charity') for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Details

Name: Mr. Luke Howson

Address: Finansure Ltd., 2 Sheppard Street, Brymbo, Wrexham LL11 5FF, Wales

Name **Luke Howson MAAT**

Signature



Date **29 October 2025**

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, COVENTRY

ACCOUNTS

Receipts & Payments Statement

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Receipts					
Donations & Legacies					
Card Reader	1,382	338	0	1,721	264
Donation from St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd	4,000	0	0	4,000	0
Donations	4,223	546	0	4,768	15,302
Legacies	0	5,000	0	5,000	0
Loose Plate Collections	4,250	0	0	4,250	4,610
One-off Grants	0	3,000	0	3,000	10,500
Planned Giving Envelopes	7,771	0	0	7,771	8,561
Refreshments	672	0	0	672	655
Standing Orders	67,627	1,992	0	69,619	65,897
Tax Recovered	30,465	0	0	30,465	0
Charitable Activities					
Fund-raising	900	0	0	900	1,485
Receipts from Children & Youth	642	223	0	865	531
Repair Workshop Receipts	373	0	0	373	337
Stay & Play Income	2,241	0	0	2,241	2,126
Weddings & Funerals	3,346	0	0	3,346	1,026
Investments					
Interest / Dividends	4,040	0	0	4,040	4,149
Trading Activities					
Coffee Shop Income	5,532	0	0	5,532	82,841
Hall Lettings	27,471	0	0	27,471	23,263
Rent / Utility Contribution from St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd	6,600	0	0	6,600	0
Other					
Appeals	920	267	0	1,187	0
Loans Received	0	0	0	0	0
Sale of Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0	0
Sale of Investments	0	0	41,000	41,000	0
Sundry Receipts	2,138	700	0	2,838	9,016
Total receipts	174,593	12,066	41,000	227,659	230,562

See Notes 2 and 3.

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Payments					
Charitable Activities					
Children & Youth	2,841	275	0	3,116	2,038
Clergy Expenses	1,543	0	0	1,543	2,547
Honoraria	133	0	0	133	100
Ministry Parish Share	69,330	0	0	69,330	67,572
Mission Agencies	1,313	11,800	0	13,113	10,347
Music, Sound & Vision	8,377	0	0	8,377	1,106
Publicity	797	0	0	797	347
Staffing & Overheads	25,709	7,512	0	33,221	57,681
Wedding & Funeral Fees - Diocese	379	0	0	379	1,044
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Reading	1,578	0	0	1,578	1,213
Raising Funds					
Fund-raising Activities	2,772	0	0	2,772	252
Governance Costs					
Governance Costs	0	0	0	0	0
Support					
Accountancy Costs	0	0	0	0	340
Administration	4,361	0	0	4,361	3,131
Bank Charges	169	0	0	169	23
Buildings	17,633	1,367	0	19,000	39,334
Churchyard Upkeep	1,298	0	0	1,298	9,018
Insurance	3,320	0	0	3,320	3,439
Licences & Software	687	0	0	687	0
Utilities	8,322	0	0	8,322	16,007
Other					
Agency Costs	0	0	0	0	0
Coffee Shop - Admin Costs	0	0	0	0	5,789
Coffee Shop - Cost of Sales	0	0	0	0	29,498
Coffee Shop - Equipment	0	0	0	0	2,506
Coffee Shop - Other Costs	0	549	0	549	755
Fixed Asset Purchases	0	0	0	0	0
Loans Repaid	0	0	0	0	0
Money Invested	0	0	0	0	0
Sundry Supplies	1,672	0	0	1,672	800
Total payments	152,234	21,503	0	173,737	254,889

Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	22,359	-9,437	41,000	53,922	-24,326
Fund Transfers In	0	11,502	0	11,502	3,893
Fund Transfers Out	11,502	0	0	11,502	3,893
Net Movement of Cash Funds	10,857	2,065	41,000	53,922	-24,326
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	19,000	3,500	0	22,500	46,827
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	29,857	5,565	41,000	76,422	22,500

Cash funds by account

Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Santander Current Account	9,524	5,565	41,000	56,089	2,888
CAF Cash Account, Church Funds	14,967	0	0	14,967	2,597
CAF Cash Account, Revive	0	0	0	0	11,005
CCLA Deposit Account	5,208	0	0	5,208	5,685
Cash in hand, Church	141	0	0	141	139
Cash in hand, Coffee Shop	18	0	0	18	185
Total cash funds	29,857	5,565	41,000	76,422	22,500

Asset & Liability Statement

Cash Assets

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
General Unrestricted Funds (Unrestricted)	8,895	0	0	8,895	6,232
Coffee Shop (UR) (Unrestricted)	6,494	0	0	6,494	9,637
Stay & Play (UR) (Unrestricted)	4,726	0	0	4,726	2,665
Stay & Play (R) (Restricted)	0	716	0	716	716
Mission (R) (Restricted)	0	254	0	254	0
Youth (R) (Restricted)	0	2,613	0	2,613	2,665
Solar Panels (R) (Restricted)	0	819	0	819	119
West Wall (R) (Restricted)	0	1,633	0	1,633	0
Agency (Unrestricted)	135	0	0	135	0
Repair workshop (Designated)	840	0	0	840	467
Gospel Choir (R) (Restricted)	0	79	0	79	0
Investments (Endowment) (Endowment)	0	0	41,000	41,000	0
St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd (R) (Restricted)	0	-549	0	-549	0
St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd (UR) (Unrestricted)	8,768	0	0	8,768	0

Other Monetary Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Gift Aid	From November 2024, included in claim made in February 2025	2,000	0	0	2,000	15,000
Stock	Not applicable	0	0	0	0	0
Other	Charitable Donation due from St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd, 2025	4,857	0	0	4,857	0

See Note 3.

Investment Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Property	Not applicable	0	0	0	0	0
Investment Accounts	CCLA Investment Account (Cost: £94,168 in 2017)	140,891	0	0	140,891	137,738
Other	Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund (Cost: £20,000 in 1995)	0	0	21,437	21,437	61,822

Fixed Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Land & Buildings	Buildings & contents insured for	6,650,000	0	0	6,650,000	6,650,000
Music & PA Equipment	Sound desk purchased in May 2024, depreciated 20% p.a.	4,413	0	0	4,413	0
Computers & IT	Included in Buildings					
Furniture	Included in Buildings					
Motor Vehicles	Not applicable	0	0	0	0	0
Other	Solar panels & mountings	13,340	0	0	13,340	13,920

See Note 4.

Liabilities

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Year
Loans Outstanding	None.	0	0	0	0	0
Pension Payment Owed	None, as payment was made in late December.	0	0	0	0	0
HMRC Payments Owed	For December, made in early January 2025.	141	0	0	0	0
Independent Examination Fee Due	To Mr. Jatinder Singh Birdi & Mr. Luke Howson.	1,100	0	0	0	0
Other	Miscellaneous payments.	3,685	0	0	0	0

Movement of Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Fund Transfers	Closing Balance
General Unrestricted Funds (Unrestricted)	6,232	154,695	140,530	-11,502	8,895
Coffee Shop (UR) (Unrestricted)	9,637	5,535	8,678	0	6,494
Stay & Play (UR) (Unrestricted)	2,665	2,241	179	0	4,726
Stay & Play (R) (Restricted)	716	0	0	0	716
Mission (R) (Restricted)	0	552	11,800	11,502	254
Youth (R) (Restricted)	2,665	7,735	7,787	0	2,613
Solar Panels (R) (Restricted)	119	700	0	0	819
West Wall (R) (Restricted)	0	3,000	1,367	0	1,633
Agency (Unrestricted)	0	1,150	1,015	0	135
Repair workshop (Designated)	467	373	0	0	840
Gospel Choir (R) (Restricted)	0	79	0	0	79
Investments (Endowment)	0	41,000	0	0	41,000
St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd (R) (Restricted)	0	0	549	0	-549
St Martins Coffee Shop Ltd (UR) (Unrestricted)	0	10,600	1,832	0	8,768
TOTAL	22,500	227,659	173,737	0	76,422

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1: Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

Note 2: Receipts and payments – donations

The £15,302 in donations in 2023 included:

- £2,613 to the Youth fund, donated by the Committee of Open the Book Coventry when it was wound up. To be used for youth and children's work.
- £3,050 to the Solar Panels fund, dominated by five large donations, to complete installation of the solar panels and surrounding fencing.
- £3,000 to the West Wall fund, donated by a member of the congregation to support survey work.

All these donations were of a one-off nature. Installation of the solar panels has been completed and remedial work on the church walls will be funded by future grant applications and donations.

Note 3: Receipts and payments – tax recovered and Other monetary assets

The church member who was responsible for making Gift Aid submissions in 2023 encountered difficult personal problems and did not make any submissions in that year. (The previous Gift Aid money reclaimed was £5,650 received on 31st December 2022.) After circumstances eased and the person was able to help with data, another member took responsibility in early 2024. Several submissions were made during the year and as a result the tax recovered during 2024 covered two years. An estimated £2,000 has been shown as remaining tax from 2024 that was recovered in 2025.

Note 4: Fixed assets – solar panels

The solar panels and their support structure were installed in December 2022 at a cost of about £14,500. Depreciating over a 25 year lifespan gives values of £13,920 in 2023 and £13,340 in 2024. The indoor components (inverters, batteries and cabling) will be covered under the Buildings and Contents cover.

Signature

These accounts have been approved by the trustees, and are signed on their behalf by:

Name *ANDREW HODGSON SPENCER*

Signature
A.H. Spencer

Date *29/10/2025*

Accounts

**St. Martin-in-the-Fields,
Finham, Coventry**

Charity Commission Number 1133962

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council**

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Incumbent: Rev. Matthew Taylor



Bank: Santander

Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Independent Examiner:

Mr. Jatinder Singh Birdi

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2023.

AIM and PURPOSE

St. Martin's 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. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church Hall, Fellowship Room and Community Hub of St. Martin's.

The PCC is a charity that is registered with the Charity Commission, Number 1133962.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St. Martin's Church is situated in Green Lane, Finham, Coventry. It is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 136 Green Lane, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EA.

The PCC is a body corporate, operating under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 which came into effect on 2nd January, 1957 and the Church Representation Rules (within Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended). Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

At the 2001 APCM a resolution was adopted for 12 elected members to serve on the PCC. Members elected would serve for a period of three years and one third of the elected members would retire annually. Retiring members would be eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

There are 133 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of which 49 are not resident within the parish. All those attending St. Martin's are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The average church attendance on a normal Sunday in 2023 was 90 in person and many watching on live stream.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC FOR 2023 WAS:

Vicar: Rev Matthew Taylor

Curate: Rev Matthew Ford

Curate: Rev John Samuel

Church Warden: Dr Andrew Barclay

Church Warden: Mr Stan McCarthy

Lay Reader

Dr Andrew Barclay

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Dr John Elton (Diocesan Synod)

Mr Godfrey Armitage (Diocesan Synod)

12 Elected Members

4 Deanery Synod Members

Re-election

2024

7. Dave Foxwell

8. Andrew Spencer

2025

1. Caroline Brown

2. Helen Spencer
3. Richard Morris

2026

4. Martin Bint
5. Fran Armitage
6. Jackie Cubitt
7. Alan Colliver

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT and OBJECTIVES

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

The full PCC met 7 times during the year. The PCC has Working Teams which meet and report to the PCC, the Standing Committee meet before the PCC, on a monthly basis. The Teams meet between PCC meetings minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The Standing Committee has a core of seven members who are Rev Matthew Taylor, Rev Matt Ford, Rev John Samuel, Dr Andrew Barclay, Mrs Jackie Cubitt, Mr Andrew Spencer and Mr Stan McCarthy.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee also oversees the monitoring of income and expenditure and the preparation of the annual budget. It oversees the work of the building sub-committee which ensures that the Church, Church Hall, Fellowship Room, Community Hub and grounds are maintained in a high standard of repair and cleanliness and oversees the use of the premises.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC continues to support and encourage a wide and growing number of church and local organisations, including the Mothers' Union and a variety of youth orientated entities.

The PCC continues with its basic mission of providing an opportunity for all in the area and further afield to join in worship and celebration of the Sacraments of the Church. All are welcome to join in our services either in person or via Live Stream.

VICAR'S REPORT - REV MATT TAYLOR

Our year of discipleship began with our verse of the year John 13.35 '...By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' John 13.35. Our sermon series began with Discipleship in Marks' gospel and we considered 'What Makes Discipleship Hard?'. We looked then at the faith of the disciples after Easter, before settling into a series on the beatitudes called 'The DNA of a Disciple'. We spent some time looking at discipleship in the OT (from Hebrews 13), finally landing in 1 Peter, a book with many themes of discipleship. God blessed us not only with his presence and some great times of learning, but practical signs and outworkings of discipleship.

So, I want to start this evening by giving heartfelt thanks for all the great examples of the 'serving lives' of our many volunteers. It has been remarked upon, by people outside of St Martin's what a high level of volunteering we have within our church community. Let me give you some idea. Sandra and I did some calculations, now these are ballpark figures, based on guesswork, but they are an indication of the love and commitment of you all. Without you all this wouldn't happen, it couldn't. Most likely, they are underestimated figures.

Volunteer hours in 2023 est total: 5,288 collective volunteer hours across a year!

not including PCC hours, church wardens or treasurer - which are all voluntary, unpaid roles (or paid staff working extra hours and not claiming overtime pay)

Here are a few examples bulleted (in no particular order not every volunteer is mentioned!)

- Revive's amazing Volunteers
- Alpha - 3 courses this year all assisted by volunteers
- Alvaro work behind the scenes on health and safety
- Helen's work to ensure that our solar panel system worked efficiently and sourcing grants
- Mary and all her Flower arrangements, as well as everything else she gets involved in
- All this alongside all the hours our Churchwardens put in
- Jackie Cubitt's amazing, tireless, work – keeping us all on track in so many ways
- Treasurer worked almost full time often this year
- Alan Colliver working on getting tender for the repair to our Gable End wall and other building needs
- All our pastoral volunteers, and the difference they make to individuals who need support
- All those who help with children's and youth work, week in week out
- Stay and Play volunteers.
- Those who play or sing with the worship band, all the rehearsal time willingly given
- Those who work all the tech on a Sunday for us
- Set up for events ...
- Stuart and those who do the weeding and gardening outdoors – and for Caroline and Will working on the allotments supplying home grown food for revive ...
- All the day to day building maintenance that has to happen ...
- And though an associate group I need to mention Rosemary & Stan's Seniors all the hours given it to the amazing group with love and care
- All in the name of Jesus Christ, and mostly they get on with it quietly and graciously and we are so very grateful.

These are just some examples and I will have missed some - there are so many I would be here all evening.

We have a wonderful team of paid staff too, who give of themselves in so many ways to the life of this church, often going beyond the call of duty - and I want to honour all of them too and say thank you, but I just want to recognise and affirm that voluntary or paid, neither is higher or less than, you are all valued as part of this church family and we are grateful for all that you give of your time, your energy and your skill.

And if you mind a little personal addendum, I have to say that amongst the highest totalling hours volunteers, one lives in my house with me, doing far more behind the scenes than you see in front you and even that is a lot.

2023 has seen amazing growth in our youth and children's work. Lisa has built a blossoming youth group as you will see from her report, numbers are up, discipleship is growing in what has become a technology free zone where the young people seem to be engaged and happy to be away from the pressures and anxiety of social media.

Ignite has continued to thrive, as did schools work, one of the highlights seeing the vicar flossing with 6,000 other school children at a diocesan 'Alive' event. The year was full of RE lessons, Easter Cracked, Christmas Unwrapped and church visits. Kate worked hard to build 'Stay & Play' and with it a team that could carry it forward.

2023 finally saw our Solar power coming online. It wasn't without its hitches, plenty of them, and it took Helen's tenacious attitude and the ability to speak Mandarin that has got us to where we are today. The anniversary of installation comes this year ('24), but it's safe to say they have outperformed expectations.

Revive has thrived this year with the amazing help of the volunteers under the guidance of Alison. It has not been easy, we saw a member of staff join and leave in challenging circumstances. The continuing connection with our community as a place of meeting and community cannot be understated and for some the beginning of their faith journey.

A recent review on Google:

'Reasonably priced and welcoming cafe. They have a great specials menu and a great selection of cakes. A simple breakfast menu and lunch menu with lots of healthy choices. It's very child friendly too. It's a perfect place for a catch up with friends and it's has a perfect community vibe. Great alternative to the cafe in the park.'

Financially we came close to the VAT threshold which had meant changes for 2024 as we enter the third year of trading and a third phase in its life of ministry.

However, my report this year would be missing something if I didn't mention the Insurance work. My great thanks goes to Andrew Barclay and all he did in the face of some really difficult personal news. Special mention should also go to Jackie continuing her work as Parish and Hall Administrator but during this time also did much to help the hall users to work with the challenging changes in circumstances.

This year we also took a small group to new wine where we all survived the weather and had a good time of worship learning together.

Gospel choir Night – one mad idea leads to another as they say ... the choir had grown from strength to strength and with a bulging repertoire developed over the last few years it felt like it would be good to actually perform the songs for others to enjoy now. Sandra hoped that maybe if the choir each invited a friend or two then maybe 50 people might come. But it far exceeded expectations and we sold out of tickets, with 160 attending and raised funds for two charities, MNDA and The Light House Counselling in Coventry. It was a great evening, and the choir are still buzzing, keen to do another.

Finally, our curates. Matt Ford has grown in stature as a leader here, more than a curate, and has been to many an important helper and inspiration in the life of discipleship. Finally in October, John Samuel joined us to be part of our community too being warmly welcomed by the community here in St Martin's.

Curate's reports

Rev Matt Ford

As I write my second and most likely my last curates report for St Martins (though I'm not going anywhere anytime soon!) I find much of what I wrote last year still resonates deeply. St Martins continues to not only be a safe place to train but also a very fulfilling place to train, enjoying unique opportunities that many churches would long for. I am glad that will continue not only for John but also for future curates who have the privilege to train here. It is important not to become complacent with the opportunities we have here. There will be challenges along the way (that is the nature of ministry in the church!) but the opportunities we have in our context are to be treasured and reasons to give thanks to God for. These are opportunities that continue to excite me and have helped tremendously in discerning what could be next for me. Seeing how things, such as the coffee shop, have enabled us to live out our calling as the parish church for Finham in a fresh way is so compelling, and I'm struggling to see myself in a church context that does not have something that so regularly draws the community in!

The most compelling thing I have found about ministry at St Martins is our unique opportunity and 'position' in the local community. The opportunity we have as a primary hub for community groups and events is something I believe has helped, and will further help ministries flourish here. My encouragement and heart for St Martins is that we continue to take brave and creative steps in our role of partnering with God in seeing his Kingdom established in Finham. It feels like we're barely on the edge of what God wants to do. There are more opportunities to pursue and ideas to try. It maybe costly in one way or another but I believe we can depend on God's help, however that takes shape, when it's something He's looking to do.

Recently I have been invited in to the Deanery Leadership Team, where representatives from churches in our deanery meet to discuss the future of the deanery. It is an important opportunity for collaboration but also to think strategically about the deanery's future. Thankfully, we are not in a pressing position where we are being forced to think very seriously about our deanery, which sadly many deanery's across the Church of England are forced to. It is an opportunity to get 'ahead of the curve' and think through how the church across our area can work together and put things in place now (before we're in a position of urgency) in order to see God's Kingdom established amongst us. Questions are asked of what the church offers and what we can do differently. I'm very happy to be part of a church whose activities and approaches are taken note of and may even inspire future projects in our deanery.

The church from generation to generation is called on to speak afresh the life giving gospel of Jesus. I think we're taking steps in that fresh creativity and I sense that God is calling us all to play a part in that, however that looks. Quite appropriately for our year of prophecy, I find I keep coming back to the words of Jesus addressing His church in the book of Revelation, "whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches" (Rev 2:7). My hope is that, as a church, we continue listening out for the Spirit's call and depending on Him as He works out His purpose and plans amongst us.

Rev John Samuel

Reflection on Curacy at St. Martins

As, I was imagining my new Curacy context, I was looking for some sign from God. God began to speak to me through the verses from the book of Genesis. "*Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow* resonate with verses from the Genesis (Genesis 2: 8-9). In the beginning verses did not make sense to me.

Moreover, when I met with Rev Matt Taylor, he showed me the Church. The verses from Genesis become apparent to me. I praised God in my heart and said, indeed, God had spoken to me clearly and showed me beforehand the place I was going to serve. St. Martins in the field, as the Church's name is, situated in the garden. St. Martins is also a place of healing, where people come to heal and become a source of healing to others. Although I am called to heal others, I need the healing at this point in my life. I am highly welcome into the community of St. Martins to exercise my gifts and talents and learn new skills from their mission into a community of Finham and beyond.

I am a proponent of servant leadership exercised by Jesus, who advised His disciples to follow in his footsteps (Matt 20:28; Matt 23:11). At St. Martins, all the clergy must work a four-hour shift once a month wearing a collar. When I did my first shift wearing a collar, it reminded me again that Christian leadership is so distinctive from the world's leadership. I love to be physically involved and help people of God, but that was quite a humbling experience. It seems to me training here at St. Martins is Jesus' style of training to be a Christian leader by serving God's people with deeds, words, sacraments, and prayers. While helping and serving the local community at Revive Café, I could see smiles on people's faces when they saw clergy persons serving in the café. I believe it must change their entire perspective about clergy as community leaders. Helping and serving at Revive allows you to interact with community members and form

friendships. I love this leadership style, being in the centre of the community to bless them and finding ways to put them in touch with Christ very casually.

Congregation of St. Martins is already engaging with the community through serving at Revive. And this is the heart of Missio Dei, and I feel privileged to be part of it. At St. Martins I have opportunity to learn and gain experience in three different worship styles. Moreover, I am gaining experience in youth (Bat & Chat; after party), children (stay & play; Ignite) and school ministry.

The ministry of St. Martins fully complies with the five marks of mission.

I believe God brought me into the right Church. I am getting trained in all five marks of the mission. St. Martins is a very loving community helping me exercise and refine my gifts to become the minister God wants me to be.

I am really enjoying working with my TI Rev Matt Taylor and my senior colleague Rev Matt Ford.

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT

2023 was a busy year with work on the church property:-

Drainage work

In March the building team established that the drain on the North side of the church was blocked by roots into a manhole near the road. So the insurers, Ecclesiastical, were contacted and they sent a company to investigate. The drain was indeed blocked and collapsed in places. The roots were from the Oak tree and Yew tree near the front hedge, both have preservation orders.

So they dug a new manhole in the car park area and bypassed the damaged area and lined the drain. A small part of the car park tarmac was also repaired.

We also established the location of the stop valves for the water supply for the church and the hall. For the vestry the valve is on the south side of the oak tree near the hedge. For the halls it is on the verge on the road side of the hedge just south of the vicarage. That stop valve also supplies the vicarage.

Flood damage in the halls

In March a small section of the floor in the kitchen collapsed and an urgent repair was done. It became clear that the whole floor was damaged by a flood from a leaking pipe that had occurred in 2021 during lockdown. The flooding at that time had been extensive but it had not been recognised that the floor is a suspended floor with a void under which had probably filled with water too. So we called Ecclesiastical who came to assess and they accepted the claim. The damage was extensive involving the kitchen the fellowship room the corridor and the toilets and some in the main hall. We asked them to delay the start of the work till the start of the school holidays when the hall use would be low. Unfortunately they did not start till the end of the school holidays and the work extended into 2024. It has been a busy time keeping things going with temporary toilets and a marquee.

Alterations in Church

A new bigger display screen was hung on a beam in church to enable the service leader to read the words while conducting the service.

A hand rail was also put up by the step into the vestry to help more disabled people and to prevent them scalding themselves on the radiator.

Allotments

The allotment area has been developed and most of it is now in use. Danny Mc Donnell, who lives locally, has been spearheading that work. The area has been divided into small plots (most of them Danny has dug over) and all have now been taken by people to cultivate. Will Lamb is also heavily involved in establishing compost bins and cultivating an area for the Revive cafe. The far end of the allotment area near the road is heavily shaded by trees in the Medical Centre so it has been left as a wild area and a bug house has been put there. We hope a local bee keeper will also put some hives there too.

An allotment agreement has been established with the allotment users and we hope to minimise the use of chemicals on site. There are some very entrenched weeds at present!

A local person wanted to get rid of a greenhouse. So a team of us came and took it apart and transported it to the church where later it was re-assembled and produced some good tomatoes etc for the Revive Cafe under Will Lamb's supervision. He also arranged for a load of manure to be delivered to fertilise the soil. Water butts were also installed on 3 downpipes on the side of the halls. These will supply water for the allotments. A path around the fence for the solar panels has also been opened up and established as access.

Church walls

Preparatory work has continued on this project. It has been delayed by the work on the halls. Costs have escalated and we are seeking grants.

Buildings Working group

This meets occasionally to discuss and plan repairs and projects.

Andrew Barclay

Solar Panels Project, 2023 report

Following the installation of 48 ground-based, tilt-adjustable solar pv panels in December 2022, the next step was to complete the electrical work. This entailed wiring up all the panels and installing two inverters and two batteries. UPS-Solar completed that in mid March 2023.

We then needed to apply for permission from the regional Distribution Network Operator to sell excess power back to the grid and this took several months to come through. We obtained that permission at the end of July 2023.

Unfortunately, we had some initial technical difficulties pairing the inverters with our wifi, after which we noticed that the batteries were not filling as they should be. Following numerous exchanges between UPS-Solar and Solax (the manufacturer of the inverters), Solax eventually identified the problem and replaced one of the inverters that turned out to be faulty.

Despite initial installation approval from Ecclesiastical (our insurers), they changed their minds after everything was installed and declined to insure the panels. They paid us some compensation for their mistake. We are now covered for fire within the building, but not accidental damage to the panels. For that reason, we installed security fencing around the panels. The discussions with Ecclesiastical are ongoing, as they are unfamiliar with handling insurance for solar.

By the end of 2023, the panels had produced nearly 15,000 kWh of power in the 9.5 months since installation and commissioning. The system is estimated to produce around 16,500 kWh per year, and we are on track to achieve that. We are now covering about 75% of our electricity usage from our own solar generation, thereby significantly reducing our electricity costs. In addition, we exported 2292 kWh to the grid, earning £344. The dehumidifiers used a large amount of power, reducing the amount of energy we could export, so we hope that in future this may be higher.

We are very grateful for everyone's support for the project – both financial and prayer support. The combination of grants and donations enabled us to cover the full cost of the project, without drawing on any church funds.

Andrew Barclay

Building team report 2023

The team met a few times in person and at other times by email.

Main areas covered

- 1) **Repairs to drains from vestry side of church.** A preliminary exploration by the team established that roots from an oak tree had blocked the drain. So the insurance company were contacted and they sent Auger to investigate and sort out the situation. They bypassed the blocked area establishing a new manhole in the parking area. Then they lined the drain to prevent further roots getting in.
- 2) **Flooding in the fellowship room, kitchen and toilets.** Again this was a major insurance claim which was not finally finished till 2024. It was all handled by external contractors brought in by the insurance company.
- 3) **Replacement windows in the Fellowship room.** The renovation work included redecoration so we took the opportunity to install double glazing in the fellowship room and replace 2 external doors that were deteriorating. The PCC agreed to pay the £4,280 cost. The windows were actually installed in 2024
- 4) **Repair to church walls.** The buildings group lead by Alan Colliver were involved in drawing up the details as to what needed to be done and getting tender quotations.
- 5) **Stage lighting wiring in the hall.** Although nothing was connected there were wires dangling down from the lighting bar that looked dangerous. James Cobbett a lighting engineer that lives locally offered to help clear the situation up. So one Saturday we tidied up the wires and left some accessible at the side of the hall.
- 6) **Ecclesiastical inspection work.** Our insurers sent a team to look at various aspects of the church and recommended some remedial action. We removed some wood stored near the buildings as that was identified as an arson hazard. They also recommended fireproofing the cupboards where the inverters and batteries are located for the solar panel system. But when we pointed out that the inverters and batteries need ventilation they told us they will re-asses and visit again. We were of course unable to do much while the flood damage was being repaired.
- 7) **Allotments area.** The work on this has been spear headed by Danny McDonnell who lives near the church. He has marked out allotment areas and has dug over most of them. They are all now taken and will be in use this year. Will Lamb has cultivated an area near the solar panels for the Revive cafe. He also organised a load of manure to be delivered which was used both on the Revive are and on other allotments. Will also established compost bins for the waste from Revive kitchen
- 8) **Greenhouse and water butts.** There was someone on St Martins Road who wanted to get rid of his greenhouse and offered it for free. So a team of us dismantled it and later Will Lamb established foundations and a team re-built it with some other glass from another member of the church who likewise wanted a greenhouse removed
- 9) **Potholes in the car park.** The front car park is deterioration and some of us filled some of the holes with old lay tarmac. More will need to be done in 2024

There are a number of other areas pending or delayed by the building work such as, an electrical safety check which is overdue, re-marking out the car park, a more definitive heater for the Narthex etc.

Andrew Barclay

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2023

This year, Deanery Synod used the new structure for synod meetings. This included a parish presentation from the church we visited, followed by 3-short (under 5 minute) parish presentations. Each church considered areas where they have faced battle, breakthrough and blessing. This was then followed by time to pray for the 4 churches. We hope to cover all churches in the deanery in prayer over the deanery cycle. We then have a 10-minute slot for local business, including receiving an environmental report, before ending with a main speaker.

February Deanery Synod: This took place in St Oswald's Tile Hill, hosted by Father Ed Backhouse, who reported on the use of funding to help outreach in and hospitality for their needy community and problems with local housing. Reports were also received for prayer from St Stephen's Canley, Sr Luke's Lowsonford, and St Mary's Stoneleigh. The main speaker was Revd David Hammond who spoke about Mission Hubs, of which there are six in the Diocese

May Deanery Synod: This took place in St John's Kenilworth, hosted by Revd Andrew Attwood who reported on the missional communities, growing church community events and answer to prayer for a new youth leader. Reports were also received for prayer from St Mary's Hasley, St James' Fletchamstead and St Martin's Finham. Matt reported on the 'coming to faith journey' (First contact – Building community – Gospel exploration – Discipleship building – Growing calling), how this was working out at St Martin's and then areas of battle (the repairs needed following the leak and the solar panels journey) and areas of blessing, including the café, repair café and allotments. The main speaker was Sarah Ashleby, who spoke about Alive 2023, the coming event at Stoneleigh Park.

October Deanery Synod: This took place in St James' Styvechale, hosted by Revd Josh Maynard who reported on the challenges of having a number of buildings to maintain, encouraging growth in youth work and blessing, including a good turnout at New Wine. Reports were also received for prayer from St Mary Magdalen Chapelfields, Holy Trinity Hatton and The Assumption of Our Lady Ashow. Business items included lists of officers in the Kenilworth and Coventry South Deaneries. The main speaker was Revd Rob Harrison, Director of Ministry and Leadership who spoke on Lay Ministry. He asked whether our churches had pyramid structures, spreading out from the vicar, through various assistant clergy and lay leaders to the whole congregation, helping the vicar who leads, or whether they had servant ministry structures where the minister is a servant and leadership exists to support the people of God. He talked about releasing people to do what God calls them to do, recognising lay people's ministries and resourcing them and described different ways of affirming these ministries.

Sharing meetings with Kenilworth Deanery seems to be quite efficient. The meetings are chaired by the Area Dean, Revd David Hammond, with Assistant Deans, Revd Jim Perryman (Kenilworth) and Revd Andy March (Coventry South) and the Lay Chairs are Mark Lovegrove (K) and Tim Pollard (CS). The Deanery Environmental Representative work is ably covered by Nicola Perryman (K) in the absence of a DER for Coventry South; we have been looking for a CS DER for two years now.

Godfrey Armitage (St Martin's PCC, Coventry South Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod).

VOLUNTEERS

Our thanks are given to all those who freely give of their time, talents and treasure to all areas of the church's ministry, from banking, dealing with Gift Aid, working with children, The Revive Coffee Shop, the Gospel Choir, pastoral care, administration and all those other tasks which together fulfil the holistic role of St Martin's both in the Church and in the wider community. Thanks too to our Vicar, Matt, Curate, Matt, Curate John, the Churchwardens Andrew and Stan. Reader, Andrew and all on the PCC for all their hard work in 2023, particularly Jackie Cubitt our PCC secretary who works so hard to ensure the APCM happens efficiently. We look to the future with confidence.

EMPLOYEES

We are particularly appreciative of Jackie Bint our Parish Administrator who did a great job also administering our Hall Bookings, our part time Children and Family worker Kate Saxton who continued to make great connections with our local schools and has done a wonderful job running Stay and Play and Lisa Clamp our part time Youth Enabler who has deepened relationships and grown numbers, all of which who make a significant contribution to the mission of St Martin's as we seek to help people Explore Faith, Love Jesus and serve our community.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

During the year, the Prayer Ministry Team began, all on the team have taken the Basic Safeguarding Certificate, the Foundations Safeguarding Certificate and the Domestic Abuse course. They have also been safely recruited and undergone a DBS check. I would like to say a tremendous thank you for all they have done as this wasn't a two minute undertaking.

We continue to safely recruit volunteers for The Revive Coffee Shop, thank you to those volunteers for filling in forms, taking the Basic Safeguarding Training and for those who have completed references.

I would like again, to say a really big thank you to everyone who either works with children, volunteers at Revive or members of the PCC for complying with all the regulations, filling in forms and completing the Safeguarding training. All PCC's now have to undergo the Domestic Abuse training and nearly all members have now completed it. During the year the Safeguarding Training continues to be online. A big thank you to Kate and Lisa, who have completed so many Risk Assessment forms for the groups during the year as the guidelines change.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016, which imposes a legal duty on the PCC *to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.*

You might wonder what it means to "have due regard", and the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) observed that this legal term was not well understood. If you would like further details, please do contact the Safeguarding Officer.

The DBS checks continue to come through fairly quickly. Twenty six people have been DBS checked during this last year 2023 with many now on the updating service which means they will be checked automatically each year without having to fill in any more forms!

Fourteen people have taken the Basic Safeguarding Course, twenty one people have completed their Foundation Safeguarding Training and twenty people have completed the Domestic Abuse Course. Jackie Cubitt has also completed the Leadership Pathway and a Spiritual Abuse course. The Safer Recruitment process continues to be used for everyone in the majority of roles within the church. This included completing an Application form, Confidential Record form and references being requested. For those who have responsibilities for managing others, they are now required to complete the Safer Recruitment and People Management online Course. We continue to keep up to date with the Parish Dashboard, even though it is continually changing, especially in April 2024 as a new hub is being added, more news on that next year!

The Parish Dashboard forms the Action Plan from the Safeguarding Policy adopted by the PCC seven years ago and is a great asset, making sure all safeguarding regulations are adhered to. There are three levels and I am pleased to say that we continue to be on level three. The PCC have regular updates at each PCC meeting and have reviewed the Policies on an annual basis. Safeguarding is high up on the agenda at every PCC meeting so the PCC have regular updates and receive up to date information on Safeguarding and the Action Plan from the Parish Dashboard. Please do ask if you would like to know more about the Parish Dashboard. There is more information on Safeguarding in the Narthex, Fellowship Room and the main Hall. Thank you to everyone who has made this role so much easier by completing references, filling in forms, booking on line courses and also the support I have had from our vicar, Reverend Matt, our curate, Reverend Matt, Kate and Lisa. Thank you so much.

Jackie Cubitt - Safeguarding Officer

School's Work 2023:

It's encouraging to see that we continue to have a great relationship with Finham & Stivichall Primary schools. As you can see from the yearly timetable below, we are regularly in school meeting with the teachers and the children.

SPRING 1 5 sessions

FINHAM	10TH JAN	AM	ALL	VALUES
FINHAM	10TH JAN	AM	Y1	WHO & WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN? 60 ch
STIVICHALL	24TH JAN	AM	Y1	WHO & WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN? 75 ch
FINHAM	31ST JAN	AM	Y5	WHY PEOPLE BELIEVE GOD EXISTS? 65 ch
FINHAM	14TH FEB	AM	Y6	WHEN LIFE GETS HARD 65 ch

SPRING 2 4 session

FINHAM	14TH MARCH	AM	ALL	- whole school
FINHAM	14TH MARCH	AM	Y2	SACRED BOOK - 60 ch
FINHAM	27TH MARCH	AM	Y5	EASTER CRACKED - 60 ch
STIVICHALL	28TH MARCH	AM	Y5	EASTER CRACKED - 75 ch

SUMMER 1 8 sessions

FINHAM	25TH APRIL	AM	ALL	ASSEMBLY - AFTER PARTY - whole school
FINHAM	25TH APRIL	AM	Y4	WHY IS JESUS INSPIRING? - 60 c
STIVICHALL	9TH MAY	AM		RECEPTION visit PLACES OF WORSHIP - 60 ch
FINHAM	16TH MAY	AM	ALL	ASSEMBLY -whole school
FINHAM	16TH MAY	AM	Y3	WHY DO PEOPLE PRAY? - 60 ch
STIVICHALL	22ND MAY	AM	ALL	PENTECOST ASSEMBLY - whole school
STIVICHALL	23RD MAY	AM	Y3	THE BIBLE - 75 children
FINHAM	25TH MAY	PM	Y1 visit	PLACES OF WORSHIP- 60 ch

AUTUMN 1 3 sessions

FINHAM	26th SEPT	AM	REC	FARMER & THE SOWER - 60 ch
FINHAM	26TH SEPT	AM	ALL	HARVEST - whole school
FINHAM	10TH OCT	AM	Y1	WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BELONG TO A FAITH COMMUNITY - 60 ch

AUTUMN 2 5 sessions

FINHAM	14TH NOV	AM	ALL	VALUES ASSEMBLY - respect - whole school
FINHAM	14TH NOV	AM	Y5	WHAT WOULD JESUS DO? 60 children
STIVICHALL	4TH DEC	AM	ALL	ADVENT ASSEMBLY - whole school
STIVICHALL	11TH DEC	AM	Y4	CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED - 90 children
FINHAM	12TH DEC	AM	Y4	CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED - 65 children

Summer trip 2023 - with Finham Primary school YEAR 5:

ALIVE session - It was great to be part of the faith schools event. The children and teachers enjoyed the trip to the NAC for live worship / faith / mission event - thank you to the PCC for

Holiday Bible club - no event due to the building work

IGNITE group:

- Still recruiting new members from work in schools, which shows continuity
We had 12 children for most of 2023, until the schools chose their new after school activities from Sept 2023, our numbers changed to 9.
- We opened up for younger age group to allow siblings to come together as a family group - this helped increase our numbers
- We had 2 leaders for most of 2023 (Sue Jones / Marilyn Douglas / with support of MT / MF / JS) Linda Smith joined the team towards the end of 2023.
- We have had craft workshops with Ingrid, which have proved very popular. It is great to be able to teach the children new skills such as sewing and weaving and also to reach out to members of the church to help share their skills and talents.



Thrive support:

- I've been able to network and meet with Fiona and the children's leaders from around Coventry and surrounding areas this year; it is a very useful time when we all support each

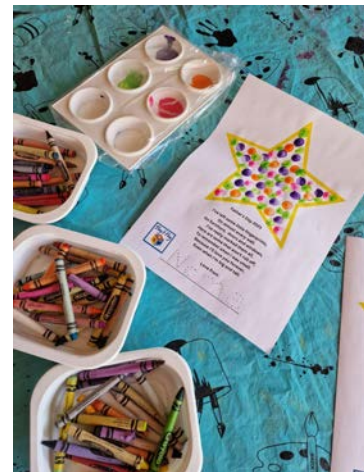
Family work: mainly due to stay & play, I'm able to be more involved with families and make more of a connection with the community outside of Sunday Church.

Sunday Children's Church:

- Currently, we work with the bible reading for church, creating our own bespoke sessions, which can be time consuming in planning, however the teaching on Sunday remains joined up through all the age groups.
- We had a season of holding the groups in church as we didn't have enough leaders or children, moving back into the hall towards the end of the year.
- We have a dedicated team of volunteers that help to grow the faith of the children in our church - this can be 2 children - to 4 children - supporting families and making church fun for the children in our provision. Sandra Taylor / Carolyn Hickton have joined as leaders, we now have 5 leaders on a Sunday, which shares the load greatly. – Marilyn & Gill Barclay have said they will step in, but they already do so much for IGNITE/Stay&Play and I worry they will burn out, as with all our current leaders, if we don't take care of them!
- Sunday worship is still a challenge for "sporting" families, which means attendance is hit & miss -Looking to the future, I have been thinking about inviting the IGNITE Families to church and maybe running a similar group but on Sunday, still in infancy with how this might work, but would mean we may have more children, with the view of families attending church more regularly.

Stay & Play:

- The community group has gone from strength to strength with over 35 adult members and their children.
- The importance of contact with families in the community has been such a rewarding time - seeing Shelly/Fergus baptised in 2023 shows part of God's amazing work in St Martin's.
- Being able to facilitate Jenny/Robyn with their charity work for Prem babies/families support group.
- We have purchased better storage solutions for the toys & equipment, which still need organising better, but I've been able to remove broken toys/containers, which has provided more space & boxes can be stacked away more safely.
- Thanks to Gill Barclay / Fran Armitage / Mary Greenfield on setup /social team – also the Revs, who attend this group on a rota, certainly helping the group to flourish - it would be amazing if more leaders/volunteers were available to help with the future of this wonderful group.
- We couldn't run without our amazing volunteers.



Movie Morning:

- February Half Term 2023
October Half Term 2023
- MT / KS run, with the help of a refreshments team
MD/GB/MG
- Tickets ordered through Eventbrite - free event
We had a great uptake, with around 20 families in attendance at both events.
- Future proofing: The church would really benefit from having black out blinds to enhance the viewing experience & a bigger screen.



Youth and children's working group:

- Dave F stepped down from leading the group and Fran Armitage has taken up the role. We are waiting for a date for when our next meeting will be.

Leaders thanks:

Summer term saw our annual leader breakfast, this was well attended and we were able to thank our leaders for all they do in the church groups. We certainly couldn't run our supervision without

Kate Saxton 26/02/2024

YOUTH ENABLER REPORT

2023 Youth provision

I would like to start off by saying that we couldn't run our Youth provision without such gifted and willing volunteers therefore we would again like to Thank them. We hold a yearly breakfast but this doesn't seem to show just how much we appreciate them. To this end we are looking at different options and the possibility of more regular gatherings. Volunteers worked tirelessly for others and we want them to know that we appreciate them.

First contact Groups running in 2023

Wednesday- Community Bat and Chat (Including ways to bring All Ages together safely) 35 sessions held, 5 being the lowest number and 13 being the highest. Naturally lost 1 young person to University. The local school runs enrichment activities & have held 4 strike days on Wednesday but we have still had young people attending on these days and after their enrichment activities.

- Provides a place for first contact and community building. It continues to encourage young people to explore new activities:
- Technology free club where Active sports/games and creative crafts are encouraged.
- Regular emails to parents/carers inviting them and their young people to all that we offer at the church.
- 3 window displays- create some engaging discussions during Harvest, Easter and Christmas. Also encourages young people to know that the free Community provision they attend is funded by the congregation.
- 3 parent/ carers from the coffee shop took Easter crafts home for their young people to complete and brought them back to be part of the display. One of the young people went on to attend the community provision after this.
- Youth decopatched crosses and completed nail art for the Easter Display 2023
- Youth created woven baskets and homemade fans for the Harvest festival window display 2023
- Youth created Tile paintings, a creative bauble tree display and used the technique quilling to complete the Christmas window display in 2023
-

Invited young people along with their parent/carers who helped with the holiday club during the previous year to our leader breakfast

Wednesday- The After party (Bible studies) These sessions continue to provide Gospel exploration, discipleship building and growing in calling. The sessions follow the same passage as the Sunday group do. It's a small group most weeks, with up to 4 people attending. We have ran 30 sessions this year. The young people of varying ages engage really well together, the session provides a chance to explore the gospel and grow in confidence

- Introduced an After Party challenge where the youth enabler would prepare a small challenge (instructions in an envelope) 2 volunteers would take the young people to the fellowship room/marquee and complete the challenge ready for when the session started. The enabler could clear up quickly and the group had a better chance of starting on time.
- Young people open in prayer
- Pray together as a group

Sunday groups Snack & unwrap YOUTH Sundays & Growing in calling (ages 11-15 come out to groups, 16-18 stay in church, although any young person of Youth age group is welcome to attend the session)

These sessions provide a chance for our young people to socialise with other Christians and talk about their week. We discuss the same passage that is read out in church and try to be creative with the ice breaker.

- Young people open in prayer, and pray for one another as a whole group.
- We have retained the older youth who are part of the service and use their gifts on worship band, technology and sound often. We do not note these young people in our group figures but they are such an important part of the youth provision, since they operate technical and sound decks and perform in the worship band.
- We have had family move home therefore changed churches.
- We have also welcomed a new curate who brings family/young people to us.
- Another young person has been introduced as a member of the worship band this year. Mostly playing at the Sunday evening service.
- Another young person very much enjoys being the regular person to take the collection plate round.
- We have been asked to provide references on a couple of occasions this year for one of our older youth to be part of Christian events helping out at events such as New Wine.

Parent/ carers prayer gathering We have held prayer sessions this year. We pray in general for our provision and we continue to be grateful for the people who attend. It is held every other week in term time, starting promptly at 13:00 hours and finishing at 13:20. We are very grateful for those who attend

Involvement in Children's provision/Transition Youth Enabler attended:

- 27thMarch 2023, Easter cracked Finham school .
- 28thMarch 2023, Easter cracked Styvechale school .
- 17thMay2023, St Martins stay & play
- 4thJuly 2023, Styvechale school transition day.
- 11thJuly 2023, Finham school transition day.
- 11thDecember 2023, Christmas unwrapped.
- 12thDecember 2023, Christmas unwrapped

Volunteers & Leaders

- Breakfast Drop in-14th June 2023
- Safely recruited a new volunteer towards the end of 2023 who has an interest in sports and physical activity so we are very excited to welcome them.
- One of our volunteers has taken a break while dealing with home commitments but has continued to support our youth & kindly gifted a new pool table to the young people and some card crafting items which have been gratefully received. Thank you.
- We still have a need for more volunteers at all of our youth provisions. It would be wonderful to have an emergency list of 3-4 safely recruited volunteers and people who we can call on during

illness.

- Youth enabler has 9 weeks unpaid plus holiday to take, youth enabler attends all groups as we need more volunteers. Sunday groups cannot run during holidays unless we have more volunteers and people who are happy to lead and plan

Networking events

- Less frequent zoom catch ups with Thrive Youth ministries, however the ones that happen continues to be a great strength to the provision.
- 21st March 2023- youth enabler and a parent attended Hope leaders Youth meeting in Cheylesmore.
- 3 young people attended a Thrive BBQ worship event. It was an enjoyable event and also allowed the youth enabler to see volunteers from local churches.
- During a community Bat & Chat session in October, the young people made and decorated windmills (these were gifted to the Ignite group for the children to have)





Youth created Tile paintings, a creative bauble tree display and used the technique quilling to complete the Christmas window display in 2023 .



The Window displays are not often noticed but these are an important part of first contact leading to Gospel exploration as the community group are aware that the congregation provide the funds for them to attend this free youth group and our themed window displays help us to give back to the community.

Lisa Clamp – Youth Enabler

MISSION WORKING GROUP REPORT

Members of the Group

Andrew Barclay

Caroline Brown

Helen Spencer

Lynette Smith

Gail Brigdon

The giving to organisations outside the church has continued this year unchanged from 2022. Direct debits were set up in 2022.

There has been some difficulty in establishing what the 10% of the general unrestricted giving in 2022 was so we continued on the figures used in 2022

For 2023 we continued to support the following organisations

1) Osgoods/OM	£3,600, £300pcm	Evangelism	UK/Overseas
2) Lighthouse Coventry	£1250, £100pcm	Health	UK
3) Thrive	£1,250, £100pcm	Evangelism	UK
4) CCM	£1,250, £100pcm	Evangelism	UK
5) Sat 7	£1,250, £100pcm	Evangelism	Overseas
6) Mvumi Hospital	£650, £50pcm	Health	Overseas
7) Mercy ships	£600, £50pcm	Health	Overseas
8) Emergency fund	£400		
Total	£10,250		

These organisations have been regularly prayed for in church

Andrew Barclay

PARISH OFFICE REPORT 2023

The Parish Office is located at the back of church, in the Vestry and is usually open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Access to the Office is through the back church door, via video link.

Jackie Bint is the Parish Administrator and has served in this role for 20 years as of April 2024, providing administrative support to St. Martin's church, its leadership team, Revive Coffee Shop and staff members.

The administrative requirements, including record keeping, certificate issuing and invoicing for Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations and Funerals continue to be handled by the Office.

The Parish Office compiles a weekly notice sheet that is printed, delivered to **6** parishioners who are no longer able to attend church in person, and distributed to **97** recipients by email. Its purpose is to summarise what's on at St. Martin's, share information and highlight upcoming events.

The Parish Office continues to handle most enquiries from the public, via email, telephone or in person.

St. Martin's church has **28** regular Hall, Fellowship Room, Church & Field users. The premises are additionally used for many private events, meetings, and parties.

The Parish Office manages all hall bookings, both regular and casual, from initial email or telephone enquiry and booking through to invoicing and revenue management. The role of Parish Administrator is key to the church's relationship with the wider community.

Regular groups using the facilities at St. Martin's include the following:

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Saints Explorers
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers
Drama Tots, Artventurers, Wildlings outdoor play
Art Class, Textile History Group, Craft workshops,
Mothers' Union, Men's Fellowship Group, Gospel Choir, Senior Citizens @ St. Martin's,
Stay & Play, Ignite, Youth Group, Alpha Art Group
Finham WI, ICU Steps, Coventry Adoption Group
Private dance practice, Aao Miloh Group

Jackie Bint – Parish Administrator

MOTHERS' UNION BRANCH LEADER'S REPORT

We aim to show our Christian faith by helping the sustainable transformation of communities worldwide. We do this by helping to nurture strong relationships at all levels, promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.

Our Aims are to:

- encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
- help those whose family life has met with adversity
- promote and support married life.

Present in 84 countries, our members are not all mothers, or even all women. They are single, married, parents, grandparents, or young adults just beginning to express their social conscience. Mothers' Union provides a network through which they can serve Christ in their own community. This is done through prayer, financial support and actively working at the grassroots level in programmes that meet local needs.

2023 has been my second year as your Branch Leader and I would like to thank our wonderful Committee and members for all their hard work and support.

A major thank you goes to our knitting group who supply the Neonatal Unit at the hospital and also The Haven with huge amounts of items that they have made and donated, and I know they are gratefully received.

Lenten Communion was enjoyed by us with Revd Matt Taylor with hot cross buns as usual, and for Mothering Sunday our branch donated the daffodils given out at the Sunday service.

We again took up the President's Challenge using £200 to purchase needed new equipment for St Martin's Youth Group, whose leader has assured us that the children are loving the new equipment and have great fun using it. We used the remaining £50 to buy sanitary products to pass on to Carriers of Hope to give out to refugees that they are working with in Coventry.

We had several speakers over the year including a missionary nurse who worked in Israel and MU members Rosie and Anne who told us about their trip to Kapsabet in Kenya as part of Bishop Christopher's group and about meeting other members of Mothers Union there.

During the year some of our members attended Members Days at St Mary's Warwick, St James' Styvechale and our Advent Service at Coventry Cathedral. Our brilliant members also supported our Diocesan President and other MU branches to serve refreshments at the Cathedral to hundreds of people at Bishop Christopher's leaving service.

At the Christmas Fair we again ran a cake stall. The proceeds of which went to help with our donations for the year.

We had our Christmas Carols service in the Marquee, where we enjoyed singing carols and enjoying the love of the Christmas story, and also the eating of the mince pies.

Finally, thank you, members and guests who are a part of our branch and to the Clergy and church family of St Martin's who share fellowship with us, and have supported Mothers Union in their work both at home and abroad, throughout the past year.

Lynette Askew - Branch Leader

MEN'S GROUP ON FRIDAY'S

We have now been running our men's group on Friday afternoon for 2 and 1/2 years.

It has been great that some of those who were there right at the very start still attend and really enjoy the group. Being able to listen and chat is so valuable when people are often in their home for much of the time with nobody to talk to. Over the last six months we have seen new members join the group which is always great and encouraging.

The use of the marquee whilst the repairs were going on in the fellowship room enabled us to carry on without interruption and it is now so good to be back in the fellowship room which looks so great.

The success of our group has enabled us at Good Neighbours to launch similar groups across the city and we are excited about a new one started soon in Abby's church at St Paul's. A place for men to simply meet, chat and feel welcome is so important, I am so grateful that St Martin's has enabled us to have the space to create this group.

Dave Foxwell

Treasurer's Report for 2023

Growth in business at the coffee shop, progress on installing the solar panels and disruption caused by the flooding in the Fellowship Room area have led to much activity on the financial front.

Summary

- Overall, expenditure by the church has been greater than income for some years and continues to be so.
- Total church income rose from £191,515 in 2022 to £230,562, an increase of 20% on the previous year. 36% of the year's income consisted of revenue raised by the coffee shop, up from about 25% in 2022.
- Income for the general fund (unrestricted church income other than from the coffee shop and Stay & Play) rose by 2% from £120,934 to £123,892, compared with an increase of 18% in 2022 and a reduction of 10% in 2021.
- Total church expenditure rose from £208,352 to £254,889, an increase of 22%. 15% of the expenditure was related to the coffee shop, compared with 12% in 2022.
- Expenditure from the general fund rose from £136,288 to £145,401, an increase of 7%. Thus both total and general fund expenditure continue to rise faster than income.
- Total expenditure exceeded total income by £24,326, up from £16,837 in 2022.
- Total assets fell from £229,237 to £222,060. A £17,150 growth in the value of investments (from £182,410 to £199,560) made up nearly all of the value they lost in 2022 but did not offset the cash deficit.

Income

Congregational giving rose by 12%, from £84,877 to £95,289. Partly thanks to a stewardship campaign in the summer, giving by standing order increased from £60,622 in 2022 to £65,897 although envelope giving fell from £10,073 to £8,561. Interestingly, loose cash donations nearly doubled, up to £4,610. A card reader was installed in August but its impact so far has been modest, with £264 raised. Other donations rose from £11,735 to £15,302. While donations in 2022 were dominated by nearly £8,000 for the solar panels, in 2023 about a fifth each were for the panels and for preliminary examinations of the church walls. Among the "donations" was a gift of £2,612.69 in April resulting from Open the Book winding up their work in south Coventry. We have placed this into the restricted fund for youth and children's work.

The coffee shop was the second largest source of income. It is now self-supporting, relying almost entirely on sales to customers with just £2,251 coming from organised events such as funeral meals. Stay and Play is also largely self-supporting with an income during the year of £2,126 from admission payments. Hall rentals, the third largest source of income, fell from £27,222 to £23,263; the 2022 figure may have been influenced by a bounce-back from the Covid pandemic. The extensive repair work on the Fellowship Room and kitchen area did not have as much impact as expected; income from bookings in the second part of the year was actually higher in 2023 than in 2022 although some one-off bookings were lost.

The church received £9,000 in grants from Community Energy Heart of England and Community Energy Warwickshire towards completion of the solar panels project. The £9,016 sundry receipts included payouts of £5,752 and £1,100 from Ecclesiastical Insurance as part compensation for flood damage and for repairs to the drains in front of the church respectively; Ecclesiastical also paid us £1,500 compensation for inaccurate information about insurance cover for the solar panels. £664 was a refund of credit from British Gas when we closed our account with them.

We experienced difficulty in claiming gift aid from donations from October 2022 onwards and this reduced our income by about £18,000. These difficulties have now been largely overcome and we expect to reclaim this money in the first half of 2024.

Expenditure

Parish share remained at its 2022 level but it will rise in 2024. The four staff members received a pay increase, backdated to the start of the year. The assistant chef for the coffee shop left at the end of November and we expect to appoint a replacement in the new year.

Following a steep increase in utility bills in 2022, which included some arrears from 2021, we moved from British Gas to Octopus who offered more competitive charges (British Gas having given notice of a substantial increase) and provide electricity from green sources, supporting our move towards sustainability. They also offer a small payment for electricity from the solar panels that we sell to the national grid. Charges per kilowatt-hour for both electricity and gas are expected to fall in 2024.

Expenditure on the buildings was dominated by completion of the solar panels, which began operation in late March; £20,731 was spent on the panels and electrical equipment and £7,380 (classified under churchyard upkeep) on security fencing that we erected because Ecclesiastical would not provide insurance cover for theft or accidental damage. £3,000 was spent on survey work in connection with impending repairs to the west wall; these will need to be extended to cover all the church walls and guttering. All these costs were met out of restricted funds but there was some heavy spending from the general fund also, for example for maintenance of the fire alarms. The intern who had been cleaning the church and hall left at the end of August and was replaced by one who is attached to another church in the diocese.

A separate report gives details of coffee shop income and expenditure. The shop continues to pay the church £450 monthly for utilities and £325 for cleaning. These payments are expected to be revised in view of the future arrangements for the coffee shop.

Investments

To support cash flow, £30,000 was transferred from the CCLA deposit account to the Santander current account in March and a further £1,000 in September. As a result the balance of the CCLA account was reduced from £32,554 to £5,685 through the year. While this large withdrawal was partly to maintain cash flow when paying for the solar panels, it reflects the fact that despite generous giving by church members towards the panels and the west wall work, and the increases in regular income described above, the church's spending still outstrips income and there is no guarantee that large "exceptional" expenditures will not be succeeded by others.

The value of the holding in CCLA income shares recovered from £125,799 at the start of the year to £137,738 by the end of 2023 as the national economy improved. These holdings paid out £3,765 in dividends, which were paid into the CCLA deposit account. The value of our endowment with Black Rock rose from £56,611 to £61,822 through the year. The church aims to transfer this holding to another fund that is more committed to environmental and ethical investments.

Reserves

In January 2020 the PCC reviewed its policy on financial reserves and decided that sufficient accessible funds should be kept at all times to cover six months of essential expenditure. Based on 2022, the amount to be kept in reserve is estimated to be £122,512. Cash funds at the end of 2023 amounted to £22,500 and investment assets to £222,060.

Coffee shop

The coffee shop has continued to be a success, both in terms of patronage and profitability, and it has made a positive contribution to the church's accounts. The separate report on the coffee shop gives further details.

Accounts and administration

Andrew Spencer continued as Church Treasurer but the finances of the coffee shop have been managed by Alex Langlands, a professional accountant. The church is greatly indebted for her work and advice.

Mr. Jatinder Singh Birdi was confirmed as Independent Examiner of the church finances at the APCM in May 2022 and at the PCC meeting on 16th January 2024 it was reported that he would be prepared to continue in the role for this year.

The church continued to use a current account with Santander Bank. A new current account was opened with CAF Bank in March 2022 to handle coffee shop funds although at present some monies, particularly cash receipts, are still banked with Santander. In February 2023 the church opened a second account with CAF to handle church funds. It allows us to pay invoices and expenses electronically with dual authorisation, something that is not possible with Santander.

We are now using the Expense Plus accounting system to handle the coffee shop finances. The aim is to use this for all church funds but the transfer has proved slower than expected and in 2023 we continued to use the spreadsheet that Neville Hunt developed when he was Treasurer.

Unrestricted and restricted funds

The church has created a new unrestricted fund to handle the coffee shop's revenue and spending. The restricted coffee shop fund, which contained grants and donations to support the shop's setting-up, has been gradually run down to zero. The Stay and Play group has closed its independent current account, this being transferred into a new restricted fund. An unrestricted Stay and Play fund has also been set up for monies that it receives from the coffee shop.

Two restricted funds, for Rwanda and for the garden and eco-projects, contained only nominal sums and had been dormant for some time. We aimed to extinguish both funds in 2022 by spending their contents on related projects but we have since found that they contain a few pence each resulting from rounding errors. We may reactivate one or both funds for further use.

Two other restricted funds, for Youth and Missions, contain money pledged by church members for those uses. The restricted funds for the solar panels and the west wall continue in being. A new restricted fund was set up to handle receipts from the repair workshop that was set up during 2023.

External giving

The church continues to make monthly donations of £100 to Lighthouse Christian Care, Thrive Youth Ministries, the Coventry City Mission and to Sat7 UK and of £50 to the Friends of Mvumi Hospital and to Mercy Ships UK Ltd. We also donated to Tear Fund to support relief work following the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

Concluding thoughts

The rise in income is still outweighed by the rise in expenditure. The cash deficit has widened from £16,837 to £24,326 and cash funds have fallen from £46,827 to £22,500. Much but not all of these shortfalls resulted from the difficulties in claiming back tax under gift aid, which we hope have now been overcome.

Continued withdrawals from the CCLA deposit fund mean that this supply is nearly exhausted and if the current deficit is maintained it will be necessary to draw upon the investment funds. This in turn will reduce their earning capacity.

Although the solar panels dominated much of the year's expenditure and this project has now completed, the repairs to the church walls will cost up to £70,000 and this work cannot be delayed forever. We have been approaching grant awarding bodies to meet this cost but almost certainly they will not meet it in full.

Costs are rising on all fronts. A stewardship campaign during the year has led to an increase in giving but more will be needed – not an easy proposition at a time when many people's real incomes are falling.

A finance team was set up in early 2023 to address these issues and also some ethical matters, for example whether we should continue to use funds that invest in fossil fuels and tobacco. The Treasurer wishes to conclude by thanking the team, along with the church leaders and members, for their cheerful and encouraging support through the past year.

Andrew Spencer - Treasurer

Section A Receipts and payments

Receipts	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Standing Orders	63,305	2,592	-	65,897	60,622
Donations	6,089	9,213	-	15,302	11,647
Planned Giving Envelopes	8,561	-	-	8,561	10,073
Loose Plate Collections	4,610	-	-	4,610	2,441
Card Reader	264	-	-	264	-
Refreshments	655	-	-	655	564
Receipts from Youth	-	531	-	531	524
Weddings & Funerals	1,026	-	-	1,026	1,971
Hall Lettings	23,263	-	-	23,263	27,222
Interest/Dividends	4,149	-	-	4,149	4,191
Tax Recovered	-	-	-	-	13,321
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Receipts	9,016	-	-	9,016	2,329
Repair Workshop Receipts	-	337	-	337	-
Fund-raising	1,465	20	-	1,485	484
Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
One-off Grants	1,500	9,000	-	10,500	5,100
Stay & Play Income	2,126	-	-	2,126	1,074
Coffee Shop Income	80,590	-	-	80,590	45,850
Coffee Shop Events	2,251	-	-	2,251	4,102
Sub total (Gross income)	208,870	21,692	-	230,562	191,515

Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total receipts	208,870	21,692	-	230,562	191,515
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Payments					
Ministry Parish Share	67,572	-	-	67,572	67,572
Clergy Expenses	2,547	-	-	2,547	1,223
Staffing & Overheads	55,169	2,512	-	57,681	45,191
Children	1,463	-	-	1,463	1,028
Youth	-	575	-	575	390
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Training	1,213	-	-	1,213	969
Wedding/Funeral Fees - Diocese	1,044	-	-	1,044	1,083
Music and Sound	1,106	-	-	1,106	1,202
Vision	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy costs	504	-	-	504	-
Publicity	347	-	-	347	-
Administration	3,131	-	-	3,131	2,738
Insurance	3,439	-	-	3,439	3,477
Utilities	16,007	-	-	16,007	16,233
Sundry Supplies	800	-	-	800	1,026
Buildings	14,953	24,382	-	39,334	27,444
Churchyard Upkeep	1,108	7,910	-	9,018	-
Mission Agencies	9,747	600	-	10,347	13,100
Honoraria	100	-	-	100	400
Fund-raising Activities	252	-	-	252	-
Stay & Play - Admin costs	23	-	-	23	7
Coffee Shop - Cost of Sales	30,272	-	-	30,272	17,806
Coffee Shop - Admin costs	5,858	-	-	5,858	4,891
Coffee Shop - Equipment	2,255	-	-	2,255	1,697
Coffee Shop - Other costs	-	-	-	-	875
Sub total	218,910	35,978	-	254,889	208,352

Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-

Total payments	218,910	35,978	-	254,889	208,352
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Net of receipts/(payments)	- 10,041	- 14,286	-	- 24,326	- 16,837
Transfers between funds	- 3,792	3,792	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	32,366	14,460	-	46,827	63,664
Cash funds this year end	18,534	3,967	-	22,500	46,827

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Cash funds	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Santander Current Account	2,993	-	-	2,993	12,198
(less £105 agency payment made in 2024)	2,888	-	-	2,888	-
CCLA Deposit Account	1,719	3,967	-	5,685	32,554
CAF Deposit Account, Church Funds	2,597	-	-	2,597	-
CAF Deposit Account, Revive	11,005	-	-	11,005	1,737
Cash in Hand, Church	139	-	-	139	146
Cash in Hand, Coffee Shop	185	-	-	185	192
Total cash funds	18,534	3,967	-	22,500	46,827

account(s)	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Other monetary assets	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
	-	-	-	-	-

Investment assets	Status	Cost	Current value	Last year
CCLA Investment Account	Unrestricted	94,168 (2017)	137,738	125,799
Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund	Endowment	20,000 (1995)	61,822	56,611

Assets retained for charity's use	Fund	Cost	Current value	Last year
		-	-	-

Total Assets	222,060	229,237
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Liabilities	Fund	Amount due	When due
Total		-	

Section C Position of funds at the end of the period

Fund	Starting	Receipts	Payments	Net transfers	End of year
General	31,632.96	123,891.80	145,400.81	- 3,892	6,232
Youth (Restricted)	96.12	5,655.49	3,086.56	-	2,665
Mission (Restricted)	- 1,868.00	600.00	600.00	1,868	-
Repair workshop (Restricted)	-	366.80	-	100	467
Coffee shop (Unrestricted)	- 233.83	82,852.14	73,080.87	100	9,637
Coffee shop (Restricted)	-	-	-	-	-
Solar panels (Restricted)	16,690.00	12,070.00	28,641.24	-	119
West wall (Restricted)	- 1,174.00	3,000.00	3,650.41	1,824	-
Garden - ECO (R)	- 0.11			0	-
Rwanda (Restricted)	0.14			- 0	-
Stay & Play (Unrestricted)	967.36	2,126.00	428.77	-	2,665
Stay & Play (Restricted)	716.01	-	-	-	716
Sub-total (Cash Funds)	46,826.65	230,562.23	254,889	- 0	22,500
Investments	182,410.03	17,150.16	-	-	199,560
Total	229,236.68	247,712.39	254,889	- 0	222,060

account(s)	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
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Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

EVIVE COFFEE SHOP REPORT

The following is a report by Revive Coffee shop accountant Alex Langland of the first year of trading.

Revive Coffee Shop Finances to 31 December 2023



Overview of Finances

Cash Basis

	YEAR ENDED TO 31 DECEMBER 2023			YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022		
	Unrestricted Funds	Budget	VARIANCE TO BUDGET	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2022
INCOME						
Donations & Grant Income	£0	£0	£0	£0	£5,909	£5,909
Bank Interest	£11	£4	£8	£2		£2
Coffee Shop Income	£80,590	£62,399	£18,191	£45,850		£45,850
Events	£2,251	£4,000	(£1,749)	£4,113		£4,113
Total income	£82,852	£66,403	£16,449	£49,965	£5,909	£55,873
EXPENDITURE						
Staffing	£26,750	£24,174	£2,576	£15,842		£15,842
Cost of Sales	£31,131	£25,066	£6,065	£17,806		£17,806
Other operational/ support costs	£5,789	£6,185	(£396)	£5,766		£5,766
Equipment repairs/ maintenance	£893	£0	£893			
Building costs & Utilities	£8,110	£8,550	(£440)	£6,317		£6,317
Capital Investment (Cash Basis)	£140		£140	£1,697		£1,697
Total Expenditure	£72,813	£63,975	£8,838	£47,429	£0	£47,429
Net Income/ (Expenditure)	£10,039	£2,428	£7,611	£2,536	£5,909	£8,445
Fund Balance Brought Forward	(£234)	(£234)	£0	(£2,770)	(£5,909)	(£8,678)
Fund transfer	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Fund Balance Carried Forward	£9,805	£2,194	£7,611	(£234)	£0	(£234)
Balance Sheet						
Bank Balance: CAF Bank/ Square	£10,332			£670		
Petty Cash	£295			£92		
Bank Balance: Owed to Santander	(£822)			(£996)		
NET ASSETS	£9,805			(£234)		

Using the cash basis, the coffee shop accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 show net income of **£10,039 compared to the forecast of £2,428**. The difference is mainly due to coffee shop income being 25% higher than budgeted.

Cash Basis vs. Accruals Basis

Using the accruals basis, the coffee shop accounts show net income of £6,410. The reconciliation explaining the differences between the accounting bases is below:

	Net Income for Year	Net Assets at Year End
Balance per Cash Basis	£10,039	£9,805
Less: Items Capitalised as Fixed Assets (in year/ to date)	£739	£12,245
Less: Depreciation Charge (in year/ to date)	(£2,530)	(£4,826)
Less: Accrued Expenses	(£2,259)	(£2,259)
Add Back: Prior year accrued expenses paid this year	£421	
Balance per Accruals Basis	£6,410	£14,965

Accruals vs Cash Basis

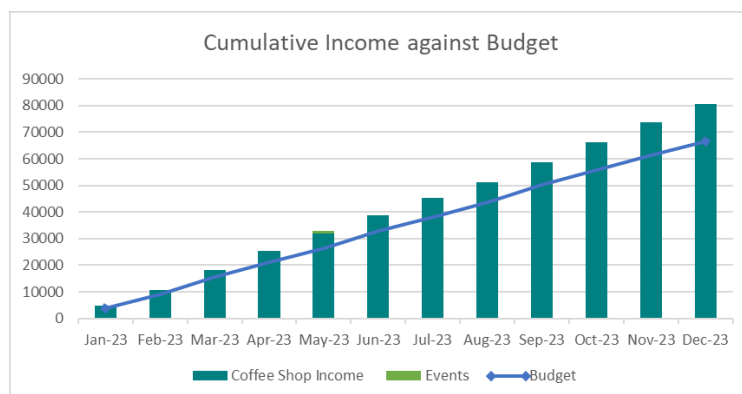
	2023: ACCRUALS BASIS			2023: CASH BASIS		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
INCOME						
Donations & Grant Income	£0		£0	£0		£0
Bank Interest	£11		£11	£11		£11
Coffee Shop Income	£80,590		£80,590	£80,590		£80,590
Events	£2,251		£2,251	£2,251		£2,251
Total income	£82,852	£0	£82,852	£82,852	£0	£82,852
EXPENDITURE						
Staffing	£27,583		£27,583	£26,750		£26,750
Cost of Sales	£30,460		£30,460	£31,131		£31,131
Other operational/ support costs	£5,966		£5,966	£5,789		£5,789
Equipment repairs/ maintenance	£893		£893	£893		£893
Building costs & Utilities	£9,010		£9,010	£8,110		£8,110
Capital Investment (<i>Cash Basis</i>)			£0	£140		£140
Depreciation (<i>Accruals Basis</i>)	£968	£1,562	£2,530			£0
Total Expenditure	£74,881	£1,562	£76,442	£72,813	£0	£72,813
Net Income/ (Expenditure)	£7,971	(£1,562)	£6,410	£10,039	£0	£10,039
<i>Fund Balance Brought Forward</i>	<i>£2,308</i>	<i>£6,247</i>	<i>£8,555</i>	<i>(£234)</i>	<i>£0</i>	<i>(£234)</i>
<i>Fund Transfer</i>		<i>£0</i>	<i>£0</i>		<i>£0</i>	<i>£0</i>
Fund Balance Carried Forward	£10,279	£4,685	£14,965	£9,805	£0	£9,805
Balance Sheet						
Fixed Assets	£2,733	£4,685	£7,419			
Bank Balance: CAF Bank/ Square	£10,332		£10,332	£10,332		£10,332
Petty Cash	£295		£295	£295		£295
Bank Balance: Owed to Santander	(£822)		(£822)	(£822)		(£822)
Accrued expenses	(£2,259)		(£2,259)			
NET ASSETS	£10,279	£4,685	£14,965	£9,805	£0	£9,805

Accruals Basis: At 31 December 2023, net assets total £14,965, representing the net income generated from the coffee shop and events less coffee shop expenses. This includes restricted net assets total £4,685, which represents £7,809 income (£1,901 in 2021 and £5,909 in 2022) specifically donated for the set up of the coffee shop (spent on the new floor and coffee machine), less the depreciation of those assets to date.

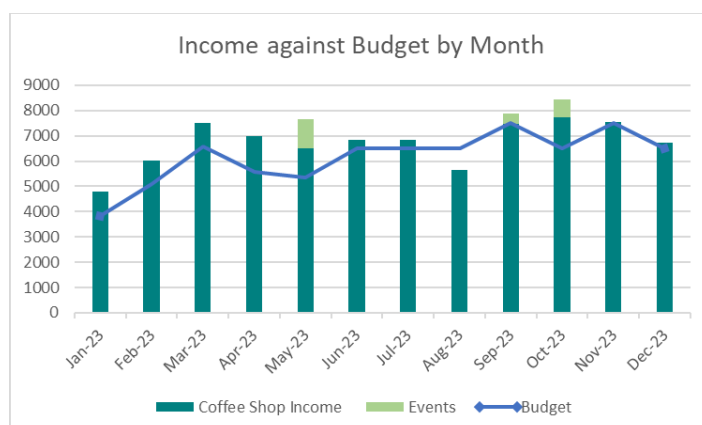
Cash Basis: Net Assets on a cash basis are £9,805. This is lower than on an accruals basis, because the full impact of the £11,646 spent on Fixed Assets has been taken in the year in which the assets were bought, rather than spreading the cost over the life of the assets as on the Accruals Basis. On a cash basis, all of the restricted funds have been spent on assets, and so the restricted fund balance is Nil.

Income

Total coffee shop income to for the year ended 31 December 2023 is 25% ahead of budget, with income being £82,852 compared to a budget of £66,403.



Sales in December 2023 were £6,730 compared to a budget of £6,500, with sales lower in December than the preceding months as the coffee shop was closed for the last week of December.



Income has exceeded budget each month of the year, with the exception of August, when sales for the month were £5,650 compared to a budget of £6,500, a deficit of £850. This is a result of the coffee shop being closed for the first week in August due to the repairs to the floor. This meant that 5 days of income were lost, which equates to roughly £1,500. Therefore, we can see that if the coffee shop had been able to open that week, sales would have once again exceeded budget for the month. An insurance claim is being put in for the lost earnings, and so the coffee shop should be able to reclaim this income. However, it should also be noted that the deficit in August has been more than made up for in previous months, and once again in October, sales exceeded budget.

Income from events is running at less than the forecast for the year, but this is compensated for by the coffee shop income exceeding budget.

Note that the income figures exclude the Stay and Play and Gospel Choir income which has been paid for through Square.

Expenditure

On a cash basis, expenditure for the year is slightly above forecast, totalling £72,813 compared to the forecast of £63,975. The increased costs are a result of the increased sales for the year to date – with cost of sales being higher than forecast by 24%.

As well as the higher cost of sales, resulting from the higher sales, there have been some additional costs which were not explicitly budgeted for:

- New microwave: £599
- Dishwasher repair £473
- Annual service of the coffee machine: £420
- Additional staff costs to cover Phil's period of leave: £220 paid in November and £625 in December

These additional costs have been more than compensated for by the additional income generated by the coffee shop.

It should be noted that Octopus did not invoice for utility bills from mid-July to October. Invoices for mid-July – October were paid in November, resulting in a coffee shop expense of £1,800 in November. Due to the cash accounting, meaning that the £1,800 is only seen in the month of payment, we see a deficit being generated for the month November. Octopus have not billed for energy use in November and December and so the expected cost of £450 pcm is not included in the accounts prepared under the cash accounting method.

Net Surplus

Overall, the accounts are currently showing a net surplus for the year of £10,039 against a forecast of £2,428. The surplus is 313% above budget due to the higher coffee shop income than expected.

A summary of the accounts prepared on the cash basis is on page 6.

Bank Balances

At 31 December, the breakdown of cash balances was as follows:

	Coffee Shop	Stay & Play *	Gospel Choir *
CAF Cash Bank Current Account	£10,274	£364	£342
Square (Amounts not yet paid out)	-		
Till Float	£57		
Petty Cash (Amounts not yet banked)	£295		
TOTAL HELD BY COFFEE SHOP	£10,627		
Amounts owed to Coffee Shop by the church account **	(£822)		
NET POSITION	£9,805		

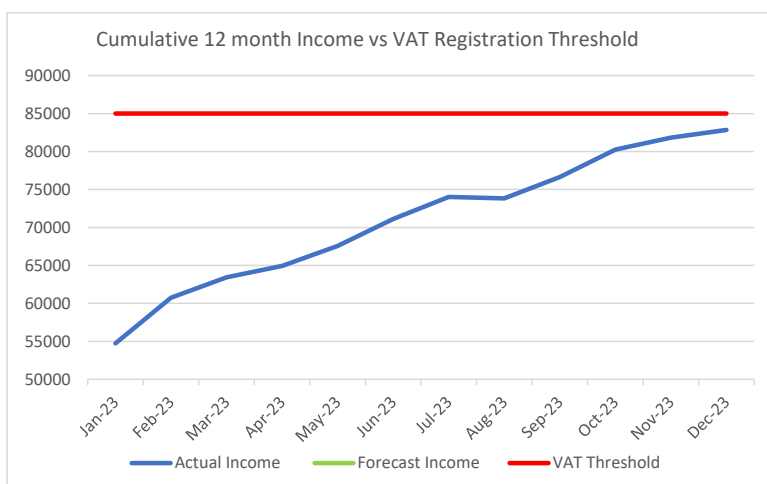
* The Stay & Play and Gospel Choir income is received into the Square till and paid into the Coffee Shop CAF Bank Account. The balance is transferred into the Santander Bank Account in the following month.

**There are certain transactions for the coffee shop that are paid for by the church – this includes salaries for coffee shop staff, and the coffee shop's share of certain costs incurred jointly with the church, for example the utility and cleaning bills. On the other hand, the coffee shop income that is received in cash is paid into the church bank account. The net of the coffee shop expenses less the coffee shop income is repaid by the coffee shop to the church in the following month.

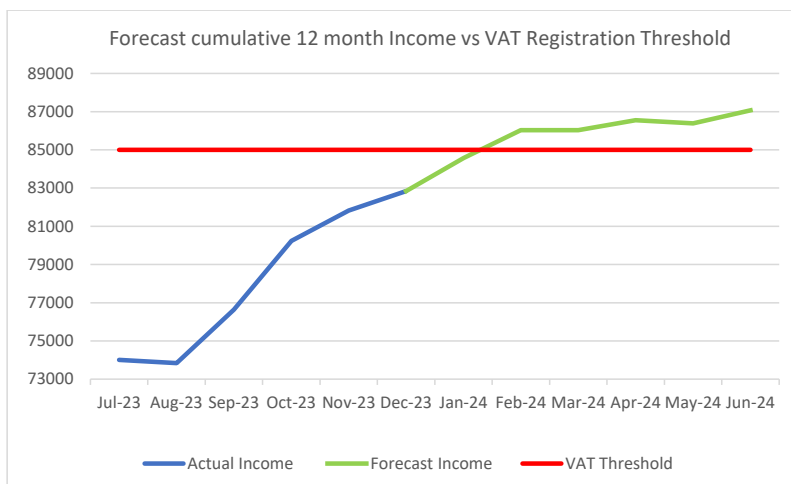
Note that all initial start up costs for the coffee shop paid for by the church have now been fully repaid.

VAT Check

At 31 December, cumulative sales for the last 12 months total **£82,841**. The VAT registration threshold is £85,000 and so there is currently a £2.2k buffer.



With sales projected at £6,500 for January 2024, the cumulative 12-month total is projected to be £84.6k by the end of January, with VAT registration required in February 2024. Sales need to stay under £6,936 in January 2024 to avoid VAT registration in January.



As a result of these calculations, we will need to look at the VAT registration from February 2024.

Category Group	Category	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	TOTAL TO DATE	Budget to Date	Variance to budget
	Donations													0	0	
	Donations													0	0	
	Other Income			1			2			4			3.98	11	4	216%
	Other Income	4,777	6,032	7,501	6,975	6,514	6,824	6,843	5,649	7,486	7,727	7,531	6,730.29	80,590	62,399	29%
	Other Income					1,150			390	711				2,251	4,000	-44%
	TOTAL INCOME	4,777	6,032	7,503	6,975	7,664	6,827	6,843	5,649	7,880	8,438	7,531	6,734.27	82,852	66,403	25%
	Budgeted	3,815	5,087	6,570	5,569	5,355	6,356	5,355	5,569	6,570	5,569	5,569	5,017.20			
	Cost of Sales													2,224	1,173	90%
	Cost of Sales		71	56	440	191	16	240	190	124	134	407	354	1,613	600	169%
	Cost of Sales		4	681	10	11	109	15	41	599	117	0	26.50	893	0	
	Cost of Sales															
	Cost of Sales		1,499	2,373	2,179	1,452	3,548	2,172	2,285	1,575	2,554	2,819	2,995	27,018	22,813	18%
	Cost of Sales															
	Cost of Sales		24	29	47	6	26	49	23	27	44	37	67	416	480	-13%
	Admin															
	Admin		32	709	403	364	228	326	306	369	257	390	403	4,485	5,100	-12%
	Admin		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	60	60	0%
	Admin		59	77	95	82	95	94	97	78	96	117	102	1,095	785	39%
	Admin		25	25	25	25	25	25	0	0	0	0	0	150	120	25%
	Admin		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	-100%
	Building															
	Building		28	176	363	359	181	297	482	176	341	235	29	3,446	3,150	9%
	Building													4,664	5,400	-14%
	Staffing															
	Staffing		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	107	0	0	0	107	350	-69%
	Staffing		1,186	1,479	1,544	2,409	2,260	2,283	2,030	3,095	2,474	2,651	2,596	26,643	23,824	12%
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE															
	Budgeted		3,382	6,060	5,560	5,353	6,944	5,955	5,624	6,154	6,022	7,302	8,602	72,813	63,975	14%
	Budgeted		3,968	5,261	5,545	5,507	5,086	5,466	5,428	5,657	5,870	5,657	5,315			
	TOTAL PROFIT/(LOSS)															
	Budgeted		1,396	(28)	1,943	1,622	720	871	1,220	(504)	1,858	1,135	(1,071)	10,039	2,428	314%
	Over/(under) budget		1,548	145	917	1,559	451	(19)	1,292	(417)	1,158	1,223	(1,326)			

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Receipts					
Standing Orders	63,305	2,592	-	65,897	60,622
Donations	6,089	9,213	-	15,302	11,647
Planned Giving Envelopes	8,561	-	-	8,561	10,073
Loose Plate Collections	4,610	-	-	4,610	2,441
Card Reader	264	-	-	264	-
Refreshments	655	-	-	655	564
Receipts from Youth	-	531	-	531	524
Weddings & Funerals	1,026	-	-	1,026	1,971
Hall Lettings	23,263	-	-	23,263	27,222
Interest/Dividends	4,149	-	-	4,149	4,191
Tax Recovered	-	-	-	-	13,321
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Receipts	9,016	-	-	9,016	2,329
Repair Workshop Receipts	-	337	-	337	-
Fund-raising	1,465	20	-	1,485	484
Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
One-off Grants	1,500	9,000	-	10,500	5,100
Stay & Play Income	2,126	-	-	2,126	1,074
Coffee Shop Income	80,590	-	-	80,590	45,850
Coffee Shop Events	2,251	-	-	2,251	4,102
Sub total (Gross income)	208,870	21,692	-	230,562	191,515
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	208,870	21,692	-	230,562	191,515
Payments					
Ministry Parish Share	67,572	-	-	67,572	67,572
Clergy Expenses	2,547	-	-	2,547	1,223
Staffing & Overheads	55,169	2,512	-	57,681	45,191
Children	1,463	-	-	1,463	1,028
Youth	-	575	-	575	390
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Training	1,213	-	-	1,213	969
Wedding/Funeral Fees - Diocese	1,044	-	-	1,044	1,083
Music and Sound	1,106	-	-	1,106	1,202
Vision	-	-	-	-	-
Accountancy costs	504	-	-	504	-
Publicity	347	-	-	347	-
Administration	3,131	-	-	3,131	2,738
Insurance	3,439	-	-	3,439	3,477
Utilities	16,007	-	-	16,007	16,233
Sundry Supplies	800	-	-	800	1,026
Buildings	14,953	24,382	-	39,334	27,444
Churchyard Upkeep	1,108	7,910	-	9,018	-
Mission Agencies	9,747	600	-	10,347	13,100
Honoraria	100	-	-	100	400
Fund-raising Activities	252	-	-	252	-
Stay & Play - Admin costs	23	-	-	23	7
Coffee Shop - Cost of Sales	30,272	-	-	30,272	17,806
Coffee Shop - Admin costs	5,858	-	-	5,858	4,891
Coffee Shop - Equipment	2,255	-	-	2,255	1,697
Coffee Shop - Other costs	-	-	-	-	875
Sub total	218,910	35,978	-	254,889	208,352
Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	218,910	35,978	-	254,889	208,352

Net of receipts/(payments)	- 10,041	- 14,286	-	- 24,326	- 16,837
Transfers between funds	- 3,792	3,792	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	32,366	14,460	-	46,827	63,664
Cash funds this year end	18,534	3,967	-	22,500	46,827

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Cash funds	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Santander Current Account	2,993	-	-	2,993	12,198
(less £105 agency payment made in 2024)	2,888	-	-	2,888	-
CCLA Deposit Account	1,719	3,967	-	5,685	32,554
CAF Deposit Account, Church Funds	2,597	-	-	2,597	-
CAF Deposit Account, Revive	11,005	-	-	11,005	1,737
Cash in Hand, Church	139	-	-	139	146
Cash in Hand, Coffee Shop	185	-	-	185	192
Total cash funds	18,534	3,967	-	22,500	46,827
account(s)	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK

Other monetary assets	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
	-	-	-	-	-

Investment assets	Status	Cost	Current value	Last year
CCLA Investment Account	Unrestricted	94,168 (2017)	137,738	125,799
Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund	Endowment	20,000 (1995)	61,822	56,611

Assets retained for charity's use	Fund	Cost	Current value	Last year
		-	-	-
Total Assets			222,060	229,237

Liabilities	Fund	Amount due	When due
Total		-	

Section C Position of funds at the end of the period

Fund	Starting	Receipts	Payments	Net transfers	End of year
General	31,632.96	123,891.80	145,400.81	- 3,892	6,232
Youth (Restricted)	96.12	5,655.49	3,086.56	-	2,665
Mission (Restricted)	- 1,868.00	600.00	600.00	1,868	-
Repair workshop (Restricted)	-	366.80	-	100	467
Coffee shop (Unrestricted)	- 233.83	82,852.14	73,080.87	100	9,637
Coffee shop (Restricted)	-	-	-	-	-
Solar panels (Restricted)	16,690.00	12,070.00	28,641.24	-	119
West wall (Restricted)	- 1,174.00	3,000.00	3,650.41	1,824	-
Garden - ECO (R)	- 0.11			0	-
Rwanda (Restricted)	0.14			0	-
Stay & Play (Unrestricted)	967.36	2,126.00	428.77	-	2,665
Stay & Play (Restricted)	716.01	-	-	-	716
Sub-total (Cash Funds)	46,826.65	230,562.23	254,889	- 0	22,500
Investments	182,410.03	17,150.16	-	-	199,560
Total	229,236.68	247,712.39	254,889	- 0	222,060

account(s) OK OK OK OK OK

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all

Signature

Print Name
MATTHEW TAYLOR
ANDREW SPENCER

Date of approval
2/5/24
2/5/24

MTaylor 2/5/24

AH. Spencer 2/5/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin in the Fields, Coventry

On accounts for the year
ended

December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1133962

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

J.S. Bird

Date:

4/4/24

Name:

JATINDER SINGH BIRD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

(if any):

Address:

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.

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees /
members of

Charity Name

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Finham,
Coventry

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1133962

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2022.

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 (other than that
disclosed below *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

J S Birdi

Date:

17/04/2023

Name:

Jatinder S Birdi

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

151 Rugby Road, Cubbington,

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire

CV32 7JJ

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.

1133912.

St Martin-in-the-Fields PCC

Accounts for the year 01 Jan 2022 to 31 Dec 2022

Section A Receipts and payments

Receipts	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Standing Orders	57,280	3,342	-	60,622	58,866
Planned Giving Envelopes	9,919	154	-	10,073	9,509
Hall Lettings	27,222	-	-	27,222	6,317
Tax Recovered	12,550	771	-	13,321	13,968
Donations	3,035	8,613	-	11,647	27,300
Rwanda Partnership	-	-	-	-	-
Fund-raising	96	388	-	484	1,140
One-off Grants	100	5,000	-	5,100	3,000
Loose Plate Collections	2,397	44	-	2,441	1,073
Weddings & Funerals	1,971	-	-	1,971	3,788
Refreshments	564	-	-	564	60
Receipts from Youth	-	524	-	524	354
Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-	500
Sundry Receipts	1,623	706	-	2,329	602
Interest/Dividends	4,191	-	-	4,191	3,652
Stay & Play Income	1,074	-	-	1,074	-
Coffee Shop Income	45,850	-	-	45,850	-
Coffee Shop Events	4,102	-	-	4,102	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income)	171,973	19,542	-	191,515	130,130
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	171,973	19,542	-	191,515	130,130
Payments					
Ministry Parish Share	67,572	-	-	67,572	67,572
Staffing & Overheads	41,579	3,612	-	45,191	31,114
Mission Agencies	5,550	7,550	-	13,100	7,652
Buildings	14,527	12,917	-	27,444	19,210
Rwanda Partnership	-	-	-	-	-
Youth	-	390	-	390	327
Children	868	159	-	1,028	810
Working Groups	-	-	-	-	-
Music and Sound	1,202	-	-	1,202	2,420
Vision	-	-	-	-	120
Utilities	16,233	-	-	16,233	4,105
Administration	2,738	-	-	2,738	2,659
Insurance	3,477	-	-	3,477	3,561
Wedding/Funeral Fees - Diocese	1,083	-	-	1,083	1,679
Sundry Supplies	1,025	-	-	1,025	1,017
Clergy Expenses	1,223	-	-	1,223	1,503
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Training	969	-	-	969	253
Churchyard Upkeep	-	-	-	-	515
Publicity	-	-	-	-	104
Honoraria	400	-	-	400	-
Fund-raising Activities	-	-	-	-	553
Stay & Play - Admin costs	7	-	-	7	-
Coffee Shop - Cost of Sales	17,806	-	-	17,806	-
Coffee Shop - Admin costs	4,891	-	-	4,891	-
Coffee Shop - Equipment	1,697	-	-	1,697	-
Coffee Shop - Other costs	875	-	-	875	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	183,723	24,628	-	208,351	145,173
Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	183,723	24,628	-	208,351	145,173

<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	- 11,750	- 5,086	-	- 16,837	- 15,042
Transfers between funds	- 7,261	7,261	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	51,378	12,285	-	63,664	78,706
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	32,367	14,460	-	46,827	63,664

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Cash funds	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Santander Current Account	12,198	-	-	12,198	25,205
CCLA Deposit Account	18,094	14,460	-	32,554	38,365
CAF Deposit Account, Revive	1,737	-	-	1,737	-
Cash in Hand	338	-	-	338	94
Total cash funds	32,367	14,460	-	46,827	63,664

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Investment assets

	Status	Cost	Current value	Last year
CCLA Investment Account	Unrestricted	94,168 (2017)	125,799	142,500
Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund	Endowment	20,000 (1995)	56,611	56,676
Total Assets			229,237	262,840

Liabilities

	Fund	Amount due	When due
Total		-	

Section C Position of funds at the end of the period

Fund	Starting balance	Receipts	Payments	Net transfers	End of year balance
General	51,378	120,934	136,288	- 4,391	31,633
Youth (Restricted)	- 4,491	4,257	4,161	4,491	96
Mission (Restricted)	4,800	750	7,418	-	1,868
Garden/ECO (Restricted)	100	-	100	-	0
Coffee shop (Unrestricted)		49,965	47,429	- 2,770	234
Coffee shop (Restricted)	- 8,678	5,909	-	2,770	-
Solar panels (Restricted)	20,100	7,910	11,320	-	16,690
Rwanda (Restricted)	132	-	132	-	0
West wall (Restricted)	323	-	1,497	-	1,174
Stay & Play (Unrestricted)		1,074	7	- 100	967
Stay & Play (Restricted)		716	-	-	716
Sub-total (Cash Funds)	63,664	191,515	208,351	0	46,827
Investments	199,176	- 16,766	-	-	182,410
Total	262,840	174,749	208,351	0	229,237

Accounts

St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Finham, Coventry

Charity Commission Number 1133962

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2021

Incumbent: Rev. Matthew Taylor



Bank: Santander

Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Independent Examiner:

Mr. Jatinder Singh Birdi

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2021.

AIM and PURPOSE

St. Martin's 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. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church Hall, Fellowship Room and Community Hub of St. Martin's.

The PCC is a charity that is registered with the Charity Commission, Number 1133962.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St. Martin's Church is situated in Green Lane, Finham, Coventry. It is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 136 Green Lane, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EA.

The PCC is a body corporate, operating under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 which came into effect on 2nd January, 1957 and the Church Representation Rules (within Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended).

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

At the 2001 APCM a resolution was adopted for 12 elected members to serve on the PCC. Members elected would serve for a period of three years and one third of the elected members would retire annually. Retiring members would be eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

There are 127 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of which 47 are not resident within the parish. All those attending St. Martin's are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The average church attendance on a normal Sunday in 2021 was 40 in person and many more watching on live stream each week.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC FOR 2021 WAS:

Vicar: Rev Matthew Taylor

Curate: Rev Abby Rhodes

Church Wardens: Mrs Helen Spencer and Mr Dan Saxton

Lay Reader

Dr Andrew Barclay

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Dr John Elton (Diocesan Synod)

Mr Godfrey Armitage (Diocesan Synod)

Mrs Jackie Cubitt from 2020 (Deanery Synod)

12 Elected Members

4 Deanery Synod Members

Re-election

2022

1. Caroline Brown
2. Gill Blackmore
3. Richard Morris

2023

4. Martin Bint
5. Fran Armitage

2024

6. Stan McCarthy
7. Dave Foxwell
8. Andrew Spencer – cp opted

(Due to her commitments to the Revive Coffee Shop, Alison Court will no longer be standing for PCC)

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT and OBJECTIVES

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

The full PCC met 8 times during the year via Zoom. The PCC has Working Teams which during Covid have not met apart from the Building Team and the Standing Committee, on a monthly basis. The Teams met between PCC meetings when government guidance allowed and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The Standing Committee has a core of six members who are Rev Matthew Taylor, Rev Abby Rhodes, Dr Andrew Barclay, Mrs Jackie Cubitt, Mrs Helen Spencer and Mr Dan Saxton.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee also oversees the monitoring of income and expenditure and the preparation of the annual budget. It oversees the work of the building sub-committee which ensures that the Church, Church Hall, Fellowship Room, Community Hub and grounds are maintained in a high standard of repair and cleanliness and oversees the use of the premises.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC continues to support and encourage a wide and growing number of church and local organisations, including the Mothers' Union and a variety of youth orientated entities.

The PCC continues with its basic mission of providing an opportunity for all in the area and further afield to join in worship and celebration of the Sacraments of the Church. All are welcome to join in our services either in person or via Live Stream.

VICAR'S REPORT - REV MATT TAYLOR

The second year of the pandemic brought with it the realisation that although vaccines were becoming more widely available, the variants meant it wasn't a quick fix for the world to return to any form of normal. It seemed right, even in the face of this, for a year's motto to help give hope again from the Gospel of John, 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full ...' John 10.10b

It remained essential for us as a church community in the midst of such struggle to remain unified and to find new ways of maintaining connections with each other and our wider community. Along with our weekly sheet and service plans we began the year of mission encouraging each other to simply tell stories of how Jesus had touched our lives, in conversation, or online. We did this by social media, our news sheet and our fascinating interviews with members of the congregation which we called 'Life stories'.

We continued to use technology to keep ourselves connected, PCC Zoom meetings and Saturday morning prayers. I regularly kept in contact with local developments by being part of the Community messengers Teams meeting, an initiative organised by the Coventry Council. Abby and I kept apart for a while to ensure Sunday services kept going, one of us leading the worship from church, the other preaching the sermon from home. Our fantastic Youth and Children's workers kept connections via Zoom with young people, children and their families. We 'broadcast' live directly into the school via Zoom or Teams to deliver interactive lessons. The St Martin's worship team even led worship for 30 minutes for The New Wine Leadership conference in the same way.

In March we began to connect again face to face with our community through the planting of flowers to commemorate the beginning of the first lock down and to remember those who had been lost due to Covid. As restrictions lifted further, we had the joy of singing together again outside. On Good Friday we conducted an open-air service attended by members of the community as well as church family regulars and Easter day worshipping both outside and in.

This year saw the return of our Summer Holiday Club with 25-30 children attending. This year it was a self-penned presentation based on the ideas of 'Faith, Hope and Love' with its own theme song.

As the year of mission began to come to an end our thoughts turned to 2022 as a year of Mental Health and wellbeing, with the long term effects of the pandemic predicted to impact people in the year to come. A team went to Bristol to be part of a day aimed at Mental Health Friendly Churches, which has been helpful in our thinking, but still needs further action in 2022.

In October, Abby and Matt attended a Church Planting and New Missional Communities conference which further confirmed for us that all the work on planning the coffee shop was worthwhile, and helped us to think about how it might be developed. Though there had been heavy disappointment earlier in the year when our major grant hadn't come through, God led us onward in our thinking.

In terms of the coffee shop, the amazing work of so many began in earnest in the later parts of 2021, more to say on that in 2021. This year although we lost out with the larger grant, we saw an enormous amount of other blessing which spurred us on. The 5k from the diocese for the floor, the offer of an outside play area the day after we found we were unable to buy and build our own. We had a donation from Golden Bottle Trust (in September) and of course the amazing generosity of an anonymous donor in October to purchase solar panels for the church. With our new tables we saw their first purposeful use at the Christmas fair as we used the hub area once again as a pop up coffee shop.

When Christmas did come again there was more a sense of celebration compared to the previous year, if still a little muted. For us personally in the days before this Sandra's Mum passed away which made things extra difficult, Christmas unwrapped was once again live and in church and our Christmas services filled once again, with a busy Nativity and standing room only at our Christmas Eve service.

Perhaps it should also be noted that it's been a busy year for me in my Area Dean role. In 2021, we interviewed, appointed and licensed three new ministers. Father Ed at Tile Hill in February, Father Edward at Mary Magdalene in May and finally Rev Jo Joyce in July to Eastern Green. There has been a monthly chapter Zoom meeting every month with the first face to face social in November, this alongside finalising the deanery plan and help organising the regular deanery synods.

As we look in on 2022 and see the coffee shop now opened, we have begun to see the completion of a vision which began many years ago. Yes, it is tough, but God is blessing it and I believe in the days ahead it will continue to build and grow not only our connection with our local community, but also, we hope and pray we will ultimately see people come to faith in Jesus.

Reverend Matt Taylor - Vicar

Treasurer's Report for 2021

2021 saw some important changes in the management of the church finances. Neville Hunt stepped down as Church Treasurer at the end of 2021 and was replaced by Paul McEwen. However, because of work pressures, Paul also stood down at the end of September 2021 and was replaced by Andrew Spencer. Also, Thomas Oliver stood down as Independent Examiner, having examined the 2020 accounts, and the PCC at their meeting on 22nd February 2022 recommended that Mr. Jatinder Singh Birdi be appointed to replace him.

The present Treasurer is indebted to Neville for the spreadsheet for recording church income and expenditure and to both him and Paul for their help and advice.

In addition to its general (unrestricted) fund, the church began 2021 with four restricted funds of which two, for the garden and EcoChurch, and for Rwanda, were dormant through the year and contain only nominal sums. Two others, for Youth and Missions, contain funds pledged by church members and the Missions fund also holds money committed by the church for supporting Christian organisations and individuals in the UK and overseas.

During the year the church set up three new restricted funds to support new projects: the Coffee Shop, the erection of solar panels, and repairs to the west wall of the church.

Summary

- Total church income rose from £121,917 to £130,130, an increase of 7% on the previous year. However, the increase was dominated by two large grants and donations, totalling £20,000, into the solar panels fund.
- Income for the general fund fell from £114,487 to £102,493, a reduction of 10%.
- Total church expenditure rose from £127,551 to £145,173, an increase of 14%.
- Expenditure from the general fund rose from £111,411 to £114,442, an increase of 3%.
- Expenditure exceeded income by just under £12,000. However, £5,000 of this comprised the cost of renewing the Hub floor for the Coffee Shop, reimbursed by a grant from the Church Improvements Fund that was not received until early 2022.
- Total assets rose from £253,128 to £262,840 thanks to good performance of the church's investments.

Income

Income to the general fund fell in all categories except Fundraising (there was no Christmas Fair in 2020). Income from hall lettings fell by a smaller amount than between 2019 – 2020, as Covid restrictions eased, and a determined drive to increase lettings and chase up arrears has continued. Standing orders continues to be the main source of income but this fell by just over £3,000 owing to deaths, leavings and changes of circumstances. Income through planned giving envelopes, the loose plate and donations also fell.

Income to restricted funds more than tripled, from £7,429 to £27,637. £17,000 came from an anonymous donation and £3,000 as a grant from the Golden Bottle Trust, both for the solar panels fund. £1,900 in donations was received for the Coffee Shop fund and a donation of £800 for surveys of the west wall.

Expenditure

Parish share rose slightly. The number of staff remained the same throughout the year but a change in hours worked led to a small increase in expenditure from the general fund. The engagement of a youth enabler in late 2020 was reflected in higher staff expenditure from the youth fund in 2021. Work formerly done by the cleaner is now being handled by Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre; this is included in the Buildings figures.

The utilities supplier went out of business in September and were replaced by British Gas, whose charges (particularly standing charges) are much higher. Delays in arranging payment led to some charges not being paid until early 2022. Because of the switch, we also lost our charity's VAT discount and exemption from Climate Change Levy. We have applied to have these reinstated, retrospectively.

Expenditure on the buildings rose considerably. For the general fund, a large proportion was taken up by the cleaning services but there was also major expenditure on boiler servicing, the fire alarms, plumbing and electrical works. The 2020 financial report noted that some essential buildings maintenance had to be postponed and the upsurge this year may reflect these arrears.

Buildings expenditure from restricted funds is dominated by the new Hub floor and refrigeration and coffee making equipment for the Coffee Shop. There was also survey work in connection with the west wall.

Investments

To support cash flow, £20,000 was transferred from the CCLA deposit account to the current account in July and a further £10,000 in October. As a result the balance of this account was reduced from £65,000 to £38,000 by the end of the year.

The value of the holding in CCLA income shares rose from £125,000 to £142,000, a 113% increase. The holdings also paid out £3,600 in dividends during the year; these were paid into the CCLA deposit account. The value of our endowment with Black Rock recovered from just under £50,000 at the start of the year to £56,600 at the end: a 13% rise. Last year's report suggested possible concern at the exposure of 69% of the church's assets to risk on the stock market and the current economic and political uncertainties may strengthen the case for a rethink.

Reserves

In January 2020 the PCC reviewed its policy on financial reserves and decided that sufficient accessible funds should be kept at all times to cover six months of essential expenditure. Based on 2021, the amount to be kept in reserve is estimated to be £57,000. In fact, cash reserves at the end of 2021 amounted to £63,500.

External Giving

Despite the pandemic, throughout 2020 the Church maintained its policy of giving away an amount of at least 10% of its unrestricted income in the preceding year. This would have amounted to £11,449. Heavy expenditure on buildings and from the restricted funds led to concerns about cash flow and this proportion was not achieved in 2021. Giving to missions, relief and development agencies totalled £7,400 this year, with the following beneficiaries:

- Operation Mobilisation: £4,200
- Coventry City Mission: £1,000
- Lighthouse Christian Counselling: £1,000
- Thrive Youth Ministries: £1,200

This has left a shortfall of £4,000 and ways are being sought to make this up. As at March 2022 the PCC has determined that £1,500 be donated to the Salvation Army for their work in Ukraine. In addition, £252 raised at the Christmas Fair was donated equally to Carriers of Hope and the Coventry Foodbank.

Andrew Spencer, March 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Fincham,
Coventry

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1133962

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the
accounts in accordance with 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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~) 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 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

21/03/2022

Name:

Jatinder S Birdi

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

151 Rugby Road, Cubbington

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire

CV32 7JJ

Section A Receipts and payments

Receipts	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Standing Orders	55,674	3,192	-	58,866	62,149
Planned Giving Envelopes	9,509	-	-	9,509	11,471
Hall Lettings	6,317	-	-	6,317	7,720
Tax Recovered	13,197	771	-	13,968	18,384
Donations	6,979	20,321	-	27,300	11,036
Rwanda Partnership	-	-	-	-	270
Fund-raising	1,140	-	-	1,140	327
One-off Grants	-	3,000	-	3,000	-
Loose Plate Collections	1,073	-	-	1,073	1,553
Weddings & Funerals	3,788	-	-	3,788	2,785
Refreshments	60	-	-	60	184
Receipts from Youth	-	354	-	354	574
Appeals	-	-	-	-	-
Legacies	500	-	-	500	1,500
Sundry Receipts	602	-	-	602	45
Interest/Dividends	3,652	-	-	3,652	3,919
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income)	102,493	27,637	-	130,130	121,917
Asset and investment sales					
None	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	102,493	27,637	-	130,130	121,917
Payments					
Ministry Parish Share	67,572	-	-	67,572	66,084
Staffing & Overheads	19,167	11,947	-	31,114	19,510
Mission Agencies	252	7,400	-	7,652	12,063
Buildings	8,154	11,056	-	19,210	4,386
Rwanda Partnership	-	-	-	-	1,483
Youth	-	327	-	327	336
Children	810	-	-	810	372
Working Groups	-	-	-	-	-
Music and Sound	2,420	-	-	2,420	438
Vision	120	-	-	120	4,292
Utilities	4,105	-	-	4,105	5,532
Administration	2,659	-	-	2,659	3,419
Insurance	3,561	-	-	3,561	3,540
Wedding/Funeral Fees - Diocese	1,679	-	-	1,679	1,483
Sundry Supplies	1,017	-	-	1,017	415
Clergy Expenses	1,503	-	-	1,503	1,341
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Training	253	-	-	253	674
Churchyard Upkeep	515	-	-	515	1,520
Publicity	104	-	-	104	542
Honoraria	-	-	-	-	121
Fund-raising Activities	553	-	-	553	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	114,442	30,730	-	145,173	127,551
Asset and investment purchases					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	114,442	30,730	-	145,173	127,551
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 11,949	- 3,093	-	- 15,042	- 5,634
Transfers between funds	- 11,450	11,450	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	74,778	3,928	-	78,706	84,340
Cash funds this year end	51,378	12,285	-	63,664	78,706

JSA: 21/3/21

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Cash funds	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Santander Current Account	12,919	12,285	-	25,205	13,829
CCLA Deposit Account	38,365	-	-	38,365	64,713
CAF Deposit Account	-	-	-	-	-
Cash in Hand	94	-	-	94	165
Total cash funds	51,378	12,285	-	63,664	78,706

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

OK

OK

Investment assets

	Status	Cost	Current value	Last year
CCLA Investment Account	Unrestricted	94,168 (2017)	142,500	124,833
Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund	Endowment	20,000 (1995)	56,676	49,589
Total Assets			262,840	253,128

Liabilities

	Fund	Amount due	When due
Total		-	

Section C Position of funds at the end of the period

Fund	Starting balance	Receipts	Payments	Net transfers	End of year balance
General	74,778	102,493	114,442	- 11,450	51,378
Youth (Restricted)	3,696	4,087	12,274	-	- 4,491
Mission (Restricted)	-	750	7,400	11,450	4,800
Garden/ECO (Restricted)	100	-	-	-	100
Coffee shop (Restricted)	-	1,901	10,579	-	- 8,678
Solar panels (Restricted)	-	20,100	-	-	20,100
Rwanda (Restricted)	132	-	-	-	132
West wall (Restricted)	-	800	477	-	323
Sub-total (Cash Funds)	78,706	129,330	144,696	-	63,664
Investments	174,422	24,754	-	-	199,176
Total	253,128	154,084	144,696	-	262,840

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

OK

OK

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

JSB 21/3/21

Accounts

St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Finham, Coventry

Charity Commission Number 1133962

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the year ended 31st December 2020

Incumbent: Rev. Matthew Taylor



Bank: Santander

Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB

Independent Examiner:

Howard Thomas Oliver

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 2020.

AIM and PURPOSE

St. Martin's 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. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the Church Hall, Fellowship Room and Community Hub of St. Martin's.

The PCC is a charity that is registered with the Charity Commission, Number 1133962.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

St. Martin's Church is situated in Green Lane, Finham, Coventry. It is part of the Diocese of Coventry within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Vicarage, 136 Green Lane, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EA.

The PCC is a body corporate, operating under the PCC Powers Measure 1956 which came into effect on 2nd January, 1957 and the Church Representation Rules (within Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended).

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM) in accordance with Church Representation Rules.

At the 2001 APCM a resolution was adopted for 12 elected members to serve on the PCC. Members elected would serve for a period of three years and one third of the elected members would retire annually. Retiring members would be eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

There are 127 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, of which 48 are not resident within the parish. All those attending St. Martin's are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to consider standing for election to the PCC.

The average church attendance on a normal Sunday in 2020 was 25 in person and many, many more watching on live stream each week.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PCC FOR 2020 WAS:

Vicar: Rev Matthew Taylor

Curate: Rev Abby Rhodes

Church Wardens: Mrs Helen Buckby and Mr Dan Saxton

Lay Reader

Dr Andrew Barclay

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Mrs Jackie Cubitt from 2020

12 Elected Members

4 Deanery Synod Members

Re-election

2021

1. Alison Court

2. Stan McCarthy
3. Dave Foxwell

2022

4. Caroline Brown
5. Gill Blackmore
6. Richard Morris

2023

7. Martin Bint
8. Paul McEwan co opted
9. Fran Armitage

GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT and OBJECTIVES

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

The full PCC met 9 times during the year. The PCC has Working Teams which normally meet on a regular basis and a Standing Committee, on a monthly basis. The Teams met between PCC meetings when government guidance allowed and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The Standing Committee has a core of six members who are Rev Matthew Taylor, Rev Abby Rhodes, Dr Andrew Barclay, Mrs Jackie Cubitt, Mrs Helen Buckby and Mr Dan Saxton.

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. The Standing Committee also oversees the monitoring of income and expenditure and the preparation of the annual budget. It oversees the work of the building sub-committee which ensures that the Church, Church Hall, Fellowship Room, Community Hub and grounds are maintained in a high standard of repair and cleanliness and oversees the use of the premises.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The PCC continues to support and encourage a wide and growing number of church and local organisations, including the Mothers' Union, 4 O'clock Focus and a variety of youth orientated entities.

The PCC continues with its basic mission of providing an opportunity for all in the area and further afield to join in worship and celebration of the Sacraments of the Church. All are welcome to join in our services either in person or via Liv Stream and Zoom.

VICAR'S REPORT - REV MATT TAYLOR

As we began our year of the Bible, we had no idea of the storm which was about to hit or how much we would need the anchor of his word throughout 2020. We were blessed by the fact that Abby had joined us 9 months before and we had that time to get to know her 'face to face', not realising how much of a rarity that would become in the coming months.

In March things changed at a pace. We had to make decisions quickly, how would we build a continuity with our existing worship in times where everything else was uncertain? What technology could we use, how would we still connect with those less digitally inclined? Grateful of a previous career where sometimes I edited video, I knew that prerecording and editing would be very time

consuming and there was so much to do. I also knew I would be tempted to spend far too long on getting things 'right'. We both felt that wasn't authentic to church life. Each week we make mistakes and that is all part of being authentically us. St Martin's didn't want slick TV presenters, they just needed their ministers to reassure them and bring God's message of hope, keeping things as familiar as possible.

The day after public worship was suspended, we started our first livestream (sideways as we were unsure if the phone switched to landscape when live!). We did the first Sunday livestream in an empty church building on Mothering Sunday, then when complete lockdown happened, we broadcast from our own homes from 25th onwards. We learned quickly how to involve others in the service live too. We were grateful for Abby's singing/musical skills and for Sandra's voice which meant we could keep music live and not fall into the copyright pitfalls that many churches were struggling with at the time. The year has brought many new opportunities to communicate the Gospel and I have been grateful to Abby with her openness to try out the new and not run when I say 'I've got an idea'. One of which was a live, off-the-cuff conversation on the day's text, between the two of us, without any preparation, to encourage others to discuss God's word. Because of our advances in this area, we were very pleased when we were asked to host the Ordinations as Priests for Coventry Diocese, made even more special for us as Abby was one of those being ordained.

But how would we reach those who didn't use the internet? First, we created a weekly service sheet which involved us preparing the Sunday sermon by Wednesday each week (quite an ask!). We also took the official list of telephone numbers and systematically called each one (twice). The pastoral team also connected with as many people as they could. Members in the church delivered care packages to many who felt isolated.

We built our COVID task force which included Dan Saxton, Helen Buckby, Jackie Cubitt and Andrew Barclay (who is now also a member of the standing committee). Each have worked so hard for the church – I will always remember and be grateful for all their support and all they have done during this time. We entered the world of keeping up to date with C of E guidance, hand sanitisers and risk assessments. Zoom became a word which was always on our lips and all too often running on our laptops.

Our Children's work also moved online, the first major event was 'Countdown to Easter' masterminded by Kate Saxton, and she has continued all year to produce work that has met the children's needs and kept ahead of the game by keeping in contact with our schools through online lessons and assemblies (some live, some pre-recorded). Later in 2020 Lisa Clamp joined the team bringing a fresh and encouraging spirit, working with both the young people and enabling the youth team to function well.

We met the challenges and sadness of funerals with on occasions only 10 people present. It was in 2020 that we lost Connie Reid, a long-standing member of our Church community, and during the early days of the pandemic I sadly lost my own father too, most likely to the virus.

After a rollercoaster year of lockdown and easing and then lockdown again we ended a difficult year with some really memorable Christmas services, despite the restrictions we were all under. With our impressive hand-made 'Hope' sign, which has become a local landmark and daily photo opportunity, shining out on the cold winter nights the encouraging truth of the Gospel which brings hope even in the darkest of times.

I do believe that in this most difficult of years, we have all made a deeper connection with the people of Finham. People are watching our livestreams who might never have considered actually coming into our church, an online Alpha which connected with younger families who would have found it difficult to attend a course otherwise and further connections via SaFE (Styvechale and Finham Empower community group).

I want to say thank you to the whole of our family at St Martin's. You have been encouraging, faithful and caring, many of you sharing the love of Jesus by acts of practical kindness to our community. I have been proud, if I am allowed to say that, as well as feeling privileged, to be known as your vicar. I want to say thank you to Sandra who has put up with me, regularly sung and brought stories that sometimes I think the adults love as much as the children. Finally, to Abby who has been such a faithful co-worker in the Gospel, who has been not just a trainee curate, but a colleague, with a wise head, who has been both an inspiration and blessing to us all.

CURATE'S REPORT - REVD ABBY RHODES

I had not expected a global pandemic, just 9 months into my curacy! However, this is what 2020 brought to all of us. It was, as we know, a shocking, disorienting time as the first lockdown hit us and it was almost surreal, trying to work out how to sustain a busy, active church when even Matt and I couldn't meet in person. Whilst I have heard other curates talk about it as a "lost year" in their training, I am clear that I have gained insight, understanding and a myriad of new skills that I wouldn't have known about without Covid-19. I have, however, also gained some grey hairs....

We had begun 2020 as the Year of the Bible, excited for what God might do with us as we explored his word carefully together. As the impact of Covid became clear, we were determined not to lose the focus on God's word and it was great to see how so many embraced our daily bible reading challenge throughout the year, handling the joys and the challenges of scripture as we read together. Some of the planned activities for the Year of the Bible, like our reading of Mark's Gospel in one evening, almost worked *better* online – where we could share pictures and use maps and other resources to help more fully illustrate what we were reading.

Working purely online and by phone or letter for much of 2020 was a steep learning curve and one I definitely didn't always get right. Theology colleges will almost certainly include online worship leading/ remote congregations as a course module in the future but it is something my cohort wasn't prepared for! I am deeply grateful for Matt, who encouraged me and others the whole way – even when we were having to lead from our respective dining rooms and work through the wobbly wonders of a Skype connection to broadcast together, alongside providing paper resources for those who didn't have internet access.

I got used to being on screens a lot (and not minding too much) and having to remember that lots of people from beyond our church community were looking in on our services but I never got used to preaching and leading to an empty church; I'll never again take the sound of people arriving to worship together for granted.

From the end of May onwards, each week became a problem-solving exercise, ably helped by an amazing group of people. We couldn't have reopened church without the wider team – let alone as quickly as we did – and I have learnt much from all of them. As we were able to move into the church my technical skills started to expand beyond Zoom and Skype in to live-streaming technology.

I learnt new skills but I have also learnt a lot about myself and the way I minister most naturally. I found funerals, especially at the start of lockdown, very difficult. Pre-Covid, this was a part of my ministry that I was beginning to feel could be a strength. However, the lack of in-person contact with families before the service, the severely restricted numbers allowed and the brutally short service time all sent me back to my ministerial "toolkit", to find new ways of serving bereaved families as well as I could during this time. It's safe to say that my toolkit has expanded for this and many other things as a result of the pandemic.

Perhaps one of the high points of the year for me was (finally!) being ordained priest on 26th September. It should have all happened in early July so it was a relatively frustrating delay. However, as plans were re-thought and re-arrangements made for smaller, local ordinations for the priest candidates, away from the grandeur of the Cathedral, I was delighted that I could be ordained in St Martin's. In spite of the limited congregation permitted and the other Covid compromises, the service was such a memorable, Spirit-filled moment. There was an intimacy and familiarity that the Cathedral

couldn't have offered and I can now say that I've had the best of both worlds across my two ordinations!

I am deeply grateful for all that 2020 has taught me – even when it felt stressful, sad and remote from so much of the church life and church family that I love. I think I will be a better minister in the long-term for all that I have experienced and as a result of the support, love and help that I have received from Matt, the churchwardens and so many others across the whole church. Thank you all!

CHURCH WARDENS REPORT 2020

CHURCH FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS

Gary Askew took the decision that, due to health issues, he was unable to continue as churchwarden after completing 12 months in post. He stepped down in April 2020. Helen would like to thank Gary very much for his support and hard work during his time as churchwarden.

This year saw the retirement of Ron Jones as the church site supervisor. Ron did an excellent job opening up the building on weekdays and ensuring the facilities were clean, tidy and well maintained. We would like to thank him for his diligence and hard work and wish him a long and happy retirement.

The year also saw the retirement of Brian Nutt as our cleaner. We would like to thank Brian for his many years of hard work cleaning the facilities.

During 2020 the Church building, Hall and Fellowship Room were in and out of use depending on the government and Church of England legislation at the time.

With the exception of a couple of months during the first Covid lockdown, when not in use for 'face to face' services, the church building was still used by a small team for live streaming of services and school's work.

This meant that whilst the annual maintenance of church facilities continued as normal (boilers, heating, Fire System etc), there were less requirements for on-going repairs to the building. However, there was a significant increase in the paperwork required to change how people used the spaces when they were able to do so.

The Churchwardens would like to say a huge "thankyou" to everyone who has supported them over this challenging year.

COVID RISK ASSESSMENTS

The Standing Committee (Matt, Abby, Helen B, Jackie C, Andrew B [plus Dan after the APCM in October 2020]) have worked together to ensure that we remain compliant with the ever-changing government legislation and Church of England guidelines.

As part of this a Covid risk assessment has to be in place for everything taking place within the church facilities. This includes all activities run by St Martins directly and also those by other groups. All risk assessments are reviewed and where necessary updated (by the group running the activity) to ensure continued compliance.

CLEANING

As mentioned earlier, after Brian retired, we engaged a contract cleaning company (Spring Action Cleaning Company, run by Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre) to ensure areas of the buildings are thoroughly cleaned. The cleaner currently attends the site on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The toilets are cleaned on each visit. Other areas cleaned at least once a week are the Church, Narthex, Hub and Hall. The Fellowship Room was not used during 2020.

In addition to this, volunteers were needed to clean the touch points (seat backs, door handles etc.) in church between the 9am and 11am Services.

BUILDING WORKING GROUP

The team continued to meet either outside 'face to face' or via Zoom.

Some of the works discussed and carried out include:

Repairing of the rear fire doors as they had been damaged when the wind caught them and recoating the external surface as the beeswax had washed off through heavy rain.

Investigation into the rear church wall and water damage testing.

Regular Fire Alarm testing.

GROUNDNS

Trees – the Quinquennial report required us to create a plan to manage our trees effectively. It was agreed that they were very overgrown and were preventing good use of the car park in some areas. Dan Saxton pruned all the trees (up to 7 feet) in the front and rear car parks and around the field perimeter. A specialist tree surgeon was then employed to carry out needed works to remove dead trees, branches and carry out works ‘at height’ that couldn’t be safely done by the church volunteers.

Concrete shed/garage – The Buildings Group agreed that this building should be removed due to its collapsed roof and that it would free up car parking space. Thanks to Alan and team for organising the removal of the broken asbestos roof and temporary recovering.

After considerable investigation into an alternative building construction and location, it was agreed that the Cursillo equipment would be moved to the ‘Open the Book’ part of the ‘side garage’ and the sectioned off part of the garage would be used to keep the tools and gardening equipment.

Decoration – as the year had been a difficult, dark and miserable time for many, it was agreed to put up some decorations at the front of church to bring a little cheer into people’s lives as they drove or walked past.

A ‘HOPE’ sign was made from old pallets, lights added, and was placed at the front of the church. It’s been interesting to see so many people using it as a landmark, having their photo taken next to it or mentioning it on their social media.

We also bought some new outside ‘string lights’ to decorate the trees at the roadside.

Both these decorations had a huge impact and also enhanced the outdoor Christingle service.

UTILITIES

After many years of organising the electricity and gas contracts for the 3 utility meters the church has, Trevor Brigden decided to step down and pass the baton to Dan Saxton – we would like to formally thank Trevor for his commitment and diligence.

Unfortunately, with this change, SSE, the utilities supplier at the time, cancelled the contract earlier than expected and so we had to quickly go out to tender for a new contract. We selected People’s Energy as our new supplier, which reduced our forecasted costs whilst securing ‘green’ electricity as part of the contract.

Due to the government legislation, church windows were left open to ensure free-flowing air during, and after people were in the building. This is anticipated to show an increased gas bill as the church building still needed to be heated while in use.

GROUNDNS

Thank you again to the hard-working team who spend many hours looking after the grounds both in front of and behind the church. With so many working so hard in the church garden, the grounds always provide an attractive feature. Thank you so much to everyone involved.

Helen Buckby and Dan Saxton

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2020

There were three meetings in 2020 in accordance with the decision made at the previous meeting in November. However, due to the Coronavirus pandemic the February meeting was the only one when the parish representatives met in a church; the remaining two were conducted via Zoom and followed the usual pattern for meetings. All meetings, therefore, began with Opening Worship followed by the host parish presenting a résumé of their activities. Each meeting then focussed on a different theme. All closed with prayer and a blessing. Brief details of the meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 18th February – St Barnabas, Kenilworth

Following opening worship, a presentation was given by Revd. Stella Bailey relating to her mission of “planting seeds” over the last three years since she was appointed to **St Nicholas & St Barnabas, Kenilworth**. The newly appointed Ven Barry Dugmore then introduced himself and spoke on the **Missional Vision of the Diocese** and explained that the deaneries and parishes would be part of it. He explained that the Mission has three dimensions: - 1) Mustard seeds – offer a little seed and God does something great 2) Diamonds – we are precious to God and called to shine in the places where we are 3) Dancing feet – hand in hand with God – if learning to dance, then the spirit leads. The Revd. Greg Smith and Revd. Stella Bailey then spoke about the **Deanery Parish plans**, which is when each deanery needs to make plans for the future including paying special attention to parish boundaries, which may change, and what may happen when your clergy person leaves. They stressed the importance of each parish being involved; Kenilworth deanery has already started this process and Coventry South needs to begin. Prior to closing it was announced that Nicola Perryman would no longer be secretary for Coventry South and therefore someone would be needed to fulfil this role.

Tuesday 15th September – Zoom

After opening worship, the Revd. Andy March gave a presentation on **St Christopher’s, Allesley Park** and amongst other things he explained how the church and its ministry had adapted to the change necessitated by the “lockdown”. This was followed by a presentation on **Collective Trauma in our Community** from the Revd. Stella Bailey. This talk highlighted the three phases of Collective Trauma. In the first phase an adrenaline rush is experienced which is manifested by much activity and help given and this phase can last days, weeks or even months. The second phase is when emotions rise to the surface and lethargy and disillusionment is experienced until a turning point is reached. Rebuilding is the third phase and this is the phase when what has happened is acknowledged and the process of how to shape the future is approached while being aware not to rush things but to take time. There followed information on the deanery finance issues and the proposal, from clergy and treasurers’ meeting that there is no change in the figures for Kenilworth in 2021 was approved in the understanding that those churches that have applied for the relief fund are receiving that for which they have applied

Monday 30th November – Zoom

Following opening worship, a parish presentation on **Christ Church, Cheylesmore** was given by Revd. Arthur Woo in which he explained how the church had changed and adapted as a result of the pandemic and gave details of two future projects. Following this a brief talk was given by Revd. Jim Perryman on the **Synodical Structure of the Church of England**. He explained how Parishes are

independent and these are grouped into Deaneries which in turn are grouped into Dioceses and these then make up the Church of England and also includes the Diocese in Europe. To ensure that every parish has a voice the clergy and elected representatives are on Deanery Synod; the Deaneries then elect clergy and lay representatives to the Diocesan Synod which is chaired by a Bishop. Bishops, clergy and lay representatives from every Diocese are elected to serve on General Synod and by this method everyone is given a chance to "have a say".

Members were then given a chance to meet some other members of Synod, through break-out rooms, and discuss any positive experiences from Covid. The two deaneries then separated and elected their officers.

In addition to these meetings **Revd. Mark Bratton** attended the General Synod in February, in his capacity as General Synod representative, House of Clergy

All minutes of the above meetings are available from Jackie Cubitt.

Jackie Cubitt Deanery Synod Rep.

VOLUNTEERS

Our thanks are given to all those who freely give of their time, talents and treasure to all areas of the church's ministry, from banking, dealing with Gift Aid, working with children, pastoral care, administration and all those other tasks which together fulfil the holistic role of St Martin's both in the Church and in the wider community. Thanks too to our Vicar, Matt, Curate, Abby, the Churchwardens, Helen and Dan, Lay Reader, Andrew and all on the PCC for all their hard work in 2020. We look to the future with confidence.

EMPLOYEES

We are particularly appreciative of Jackie Birt our Parish Administrator, our part time Children and Family worker Kate Saxton and Lisa Clamp our part time Youth Enabler, who make a significant contribution to the mission of St Martin's as we seek to help people Explore Faith, Love Jesus and serve our community.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

First of all, I would like again, to say a really big thank you to everyone who either works with children, adults or who is in a Leadership Role. During the Lockdown there has been no face-to-face training but those who needed to keep up with their certificates have been renewing their training on line. A big thank you to Kate and Lisa, who have completed so many Risk Assessment forms for the groups during the year as the guidelines change.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016, which imposes a legal duty on the PCC *to have due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.*

You might wonder what it means to "have due regard", and the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) observed that this legal term was not well understood. If you would like further details, please do contact the Safeguarding Officer.

No safeguarding incidents have been reported to the DSA. The DBS checks continue to come through fairly quickly. Ten people have been DBS checked this last year 2020.

Two people have completed their C0 training during the year and five completed C1. There were no training courses for the C2 course and as most of last year was in lockdown there have not been any Safeguarding Officers meetings, but we have kept up to date with the Parish Dashboard. The Parish Dashboard forms the Action Plan from the Safeguarding Policy adopted by the PCC four years ago

and is a great asset, making sure all safeguarding regulations are adhered to. There are three levels and I am pleased to say that we are on level three. The PCC have regular updates at each PCC meeting and have reviewed the Cause for Concern and Allegations Policy. Safeguarding is high up on the agenda at every PCC meeting so members receive up to date information on Safeguarding and the Action Plan from the Parish Dashboard. Please do ask if you would like to know more about the Parish Dashboard. There is more information on Safeguarding in the Narthex, Fellowship Room and the main Hall. Thank you to everyone who has made this role so much easier by completing references, filling in forms, booking on line courses and also the support I have had from Matt, Abby, Kate and Lisa. Thank you so much.

Jackie Cubitt - Safeguarding Officer

CHILDREN & FAMILY/YOUTH PROVISION

The year 2020 started off with normal activity, the schools work already regularly happening in Finham Primary school and beginning to develop in Stivichall primary too. IGNITE group, Wednesday Youth café, (which I had run since Stacey Gales had left in December 2019) also Friday night Youth led by Dave Foxwell and our Family Community Movie Morning in February, were all running smoothly and as expected, until mid-March! The covid-19 pandemic had hit us and we were all in Lockdown!

This brought many challenges – one main challenge was how to communicate with the Youth & Children in our church community and their families?

As soon as we could, we offered on-line sessions, using the zoom platform to keep the links with our Y&C - running quizzes, challenges, scavenger hunts around the home, along with some simplified bible lessons for the IGNITERS. One of the boys from the IGNITE group said how much he loved the sessions and he looked forward to them every Thursday. He said the best part is that he gets to see and talk to his friends but he also liked all the challenges. He said it's 'his time'. His mum thought the sessions have been invaluable for maintaining his well-being during this tricky period time.

The groups over lockdown, have also shown me how resilient the children & youth are, and it was wonderful to see them each week, they have been very faithful to the groups, when I first thought we might lose contact with them!

It's very important too, at this point, to thank all the volunteers who helped throughout this period, even though the groups were running on zoom, we still needed the extra leaders to facilitate these groups. We are very lucky to have dedicated volunteers that clearly have a passion for the Youth & Children in our community and serving God. Particularly, Dave Foxwell & Marilyn Douglas who supported me and always logged onto these meetings, every week!

"Countdown to..." Group / Holiday@ Home / school's work inc assemblies and lessons, all continued over zoom / teams. Some, Pre-recorded for use in schools (while we couldn't visit) or for use during home schooling. We must thank Dan Saxton's editing skills and the time he spent working on these lessons to enable us to provide professional material for schools.

Parent's feedback about Countdown "my son loved the session, it was full of fun activities and chat, broken up with music. He enjoyed the craft challenges and can't wait for the next meeting. The sessions are invaluable for him. He loves being able to see his friends and interact with them, albeit remotely. I can't stress too much just how important it is for his well-being. This current situation is tricky for everyone, but especially for children like *** who feel the effects of isolation more acutely."

Over each lockdown, I was able to reach out to families via email / text and offer support to parents & families. Everyone has found this time really difficult and it's been wonderful to connect with members of our church & community during 2020; this time has also enabled me to strengthen and build stronger relationships with families that I normally only have contact with during drop off and pick up times.

Sunday Children's Groups – Sharon Wheeler left the church in December 2019, so from January 2020, Sue Jones looked after this ministry; I had been supporting Sue Jones and the team and

helping her on the rota until the pandemic hit. We would see between 7 and 10 children during the services.

During the first lockdown, Sue prepared colouring sheets to be downloaded from the website / facebook page, each week, for the families in addition to the live services. During these, Sandra Taylor was able to tell the story for the children and is an amazing story teller (she is so gifted at this!) It has now become a welcome addition to all the live services of 2020

Over 2020 we had seen a range of children ages 3 – 11 in the primary age group – We introduced the Toddler & parent area in church, however this had to be removed due to transfer of germs / virus.

In September, Sue Jones stepped down from the volunteering leader role, and MT / AR and myself, decided that I should take over the running, planning and implementing of children's groups – especially, as we were uncertain whether the sessions would be face to face or on zoom. Also, at this point, there was no-one else coming forward to run this provision (understandably)

With the pandemic, the whole practical elements of running children's groups had to change because of the virus – shared resources became impossible, so we had to work out how we could deliver safe and engaging ways to teach the children. Making up individual craft packs, which meant planning took longer. We had to find safer alternatives and this usually meant being creative about how we taught the children that attended our groups.

Lisa Clamp (Youth Enabler) joined the team in November and was able to come out into children's groups in addition to all the fabulous leaders that we have. I would like to thank our Sunday morning leaders for their support and help during 2020 – we certainly would not be able to run our groups without their practical and physical help – we are a very blessed church, with leaders wishing to give up their time to support our youngsters growing Faith at St Martin's.

As an umbrella group of St Martin's church, it's important to notice the work that Alison and her team of volunteers have put into Stay & Play during 2020. It is a busy, thriving community group, offering support, fun play for pre-schoolers, babies and parents and also delivering the gospel in a child / tot friendly way. The group has been on & off / face to face / live sessions on Facebook throughout 2020. The group meets many needs in the community, it is a friendly place for supporting families, mentally and physically. Each time, when lockdowns happened, the provision was reviewed with care and consideration to the members & volunteers. Christmas was a highlight of 2020, as the face-to-face Christmas party was able to go ahead, where as well as sharing the story of Jesus' birth, Santa was able to visit – making the end of what has been a difficult year, a really special time for the families that attended!

Alison Court said "Kate has been supporting myself and the team, encouraging us through what has been a really challenging year!"

Lastly, I would also like to thank Matt & Abby for their extraordinary strength and leadership, during 2020 – as a team, we have done so much together that would take me completely out of my comfort zone! I am very grateful for them, for being there for me during this time, especially when I was shielding my son and also, encouraging me to keep "on swimming" during the difficult times. We have really seen changes that we wouldn't have expected, and we laugh about our TV presenter style lessons and assemblies. I would like to thank them for believing that I can do this and anything is possible! (especially with God on our side)

Although, there have been many changes during 2020, it has been a great privilege to be able to see God working through our church leaders, church family and our community. 2020 has certainly been a most challenging, yet rewarding time, in so many ways. God is Good, all the time!

Kate Saxton, Children and Family Worker

A message from Dave Foxwell: Regarding the Youth work at St Martin's

"Youth cafe sessions were generally run in line with schools open policy and after the initial full lockdown as the schools reopened we opened the youth cafe sessions. Although it would be fair to say the numbers were relatively low the quality time we were able to spend with the youth directly and they with each other was of high value.

It would also be good to note the help from various helpers stepping in especially prior to summer shutdown enabled these sessions to go ahead. On a couple of occasions we were unable to use any activities because of the restrictions but we were still able to meet up and show the youth that we were there to listen to them.

After the main holiday shutdown we again stayed totally in line with recommended procedures but always tried to open if reasonably possible. These sessions ran right through to when Lisa joined in November. Even sometimes in weeks where only one person turned up the quality time spent made the session extremely worthwhile.

Friday night youth - due to the excellent team of helpers, we were able to run in person sessions at all times when COVID-19 laws allowed us to open the hall to physical access. At the times we were unable to open in person we found that zoom sessions on a Wednesday run initially by Kate with a group of volunteers worked best. At any point when we opened the halls it was encouraging to see the youth still wanting to be involved in what was going on.

This was also a great time when we were able to welcome Cameron onto our team of leaders and he has done a great job since that point."

A message from Lisa Clamp: (Youth Enabler) (November / December)

I joined in November and have spent the last few months adapting the sessions to be open when possible around the government guidelines to provide a safe provision for the Young people between the ages of 11-18. These sessions were a mixture of face to face when allowed and interactive zoom sessions during Lockdown times.

I have used this time to engage and contact all current volunteer leaders, ensuring that they feel valued and are able to fulfil their volunteer roles. During this 2 month period, I created a document to understand how our volunteers may want to take the Youth groups forward in the future identifying any new skills which may be needed if these ideas are chosen to take forward. Including networking with other repair shops since this was an idea favoured by the team.

I have been actively working with the team, to help with the service and covid bubbles. I was involved in the Christingle car park service, actively engaging safely with the local people as they passed by the church and inviting them to join our service. The church nativity, Christmas Eve service and family prayer.

I have been in virtual contact with the parents of the Young people weekly to reassure them of each step and change. During these 2 months, a very unusual time, I have built up relationships with the Team, the parents and carers of the Young people, the Young people, our volunteer leaders and many of the congregation in general

MISSION WORKING GROUP REPORT

Our church's mission statement:

Supporting agencies that spread the good news of Jesus & demonstrate God's love in practical ways. Raising awareness of the agencies' activities & needs, locally & world-wide, & how their needs are being met by agencies & individuals within a Christian framework.

During 2020 we gave donations to :

World-wide :

- * The Osgood family. Tim is the Finance Officer for Operation Mobilisation, which evangelises & helps Christians in many countries.
- * Mvumi Hospital in Tanzania.
- * Africa Mercy Hospital Ship.
- * Partnership with Murico Parish in Rwanda. We gave donations towards school lunches which enable the poorest children to continue their education. We also sent money to rent a plot of land near the school where vegetables can be grown to supplement the lunch menus. Some members of our congregation sponsor secondary school students.

Local Agencies:

- * Coventry City Mission, working in deprived areas of our city.
- * Thrive, a youth leaders support group.
- * Lighthouse, a Christian counselling service.

Local Agencies we continued to support in practical ways :

Unfortunately due to the Coronavirus restrictions our support for local agencies was seriously curtailed from April : Food Bank, Clothes Bank, Carriers of Hope,.

The Mothers' Union members have continued their efforts, making jumpers, hats and gloves and making a donation to the Haven Refuge. They have also sent cardigans, hats and blankets to the Hospital Neo-natal ward.

The Children's Society : a small amount was able to be collected which will be put towards the 2021 collections.

Thank you to everyone who has given generously of their time, expertise & money in different ways, so that we have been able to reach out to people in need, both here & abroad, during a very difficult year.

The Mission Board in the Narthex gives some information about the agencies we support & also the contacts within our church family.

Gail Brigden

OPEN THE BOOK REPORT

It was a very short year last year! I think we did about three sessions in the new year before I was notified by Alison Clark head of OTB saying that we were advised not to go into schools to present our stories, instructed from 'The Bible Society'. This was mid-March, at the start of the COVID Pandemic. Sadly, Lynette Askew left the team because of other commitments! So we were down to Four people in the team Me, Gail Brigden, Stan and Rosemary McCarthy. Kathryn Hunt helped out a couple of times which was good.

During the start of the Pandemic, I gave a lot of thought and prayers about whether I should continue doing Open the Book! I felt that I had given 19 years to this wonderful outreach and now was the time to step down. I think the team would need a couple of extra helpers to comfortably carry on, to cover illness and holidays. It would be good to have more support and interest from the church if OTB is going to continue at Finham Primary.

Since Linda Tope stepped down as Co-ordinator, we have no contact with other teams, so things have changed a lot regarding feedback and ideas.

We also have to sort out our own planning and timetable, which used to be done for us.

We occasionally see other OTB teams when they pick up props from the shed, but I think they have started to make a lot of the props themselves, save travelling.

We also had to buy our own set of books and resources (paid out of OTB funds), so things have changed quite a lot

Despite all this, we always look forward to going into Finham and telling these wonderful stories, starting with prayer, then a rushed rehearsal and then a Spirit lead performance.

I feel blessed that I was able to serve the Lord all those years.

Marilyn Douglas

SENIOR CITIZEN'S @ ST MARTIN'S

Senior Citizens @ St Martins met just nine times before lockdown 2020 began. Our last meeting was fittingly lunch to celebrate the club's 49th birthday in the Marco Pierre White restaurant at the Manor Hotel Meriden. We had the most amazing time not really understanding how life was going to change from then on. Random bottles of hand sanitizer dotted here and there were the only clues of what was to follow, and who could have predicted what a major part of life in 2020 these were going to play!

Despite being physically closed for business all other aspects of club continued. Birthday cards and Easter cards posted, flowers and gifts ordered and delivered to those celebrating a *significant* birthday. A multitude of phone calls made by me and members of the committee checking on the welfare of members now thrown into isolation. Linking those in need with the Finham SAFE teams and checking all had sufficient supplies in the house. Supporting those missing friends and family, those worrying for their safety. Our members knew they could contact us whenever they needed to.

We opened again Monday 28th September, not entirely to club as we knew it, but with protocols in place, and a more limited range of "covid safe" activities, it was still marvellous. We continued for seven weeks before Coventry entered Tier 4 and we closed again, with a trimmed down Christmas Party to send us on our way.

We thank Matt and Abby for their help in interpreting the government guidance for us. But a huge thank you goes to the club's committee who, despite their limitations, worked enormously hard sanitizing, checking checklists etc to ensure protocols were completed. Their Dunkirk spirit made meeting together possible. A true team effort.

Treasurer's Report for 2020

- Income of £122,000 was a reduction of 19% on the previous year (excluding Rwanda Fund).
- Expenditure of £128,000 was a reduction of 21% on the previous year (excluding Rwanda Fund).
- Expenditure exceeded income by just under £6,000.
- Total assets remained unchanged at £253,000.

Income

The coronavirus pandemic impacted significantly on hall lettings, with rental income down by almost £13,000 on the previous year. Total giving (excluding Rwanda Fund) fell by £11,000, of which reduction £7,000 was due to deaths, leavers, and changes in circumstances unrelated to the pandemic. Reductions in other income streams were balanced out by similar reductions in expenditure. For example, lost income from Refreshments was compensated by reduced expenditure on Sundry Supplies.

Expenditure

There was a reduction of £32,000 in expenditure on staff, following the resignations of the Youth Worker in December 2019, the Site Supervisor in January 2020, and the Cleaner in September 2020. Many church activities were restricted by the pandemic, leading to reduced expenditure. Live streaming of services incurred some additional costs, particularly for the clergy. Some essential buildings maintenance has been postponed, which will impact on expenditure in 2021.

Investments

Our CAF savings account was closed in March, with £40,000 moved to the CCLA Deposit Account and £20,000 to the current account to ensure adequate cash flow during such uncertain times. The pandemic caused massive movements in the stock market during the year. Thankfully, by the end of the year our investments had recovered from earlier losses. The value of our holding in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund (CCLA) rose by 7% to just under £125,000 and, in addition, paid out more than £3,000 in dividends during the year. The value of our endowment with Black Rock fell by 4% to just under £50,000. The fact that 69% of total assets are at risk on the stock market is a possible cause for concern.

Reserves In January the PCC reviewed its policy on financial reserves and decided that sufficient accessible funds should be kept at all times to cover 6 months of essential expenditure. Based on 2020, the amount to be kept in reserve is estimated to be £57,000. In fact, cash reserves at the end of 2020 amounted to £79,000.

External Giving

Despite the pandemic, the Church maintained its policy of giving away an amount no smaller than 10% of its unrestricted income in the preceding year. Giving to missions, relief and development agencies totalled £12,063 this year, with the following beneficiaries. Operation Mobilisation £4,200 Kigeme Diocese Rwanda £2,550

Coventry City Mission £1,500

The Lighthouse £1,000

Thrive Youth Ministries £1,000

Coventry Youth for Christ £1,000

The Children's Society £505

Friends of Mvumi Hospital £308

A further £1,483 of donated funds was sent to our partner parish of Murico in Rwanda, to assist needy families with school fees and famine relief. All donations to Rwanda were sent through the auspices of the Maidenhead Malachi Trust, to whom we express our sincere thanks.

D. N. Hunt January 2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

THE P.C.C. OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, FINHAM, COVENTRY

On accounts for the year
ended

31 DECEMBER 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1133962

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December, 2020

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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 Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records

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:

1/02/2021

Name:

Harold Thomas Oliver

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

MA, CPFA

Address:

16 Dalmeny Road

Coventry

CV4 8AX

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Receipts					
Standing Orders	58,777	3,372	-	62,149	63,128
Planned Giving Envelopes	10,951	520	-	11,471	19,824
Hall Lettings	7,720	-	-	7,720	20,670
Tax Recovered	17,118	1,266	-	18,384	19,190
Donations	9,936	1,100	-	11,036	9,016
Rwanda Partnership	-	270	-	270	18,061
Fund-raising	-	327	-	327	1,660
One-off Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Loose Plate Collections	1,553	-	-	1,553	4,759
Weddings & Funerals	2,785	-	-	2,785	3,504
Refreshments	184	-	-	184	1,139
Receipts from Youth	-	574	-	574	2,139
Appeals	-	-	-	-	68
Legacies	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Sundry Receipts	45	-	-	45	85
Interest/Dividends	3,919	-	-	3,919	4,378
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income)	114,487	7,429	-	121,917	167,620

Asset and investment sales

None	-	-	-	-	-
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Payments

Ministry Parish Share	66,084	-	-	66,084	65,423
Staffing & Overheads	17,539	1,971	-	19,510	51,324
Mission Agencies	-	12,063	-	12,063	13,741
Buildings	4,386	-	-	4,386	6,774
Rwanda Partnership	-	1,483	-	1,483	17,164
Youth	-	336	-	336	1,373
Children	84	287	-	372	1,579
Working Groups	-	-	-	-	36
Music and Sound	438	-	-	438	2,146
Vision	4,292	-	-	4,292	701
Utilities	5,532	-	-	5,532	5,111
Administration	3,419	-	-	3,419	3,568
Insurance	3,540	-	-	3,540	2,910
Wedding/Funeral Fees - Diocese	1,483	-	-	1,483	1,295
Sundry Supplies	415	-	-	415	1,737
Clergy Expenses	1,341	-	-	1,341	644
Worship, Sacramental & Lay Training	674	-	-	674	1,404
Churchyard Upkeep	1,520	-	-	1,520	132
Publicity	542	-	-	542	1,118
Honoraria	121	-	-	121	202
Fund-raising Activities	-	-	-	-	1,114
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	111,411	16,140	-	127,551	179,497

Asset and investment purchases

None	-	-	-	-	-
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Net receipts/(payments)	3,077	- 8,711	-	- 5,634	- 11,877
Transfers between funds	- 10,808	10,808	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	82,509	1,831	-	84,340	96,217
Cash funds this year end	74,778	3,928	-	78,706	84,340

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted to nearest £	Restricted to nearest £	Endowment to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Cash funds					
Santander Current Account	13,829	-	-	13,829	3,108
CCLA Deposit Account	60,785	3,928	-	64,713	21,012
CAF Deposit Account	-	-	-	-	60,000
Cash in Hand	165	-	-	165	220
Total cash funds	74,778	3,928	-	78,706	84,340

Investment assets	Status	Cost	Current value	Last year
CCLA Investment Account	Unrestricted	94,168 (2017)	124,833	116,801
Black Rock Charities UK Equity Fund	Endowment	20,000 (1995)	49,589	51,838
Total Assets			253,128	252,980

Liabilities	Fund	Amount due	When due
None		-	
Total		-	

Section C Position of funds at the end of the period

Fund	Starting balance	Receipts	Payments	Net transfers	End of year balance
General	82,509	114,487	111,411	- 10,808	74,778
Youth (Restricted)	379	5,912	2,594	-	3,696
Mission (Restricted)	178	1,077	12,063	10,808	-
Garden/ECO (Restricted)	100	-	-	-	100
Rwanda (Restricted)	1,175	440	1,483	-	132
Sub-total (Cash Funds)	84,340	121,917	127,551	-	78,706
Investments	168,639	5,782	-	-	174,422
Total	252,980	127,699	127,551	-	253,128

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval