

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST.JOHN AND ST.MARY DEVIZES

England & Wales · Charity number 1133990

Details

Other names ST.JOHN'S AND ST.MARY'S PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-02

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

Contact

Address The Parish Office
The Parish Rooms
Long Street
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1NP

Phone 01380724389

Email admin@stjohnwithstmary.org.uk

Website www.stjohnwithstmary.org.uk

Activities

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

Activities: This is the Parich Church Council of a large urban parish in a country town. It acts to try to provide for the religious and community needs of those who seek its care and support.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£285,115	£237,171	-	-
2024-12-31	£344,270	£377,922	-	-
2023-12-31	£518,530	£540,928	£121,808	2
2022-12-31	£205,886	£209,575	-	-
2021-12-31	£214,918	£213,103	-	-
2020-12-31	£257,835	£280,960	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CATHERINE AMELIA BROWN		
DAVID ARTHUR EVANS		
JANE MARGARET SCORER		
JUDITH ANNE BRIDGER		
MICHAEL MCCLELLAND		2015-03-22
Martin Houghton		2022-04-03
ROBERT DUNDAS REID SIMPSON		
Rachel Elizabeth West		2026-04-26
Rev Caroline Spindlow		2024-04-16
Rev Heidi Ruth Jane Merrett		2026-03-02
Susan Jane Tovey		2025-05-21
Timothy Lacy-Hulbert		2024-04-14

Accounts



Devizes St John & St Mary

Heart and Soul in the Centre of our Town

The Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St John with St Mary, Devizes

Annual Report 2025



Our Vision:

The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God:
Micah 6:8

Administrative information

St John's Church is situated in Long Street, Devizes. St Mary's Church is situated in New Park Street, Devizes. The parish is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, The Parish Rooms, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity No.1133990 and is made up of:

Incumbent: Vacant

The Revd. Caroline Spindlow

Churchwarden:

Martin Houghton (until 11 May)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Catherine Brown - Treasurer

Peter Crofts

David Evans

Elected members:

Claire Arden

Judy Bridger

Martin Houghton

Tim Lacy-Hulbert

Alan Martin

Mike McClelland

Jane Scorer - Lay Vice-Chair

Bob Simpson

Sue Tovey

Co-opted members:

Christopher Rogers (from May 2025)

Parish Ministry

Rector: Vacant

Associate Priest The Revd. Caroline Spindlow

Clergy with Permission to Officiate:

The Revd. Robin Stephens

The Revd. Canon Chris Burdon

The Revd. Keith Lamden

The Revd. Andrew Sinclair

Anna Chaplain

Claire Arden

Licensed Lay Ministers with Permission to Officiate:

Chris Cox

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Catherine Brown

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF DEVIZES, ST JOHN & ST MARY

AIM AND PURPOSES

St John & St Mary Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, when not in vacancy, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St John's Church, St Mary's Church and St John's Parish Rooms.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.
- The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.
- Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
- When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
 - Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our parish churches and the parish rooms.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St John & St Mary the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), the associate priest and the assistant curate, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Parochial Church Council met ten times during the year and the following topics were discussed:

- Health and Safety policy updates
- Deanery Synod
- Churches Together in Devizes
- Safeguarding Policy
- Parish Profile and vacancy matters
- Omnes ad Unum
- Churchyard maintenance
- Church Heating
- Finance and Fund-raising
- St Mary's project
- Director of Music contract
- Completion of the organ project

Liz Overthrow

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

As ever, we have lost some friends throughout the year and gained some more. At 31 December 2025 there were 92 names on the Electoral Roll.

As always, I would urge members of the congregation to ask if those sitting next to them each Sunday are on the Electoral Roll. If they are not on the roll, encourage them to see me and complete an application form. Forms will also be available in church.

Catherine Brown - Electoral Roll Officer

REFLECTIONS 2025

Report from Rev'd Caroline Spindlow, Associate Priest of the Parish of St John with St Mary's Devizes.

Although, inevitably, the vacancy has had a feeling of 'standing-still' for the parish it is obvious that a great deal has happened over this time which bodes well for the future. And reports reflect that enthusiasm and passion of different our congregation members. Although we have had a period without church wardens, we are incredibly grateful that Martin Houghton remained as Church Warden for as long as he could, but understand that this was no longer tenable with other work that he had taken on.

And we have been very blessed that Jane Scorer, Bob Simpson, Jerry King, Judy Bridger and Michael McClelland have stood in as 'stand-in Churchwardens' for so many services and events.

The year has obviously been a challenging year without an incumbent however worship has been very well maintained throughout. The only regular service that we were not able to cover was the Thursday morning Eucharist service. The other services were led by our team of PTO clergy: The Rev'd Canon Chris Burdon, The Rev'd Andrew Sinclair, The Rev'd Canon Keith Lamdin and myself. We are most grateful for the extra work, services, and meetings that they have covered. We are also blessed that our bishop, The Rt Revd Andrew Rumsey was able to take some key services for us – including Easter and Christmas Day services.

As the Civic church we have continued with regular services for the mayor and the town council, hosted the West Wiltshire Carol service and been a part of local school's Christmas festivities. It was a privilege for us to host Wansdyke School's carol service and was a lovely opportunity to meet the headteacher and his staff, the pupils and a church full of adoring parents.

Our PCC meetings have continued to be regular and well supported. And thanks go to all those involved with that and subgroups within it. A special thank you to Jerry King, our Safeguarding Officer, who has continued to ensure that officers are DBS checked and has had to deal with the aftermath of the national data breach. A hugely essential but not always the most rewarding task!

A key subcommittee was formed to work on the Parish Profile. This work was done thoroughly, with questionnaires sent to all congregation members, meetings with those involved which culminated in a comprehensive and attractive Parish Profile to attract our new incumbent.

A new clergy team structure evolved after Rev'd Poston left the parish and regular team meetings included the clergy team, Catherine Brown our Administrator, Joe Scarfe the Music Director and a member of the standing committee (Jane Scorer, Liz Overthrow or Martin Houghton). They met mostly monthly to look at the church services coming up and to ensure that services were appropriately planned. This ensured that occasional offices were covered in addition to the main services.

It was wonderful to have the new organ up and running over the year and exciting that the choir were able to sing the Devizes Mass that had been written especially for them with the new organ. Joe Scarfe has attracted new members to join the choir and the high standard of music is regularly commented on.

The work that Barry Payne and Janice Payne do to support the choir and our occasional offices should also be noted. Their work enables the choir to flourish and our weddings and baptisms have been blessed by their skills.

One further, indispensable, group should be mentioned. Those wonderful, regular and faithful people who help set up and help lead our services, greeting congregation members as they arrive, opening up the church on Sundays and for other services/occasions. Our LLM, our sacristan and our Anna Chaplain and our LPA! I hope you don't feel taken for granted because you are so valued and we can't do without you.

It is incredibly exciting that we have had Ben Wrench exploring his vocation here at St John's and we are delighted that he will now be moving on to ordination training – I am sure that we will be blessed with seeing much more of him in the near future. We are also helping another congregation member explore God's calling to possibly be a Licensed Lay Minister. Recognising these callings reflect on all of us at St John's and we should be excited and proud about this.

Throughout this time our Administrator, Catherine Brown, has been there for us all! She is dependable, very knowledgeable and incredibly efficient. A huge thank you Catherine for all you have done for us over the year.

The individual reports demonstrate that the church has been active and busy despite the vacancy - including the new Parish Prayers time that has been introduced since the vacancy started. However, there is a general feel that we need a leader to unify and steer us – I am sure I echo everyone's views in this! It is very exciting that this new season is about to begin.

Rev'd Caroline Spindlow

SAFEGUARDING

The regular flow of DBS checks has been generally straightforward. A mid-year flurry of activity and concern was caused for some of our members by a data breach in a contractor's systems holding national church-wide personal data. It was a reminder of our individual and communal need for vigilance over matters of personal sensitivity.

By chance, the timing of the breach was when the Diocese was beginning the transfer of DBS activity to another company, Thirtyone:eight, and the introduction of the Parish Safeguarding Hub to bring together all aspects of safer recruitment and safeguarding training. Perhaps inevitably the new systems bring new terminology, for example Hub Owner, Administrator and Viewer, and I will no longer be doing DBS ID checks as the familiar Verifier but as a Recruiter.

My annual reassurance: these sometimes-complex procedures help to create an environment that is safer for us all, so that the PCC complies with its duty to have “due regard” to the House of Bishops’ guidance in relation to safeguarding. If you have a question about any aspect, by all means contact me.

Jerry King - Parish Safeguarding Officer

REPORT FROM BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

St John’s

- Since the last APCM, our new organ has been commissioned and is in regular use. Side panelling on the west side is still required but the hope is that this will be included with an array of en chamade trumpets that are planned.
- The scaffolding towers at the west end of the church have been removed and we can now actively begin to think about reorganising/reordering the rear of the church.
- Parish Rooms – no decision yet about their future
- Quinquennial inspection – consequent repair work not yet commenced. Waiting on our architects to progress.
- A long-term review of church heating requirements continues. In the meantime, we have had to replace the heat exchangers on both boilers at considerable expense.
- Our clock has recently been stripped down and rebuilt.
- Subject to being able to find sufficient volunteers to open and close up, the church will be kept open every day.

St Mary’s

- Regular use of SMV has been hampered by access difficulties consequent upon dangerous and deteriorating box tombs on the south side of the church. Devizes Town Council are planning work on these tombs to make them safe - hopefully in the next few weeks
- Reordering Project – with St Mary’s Devizes Trust. A setback in that very late in the day we have been informed that a Faculty is required and also a surveyors report for the Charity Commission.

Mike McClelland

Health & Safety

With the Organ, now well and truly 'up and running' and its countless components once housed in the north isle, no longer presenting a trip hazard, St John's Church is very much back to normal. That is normal, except that trip hazards continue to present themselves throughout the church! This is especially the case now that after service coffee and teas are served at the west end of St John's, and where a number of floor height variations remain. The hazard tape used to highlight these changes of level, is sometimes difficult to adhere to both wooden and especially, stone surfaces. Any area lacking attention should be reported to my successor directly or to Catherine, our administrator.

A new, much shortened Health & Safety Policy has been drawn up and presented to the PCC this past year. Over time, Risk Assessments for most – if not all – church activities, have been provided, including for visits made by lay members of the congregation, to private homes or care homes. As a result, the new H&S Policy refers to Risk Assessments which play a more exacting part in defining procedures. Should there be another pandemic, as experienced following COVID 2019, such a risk assessment remains in place. The most recently added Risk Assessment is on behalf of those who care for our churchyard garden. The PCC approved the H&S Policy for St John's at its meeting on 28th January and should do so annually at this time.

Over the year, St Mary's Church has remained somewhat detached from our activities and as such, the original H&S Policy and Fire Risk Assessment have not altered. There are no Risk Assessments currently in place at St Mary's but common sense must prevail.

Choir member, Helen Bourne, has 'level 3 award in emergency first aid at work' and remains our first aider until January 2027 when her certificate of competence will require renewal.

Alan Martin

SPIRITUALITY

Pastoral Care Team (Pastoral Visiting/Home Communion):

We continue to identify and support members of the congregation requiring pastoral care and/or home communion, and arrangements continue to be made for authorised personnel to visit. At the time of writing, we have 17 people requiring some degree of oversight ranging from keeping a 'Watching Brief' to regular supportive visits and/or home communion.

Regular meetings of the 'Pastoral Care Team' (five authorised volunteers) are held to review those receiving pastoral care and amend our provision as required. Pastoral visits are undertaken primarily by the Rector, Curates (when available), our LLM, our Anna Chaplain, and LPA, although a small number of experienced others are authorised to undertake this role on behalf of the parish.

Reflection:

The 'Reflection' group provides an opportunity to engage in silent contemplative prayer (meditation), gentle discussion, and Christian fellowship. Meetings start with a reading (poetry or prose on a spiritual or theological theme...but not scripture), continue with a period of silent contemplative prayer (meditation), and end with a discussion centred on the theme of the reading. We meet monthly on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month with seven regular participants. The group continues to meet in the Beauchamp Chapel at St John's from April until October. With the end of British Summer Time, one of our members kindly hosts us in their home to see us through the winter months.

We are an open group and anyone wishing to join us would be warmly welcomed.

Room to Breathe:

'Room to Breathe' opens our church to the local community, particularly those who live and work in the town centre. It offers people the opportunity to take time out for rest and quiet, to be still, and to enjoy silence within a church setting. We continue to welcome people seeking a time of quiet and also visitors wishing to look quietly around the church. Room to Breathe is organised and facilitated by a small group of volunteers who open the church each Tuesday between 12.00 midday and 2.00 p.m.

Lectio Divina:

Lectio Divina, commonly known as 'Lectio' (pronounced 'Lexio'), simply means 'divine reading' in Latin, and is a simple way of reading scripture with our hearts and minds open to God. It is a contemplative method of praying with the scriptures that emerged from within the Christian monastic tradition and can be practised alone or in a group. Previously, the Lectio Divina group met on the fourth (4th) Friday of the month in St John's Parish Rooms at 10.00 a.m. However, because of diminished numbers the group was discontinued and remains suspended. We hope to review the future of the group with our new Rector when she is in post.

Chris Cox LLM

PARISH PRAYERS

We started Parish Prayers at the end of January 2025, when it became clear that the 10.00am Holy Communion on a Thursday would not be continued during the vacancy. If this service would not be taking place, it seemed important to me that we should introduce some particular kind of prayer during the vacancy, both for a new priest and for the parish and, as Claire Arden and Karen Barber were regularly church sitting from 11.30 on a Thursday, it seemed appropriate to tie it in with this and have the prayers at 12 noon.

Thank you to Canon Chris Burdon for help with the order of service. Around a dozen people have been coming to pray – obviously it varies a lot but on average half a dozen are usually there. As well as praying for the needs of the parish and the sick and departed, we also pray for the people whose names are put in the prayer requests basket in church. Thank you to Claire and Karen for help with this.

Judy Bridger

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

During the past year the same group has continued to meet at the home of David and Carie Evans. We studied the epistles of James and Peter, a selection of Psalms and the Book of Exodus.

A shadow fell over the group at the close of the year when Charles Slater ceased to be able to attend and then went into hospital. We are much saddened by his death and Diana's grief.

David Evans

THE FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild has thirteen Flower Arrangers as Amy Mulder has joined during the year. Lyn Payne and Juliet Bazeley have decided to retire, and I am grateful for their help over many years. I am pleased that Sue Long has agreed to join the team. I would like to thank them for their skill in arranging the flowers in Church during the year except at Lent and Advent.

The Flower Guild held a Coffee Morning last June in the Parish Hall which raised £495.10 for the Flower Fund. I would like to thank them for the items made by the team and their support in organising the event and for the congregation and friends who came.

The Flower Guild is most grateful for the donations that have been given during the year which help pay for the flowers. If any one wishes to remember a special occasion with a flower arrangement in Church or give a donation please contact me as the Flower Guild relies on donations to fund the flowers.

I would like to thank John Twentyman who has kindly audited the Accounts for many years and Catherine who has agreed to deal with the Flower Guild Account to avoid having to incur bank expenses.

Di Remlinger, Sue King and myself enjoyed staging a floral exhibit on behalf of the Church at the Flower Festival "The Spirit of Water" which was staged at Salisbury Cathedral last May.

Heather Blyth

THE BELLS AND BELLRINGERS

2025 has been an interesting year. The work done on the bells in 2024 continued to bed in throughout the year. We all still notice how much better they ring and we've had a lot of opportunities this year to show them off.

Almost like the famous movie, we rang for five weddings and a funeral. The funeral was for Alan Field who was a very long-standing member of the St. John's congregation and had been instrumental in the previous restoration of the bells some 25/30 years ago, so it was a pleasure to be asked to ring for his funeral.

We also rang on Remembrance Sunday, the 80th anniversary of VE day and the Lord Lieutenant's annual carol service.

We've been more involved in the local community this year, with a visit from the 6th Devizes Beavers in March and a talk on bellringing I gave to a group at St. Andrew's Church in February. A standout event was the St. John's Church Fete in the summer where we worked with the church team to put tours on in the tower, showing off the ringing chamber, the bell chamber and finishing off with visitors enjoying the view from the roof. We also had a lot of people try out bellringing that day which was great fun for all.

We also hosted our Devizes Branch Business meeting in April. These alternate between towers in the Branch, and since there are 39 of them it's been a while since it was last held at St. John's. It's an opportunity for ringers within the Branch to ring at St. John's, attend a service in the church and have a nice Tea in the Parish Rooms ahead of a business meeting. We held a similar session in November when an alternative location was needed at short notice.

This year has also been a busy year with learners. Our first got in touch in the summer and was making really good progress before sadly having to stop for personal reasons. But she was closely followed by four more who are continuing to progress well so we hope they will be able to join our Sunday ringing sessions in the near future.

David Powell, Tower Captain

Deanery Synod Report

Given the fact that so many parishes were in vacancy and that there was change in the leadership of the deanery, it is not surprising that the Synod this year lacked a sense of direction, though the new rural dean, Richard Curtis, did his best.

Whenever other matters are not proposed, the issue of the parish share fills any vacuum, though it tends to generate more heat than light. It is obvious that financial problems are very severe in this diocese. Many parishes were unable to pay their share in part and at one point in the year too little was coming in to pay the expenses of maintaining the clergy.

It is not so obvious what can be done about the problem and viable constructive ideas did not emerge from our discussions.

Despite the money troubles, the parishes always had some good news to report about successful local initiatives. We also listened to an interesting talk about work with young people, one area where the Deanery Plan has made advances. In the early months of 2026 a great many new clergy will be taking up positions within the deanery and we hope for renewed energy and a strong sense of purpose.

David Evans

CHOIR AND MUSIC

Firstly, I am please to share that we have welcomed a new treble chorister, Jemima, who has recently joined the choir. She has settled in very well and is already making a positive contribution to our choral sound. Her arrival is a welcome sign of growth and helps strengthen the future of our treble line.

Secondly, I am very pleased to confirm that the commissioned cantata has now been completed. This marks an important milestone in our ongoing commitment to supporting new music and enriching the culture of the town. Further details regarding its performance and any associated events will be shared with the PCC in due course.

Thirdly, organists from the Salisbury and District Organist Association will be visiting St. John's later this year to play the new organist and St John's has been invited to join the Pipe Up Scheme to support organ tuition for young people.

Joe Scarffe – Director of Music

Social and Fundraising Group

With a primary purpose of bringing the congregation together and creating fellowship during the vacancy and beyond the last year was very successful. We ran themed coffee mornings around springtime and harvest which were well attended with positive feedback. We also restarted the Summer Fete with guided tours up the medieval tower and bell ringing proving very popular! We made jams and cakes galore supported local businesses and crafts but sadly had to cancel the dog show due to a heatwave!

Our year rounded out with a festive Christmas bazaar which broke records in fundraising terms and contained lots of fun and laughter. As a group we have taken on the quarterly commitment to offer Parish Lunch after the Sunday service.

We are a dedicated but small group and are actively looking for new members!

The total raised last year for the general church funds was £3,500

Karen Barber



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

Registered Charity No:- 1133990

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

for the year ended 31 December 2025

Incumbent
Vacancy

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Parochial Church Council of St John & St Mary, Devizes

Independent Examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council

I report to the Parochial Church Council on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The members of the PCC are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and preparing account which comply with the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC'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.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

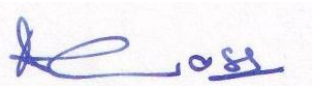
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual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

Independent examiner's statement

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 respects:-

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as requested by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. The accounts do 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.



Mrs Alison Cross
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd T/a JS Weeks & Co
Chartered Accountants
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

17 March 2026

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

I N D E X

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2025 £	2024 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	94,336	23,721	118,057	139,128
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	61,001	51,872	112,873	181,955
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	52,909	560	53,469	22,894
Income from Investments	2d	4	712	716	293
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		208,250	76,865	285,115	344,270
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		5,482	42,462	47,944	(33,652)
Transfer Between Funds		21,320	(21,320)	-	-
Prior Year Adjustments		-	(146)	(146)	83,265
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised (Decrease)/Increase in value		(828)	(83)	(911)	4,424
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		25,974	20,913	46,887	54,037
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Brought Forward		59,554	116,291	175,845	121,808
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2025 £	2024 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2025		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		68,974	-	68,974	48,801
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		2,112	-	2,112	1,265
Flower Fund		1,201	-	1,201	-
Omnes ad Unum		12,146	-	12,146	-
Organ Fund		214	-	214	7,391
Living Churchyard SJB		831	-	831	2,047
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	15,053	15,053	26,368
Church Building Fund		-	8,345	8,345	17,018
Organ Fund		-	-	-	4,977
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	105,512	105,512	59,634
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Omnes Account	12,148	-
Lloyds Bank Organ Account	214	11,972
Lloyds Bank Current Account	42,556	82,946
CBF Deposit Account 3D	8,214	2,916
CBF Deposit Account 7D	82,500	-
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	70,130	70,958
CBF Investment Account 3J	6,970	7,053
Total Current Assets	<u>222,732</u>	<u>175,845</u>
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	68,974	48,801
Designated Funds	16,554	10,753
Restricted Funds	137,204	116,291
	<u>222,732</u>	<u>175,845</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2025****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	59,600	-	59,600	58,553
Plate and Special Collections	8,360	3,011	11,371	7,389
Income Tax Recoverable	23,163	-	23,163	11,976
VAT Recoverable	3,213	20,710	23,923	61,210
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	94,336	23,721	118,057	139,128
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	22,751	10	22,761	37,018
Grants:- Recurring	27,001	-	27,001	24,317
Other	10,749	1,862	12,611	5,600
Legacies	500	-	500	1,000
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	-	-	101,458
St Mary's Recuring Income	-	50,000	50,000	12,562
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	61,001	51,872	112,873	181,955
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	39,284	-	39,284	10,978
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	11,653	560	12,213	6,976
Church Hall Lettings	1,241	-	1,241	1,074
Magazine Sales and Advertising	306	-	306	375
Rent form Land and Buildings	350	-	350	640
Insurance Claims and Sundry Income	75	-	75	433
St Mary's Contribution to Expenses	-	-	-	2,418
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	52,909	560	53,469	22,894
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	4	712	716	293
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	208,250	76,865	285,115	344,270
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	2024 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	64,942	-	64,942	68,372
Mission and Grants	20,397	-	20,397	190
Fundraising Costs	3,700	-	3,700	-
Clergy Expenses	1,362	-	1,362	110
Upkeep of Services	9,801	1,130	10,931	6,148
Assistant Staff Costs	1,111	-	1,111	151
Church Yard	1,524	-	1,524	1,819
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	54,193	-	54,193	42,730
Bank Charges	534	-	534	422
Education	1,380	2,500	3,880	94
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	-	-	-	7,997
Light, Heat and Water	4,775	1,952	6,727	7,547
Repairs and Maintenance	5,189	-	5,189	9,870
Choir and Organist Pay	3,742	-	3,742	1,872
Salaries	18,216	-	18,216	15,510
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	7,273	-	7,273	8,385
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	2,543	-	2,543	1,686
Insurance	-	-	-	1,161
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	-	1,044
Cleaning and Sundries	2,086	-	2,086	2,839
<i>Other</i>				
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	12,326	12,326	189,940
Bell Repairs	-	16,495	16,495	10,035
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

Registered Charity No:- 1133990

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

for the year ended 31 December 2025

Incumbent
Vacancy

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Parochial Church Council of St John & St Mary, Devizes

Independent Examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council

I report to the Parochial Church Council on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The members of the PCC are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and preparing account which comply with the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC'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.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

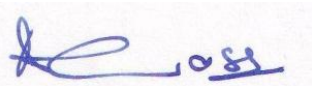
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual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

Independent examiner's statement

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 respects:-

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as requested by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. The accounts do 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.



Mrs Alison Cross
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd T/a JS Weeks & Co
Chartered Accountants
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

17 March 2026

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

I N D E X

Page

1 - 2	Statement of Financial Activities
3	Balance Sheet
4 - 6	Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2025 £	2024 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	94,336	23,721	118,057	139,128
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	61,001	51,872	112,873	181,955
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	52,909	560	53,469	22,894
Income from Investments	2d	4	712	716	293
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		208,250	76,865	285,115	344,270
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		5,482	42,462	47,944	(33,652)
Transfer Between Funds		21,320	(21,320)	-	-
Prior Year Adjustments		-	(146)	(146)	83,265
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised (Decrease)/Increase in value		(828)	(83)	(911)	4,424
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		25,974	20,913	46,887	54,037
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Brought Forward		59,554	116,291	175,845	121,808
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2025 £	2024 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2025		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		68,974	-	68,974	48,801
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		2,112	-	2,112	1,265
Flower Fund		1,201	-	1,201	-
Omnes ad Unum		12,146	-	12,146	-
Organ Fund		214	-	214	7,391
Living Churchyard SJB		831	-	831	2,047
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	15,053	15,053	26,368
Church Building Fund		-	8,345	8,345	17,018
Organ Fund		-	-	-	4,977
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	105,512	105,512	59,634
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		85,528	137,204	222,732	175,845
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Omnes Account	12,148	-
Lloyds Bank Organ Account	214	11,972
Lloyds Bank Current Account	42,556	82,946
CBF Deposit Account 3D	8,214	2,916
CBF Deposit Account 7D	82,500	-
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	70,130	70,958
CBF Investment Account 3J	6,970	7,053
Total Current Assets	<u>222,732</u>	<u>175,845</u>
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	68,974	48,801
Designated Funds	16,554	10,753
Restricted Funds	137,204	116,291
	<u>222,732</u>	<u>175,845</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2025

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2025****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	59,600	-	59,600	58,553
Plate and Special Collections	8,360	3,011	11,371	7,389
Income Tax Recoverable	23,163	-	23,163	11,976
VAT Recoverable	3,213	20,710	23,923	61,210
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	94,336	23,721	118,057	139,128
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	22,751	10	22,761	37,018
Grants:- Recurring	27,001	-	27,001	24,317
Other	10,749	1,862	12,611	5,600
Legacies	500	-	500	1,000
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	-	-	101,458
St Mary's Recuring Income	-	50,000	50,000	12,562
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	61,001	51,872	112,873	181,955
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	39,284	-	39,284	10,978
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	11,653	560	12,213	6,976
Church Hall Lettings	1,241	-	1,241	1,074
Magazine Sales and Advertising	306	-	306	375
Rent form Land and Buildings	350	-	350	640
Insurance Claims and Sundry Income	75	-	75	433
St Mary's Contribution to Expenses	-	-	-	2,418
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	52,909	560	53,469	22,894
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	4	712	716	293
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	208,250	76,865	285,115	344,270
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	64,942	-	64,942	68,372
Mission and Grants	20,397	-	20,397	190
Fundraising Costs	3,700	-	3,700	-
Clergy Expenses	1,362	-	1,362	110
Upkeep of Services	9,801	1,130	10,931	6,148
Assistant Staff Costs	1,111	-	1,111	151
Church Yard	1,524	-	1,524	1,819
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	54,193	-	54,193	42,730
Bank Charges	534	-	534	422
Education	1,380	2,500	3,880	94
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	-	-	-	7,997
Light, Heat and Water	4,775	1,952	6,727	7,547
Repairs and Maintenance	5,189	-	5,189	9,870
Choir and Organist Pay	3,742	-	3,742	1,872
Salaries	18,216	-	18,216	15,510
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	7,273	-	7,273	8,385
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	2,543	-	2,543	1,686
Insurance	-	-	-	1,161
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	-	1,044
Cleaning and Sundries	2,086	-	2,086	2,839
<i>Other</i>				
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	12,326	12,326	189,940
Bell Repairs	-	16,495	16,495	10,035
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	202,768	34,403	237,171	377,922
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts



Devizes St John & St Mary

Heart and Soul in the Centre of our Town

The Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St John with St Mary, Devizes

Annual Report 2024



Our Vision:

The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God:
Micah 6:8

Administrative information

St John's Church is situated in Long Street, Devizes. St Mary's Church is situated in New Park Street, Devizes. The parish is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, The Parish Rooms, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity No.1133990 and is made up of:

Incumbent: The Revd. Jonathan Poston (until 29th December 2024)

Associate Priest: The Revd. Caroline Spindlow

Churchwarden: Martin Houghton

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Catherine Brown - Treasurer (from 14 April 2024)

Peter Crofts

David Evans

Elected members:

Claire Arden

Judy Bridger

Chris Cox

Becky Edgington - Treasurer (until 14 April 2024)

Martin Houghton

Tim Lacy-Hulbert

Alan Martin

Mike McClelland

Jane Scorer - Lay Vice-Chair

Bob Simpson

Catherine Tarrant

Co-opted members:

Liz Overthrow - Secretary

Parish Ministry

Rector: The Revd. Jonathan Poston

Associate Priest: The Revd. Caroline Spindlow

Clergy with Permission to Officiate:

The Revd. Canon George Royle

The Revd. Robin Stevens

The Revd. Chris Burdon

The Revd. Christine Hawkins

Anna Chaplain: Claire Arden

Licensed Lay Ministers with Permission to Officiate:

Chris Cox

Mark Harrison (until December 2024)

Lay Pastoral Assistants: Catherine Brown

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF DEVIZES, ST JOHN & ST MARY

AIM AND PURPOSES

St John & St Mary Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Jonathan Poston, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St John's Church, St Mary's Church and St John's Parish Rooms.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.
- The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.
- Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
- When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
 - Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our parish churches and the parish rooms.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St John & St Mary the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), the associate priest and the assistant curate, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The PCC met seven times during the year and the following matters were discussed:

Initiatives from the Vision groups
Installation and rebuilding of the pipe organ
The condition of the Parish Rooms
The financial situation and fundraising
Repairs to both churches
Repairs to St John's bells
St Mary's Project

Liz Overthrow

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

As ever, we have lost some friends throughout the year and gained some more. At 31 December 2024 there were 126 names on the Electoral Roll.

As always, I would urge members of the congregation to ask if those sitting next to them each Sunday are on the Electoral Roll. If they are not on the roll, encourage them to see me and complete an application form. Forms will also be available in church.

Catherine Brown - Electoral Roll Officer

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS 2024

At the APCM last April churchwardens Jane Scorer and Mike McClelland stood down.

Martin Houghton stepped in as Warden and our Administrator Catherine Brown took on the role of Treasurer. I would like to thank them for the unwavering support they both gave me and for the huge amount of work they do for the church. Martin really stepped up and has been an excellent warden (though he needs more support so as not to exhaust himself) and Catherine has a clear understanding of our finances and how best to manage them.

Work began in 2024 on the pipe organ that had been gifted to us from Plymouth URC. Lance Foy and his family and work team worked extremely hard over the year to rebuild the organ. Sounds are now coming out of it!

It sounds and looks splendid and augments the grandeur and importance of St John's church as a place for Anglican and choral musical excellence. The work is ongoing but moving towards completion. A fundraising group have also been working very hard to bring in the funds needed. When I left at the end of the year over half of the amount we had committed to had been raised.

In July Joe Scarffe was interviewed for the post of Musical Director and was accepted, taking on the role in Sept 24. Joe was an organ scholar at Dauntsey's, has a PhD in music and is a creative and innovative leader. Since arriving he has really raised the game of the choir, particularly boosting the confidence of the younger members.

The vision for St John's we have been shaping includes one of developing a high musical standard, both in worship and for secular concerts and events, and offering that to our local school children and interested adults.

When the organ is completed the next phase of shaping the west end of St John's into a welcoming hospitality area can begin. This will extend another focus of this year which has been that of hospitality and welcome. Introducing 'Room to Breathe' (thank you Judy Bridger for pioneering this) and beginning to look at how welcome can be extended within our church building.

A high church attendance for Remembrance and Christmas shows how much St John's is valued, even by those who visit only during major festival times.

St Mary's Devizes trust had a boost this year with some new trustees coming on board. This has helped move the conversation forward on how to allow the trust to take over the events at St Mary's church and ultimately have a lease so that they can start to fund raise.

With thanks to Peter Corbett for his work on this. Hopefully this will now help to move the St Mary's project forward after last year's focus on the re-roofing that was financed by the Poorlands Trust and is now complete.

In April Caroline Spindlow was licensed to St John's as a minister to work across the deanery. I am grateful that Caroline has been so supportive and that she continues to help steer you through the vacancy with Roger – assistant Archdeacon.

St John's continued to be used as the church of choice including for the licensing of LWLs, Anna Chaplains and for archdeacon Sue Groom's leaving service as well as the major civic events.

A new Rector's roll was created by Caroline Keevil, a local calligrapher, to replace the old one. This beautifully made historical document was framed and gifted to us by Caroline.

My focus over 2024 (as well as all the usual things that a rector does as part of the ongoing job) was to get the organ built and to work with the choir. Initially helping to keep them going and latterly to help and support Joe in our aim to develop St John's reputation as a choral church and offer teaching in choral music and organ to local schools. Becoming a centre of excellence for choral music and worship in this part of the diocese.

The foundations are well and truly laid for this. It is up to the PCC as they develop their parish profile and seek a new priest whether they wish to build on this vision for the future.

Finally, a HUGE thank you to those of you who do so much for the church whether it is on PCC, Omnes and Christmas Tree events, flower ladies, ministry team, vergers and choir. And all those on the numerous sub-committees that keep things ticking over and that get things done.

St John's is a wonderful community and a unique place. I continue to hold you in my prayers as you seek a priest for the next phase of your journey.

Every blessing

Jonathan

- Rector until the 29th Dec 2024

SAFEGUARDING

The publicity regarding safeguarding in the wider Church has inevitably filtered down into the guidance being received at parish level. That said, the constant nature of our parish's activities means that there has been little change to our formal processes. DBS checking online continues to prove for the most part painless, and candidates opting into the Update Service are reducing the need for detailed checks every few years. Any benefits from the forthcoming transfer of our application processes to another company have yet to emerge but sound promising.

To repeat my annual reassurance, but perhaps more relevantly this year given national concerns, these sometimes-complex procedures help to create an environment that is safer for us all, so that the PCC complies with its duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding. If you have a question about any aspect, by all means contact me.

Jerry King - Parish Safeguarding Officer

REPORT FROM BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

St John's

- The refurbishment and installation of our 'new' pipe organ is well under way and the hope is that it may be commissioned in the summer. The organ builder is Lance Foy from Truro. We have raised over half of the funding required for this project but a further £50k is still needed to complete the project. This will include making the north transept/vestry into a secure area with lockable doors at each end.
- Once the new organ has been commissioned, we will be able to remove the scaffolding towers at the west end of the church and thus begin to think seriously about reorganising/reordering the rear of the church.
- Parish Rooms – we are now in discussion with the Diocese about the possible sale of the Rooms.
- Quinquennial inspection – consequent repair work not yet commenced. Waiting on our architects to progress.
- A long-term review of church heating requirements continues
- Hopefully we now have sufficient funds to have our clock fully refurbished.
- The bells have been substantially refurbished during the past year

St Mary's

- Quinquennial works – major replacement of lead on north roof and tower plus some other roof and stonework is nearly completed – funded by Poorlands Charity. There is some outstanding stonework still under consideration but this is subject to sufficient funds being available.
- Reordering Project – with St Mary's Devizes Trust. Papers relating to their process flow diagram should now be with the Diocese for their consideration.

Churchyards (Both)

We have fewer and fewer volunteers to care for both churchyards and currently nobody to organise the work in either.

Mike McClelland

Health & Safety

Despite having to navigate around several hundred pieces of organ while the build takes place, the year has otherwise been quite uneventful. Only one Risk Assessment (RA) for home visiting on behalf of the Anna Chaplaincy, has been required this year while the Ascension Day tower climb RA was used to accommodate the Town's 'Open Day' tower climb, to ensure all safety protocols were followed, Health & Safety (H&S) policies remain in place in both St John's and St Mary's churches. A new H&S policy will be drawn up during 2025 and presented to your PCC for ratification in due course.

No reportable accidents have been made this year.

Alan Martin

SPIRITUALITY

Reflection:

The 'Reflection' group provides an opportunity to engage in silent contemplative prayer, gentle discussion, and Christian fellowship. Meetings start with a reading (poetry or prose on a spiritual or theological theme...but not scripture), continue with a period of silent contemplative prayer, and end with a discussion centred on the theme of the reading. We meet monthly on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month with seven regular participants.

The group continues to meet in the Beauchamp Chapel at St John's from April until October. With the end of British Summer Time, one of our members kindly hosts us in their home to see us through the winter months. We are an open group and anyone wishing to join us would be warmly welcomed.

Lectio Divina:

Lectio Divina, commonly known as 'Lectio' (pronounced 'Lexio'), simply means 'divine reading' in Latin, and is a simple way of reading scripture with our hearts and minds open to God. It is a contemplative method of praying with the scriptures that emerged from within the Christian monastic tradition and can be practised alone or in a group. Usually, the Lectio Divina group meets on the fourth (4th) Friday of the month in St John's Parish Rooms at 10.00 a.m. However, because of diminishing numbers (and the winter weather!), we took the decision to have a break over the winter months and we will review the future of the group in the Spring.

Pastoral Care Sub-Group (Pastoral Visiting/Home Communion):

We continue to identify and support members of the congregation requiring pastoral care and/or home communion, and arrangements continue to be made for authorised personnel to visit. Regular meetings of the 'Pastoral Care Sub-Group' are held to review those receiving pastoral care and amend our provision as required. Pastoral visits are undertaken primarily by the Rector, curates, LLM's, and LPAs, although a small number of experienced others are authorised to undertake this role on behalf of the parish.

Chris Cox LLM

Room to Breathe

*"Nothing will be asked or required of you
– stay for as little or as long as you like"*

Tuesdays

12 noon - 2.00pm

St John's, Long Street, Devizes

Rest and quiet in a church setting,

slow down and enjoy the silence

within this busy world.

Come be still.



ROOM TO BREATHE

WE STARTED ROOM TO BREATHE IN JULY 2024, AIMING TO PROVIDE A QUIET SPACE IN ST JOHN'S FROM 12NOON TO 2.00PM EACH TUESDAY, PRIMARILY FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WORK IN OUR SHOPS AND OFFICES IN THE TOWN CENTRE. INVITATIONS WERE PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO ALL THE SHOPS AND OFFICES, EMPHASISING THAT 'NOTHING WILL BE ASKED OR REQUIRED OF YOU – STAY FOR AS LITTLE OR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE' AND THESE WERE WARMLY RECEIVED. WE HAVE EIGHT VOLUNTEERS, TWO OF WHOM ARE THERE EACH WEEK TO WELCOME PEOPLE AND IT IS ADVERTISED

REGULARLY ON DEVIZES ISSUES AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. THERE ARE SEVERAL OCCASIONAL REGULARS AND A GOOD NUMBER OF VISITORS. WE HOPE NUMBERS WILL INCREASE AS THE WEATHER GETS WARMER.

JUDY BRIDGER

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Half way through the year, Becky Edgington moved house and the Bible study group had therefore to alter its meeting place, which is now the home of David and Carie Evans, which can just accommodate our eight members.

For much of the year we continued our study of St John's Gospel, sometimes complementing the study of the text with a study of paintings inspired by it: works by Caravaggio and Rembrandt figured rather often. Towards the end of the year we began a study of the epistles of James and Peter.

David Evans

Community Teas

St John's does....a jolly good tea!

That's the strapline on our poster - and it's true.

We're into our 3rd year now, and I don't think Soraya and I ever thought it could be this successful. We've built up a "hard core" of regulars, who've really become friends to each other and to us. Some have rebuilt friendships from decades ago, some have made new friendships. But one thing is for sure, we have a regular slot in their diaries!

Our January "tea" has for the past two years been a lunch (in recognition of dark winter afternoons). Cottage pie followed by fruit crumble may not be a Michelin-starred Sunday lunch - but when one guest said it was the best meal he'd had since his mother's death, it brings tears to the eye. Whether lunch or tea, our guests turn up VERY promptly, they've got their favourite sandwich fillings and cakes, one in particular likes his cocktail sausages!

I'm not sure if hearing aids are helped or hindered by the volume of conversations, but I am sure that all our guests enjoy an afternoon out, the company and the vittles!

And they are generous. We don't charge for the teas, but nearly everyone makes a donation, big or small. And each year we ask our guests to choose a couple of charities that they'd like the donations to go to. In our 1st year Wiltshire Sight (which supports a number of our guests) and The Nestling Trust benefitted; in our 2nd year it was Wiltshire Air Ambulance (who had helped one of our guests earlier in the year!), Julia's House Children's Hospice and Wiltshire Sight.

None of this would however be possible without the help of a wonderful band of volunteers, who help with baking cakes, making sandwiches, pouring teas, washing up and giving lifts to and from the Parish Rooms. Huge thanks to Susy, Suzy, Diana, Theresa, Alison, Tim, Jane, Sarah, Felicity, Fiona without whom we just couldn't do it. You are our heroes!

Alice Boyd and Soraya Pegden

THE FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild now has thirteen Flower Arrangers as Shirley Wright has decided to retire and I am grateful for her help in arranging flowers for many years. I would like to thank them for their skill in arranging the flowers in Church during the year except at Lent and Advent.

The Flower Guild held a Coffee Morning last June in the Parish Rooms which raised £539.20 for the Flower Fund. I would like to thank them for the items made by the team and their support in organising the event and for the congregation and friends who came to the event.

The Flower Guild is most grateful for the donations that have been given during the year which help to pay for the flowers. If anyone wishes to remember a special occasion with a flower arrangement in Church or give a donation please contact me, as the Flower Guild relies on donations to fund the flowers.

Di Remlinger, Sue King and myself will be staging a floral display on behalf of the church at the Flower Festival "The Spirit of the Water" being staged at Salisbury Cathedral from 13th to the 18th May.

Heather Blyth

THE BELLS AND BELLRINGERS

The focus for the bell ringing band in 2024 was to implement the maintenance work which had been identified through the reports commissioned in 2023. Having chosen a bell hanger to undertake the work, it all started at the end of April. Our bell ringing practice temporarily moved to St. Mary's for the period. The bells at St. John's finally started ringing again on 11 July, though it took a few more months to fully bed in and make the final tweaks needed for us to say the work was complete. We have definitely noticed the difference when ringing and hope everyone hearing the bells have as well.

While we have the bells working well, we haven't yet fully implemented the new system installed so we can get the bells chiming again with the clock during daytime hours. We hope to get that sorted soon.

Despite the bells being out of action for a significant portion of the year, we were still able to accommodate some visitors to the tower. In April we had bands from Hook Norton as well as Witney and Woodstock, and then a band from Cirencester in September and a band from Oxford in November.

Ringling for events though is always particularly special and we were pleased to be able to take part in 'Ring for Peace' to mark the 80th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings on 6th June.

In terms of our band, we were sad to see John Walter stand down as a ringer at St, John's as he had been a valued member for many years. We hope he is enjoying hearing the bells as much as he enjoyed ringing them. With the bells now ringing better, we can start to encourage some new ringers to join the band.

David Powell, Tower Captain

Deanery Synod Report

In March we were informed that The Rev Robert Sandy had been appointed as a House for Duty in The Redhorn Team and that The Rev Gerry Lynch had been inducted as the new Rector for Wells Spring Team.

We had a very interesting talk from The Waterways Chaplains who work on The Kennet and Avon Canal.

There was a Deanery Evensong held at Urchfont in March.

In July there was a very interesting talk given by the Chaplain to Gypsies and Travellers.

There was positive feedback from the LWL commissioning service that was held in St John's in May, where 11 new LWL were commissioned.

The post in Rowde and Bromham is to be advertised for the 4th time.

Andrew Sinclair announced his retirement from Bratton and Edington Benefice after being there for 8 years.

In November we heard that The Rev Gerry Lynch had written to every house in Potterne inviting them to the 5th Sunday service and 78 people attended.

We were informed that Pip Sanday had been appointed to St James' as a part time childrens' and families worker.

It was again emphasised the importance of paying the Parish Share, particularly when trying to fill a vacancy.

Bromham and Rowde are now moving to their 5th round of advertising for a Vicar,

The Lavingtons are now in vacancy, as is Edington and Bratton. St John's will be in vacancy from January 2025 and St James' from April 2025.

Catherine Brown

CHOIR AND MUSIC

St. John's Church in Devizes is entering an exciting new chapter in its musical life, supported by a new music director and two key grants. These initiatives aim to preserve and grow the church's musical traditions by fostering new talent and celebrating the capabilities of the newly restored organ.

Grant for Organ Tuition

A grant from the local area authority has been secured to fund organ lessons for young people in the Devizes area. This initiative seeks to nurture the next generation of church organists, ensuring that the rich tradition of organ music remains vibrant for years to come. The program will offer professional instruction to young musicians, fostering their skills and instilling a deep appreciation for this unique instrument. Outreach efforts are being planned to maximise participation and engage local schools in this effort.

Commissioning a New Musical Composition

In addition to the tuition grant, separate funding has been acquired to commission a new piece of music for the St. John's choir and the church's newly restored organ. This composition, by a local composer, will celebrate the organ's restoration and its role as a centrepiece of the church's musical life. The work is expected to be completed by the end of 2025, with a debut performance anticipated soon after.

This project not only highlights the church's commitment to commissioning new music but also enriches its repertoire with a unique, locally crafted piece.

Progress On The New Organ

The restoration of the organ is nearing completion and is on track for commissioning by June this year. Once fully operational, it will significantly enhance the church's worship services and concerts, providing both liturgical and cultural benefits to the community.

Growth Of The Choir

Meanwhile, the choir at St. John's has seen growth, with six new members joining in recent weeks. Efforts to recruit more young singers, particularly trebles, are ongoing through outreach to local schools. These initiatives complement the organ tuition program by fostering new talent for the church's musical future.

Joe Scarffe – Director of Music

Fundraising Group

100 Club

The PCC Fundraising Group, which organises activities to help maintain the fabric and structure of our historic church, launched a new initiative at the end of 2024 - the 100 CLUB aims to help the parish meet its regular outgoings, which continue to be under pressure. To date 30 members have signed up paying £60 annually to be entered into a monthly draw with prizes of £50, £30 and £10. Their support is bringing in a regular £60 monthly income to help cover essential costs, but the hope is that more parishioners will join over the coming months to boost the much needed revenue

Jane Scorer

Parish Lunches

We had 5 very successful lunches in the Parish Rooms in 2024. We started in January when over 40 people gathered for a wonderful spread in which we said goodbye to Gerry. Further lunches were held in March, June and September. Our final lunch was held in December and turned out to be Jonathan's leaving event. Again over 40 people came together for a delicious selection of food including soup, cheese scones, quiches, meats and salads and, as always, amazing cakes and desserts. I couldn't run these lunches without the generous support of many of our congregation and this is very much appreciated by everyone. We have also raised £1012.50 for church funds. Thank you to everyone who has supported these lunches in whatever capacity.

Sue Long

Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings provide us with an opportunity to share time and fellowship with each other. Reintroduced in July and very well supported through the baking of delicious cakes with some lovely tombola prizes there was much laughter and £385 was raised for church support. Encouraged by this success a larger support was given to Devizes Heritage Day with games for children, face painting, brass rubbing, excellent refreshments and visits climbing the medieval tower to view Devizes. A further £310 was raised. In November Coffee and Crafts were offered with a beautiful range of Christmas crafts, gifts and hand painted cards. This proved extremely popular and enjoyable and a further £510 was raised. The continuation of these events is planned during the vacancy period to support and strengthen the fellowship in the congregation in preparation for our new Rector and, of course, to have fun !

Karen Barber



**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

Registered Charity No:- 1133990

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

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Incumbent
Vacancy

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Parochial Church Council of St John & St Mary, Devizes

Independent Examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council

I report to the Parochial Church Council on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The members of the PCC are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and preparing account which comply with the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC'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.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

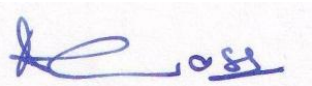
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual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

Independent examiner's statement

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 respects:-

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as requested by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. The accounts do 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.



Mrs Alison Cross
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd T/a JS Weeks & Co
Chartered Accountants
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

2 April 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

I N D E X

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1 - 2	Statement of Financial Activities
3	Balance Sheet
4 - 6	Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	76,448	62,680	139,128	67,478
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	32,937	149,018	181,955	420,498
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	12,701	10,193	22,894	30,335
Income from Investments	2d	32	261	293	219
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		122,118	222,152	344,270	518,530
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		549	(34,201)	(33,652)	(22,398)
Proceeds on Realisation of Investments		-	-	-	15,000
Transfer Between Funds		17,992	(17,992)	-	-
Funds Introduced – SMV		-	83,265	83,265	-
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value and profit on Sale of Investments		3,446	978	4,424	(1,202)
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		21,987	32,050	54,037	(8,600)
Total Funds Brought Forward		37,567	84,241	121,808	130,408
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		59,554	116,291	175,845	121,808
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2024		59,554 =====	116,291 =====	175,845 =====	121,808 =====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		48,801	-	48,801	23,167
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		1,265	-	1,265	19
Devizes Municipal Charities		-	-	-	1,242
Faith in the Future		-	-	-	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		-	-	-	73
Opportunities for Prayer		-	-	-	38
Organ Fund		7,391	-	7,391	7,760
Parish Room Maintenance		-	-	-	182
Rectors Mission Fund		-	-	-	4,535
Living Churchyard SJB		2,047	-	2,047	955
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
St Mary's Maintenance		-	-	-	(1,853)
Bells		-	-	-	(279)
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	26,368	26,368	41,162
Choir Fund		-	-	-	267
Church Building Fund		-	17,018	17,018	26,102
Organ Fund		-	4,977	4,977	4,863
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	-	-	20,387
Sound System		-	-	-	(6,918)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	59,634	59,634	(12,317)
Sunday School		-	-	-	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	-	-	2,041
		----- 59,554 =====	----- 116,291 =====	----- 175,845 =====	----- 121,808 =====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Organ Account	11,972	-
Lloyds Bank Current Account	82,946	3,167
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,916	2,769
CBF Deposit Account 7D	-	4,285
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	70,958	67,512
CBF Investment Account 3J	7,053	44,075
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	175,845	121,808
	=====	=====
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	48,801	23,167
Designated Funds	10,753	14,400
Restricted Funds	116,291	84,241
	-----	-----
	175,845	121,808
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2024****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	56,149	2,404	58,553	52,880
Plate and Special Collections	6,398	991	7,389	6,229
Income Tax Recoverable	10,666	1,310	11,976	8,369
VAT Recoverable	3,235	57,975	61,210	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	76,448	62,680	139,128	67,478
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	8,379	28,639	37,018	28,193
Grants:- Recurring	22,958	1,359	24,317	16,500
Other	600	5,000	5,600	13,430
Legacies	1,000	-	1,000	-
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	101,458	101,458	362,375
St Mary's Recuring Income	-	12,562	12,562	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	32,937	149,018	181,955	420,498
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	3,203	7,775	10,978	3,115
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	6,976	-	6,976	9,271
Church Hall Lettings	1,074	-	1,074	6,545
Magazine Sales and Advertising	375	-	375	570
Rent form Land and Buildings	640	-	640	386
Insurance Claims	433	-	433	-
St Mary's Contribution to Expenses	-	2,418	2,418	10,448
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	12,701	10,193	22,894	30,335
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	32	261	293	219
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	122,118	222,152	344,270	518,530
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	68,372	-	68,372	91,327
Mission and Grants	190	-	190	-
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	258
Clergy Expenses	110	-	110	1,009
Upkeep of Services	6,104	44	6,148	3,267
Assistant Staff Costs	151	-	151	75
Church Yard	832	987	1,819	747
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	-	42,730	42,730	14,412
Bank Charges	334	88	422	223
Education	94	-	94	261
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,907	3,090	7,997	8,060
Light, Heat and Water	4,728	2,819	7,547	8,621
Repairs and Maintenance	3,997	5,873	9,870	9,083
Choir and Organist Pay	1,837	35	1,872	6,152
Salaries	15,510	-	15,510	10,004
Support Costs				
Administration Costs	7,856	529	8,385	11,050
Hall Running Costs				
Light and Heat	1,686	-	1,686	3,836
Insurance	1,161	-	1,161	736
Repairs and Maintenance	861	183	1,044	968
Cleaning and Sundries	2,839	-	2,839	3,529
Other				
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	189,940	189,940	367,310
Bell Repairs	-	10,035	10,035	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

Registered Charity No:- 1133990

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

for the year ended 31 December 2024

Incumbent
Vacancy

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Parochial Church Council of St John & St Mary, Devizes

Independent Examiner's report to the members of the Parochial Church Council

I report to the Parochial Church Council on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The members of the PCC are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and preparing account which comply with the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC'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.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

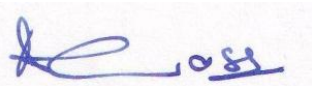
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual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

Independent examiner's statement

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 respects:-

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as requested by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. The accounts do 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.



Mrs Alison Cross
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd T/a JS Weeks & Co
Chartered Accountants
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

2 April 2025

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

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3	Balance Sheet
4 - 6	Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	76,448	62,680	139,128	67,478
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	32,937	149,018	181,955	420,498
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	12,701	10,193	22,894	30,335
Income from Investments	2d	32	261	293	219
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		122,118	222,152	344,270	518,530
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		549	(34,201)	(33,652)	(22,398)
Proceeds on Realisation of Investments		-	-	-	15,000
Transfer Between Funds		17,992	(17,992)	-	-
Funds Introduced – SMV		-	83,265	83,265	-
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value and profit on Sale of Investments		3,446	978	4,424	(1,202)
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		21,987	32,050	54,037	(8,600)
Total Funds Brought Forward		37,567	84,241	121,808	130,408
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		59,554	116,291	175,845	121,808
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2024 £	2023 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2024		59,554 =====	116,291 =====	175,845 =====	121,808 =====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		48,801	-	48,801	23,167
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		1,265	-	1,265	19
Devizes Municipal Charities		-	-	-	1,242
Faith in the Future		-	-	-	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		-	-	-	73
Opportunities for Prayer		-	-	-	38
Organ Fund		7,391	-	7,391	7,760
Parish Room Maintenance		-	-	-	182
Rectors Mission Fund		-	-	-	4,535
Living Churchyard SJB		2,047	-	2,047	955
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
St Mary's Maintenance		-	-	-	(1,853)
Bells		-	-	-	(279)
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	26,368	26,368	41,162
Choir Fund		-	-	-	267
Church Building Fund		-	17,018	17,018	26,102
Organ Fund		-	4,977	4,977	4,863
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	-	-	20,387
Sound System		-	-	-	(6,918)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	59,634	59,634	(12,317)
Sunday School		-	-	-	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	-	-	2,041
		----- 59,554 =====	----- 116,291 =====	----- 175,845 =====	----- 121,808 =====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Organ Account	11,972	-
Lloyds Bank Current Account	82,946	3,167
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,916	2,769
CBF Deposit Account 7D	-	4,285
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	70,958	67,512
CBF Investment Account 3J	7,053	44,075
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	175,845	121,808
	=====	=====
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	48,801	23,167
Designated Funds	10,753	14,400
Restricted Funds	116,291	84,241
	-----	-----
	175,845	121,808
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2024****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	56,149	2,404	58,553	52,880
Plate and Special Collections	6,398	991	7,389	6,229
Income Tax Recoverable	10,666	1,310	11,976	8,369
VAT Recoverable	3,235	57,975	61,210	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	76,448	62,680	139,128	67,478
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	8,379	28,639	37,018	28,193
Grants:- Recurring	22,958	1,359	24,317	16,500
Other	600	5,000	5,600	13,430
Legacies	1,000	-	1,000	-
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	101,458	101,458	362,375
St Mary's Recuring Income	-	12,562	12,562	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	32,937	149,018	181,955	420,498
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	3,203	7,775	10,978	3,115
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	6,976	-	6,976	9,271
Church Hall Lettings	1,074	-	1,074	6,545
Magazine Sales and Advertising	375	-	375	570
Rent form Land and Buildings	640	-	640	386
Insurance Claims	433	-	433	-
St Mary's Contribution to Expenses	-	2,418	2,418	10,448
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	12,701	10,193	22,894	30,335
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	32	261	293	219
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	122,118	222,152	344,270	518,530
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	2023 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	68,372	-	68,372	91,327
Mission and Grants	190	-	190	-
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	258
Clergy Expenses	110	-	110	1,009
Upkeep of Services	6,104	44	6,148	3,267
Assistant Staff Costs	151	-	151	75
Church Yard	832	987	1,819	747
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	-	42,730	42,730	14,412
Bank Charges	334	88	422	223
Education	94	-	94	261
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,907	3,090	7,997	8,060
Light, Heat and Water	4,728	2,819	7,547	8,621
Repairs and Maintenance	3,997	5,873	9,870	9,083
Choir and Organist Pay	1,837	35	1,872	6,152
Salaries	15,510	-	15,510	10,004
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	7,856	529	8,385	11,050
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,686	-	1,686	3,836
Insurance	1,161	-	1,161	736
Repairs and Maintenance	861	183	1,044	968
Cleaning and Sundries	2,839	-	2,839	3,529
<i>Other</i>				
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	189,940	189,940	367,310
Bell Repairs	-	10,035	10,035	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	121,569	256,353	377,922	540,928
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2023

Incumbent

Rev. J Poston

Bank

Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner

Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

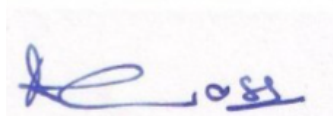
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
 - (b) to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

5 April 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2023 £	2022 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	67,478	-	67,478	70,384
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	36,364	384,134	420,498	111,625
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	19,887	10,448	30,335	23,788
Income from Investments	2d	-	219	219	89
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		123,729	394,801	518,530	205,886
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	168,777	372,151	540,928	209,575
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		168,777	372,151	540,928	209,575
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		(45,048)	22,650	(22,398)	(3,689)
Proceeds on Realisation of Investments		15,000	-	15,000	10,000
Transfer Between Funds		33,678	(33,678)	-	-
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised decrease in value and profit on Sale of Investments		(6,121)	4,919	(1,202)	(22,882)
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		(2,491)	(6,109)	(8,600)	(16,571)
Total Funds Brought Forward		40,058	90,350	130,408	146,979
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		37,567	84,241	121,808	130,408
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2023 £	2022 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2023		37,567 =====	84,241 =====	121,808 =====	130,408 =====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		23,167	-	23,167	31,018
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		19	-	19	(130)
Devizes Municipal Charities		1,242	-	1,242	1,242
Faith in the Future		1,678	-	1,678	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		73	-	73	73
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Organ Fund		7,760	-	7,760	(180)
Parish Room Maintenance		182	-	182	788
Rectors Mission Fund		4,535	-	4,535	4,535
Living Churchyard SJB		955	-	955	1,363
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
St Mary's Maintenance		(1,853)	-	(1,853)	(138)
Bells		(279)	-	(279)	(279)
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	41,162	41,162	41,162
Choir Fund		-	267	267	267
Church Building Fund		-	26,102	26,102	26,102
Organ Fund		-	4,863	4,863	4,917
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	20,387	20,387	20,387
Sound System		-	(6,918)	(6,918)	(6,918)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	(12,317)	(12,317)	(6,262)
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,041
		----- 37,567 =====	----- 84,241 =====	----- 121,808 =====	----- 130,408 =====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	3,167	10,786
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,769	2,683
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,285	4,152
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	67,512	73,632
CBF Investment Account 3J	44,075	39,155
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	121,808	130,408
	=====	=====
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	23,167	31,018
Designated Funds	14,400	9,040
Restricted Funds	84,241	90,350
	-----	-----
	121,808	130,408
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 5 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2023****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total Funds 2023 £	2022 £
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	38,931	-	38,931	40,858
Other Offerings	13,949	-	13,949	12,027
Plate and Special Collections	6,229	-	6,229	7,646
Income Tax Recoverable	8,369	-	8,369	9,853
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	67,478	-	67,478	70,384
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	6,434	21,759	28,193	5,154
Grants:- Recurring	16,500	-	16,500	8,250
Other	13,430	-	13,430	77,153
Legacies	-	-	-	21,000
One Off Gifts	-	-	-	68
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	362,375	362,375	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	36,364	384,134	420,498	111,625
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	3,115	-	3,115	445
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	9,271	-	9,271	15,144
Church Hall Lettings	6,545	-	6,545	4,475
Magazine Sales and Advertising	570	-	570	324
Rent form Land and Buildings	386	-	386	-
Insurance Claims	-	-	-	339
St Mary's Contribution to Expenses	-	10,448	10,448	3,061
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	19,887	10,448	30,335	23,788
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	-	219	219	89
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	123,729	394,801	518,530	205,886
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	2022 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	91,327	-	91,327	87,954
Mission and Grants	-	-	-	2,166
Fundraising Costs	258	-	258	514
Clergy Expenses	1,009	-	1,009	684
Upkeep of Services	3,267	-	3,267	6,413
Assistant Staff Costs	75	-	75	687
Church Yard	747	-	747	966
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	14,412	-	14,412	1,920
Bank Charges	223	-	223	290
Education	261	-	261	506
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,917	3,143	8,060	7,741
Light and Heat	6,923	1,698	8,621	4,563
Repairs and Maintenance	9,083	-	9,083	9,227
Choir and Organist Pay	6,152	-	6,152	9,332
Salaries	10,004	-	10,004	10,226
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	11,050	-	11,050	6,541
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	3,836	-	3,836	1,903
Insurance	736	-	736	815
Repairs and Maintenance	968	-	968	384
Cleaning and Sundries	3,529	-	3,529	3,461
<i>Other</i>				
St Mary's Maintenance and Regeneration	-	367,310	367,310	53,282
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	168,777	372,151	540,928	209,575
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts



Devizes ST John & ST Mary

Heart and Soul in the Centre of our Town

The Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St John with St Mary, Devizes

Annual Report 2022



Our Vision:

The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy
and walk humbly with our God: Micah 6:8

Administrative information

St John's Church is situated in Long Street, Devizes. St Mary's Church is situated in New Park Street, Devizes. The parish is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, The Parish Rooms, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity No.1133990 and is made up of:

Incumbent: The Revd. Jonathan Poston

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch

Churchwardens:

Jane Scorer Lay Vice-Chair

Bob Simpson

Mike McClelland

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Catherine Brown

Peter Crofts

David Evans

Elected members:

Judy Bridger

Becky Edgington - Treasurer

Martin Houghton

Alan Martin

Liz Overthrow - Secretary

Catherine Tarrant

Stephanie Williams

Co-opted member:

Chris Cox - Licensed Lay Minister

Parish Ministry

Rector: The Revd. Jonathan Poston (from November 2021)

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch

Clergy with Permission to Officiate:

The Revd. Canon George Royle

The Revd. Robin Stephens

The Revd. Chris Burdon

Licensed Lay Minister with Permission to Officiate:

Chris Cox

Mark Harrison

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Claire Arden

Catherine Brown

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank

The Market Place

Devizes

SN10 1JD

Auditors: J S Weeks

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF DEVIZES, ST JOHN & ST MARY

AIM AND PURPOSES

St John & St Mary Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Jonathan Poston, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St John's Church, St Mary's Church and St John's Parish Rooms.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.
- The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.
- Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
- When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
 - Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our parish churches and the parish rooms.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St John & St Mary the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), the associate priest and the assistant curate, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Parochial Church Council met seven times during the year and the following topics were discussed:

Health and Safety policy updates

Safeguarding training

Churchyard maintenance including development of Reflection Area

Eco-church

Activities and events around the Diamond Jubilee

Creation of social area at the west end of St John's

Replacement of the organ in St John's

St Mary's development project

Planning for the Vision Day in November

Liz Overthrow

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

As ever, we have lost some friends throughout the year and gained some more. At 31 December 2022 there were 136 names on the Electoral Roll.

As always, I would urge members of the congregation to ask if those sitting next to them each Sunday are on the Electoral Roll. If they are not on the roll, encourage them to see me and complete an application form. Forms will also be available in church.

Catherine Brown - Electoral Roll Officer

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Another busy year has gone by in a flash and a number of very dedicated folk have worked incredibly hard to keep things going, whether it has been the constant issues that arise, pioneering new initiatives or fundraising. I would like to thank you all individually but will not mention names for fear of missing someone important out!

The year was eventful in other ways too. At the end of 2022 I was approached by Bishop Andrew to take on the role of Rural Dean in addition to my current role. Although being an extra workload it has been a pleasure making closer connections with neighbouring clergy and starting to look at the Deanery Plan together.

We were also fortunate to receive a second curate, Adrian, and have benefitted from the gifts he brought to our church, as well as helping him discern where he felt called next. His current calling is in Hospital Chaplaincy and he leaves us at the end of March to pursue this full time.

Gerry too is preparing to move on and will be gifted to another benefice some time in the early autumn. I will miss him greatly and not just his extra pair of hands. This will leave me extra busy for a while. I have applied for a new curate in 2024 but there is never a guarantee one will come to us, we shall see.

One event that did come out of the blue was me having a fall and breaking my left ankle on 11th Jan which then had to be screwed and plated back together. I would like to offer my great thanks to our curates and our retired priests (and the Archdeacon!) who so generously covered many services over the time of my physical incapacitation.

A new visioning initiative was launched in November for our church led by Adrian. We took full advantage of his project manager skills and the outcome has been the setting up of four groups to look at Communication, Welcome & Belonging, Community Engagement and Spirituality & Prayer.

We have a good number of people for each group who are being directed to come up with actionable outcomes from the meetings they will be having between now and the latter part of the year. A huge thank you to Adrian for enabling this to happen.

One ambition we had last year was to have the church more open and we have made this possible with the installation of CCTV. This is monitored and saved in the cloud for a set period of time. We are just getting used to having the church open more but I am hoping the 'Welcome' visioning group will put forward ideas of how we can take more advantage of this.

This year we also finally got our contactless giving point. It was worth waiting for with its big screen. Again we need to use our groups to look at how we can get more use out of this.

Regarding St Mary's we decided that the big project we have been working towards needed breaking down into phases in order to get it off the ground. Unfortunately even the basic first phase is likely to cost around a million pounds. As it will probably cost a five figure sum just to get the fabric of the building up to speed we are slowed down yet again by needing to find extra funding. I am praying we will have a breakthrough with this at some point this year.

As well as St Mary's we also have a big project at St John's as we source a pipe organ from a redundant church so that we can have a quality instrument in our church again. Some in our working group on this will be looking at sources of grant funding.

Finally, on the 'alternative' and mission front Adrian and I are working on setting up a new Forest Church in Devizes (Devizes Forest Church) as a Deanery initiative.

We are becoming part of a Forest Church network that we've called South Central Forest Churches. This is a partnership between New Forest Forest Church and Wylde Valley Forest Church as well as ourselves. This will mean that between us we can have a Forest Church meeting once a month (4 a year in Devizes). These meetings will not be everyone's idea of church but to those who are attracted to it it will be a breath of fresh air (sorry I thought I'd finish with a pun!)

With great love and thanks to all who make up the community of St John and St Mary and I look forward to another fruitful year

*Every blessing
Jonathan*

Curate's Reflections

This was the year in which our common life as a parish substantially returned to what it had been before the pandemic. Or at least to something like that... inevitably, we were changed in some way forever by the experiences of 2020-1. But I am gratified that our Sunday congregations remain healthy and that we have restored a new and sustainable pattern of weekday services. "Seven days, not one in seven, I shall praise Thee..." and all that.

I sense much nervousness among our congregation about the average age of our worshippers. But look also at the number of new people who have come to worship with us, and, in many cases, actively help our worship to happen by taking on jobs (and more volunteers are always welcome). We should remember that the population of this country, and indeed the whole world, is ageing.

I'm reminded of the son of the H Upman cigar dynasty in the Dominican Republic asking his father that if only old men smoked cigars, wouldn't they eventually go out of business. "Son", came the confident reply, "there will always be new old men." We should be wary of a godless society's terror of the inevitability of mortality.

Remember also that we are Easter people. We look for new life breaking through where the world does not expect to see it. In a world dominated by shrill voices, overconfidently held beliefs, worship of technology, and tribalism, we should rest confident that a Christian tradition rooted in regularity, beauty, calm, and tolerance has much to offer.

I commend to your prayers the work of our Vision Groups over the coming months, that the Holy Spirit might lead them to discerning how we might best present faith in, hope for, and love of Jesus Christ to the people of Devizes.

In all likelihood, this will be my last Curate's contribution to the annual report as I am now actively seeking a parish or benefice to be Rector of. May I thank you all for your support and love over the past three years.

Gerry

SAFEGUARDING

The procedural changes and Covid-related disruption of recent years has been replaced by a steadier routine. The process of reducing the frequency of Data and Barring Service (DBS) checks from five to three years is continuing, and we are seeing more being triggered as the three-year point approaches. The online checking process usually works smoothly, which I appreciate as a Verifier when routinely asked to check people from other parishes.

As usual in these reports, it is worth mentioning that these sometimes-complex procedures help to create an environment that is safer for us all, so that the PCC complies with its duty to have “due regard” to the House of Bishops’ guidance in relation to safeguarding. If you have a question about any aspect, by all means contact me.

Jerry King
Parish Safeguarding Officer

REPORT FROM BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

St John’s

Our project to install a new pipe organ has been restarted with a target date of 2025. We are in the process of appointing an organ builder and then we intend to seek a suitable redundant organ as a starting point. Much fundraising will be required

Parish Rooms – the sub-group responsible for overseeing the rooms and their use is not functioning in the absence of a volunteer to lead on this. Lettings are at a low level.

Quinquennial inspection – at the time of writing the inspection report is awaited

Once the organ project has been completed, perhaps we set ourselves a target of reordering the church in time for the 900th anniversary

Whilst functioning, the boiler(s) have continued to present problems through the winter. Hopefully these will have been resolved before the APCM

We hope to undertake a rebuild of the tower clock this year. It hasn’t had a major overhaul for about half a century.

St Mary's

At the time of writing, 'Invitation to tender' documents have been issued to potential contractors in respect of quinquennial works. Thus, by the time of the APCM, we should be clearer about how this work will be done – and how much it will cost

The reordering project should flow on from the quinquennial work but financing the project remains challenging

The boiler has not been working over the winter months and as a consequence we have not been using the church at all for some while. Repairs are in hand.

Churchyards (Both)

Small but dedicated groups of volunteers continue to care for both churchyards. More volunteers always welcome. Community Payback have also assisted through the year with grass cutting and other works. We continue with the intention of developing 'living churchyards' and promoting bio-diversity. At St John's, we have finally progressed to a faculty application for a Reflection Area' in the south west corner of the churchyard. Hopefully we will be able to progress this project during the current year.

Mike McClelland

Health & Safety

While the restrictions on our movements on socialising and on social distancing, seem a distant memory, it has been less than a year since we all breathed a sigh of relief when at last COVID restrictions were eased. Nevertheless, there are some among our congregation who still feel the need to take precautions by continuing to social distance and for some to wear masks. We continue to respect their wish.

For us all it has been a period of 'jab after jab' helping to provide each of us with some level of immunity against the return of COVID.....

.....except, I write the following, from personal experience. Sadly we know that COVID has a habit of reappearing just when we least expect it and I have known friends who have succumbed to the unexpected return of COVID! I would therefore urge everyone to take a COVID test should the well accepted symptoms be experienced - runny nose, loss of smell, fatigue etc. - and if positive, advise all those with whom you have been in recent contact, and remain isolated yourself 'till your test is clear.

Last year, the traditional early morning Ascension day tower climb by our choir members and others who cared to join them, was sadly cancelled. Despite having been climbed for decades, a fresh eye on health and particularly safety, was sufficient for me to review the risks involved. Since that time, a new 'Tower Climb' Risk Assessment has been approved by the PCC. The responsible lead on such occasions is the Director of Music who will brief all concerned in advance of the climb.

You will have realised that the South door of St John's Church is currently closed for services and will remain closed during the winter months - and at any other time the church wardens consider it necessary, to preserve heating and to improve the comfort of all attending our church. Please be assured that while the south door will not be used, it will remain unlocked should the unlikely need arise to evacuate the building.

There have been no major Health & Safety issues this past year - I am grateful for that - after two years of risk assessments and enforced disciplines in place, to ensure our wellbeing. Nevertheless, I welcome any concerns you may have about the welfare and the safety of us all; you can be assured that any issues will be dealt with as soon as practically possible.

Finally, there have been no major changes to the St John's and St Mary's Health & Safety policies (an appendix has been added to the Working at Height section of both policies) nor have there been any changes to the St John's and St Mary's Fire Risk Assessments; your PCC reviewed and agreed them all in January. (Any necessary changes required during the year were contained in specific Risk Assessments – e.g. the Tower Climb)

Alan Martin

Spirituality Team

A review of the Spirituality Team remit concluded that the following responsibilities would be transferred to the 'Ministerial Team':

- The pattern of services and seasonal worship
- The musical and choral tradition within the parish.

With that in mind, the role of the spirituality team is to oversee and enhance occasions for spiritual engagement and expression within the parish, including:

- Opportunities for prayer, worship, and spiritual practice
- Opportunities for spiritual engagement during Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter
- The 'Reflection', Bible Study and Lectio Divina groups
- The development and progression of the parish as a 'Contemplative Community'
- Quiet days, retreats, and pilgrimages
- Courses, workshops, and developments related to Christian spirituality and practice.

The 'Reflection' group (3rd Tuesday of the month), the Lectio Divina group (4th Friday of the month), and the Bible Study group (weekly on Wednesdays) continue to meet. A leaflet explaining these groups has been produced and is available in St John's.

A quiet day was organised which took place on the 7th of May.

The day was facilitated by Janet Robbins, a Benedictine oblate of the World Community for Christian Meditation, on the theme of 'Finding Stillness Within'.

A Lent course, entitled 'Our Bodies and Christ's Body', was led by Rev. Gerry Lynch.

The spirituality Team, together with several additional volunteers, will be taking forward one of the priority areas identified at the 'Vision and Planning Day' held on the 19th of November. We will be exploring 'Christian Meditation and the Christian Contemplative and Prayer Life' and subsequently submitting recommendations to the PCC.

Chris Cox

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The group continued to meet on Wednesday evenings at Casterbridge and its membership did not change during the year. We continued with our study of St Matthew's Gospel, with occasional forays into art history when we encountered episodes in the Gospel which had been interpreted by European artists. By the end of the year we had come to the final chapters of the Gospel and were ready for a study of the Old Testament books of Samuel and their hero King David.

David Evans

Omnes Ad Unum - St. John's does...

During the year we were very busy with a variety of events including a very successful Platinum Jubilee Dinner held at the Town Hall followed by a Summer Fayre at Hillworth Park. We held a Book signing event for Sandra Howard and a concert organised by Cully Wilcoxon. These events were followed by a Michaelmas Fayre in the Corn Exchange and the Grand Christmas Draw leading up to the Christmas Tree Festival in the Church to conclude the year.

A silent Auction was held during the end of the year and the results of this will be positive, when concluded in the New Year, and will be additional to the sums above.

Overall our cost were higher than normal because of the expenses of the Dinner but these were covered by the results of the evening and the accompanying Silent Auction which together raised nearly £6,000. In conclusion we would like to thank all those who have helped and supported us during this successful year and look forward to working again with you in 2023. We are always looking for more helpers so please do consider giving us a hand. We are always grateful for any help. Please contact me.

Tim Lacy-Hulbert timlh72@yahoo.com 07970795581
Treasurer Omnes ad Unum

OMNES SUMMARY ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2022				
	Credits	Debits	Balance	
Jan-22			£3,651.43	Opening
Dec-22	£26,269.43	£18,288.14	£7,981.29	Closing

We paid out to Charities during the year.		
PCC ST JOHN		£2,925.00
FOOD BANK		£730.00
DOROTHY HOUSE		£2,725.00
OPPORTUNITY CENTRE		£725.00
JULIA'S HOUSE		£2,000.00
	TOTAL	£9,105.00

Post year end we shall be distributing a further

£7,300.00

CHOIR AND MUSIC

The challenges outlined in last year's report, by and large, remain the challenges facing not only St John's, but many parishes across the country. The COVID pandemic has continued to play a part in our operations, less from infections themselves, but the changes that the lockdowns and isolations put in place have not all reversed. Numbers in church have continued to decline, and recent reports on overall attendance in the Church of England continue to provide depressing reading. There are still no families and children in church. Recruitment of children still has not been possible, despite several attempts to visit schools to do so, they have continued to claim that disruption from COVID, and the recovery is still their main priority.

The biggest challenge is the social and lifestyle changes that have continued to move forward. Whilst we have had a number of children start as "probationers" over the past year, they have not stayed, as in most cases their parents working hours and other commitments have meant that their attendance has been irregular.

My observation last year was that the historical links over the past 20 years with private schools in the area have all eroded. The last intake (not from private schools) was over 5 years ago, so we are increasingly reliant on a dwindling number of young people who are familiar with the music in church. As reported last year, there was also a large exodus of senior choristers – about 9 off to university, etc, before I took on the post as Director of Music, leaving a very large gap to fill. The gulf between the music we do in church and what happens (if and where does still happen!) in schools is now very wide. Music in schools is suffering its biggest threat for more than a generation. Take up of GCSE and especially A level has dwindled alarmingly, and there are many schools that simply don't offer this subject any more.

We have said farewell to a number of choristers in 2022.

The hand over from Anna Hallett as Head Chorister, that was set up by my predecessor, took place in September, whereupon she decided to leave, to concentrate on her forthcoming A levels. Abi Wiltshire similarly left with A levels looming. We thank them both for their service over many years. Tessa Harrison took on the role of Head Chorister, and remains a much valued and audible asset to the choir, but she will also be moving on to higher education next year, leaving a big gap and role to fill. More positively, some of the next choristers moving into senior roles are now working towards their Silver Awards in 2023, and taking on the responsibility that brings. Many of our choir members come from sometimes quite considerable distances to sing, and as younger choristers leave, their parents (ie chauffeurs!) also leave. For others in the back row, age and health issues begin to become more significant. In the wider contexts mentioned above, this presents a major existential challenge for the choir looking ahead.

Despite this, the choir has continued to enjoy some very successful visits to sing at Cathedrals and other churches in the region. We began in January 2022 with a visit to Tewkesbury Abbey to sing Choral Evensong, which was much appreciated by the clergy there, who urged us to come back soon to sing a full choral eucharist. In May we sang at Portsmouth Cathedral, an equally successful visit, and followed that in July singing at St Peter's Church, Marlborough for the annual celebration of St Peter and St Paul there. Then in the October half term we were at Wells Cathedral, which once again prompted an invitation to return.

Notable achievements the choir made in 2022 should be mentioned. In Holy Week the choir gave a liturgical performance of the The Passion of Christ by Arthur Somervell. He wrote this work in 1914, as an alternative to Stainer's The Crucifixion, from 1887, which had spawned countless similar cantatas suitable for church choirs. Hence it is subtitled "An Oratorio for Church use", but in spirit more closely follows the models of the Bach Passions. The narrative is principally

told by the Evangelist and Jesus, these roles were admirably accomplished by James Carey and Stephen Bradley, with other solos taken by Anna Hallett, Tessa Harrison, Stephanie Williams and Mark Harrison. I understand this is the first occasion when the choir has sung a full work through in its entirety, and mention should also be made of our thanks to Dominic Irving for accompanying. We also enjoyed the weddings of Jessica Brown to Riley Snyder in July, and Stephanie Williams to James Carey in September – on both occasions a delightful feast of singing. We wish both couples a long and happy life together.

There has been some movement on the long awaited (20 years?) replacement of the “temporary” Makin digital organ with a suitable pipe organ. The plan is to instal a suitable instrument from a redundant church (sadly, as churches continue to close, many are available). However, the peculiar logistics of space and acoustics at St John’s present a number of challenges. The present unsatisfactory placing of speakers for the different divisions of the organ scattered about the church, and the console isolated with no useful audio or visual communication with what is going on in the choir and with the liturgy has to be solved. A number of organ builders/restorers have been identified, and tenders for the work will be invited during the course of 2023. It will then take another year or two both to raise the funds, and for the work to be carried out.

Graham Coatman
Director of Music

FAIR TRADE

Following Covid restrictions, we were able to restart the Fair Trade stall on the first Sunday in May and have continued since then - thank you to all those who generously support us. We also had a stall at the Creationtide talks in September and at the Omnes Michaelmas Fair in October.

The sad news is that Traidcraft, our wholesale supplier, went into administration in January and it is uncertain whether we shall be able to continue to access supplies for the stall. We have plenty of stock for the immediate future and will continue the stall for as long as we can.

Judy Bridger and Trudy Fisher

THE FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild still has thirteen Flower Arrangers with Julie Gilmore helping at Harvest Time. Kate Walling has agreed to join the team. I would like to thank them for their skill in arranging the flowers in church during the year except during Lent and Advent.

Sue King, Valerie Prior, and Claire Blyth represented the Church staging three designs at Salisbury Flower Festival last year.

The Flower Guild is most grateful for the donations that have been given during the year which help to pay for the flowers, If anyone wishes to remember a special occasion with a flower arrangement in Church or give a donation please contact me, as the Flower Guild relies on donations to fund the flowers.

Heather Blyth

THE BELLS AND BELLRINGERS

It has been a year of change for the band. In May we held our first band meeting where we decided to spread the load of managing the tower by splitting the roles and responsibilities involved, across a committee of people. After many successful years as Captain, Liz Merritt stepped down though I'm pleased to say she is continuing to regularly ring with us and is now able to spend more time with her family which now includes three young grandchildren.

After being involved with the tower for many years in many roles, Richard Heath took on the Captaincy. Life events took over though and having moved house to Calne it was no longer practical for him to continue as Captain. So, we held our first AGM in January which led to me taking over the reins.

I moved to Devizes in July 2021 and was made very welcome by the ringers at St. John's and other towers in the Devizes area. I have been visually impaired since the age of about 6 and started to learn to ring at the age of 12 but, it has not deterred me from ringing church bells. I have been a bell ringer for 59 years in March and it's one of those hobbies where there is always something new to learn.

Last year we had three beginners and they progressed so well they were able to take part in the Guild Novice Striking Competition 2022. I'm delighted to say they won! While they received the 'trophy' (an engraved wooden hanging bell), they were presented with their official certificates at our AGM, and we were pleased to have Gerry Lynch there to present them.

With all the changes in the band we're aware our links to the church are not as strong as they were and so having Gerry at our AGM was important to us and the value of his attendance was clear in the contributions he made to many of the discussions. We look forward to working together more going forwards.

As we see our learners develop, we're keen to see the next wave of learners come through and you may have heard of the call put out through the media for new learners to come forward so we can have more bells ringing for the Coronation. We are looking forward to marking the occasion in traditional fashion as we sadly did for the passing of our late Queen Elizabeth II. You definitely feel it when you ring for such important national events.

I have been ringing in Australia, New Zealand and Canada and have always been made very welcome. There is a world wide friendship in bell ringing where age is no barrier. Some people take to it like a duck to water while others can find it can take a little more time. If you would like to learn to ring, come along on a Thursday night from 7.30 initially, just to see how the bells are rung. If you are still interested at the end of the evening, then please do let us know. Most bellringers go to a watering house after ringing (not compulsory) where people can socialise.

David Powell, Tower Captain

Deanery Synod Report

In 2021 the Deanery Synod adopted a Strategic Plan. Accordingly, in 2022 much effort was put into developing the churches' links with young people. In June Steve Dewar of Wiltshire Youth for spoke to the Synod about his work with leadership teams and students in our schools. In November Bethany Kinderman , employed as a youth worker by St James Church Devizes, described her work with senior school students and appealed for volunteers to assist her in the work of helping the students to explore the Christian faith.

The Deanery continued to nurture its links with the diocese of Kaju Keji in South Sudan. Money was raised by the Seeds for Life appeal in order to help the people to rebuild their lives after so many had had to flee from war and violence. Bishop Emmanuel visited the Deanery during the year and we were saddened to learn of his death in December.

As always, questions about the Parish Share were much discussed.

Two thirds of the sum due from the parishes of the Deanery had been paid by November, but a number of parishes were in difficulty, partly because they had lost members during the pandemic.

Partly thanks to the efforts of Gerry Lynch, services for the Deanery were held during the year at Edington and Bishops Cannings. Attendance was good, which suggests that such services could have a future.

Towards the end of the year, Andrew Sinclair resigned as Rural Dean and our Rector Jonathan Poston took on the role.

David Evans

MOTHERS UNION

In January we had our Epiphany party and Quiz and our subscriptions were sent.

In February our Rector Jonathan Poston gave a lovely Holy Communion Service well attended .

In March we had a talk about New Zealand with flags and pictures by Juliet as her son lives there. Mary Edward Jones had visited in the past.. We went to Urchfont Lady Day Service.

In April Rev Gerry Lynch, who is a keen photographer, showed us photos of the city of Kiiv in Ukraine, very poignant at the present time. We held a collection for Ukraine and raised over £130, this was sent to the International Red Cross.

In May we talked of sowing and planting and potted up some marigold seedlings to be sold at the Omnes Hillworth Park fundraiser for people from Ukraine who have settled in the UK. the Spring gathering for the MU Diocese was held at Market Lavington Hall, Juliet represented our group.

In June we had a lively discussion about Grandparents, being one and experiencing them as a child.

In July we had a talk from John Weller about fundraising for the Air Ambulance.

In August we remembered Mary Sumner Day at our lunch outing to the “Hourglass Pub” by the Canal.

In September we planted indoor bulb containers for our stall at the Michaelmas Fair to raise money for Children’s Charities.

In October Jeannie Gye gave us an interesting illustrated talk about her needlework and art, she was interested in Orthodox Christian Icons. We attended the Autumn MU gathering and AGM at St Francis Salisbury. We raised £50 for MU and £50 for Omnes Charities by selling bulbs we prepared and flowers donated by M&S at the Michaelmas Fair.

In November we had our AGM and discussions, Pat Holtham agreed to become our Treasurer and was very much welcomed by everyone.

In December we had our Advent Reflections and raised over £60 for MU Overseas at our Christmas Stall.

We remember fondly Mary Dainty, Gwendoline Arlett and Rita Horsefield who died this year and were very long-standing members of MU.

Juliet Bazeley St John and St Mary MU Branch Leader

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2022

Incumbent

Rev. J Poston

Bank

Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner

Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

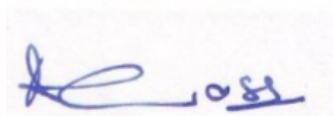
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
 - (b) to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

24 March 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2022 £	2021 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	70,354	30	70,384	68,109
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	25,324	86,301	111,625	115,056
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	23,388	400	23,788	8,447
Income from Investments	2d	-	89	89	3
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		119,066	86,820	205,886	191,615
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	146,559	63,016	209,575	213,103
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		146,559	63,016	209,575	213,103
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		(27,493)	23,804	(3,689)	(21,488)
Proceeds on Realisation of Investments		10,000	-	10,000	3,000
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value and profit on Sale of Investments		(18,930)	(3,952)	(22,882)	20,303
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		(36,423)	19,852	(16,571)	1,815
Total Funds Brought Forward		76,481	70,498	146,979	145,164
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		40,058	90,350	130,408	146,979
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2022 £	2021 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2022		40,058 =====	90,350 =====	130,408 =====	146,979 =====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		31,018	-	31,018	68,208
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		(130)	-	(130)	(91)
Devizes Municipal Charities		1,242	-	1,242	1,243
Faith in the Future		1,678	-	1,678	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		73	-	73	5
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Organ Fund		(180)	-	(180)	-
Parish Room Maintenance		788	-	788	788
Rectors Mission Fund		4,535	-	4,535	4,505
Living Churchyard SJB		1,363	-	1,363	336
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	50
St Marys Maintenance		(138)	-	(138)	-
Bells		(279)	-	(279)	(279)
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	41,162	41,162	45,039
Choir Fund		-	267	267	366
Church Building Fund		-	26,102	26,102	6,101
Organ Fund		-	4,917	4,917	4,863
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	20,387	20,387	20,387
Sound System		-	(6,918)	(6,918)	(6,870)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,294
St Mary's Maintenance		-	(6,262)	(6,262)	(10,083)
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,041
		----- 40,058 =====	----- 90,350 =====	----- 130,408 =====	----- 146,979 =====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	10,786	4,563
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,683	2,648
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,152	4,098
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	73,632	92,563
CBF Investment Account 3J	39,155	43,107
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	130,408	146,979
	=====	=====
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	31,018	74,618
Designated Funds	9,040	8,273
Restricted Funds	90,350	64,088
	-----	-----
	130,408	146,979
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2022****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	40,828	30	40,858	39,061
Other Offerings	12,027	-	12,027	14,078
Plate and Special Collections	7,646	-	7,646	2,023
Income Tax Recoverable	9,853	-	9,853	12,947
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	70,354	30	70,384	68,109
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	4,954	200	5,154	3,630
Grants:- Recurring	8,250	-	8,250	-
Other	11,052	66,101	77,153	110,016
Legacies	1,000	20,000	21,000	500
One Off Gifts	68	-	68	910
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	25,324	86,301	111,625	115,056
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	345	100	445	-
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	14,844	300	15,144	3,171
Church Hall Lettings	4,475	-	4,475	4,593
Magazine Sales and Advertising	324	-	324	300
Rent form Land and Buildings	-	-	-	383
Insurance Claims	339	-	339	-
St Marys Contribution	3,061	-	3,061	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	23,388	400	23,788	8,447
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	-	89	89	3
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	119,066	86,820	205,886	191,615
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	2021 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	87,954	-	87,954	78,848
Mission and Grants	2,166	-	2,166	952
Fundraising Costs	514	-	514	-
Clergy Expenses	684	-	684	950
Upkeep of Services	6,107	306	6,413	5,102
Assistant Staff Costs	687	-	687	513
Church Yard	855	111	966	267
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	1,920	-	1,920	-
Bank Charges	290	-	290	217
Education	506	-	506	-
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,814	2,927	7,741	10,101
Light and Heat	3,459	1,104	4,563	2,473
Repairs and Maintenance	4,073	5,154	9,227	6,254
Choir and Organist Pay	9,332	-	9,332	6,137
Salaries	10,226	-	10,226	10,151
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	6,057	484	6,541	2,897
Equipment	-	-	-	599
Rental of Equipment	-	-	-	947
Professional Fees	-	-	-	390
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,833	70	1,903	1,453
Insurance	815	-	815	1,079
Repairs and Maintenance	384	-	384	518
Cleaning and Sundries	3,461	-	3,461	3,488
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	250	9,035	9,285	-
New Building – Church	172	43,825	43,997	79,767
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	146,559	63,016	209,575	213,103
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2022

Incumbent

Rev. J Poston

Bank

Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner

Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
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Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

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Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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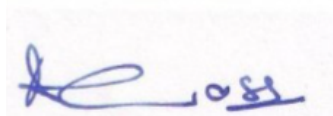
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24 March 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2022 £	2021 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	70,354	30	70,384	68,109
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Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	23,388	400	23,788	8,447
Income from Investments	2d	-	89	89	3
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Total Funds Carried Forward		40,058	90,350	130,408	146,979
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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
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Designated Funds					
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Omnes ad Unum		73	-	73	5
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Organ Fund		(180)	-	(180)	-
Parish Room Maintenance		788	-	788	788
Rectors Mission Fund		4,535	-	4,535	4,505
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Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,041
		----- 40,058 =====	----- 90,350 =====	----- 130,408 =====	----- 146,979 =====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
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	130,408	146,979
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 23 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by

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Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Accounting Policies

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Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

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Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2022****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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Investments

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	40,828	30	40,858	39,061
Other Offerings	12,027	-	12,027	14,078
Plate and Special Collections	7,646	-	7,646	2,023
Income Tax Recoverable	9,853	-	9,853	12,947
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	70,354	30	70,384	68,109
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	4,954	200	5,154	3,630
Grants:- Recurring	8,250	-	8,250	-
Other	11,052	66,101	77,153	110,016
Legacies	1,000	20,000	21,000	500
One Off Gifts	68	-	68	910
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	25,324	86,301	111,625	115,056
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	345	100	445	-
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	14,844	300	15,144	3,171
Church Hall Lettings	4,475	-	4,475	4,593
Magazine Sales and Advertising	324	-	324	300
Rent form Land and Buildings	-	-	-	383
Insurance Claims	339	-	339	-
St Marys Contribution	3,061	-	3,061	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	23,388	400	23,788	8,447
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	-	89	89	3
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	119,066	86,820	205,886	191,615
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	2021 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	87,954	-	87,954	78,848
Mission and Grants	2,166	-	2,166	952
Fundraising Costs	514	-	514	-
Clergy Expenses	684	-	684	950
Upkeep of Services	6,107	306	6,413	5,102
Assistant Staff Costs	687	-	687	513
Church Yard	855	111	966	267
Organ/Piano Repairs and Storage	1,920	-	1,920	-
Bank Charges	290	-	290	217
Education	506	-	506	-
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,814	2,927	7,741	10,101
Light and Heat	3,459	1,104	4,563	2,473
Repairs and Maintenance	4,073	5,154	9,227	6,254
Choir and Organist Pay	9,332	-	9,332	6,137
Salaries	10,226	-	10,226	10,151
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	6,057	484	6,541	2,897
Equipment	-	-	-	599
Rental of Equipment	-	-	-	947
Professional Fees	-	-	-	390
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,833	70	1,903	1,453
Insurance	815	-	815	1,079
Repairs and Maintenance	384	-	384	518
Cleaning and Sundries	3,461	-	3,461	3,488
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	250	9,035	9,285	-
New Building – Church	172	43,825	43,997	79,767
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	146,559	63,016	209,575	213,103
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts



Devizes St John & St Mary

Heart and Soul in the Centre of our Town

The Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St John with St Mary, Devizes

Annual Report 2021



Our Vision:

The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy
and walk humbly with our God: Micah 6:8

Administrative information

St John's Church is situated in Long Street, Devizes. St Mary's Church is situated in New Park Street, Devizes. The parish is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, The Parish Rooms, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity No.1133990 and is made up of:

Incumbent: The Revd Jonathan Poston (from November 2021)

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch

Churchwardens:

Peter Crofts (from APCM 2021)

Jane Scorer (from APCM 2021) Lay Vice-Chair

Bob Simpson (from APCM 2021)

Mike McClelland (from APCM 2021)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Catherine Brown

Peter Crofts

David Evans

Elected members:

Judy Bridger

Becky Edgington Treasurer

Richard Evans

Alan Martin

Liz Overthrow Secretary

Karen Pugh

Stephanie Williams

Co-opted member:

Chris Cox Licensed Lay Minister

Parish Ministry

Rector: The Revd. Jonathan Poston (from November 2021)

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch

Clergy with Permission to Officiate:

The Revd. Canon George Royle

The Revd. Robin Stephens

The Revd. Chris Burdon

Licensed Lay Minister with Permission to Officiate:

Chris Cox

Mark Harrison (from September 2021)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Claire Arden

Catherine Brown

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank

The Market Place

Devizes

SN10 1JD

Auditors: J S Weeks

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF DEVIZES, ST JOHN & ST MARY

AIM AND PURPOSES

St John & St Mary Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Jonathan Poston, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St John's Church, St Mary's Church and St John's Parish Rooms.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.
- The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.
- Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
- When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
 - Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our parish churches and the parish rooms.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St John & St Mary the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), the associate priest and the assistant curate, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Covid 19 affected all our lives during this year and a total of eight meetings were held, half of which were on zoom.

We are very grateful to the Revd. Gerry Lynch for his technological expertise in IT both for our meetings and our worship during the lockdowns.

We spent time discussing how we could re-open the churches for worship safely after the lifting of restrictions and Risk Assessments were conducted to enable this to happen safely. We are again grateful to Alan Martin for all his work as Health and Safety Officer.

Some members attended a deanery meeting to address the problem of falling income because of Covid restrictions. The diocese encouraged parishes to undertake stewardship campaigns.

During the lockdowns PCC members kept in regular contact with members of the congregation by phone to ascertain pastoral needs.

In November we welcomed Jonathan, our new Rector, who encouraged us to look forward with hope and vision. Plans were discussed for the re-ordering of St John's and the replacement of the electronic organ.

The Living Churchyard project was encouraged and events in St John's churchyard supported.

Regular updates were received on the progress of the plans to redevelop St Mary's church and the long-awaited faculty for the project was received in November.

Liz Overthrow

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

As ever, we have lost some friends throughout the year and gained some more. At 31 December 2021 there were 137 names on the Electoral Roll. As always, I would urge members of the congregation to ask if those sitting next to them each Sunday are on the Electoral Roll. If they are not on the roll, encourage them to see me and complete an application form. Forms will also be available in church.

Catherine Brown - Electoral Roll Officer

SAFEGUARDING

Early in the year we had a burst of activity when new procedures required Data and Barring Service (DBS) checks and additional declarations for all PCC members rather than just for some. Thereafter things settled down, with the already straightforward online checking process being further simplified by the option to carry out document checks via Zoom when appropriate. Similarly, many training activities can be completed on-line.

At the end of the year, we heard that DBS checks will be on a three-year cycle rather than the current five-year cycle. This will bring the Church in line with other agencies who work with children, young people, and vulnerable adults. The transition will come in incrementally by 2024, and we should be notified when our turns come around. The higher frequency will reinforce the benefit of individuals registering for the DBS Update Service whereby a recheck can take minutes rather requiring the whole ID checking process.

As usual in these reports, it is worth mentioning that these sometimes-complex procedures help to create an environment that is safer for us all. Importantly they ensure that the PCC has complied with its duty to have “due regard” to the House of Bishops’ guidance in relation to safeguarding. If you have a question about any aspect, by all means contact me.

Jerry King - Parish Safeguarding Officer

REPORT FROM BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

As with all other church activity, our ability to progress anything during 2021/2 has been severely hampered by the pandemic and associated lockdowns.

St John's

- Finally, we have started to receive a modest income from our solar panels (Feed-in tariff). This will be in the region of £500 p.a. This is in addition to the electricity that is generated for our own use. As yet it is difficult to assess the impact of this on our annual electricity bills.
- Parish Rooms – the long standing 'letting' to Open Doors has now ended as they have moved into their own new premises at the Southbroom Centre. We are in the process of seeking new hirers to improve our income.
- Quinquennial inspection – scheduled for later this year
- Now that we are through the pandemic and have a new Rector in post, the intention is to move forwards with plans to replace our ageing electronic organ with a proper pipe organ and thereafter to move forwards with more general re-ordering to make St John's a building fit for purpose in the 21st century through the installation of catering and toilet facilities. We also intend to utilise new technology to our general advantage as best possible – broadband, CCTV to enable better opening hours and contactless giving arrangements.
- Health & Safety risk assessments have been kept under constant review by Alan Martin during the pandemic and continue to be so.

St Mary's

- Our architects, Chedburn Codd, have now completed the Quinquennial Report and drawings and specifications are currently being prepared with a view to commencing remedial work later this year – largely work to the roof
- At last, we have both planning permission and permission from the Diocese to move forwards with the planned re-ordering project to create a creative arts centre within the church

Churchyards (Both)

One notable success over the past twelve months has been the establishment of active volunteer groups both at St Mary's and St John's who provide much needed tender care in both churchyards. Evidence of this is already apparent at St John's – re-planted hawthorn trees along the south path and new beds along either side of the north path. In addition, we have a bug hotel and bird boxes and all of this is aimed at developing 'living churchyards' for the benefit not only of our local community but also as a means of increasing and diversifying resident fauna and flora. A special vote of thanks to the volunteers generally and in particular to the 'management group' for these projects especially Shirley Urwin, Felicity Cole, Kate Walling and Philippa Morgan. Not only are the churchyards themselves benefitting from this love and attention but also activities have been planned and undertaken aimed at raising funds for the churchyards and encouraging greater use of the churchyards, notably by children.

We have also received considerable assistance from Community Payback (part of the Probation Service) over the past year and so thanks are due to them also.

Mike McClelland

HEALTH & SAFETY

This time last year we were 'on a roadmap' out of our third lockdown while at same the time we were all queuing up for our second coronavirus vaccination! By July 19th restrictions on our movements were lifted although this had been delayed allowing time for some to receive their first vaccine dose.

At St John's we continued to have risk assessments (RA) in place to July 2021 but with the lifting of restrictions on July 19th 2021, a new RA was drawn up for Sunday worship, to ensure that we maintained certain disciplines, but at the same time allowed our congregation to choose how they individually felt about the lifting of restrictions. For example, did they wish to wear a mask and sing or not to sing and wear a mask? Did they wish receive communion at the nave altar or not? However, we did continue to ventilate the church with both north and south doors remaining open during services. For many, as winter and colder days drew closer, this remained a contentious issue, but on the whole the reason was respected and understood.

Your Church Wardens asked for the July 2021 RA to be flexible in its application. The wardens decided how we could further lift restrictions as members of our congregation became more confident in worshipping in church. Despite the Omicron COVID variant, which arrived here in the UK in December 2021, confidence in those who had received the three vaccinations remained high, and now in April 2022, we could say we are almost back to normal! In all we have done over the past two years, we have taken the lead from the Church of England and from the Royal School of Church Music.

We had one minor accident during the year, when in January this year a lady slipped and fell on the north pathway to the church. She was anxious to draw our attention to the incident, as not only should it be recorded but some action taken to avoid others slipping on the pathway.

As a result, signage has been placed along the pathway, drawing attention to its possible condition, when wet. I would urge all who have a trip, or worse a fall, to report the incident to a Church Warden or to me, for it to be followed up.

Many will remember the sad assassination of a priest in Rouen in 2016. The Church of England together with other agencies, were quick to provide advice as to how we should go about protecting ourselves against any similar act of aggression or terrorism. Following the consideration of a number of issues we settled upon a simple but, we thought, an appropriate response. However, the necessary disciplines we have been obliged to take over the past two years because of COVID, have allowed our memory of the former routines to become somewhat faded! However, it can't be denied that our, church sitters, flower arrangers and others who are 'loan workers' in our church, have continued to do a fantastic job. Likewise our stewards provide a great service to us and to our church and we should not forget those who volunteered to act as stewards when we chose to re-open for worship during a very uncertain period in the fight against COVID.

I have since revisited the notes made in 2017 for stewards and all loan workers and, as a result was able to hold a very positive meeting with all concerned in late February. As importantly, I was able to share with the group the Government's intention to introduce legislation - called 'Protect Duty'. This came about following the death of Martyn Murray and 21 others in the 2017 Manchester Arena attack. Its purpose is to impose a legal obligation on organisations - with a capacity of 100 or more - to consider the safety and security of their staff (paid & unpaid) and the public who use their facilities. The latest information from the web pages is: *'The Government is proposing to introduce a new Protect Duty from early 2022. This legislation, and the changes it brings, will enhance the protection of the United Kingdom's publicly accessible*

places from terrorist attacks and ensure that businesses and organisations are prepared to deal with incidents. I will watch this closely and determine if we need to enhance our disciplines that are already in place.

Finally, with no major changes to the St John's and St Mary's Health & Safety policies, nor to the St Mary's Fire Risk Assessments your PCC reviewed and agreed them in January; the PCC also agreed to the new Fire Risk Assessment for St John's (Any necessary changes required during the year were contained in specific Risk Assessments)

Alan Martin

PARISH ROOMS

The Parish Rooms group (Catherine Brown, Simon Fisher, Charles Slater and Judy Bridger) was not able to meet in the early part of the year because of the pandemic, during which time only Opendoors was using the premises on a very limited basis. In the summer a few regular groups returned.

At the beginning of October, Opendoors moved to sole use premises in the old St James Church Hall, a working party in October gave the kitchen a thorough clean and sort out of equipment and we are expecting Community Payback to decorate it in due course. The meeting room has been cleared and can now be used for meetings. The Churchyard Group have taken over responsibility for the borders and rose pruning, etc, and Devizes Town Council continue to cut the grass when they do the lawn behind the War Memorial.

We urgently need new bookings to prevent the premises becoming a drain on our finances but it seems as though people are still being cautious about starting group activities again.

We are very grateful to Catherine Brown, our Parish Rooms Manager, and Kevin Cox, our cleaner, for all their work.

Judy Bridger

ST MARY'S FUTURE GROUP

Salisbury Diocesan Registrar granted a Faculty for the regeneration of St Mary's on the 10th Dec 2021.

"The proceedings were unopposed and did not give rise to a question of law or of doctrine, ritual or ceremonial or relate to proposals that affect the legal rights of any person or body.

This Court now grants a faculty authorising you to carry out the new single storey extension, re-ordering, and trial pits for ground works archaeological investigation or other works or other proposals described in the Schedule in accordance with the designs, plans or other documents accompanying the petition and subject to any conditions set out in the Schedule.

The works must be completed within 60 months from the date below or such further period as this Court may allow and the certificate of practical completion is to be sent to the Registry within the period allowed."

There are a number of conditions, the comments by the StMFG are in italics:

1. The works shall be executed under the direction of the Inspecting Architect. *ChedburnCodd continue to be engaged on the project*
2. No works shall be commenced until the Petitioners have filed at the registry written confirmation that:
 - a. 80% of the funding for the works is promised or in place.
Understood
 - b. a detailed specification for the works (including the storage provision beneath the organ) has been agreed with the DAC. In the event that agreement with the DAC cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to the Chancellor for determination.
Understood

3. The groundworks shall be subject to archaeological oversight in terms agreed with the DAC prior to commencement of the works. *Would do anyway using Context One.*
4. The pulpit shall be retained within the building (albeit in moveable form). *As was proposed*
5. The pews shall not be removed from the building until the nature of the replacement seating (including storage provision) has been approved by the Chancellor. *A case will be made for upholstered seating, probably based on an accepted church chair style.*
6. The organ shall be returned to the church within the 5 years for completion of the works, or within such further period as may be permitted. *This is the intention and subject to a separate project.*

St Mary's Future Group Structure. The following project areas are being supported by volunteers:

Governance and Funding (and lease)	Promotion of St Mary's as a top-class venue
Churchyard improvement and Zero Carbon	Heritage and Events
Interior furniture & fitments, IT investigation	Archaeological
Sweetland Organ Conservation	Spirituality

We would be delighted to accept volunteers for any of these topic groups. You can also get general updates circulated through the StMaryDevizesTrust.org web site, just sign up for the mailing list.

Quinquennial Works These have started under the auspice of the PCC and will ensure the building is in great shape to present to funders. As ChedburCodd is both Church Architect and project architect they will ensure all work is well co-ordinated.

Project Structure

A proposal for the future legal structure to support this new stage of the project will be put to the PCC and St Mary Devizes Trust in March 2022. Note that the scope of the project is outside the usual remit of a PCC Trustee and this aspect needs to be fully investigated. The recommendation is that a Clerk of Works will be appointed to oversee the building project on behalf of the freeholder (the incumbent!) and the PCC.

Funding. The costs of the project development phase so far have been covered by The St Mary Church and Poor Lands Charity – Church Branch, for which we thank them. The estimated overall cost of the project could be £5m and research is being carried out on the best way of reclaiming the VAT incurred. Fund raising can start once the Governance Structure has been agreed. Donations will be sought from groups ranging from large corporate donors, educational trusts to “Name a Seat” type initiatives.

Tony Scorer, Project Manager, St Mary’s Future Group

SPIRITUALITY TEAM

The spirituality team aims to oversee and enhance occasions for spiritual engagement and expression within the parish, including:

- The pattern of services and seasonal worship
- The development and progression of the parish as a ‘Contemplative Community’
- Opportunities for prayer, worship, and spiritual practice
- Opportunities for spiritual engagement during Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter
- The ‘Reflection’, Bible Study and Lectio Divina groups

- Quiet days, retreats, and pilgrimages
- The musical and choral tradition within the parish.

Following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions the Spirituality Team has recommenced its regular meetings.

Face-to-face meetings of the 'Reflection' group (3rd Tuesday of the month) and the Lectio Divina group (4th Friday of the month) have resumed. A leaflet explaining these groups has been produced and distributed and further copies are available in St John's. The Bible Study group has also recommenced its weekly meetings (Wednesdays).

A series of reflections on the gospel of Luke were held during Advent, and a Lent course on the Church of England's 'Living in Love and Faith' initiative has been held.

We have planned a quiet day for the 7th May to be held in St Mary's. This will be led by Janet Robbins (a Benedictine Oblate and member of the World Community for Christian Meditation) and the theme will be 'Finding the Stillness Within'.

A successful intercessions workshop has taken place from which potential new intercessors were identified.

Our monthly contemplative Compline service has been suspended for the winter months but will hopefully recommence to coincide with the lighter evenings and warmer weather.

In view of the pandemic and the arrival of our new Rector, the decision has been taken to discontinue the formal review of our pattern of services as initiated under our previous incumbent.

We continue to discuss the possibility of introducing a 'Breathing Space' type opportunity, i.e., an opportunity for people to come into the church to find respite and quiet. This would be held on a Thursday and would extend the time when the church is open to the public.

The Bible Study Group

Covid rules prevented our meeting for much of the year, but from September we were able to resume our long-interrupted study of St Matthew's Gospel.

As before the pandemic, Becky Edgington kindly offered her drawing room as our comfortable meeting place on Wednesday evenings. Our former participants welcomed the opportunity to start up again and we were delighted to be joined by Mike Holtham and, on occasion, by Jessica Brown. For a few meetings Jean also came, but we were saddened by her death during a stay in France. We were sorry too to learn of the death of Gwendoline Ardley, who had been a regular member of our group until she became too frail to come.

David Evans

Omnes Ad Unum - *St. John's does...*

At the start of the year, after a non-existent Christmas Church Festival and the development of the 2 Advent trails, we were able to support the Devizes Foodbank with a cheque for £250. We started off the New Year with hopes of being able to hold some events but the vagaries of Covid put paid to that. Once the vaccination programme had freed us up we were able to plan a Christmas Tree Festival together with the 2 Trails. We were pleasantly surprised by the eagerness of Businesses and individuals to participate. The Tree Festival was restricted in the numbers of trees in the Church as we decided it was not the right time to circulate the Care Homes and Schools to decorate the trees. This year we were fortunate in finding a third main sponsor, which was a great financial help. Our collaboration with The Community Payback scheme was very successful with them making troughs to hold the Memorial Trees outside. Our thanks to Jewsons for donating the materials. We ran a Christmas Draw but it was difficult to sell tickets in the places where we had previously depended on the bulk of our sales, and so the results were disappointing. Nevertheless the sum of the Christmas activities was a success and we are presenting cheques for

the selected Charities this year, which are The Devizes Foodbank, The Opportunity Centre and Dorothy's House for £725 each. St John's is receiving the same amount plus £400 as we have offered to reduce our £500 float to £100 to help with finances. In total we shall be able to pay out £3,300. This will happen at an evening's entertainment for all at the Church on 18th February.

St John's Omnes Account						
Year ending 31-Dec-21			CREDITS	DEBITS		BALANCE
BALANCE BANK ACCOUNT						£3,651.43
PETTY CASH			£93.82			£3,745.25
BALANCE REQUIRED IN ACCOUNT				£100.00		£3,645.25
OUTSTANDING CREDITS						
	SUB TOTAL		£120.00			£3,765.25
OUTSTANDING DEBITS						
	SUB TOTAL			£385.00		£3,380.25

We have an ambitious programme of events planned for this Platinum Jubilee Year.

June 3rd Celebration Dinner for 96 people at the Town Hall.

June 11th Summer Fair at Hillworth Park.

August 27th Pimms Party at the Old Rectory and Silent Auction.

October 29th Autumn Fayre at the Corn Exchange.

November 28th Start Christmas Tree Festival.

As ever any offers of help with these events will be greatly appreciated.

Let us pray that our hopes for this year will not be restricted by Covid rearing its ugly head again.

Tim Lacy Hulbert – Hon Treasurer Omnes ad Unum

ST JOHN'S ANNUAL REPORT: CHOIR AND MUSIC

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in March 2020, has had a devastating effect on arts, culture and especially music. The effects on church music have been particularly damaging. The church as an institution itself, and choirs generally have been largely ignored by those who have made the COVID regulations and guidelines. On a national scale, many choirs have even now not returned to their previous level of activity, and some not at all. Here at St John's the ravages of the pandemic meant a slow and hesitant come back, gradually re-introducing the opportunities to sing various parts of the service. Even now, writing this after the year has ended, hardly a week goes by without one of other member of the choir having to isolate or take time out as they or a family member has contracted COVID.

I cannot make much comment on the early part of 2021, partly because there was little activity in the choir, due to COVID, and also because I took up the post of Director of Music only in September. All choirs who maintain a "front row" of school age singers suffer from the waves of recruitment that move between a large and strong body of singers, and years when recruitment has been difficult. The summer of 2021 saw a large exodus of senior choristers, mostly off to university. In addition to this, post-COVID recovery in September revealed that a further three or four choristers had not returned, as parents were concerned that their children needed to catch up on lost learning as a priority. Hence, some 20 children were reduced to nine. In addition, there has not been the possibility to recruit during COVID, and further, attempts to approach schools during the autumn have been met with a no or negative reply, as they also concentrate on the recovery process. I am keen to maintain the work of my predecessor, Chris Totney, over the past ten years, and indeed, ten years of Jon Riding before that, building up the choir.

The decreasing number of churches able to maintain the choral tradition as at St John's mostly have some form of endowment scheme providing a music foundation to "future proof" this decline. The gulf between the level and nature of music in such churches and what happens in school has widened hugely in recent years. The prospect of learning a whole different way of doing things, of singing, of repertoire, of language, etc, is very daunting for a young chorister these days, and requires a great deal of time, patience and steady learning from both the children, and those who teach and guide them. My past experience leading choirs, working with the RSCM, and pre-COVID three years leading the UK team in an Erasmus+ choral training scheme, working also with colleagues and choirs in France, Italy and Poland has taught me ways to achieve this, which I am very keen to do. St John's choir would have been ideally placed to benefit from this, but sadly, BREXIT has meant that the UK can no longer take part in this scheme. In another year or so there will be another wave of departures of senior choristers, leaving three or four younger ones to carry on. They have been disadvantaged, again by COVID, missing out on two years of "learning the ropes", gaining valuable experience and knowledge to pass on to new recruits.

On a positive note, early on it was my pleasure and privilege to present RSCM Bronze certificates and medals to four choristers who achieved their Bronze awards in the summer. These were Grace (Highly Commended), Louise (Commended), Maud and Sophie (Pass). Congratulations to them! Alongside this, my own past experience has also led to me being made the RSCM Area Team Leader for Wessex (covering Wiltshire and Dorset). The RSCM itself is currently undergoing a radical (for them!) change of direction and working methods, amongst which is a new Education programme (yet to be revealed) and the revision of the Awards system. For example, what were variously Bishop's and Dean's awards, plus the "Light Blue", "Dark Blue" and "Red" ribbon levels have now been redesignated at three levels:

Bronze, Silver and Gold. I am hoping St John's will be able to play a flagship role in our task to reinvigorate liturgical music in our region.

The challenges of bringing the choir back to full action started immediately in September as we prepared for a Choral Evensong at Winchester Cathedral, and the Installation of our new rector, Jonathan Poston, plus a memorial service for John Stott, all in the space of a week at the end of October/early November. These were all accomplished successfully, the singing at Winchester was unanimously confirmed as "very fine indeed" by all the clergy present, and this has provided a boost for the morale of the choir, and immediately led to a return invitation to go and sing there again.

Inevitably with a new regime, and following not just COVID but a long interregnum, with a new Rector, there have been some adjustments to the pattern and content of services. These have been introduced in stages over the weeks, with some acceleration up to Christmas, closely followed by Epiphany, Candlemas, and a date to sing at Tewkesbury Abbey in January. All these have put pressure on the choir as it finds its old form, but I am pleased that everyone has remained committed, shown resilience. I have to congratulate them all on their loyalty throughout. In particular (and one of my keen interests, and long time cited as one of the tests of a good choir) has been the reinstatement of singing the psalms every week. The choir has responded magnificently, and drawn many compliments – this was also noted on the visit to Winchester, comments included "It is so good to hear a choir who know and understand what they are doing with the psalms".

In other matters, it has become apparent that the organ needs attention. The engineers have had to be called out twice recently for major faults, and it has developed some other occasional quirks. The warning has come that the present Makin electric organ, acquired (secondhand) some fifteen years ago, as a "temporary measure", runs on software that is now obsolete, and it will become increasingly

difficult to obtain spare parts when required. The report by Paul Hale, produced in 2018, suggesting solutions to the requirement by the Diocese (as I understand it) to replace it with a pipe organ, commensurate with the standing of St John's both as a civic church, and in line with its musical tradition, is now urgent. Steps are being taken to address this. However, with attendant needs, such as re-ordering, the whole St Mary's project, and potentially the heating system, all requiring immediate attention, this is a daunting prospect. It comes at a time when all things seem challenging, but I am certain we will face this with the fortitude, resourcefulness and positivity required.

*Graham Coatman
Director of Music*

FAIR TRADE

Our monthly Fair Trade stall was not able to run last year because of the pandemic but we hope to restart it again on the first Sunday in May 2022 if all continues well.

Judy Bridger and Trudy Fisher

THE FLOWER GUILD

There are twelve flower arrangers with Julie Gilmore helping at Harvest time.

Due to Covid restrictions Flower arrangements were not reintroduced until August.

There was one wedding in September, which we supplied flowers for. I would like to thank the flower arrangers for their help and I would be pleased to accept any donations to help cover the cost of the flower arrangements.

Heather Blyth

THE BELLS AND BELLRINGERS

It has been great to finally return to practising and ringing together. Although we still take precautions, using hand sanitiser, keeping the Ringing Chamber well ventilated and wearing masks, it has been lovely to meet up with friends again. Some of us were worried that we may have forgotten how to ring some of the methods after a break of more than eighteen months. However, with practice it has been rewarding to find that we haven't lost our skills. We have increased the numbers in our band to twelve, with three more experienced male ringers joining us and one learner, which has enabled us to regularly ring all eight bells on Sunday mornings. Thanks to the D.I.Y. skills of ringer Richard Heath, we have acquired a rope warmer so that, in the colder months, we no longer have to try and control ropes that are cold, damp, stiff and uncomfortable to grasp.

We have enjoyed celebrating the return of weddings and proclaiming these happy occasions to everyone. Monthly meetings with other towers, quizzes and delicious teas have thankfully resumed. Visitors from further afield have come and amongst those we have welcomed groups from Southampton and Cumbria.

The training of several learners is taking place and thanks are due to Richard for co-ordinating this. He is also mentoring one of our new ringers in how to become a qualified ringing teacher, following a set training programme. Richard has done a stirring job in looking after the tower and ringers when I haven't been able to be there and we are very grateful to him.

We remain a friendly, welcoming group and are always pleased to see visitors at our practices and on other occasions. Do come and see us in action as we continue the age old tradition of bellringing.

Liz Merritt, Tower Captain

Deanery Synod.

The first meeting of the year had to be held by Zoom, but thereafter it was felt safe enough to meet in person at St James Church. There were occasional discussions prompted by reports from the diocesan synod and the link with the church in South Sudan, but business was overwhelmingly dominated by attempts to grapple with the difficult financial situation in which most churches found themselves in the wake of the pandemic, when church services and fund-raising events had been suspended. Keith Brindle of St James Devizes was anxious to explore ways in which churches might help each other and it was agreed to establish mechanisms which might facilitate such co-operation. By the end of the year, many parishes were in arrears with their parish share or else paying it out of reserves and it was still unclear how far action by the Deanery would be able to help them

David Evans

Mothers Union

During the lockdowns at the start of the year we were not able to meet or even get together in Church, but we kept in touch on the phone.

In August we met outside for a Tea Party at the Parish Rooms, conversation was lively as we had missed meeting for fellowship.

In September we met inside and talked about gardens, we shared RHS leaflets from a visit I made to Wisley with the U3A.

We had a raffle for a 6 pack of pansies won by Kathy.

In October Jill Chadwick gave us a very interesting slideshow and talk about a family holiday in Eastern Europe, very soon after the fall of the Berlin Wall, they made many friends and have revisited them since.

We shared our Angel Tree patterns to raise money for Erlestoke prison.

I attended the Autumn AGM and Council for Salisbury Diocese via Zoom, we learned of Rosie Stiven's retirement as President and were told about MU Projects.

In November we had our AGM, the Rev Gerry Lynch attended.

Jeannie Gye had offered a talk but this was postponed as she was unwell.

Marianne Jones stepped down from the Committee, she was presented with a plant for her long service, the rest of the Committee agreed to remain and were voted in.

We all signed a get well card for Mary Dainty.

On 3rd November I attended the installation of the new Rector Rev Jonathan Poston and said a few words to welcome him, we had presented him with a hamper from our members.

On 1st December we hosted the Deanery Advent Service it was well attended by our own members and 30 from other Branches in the Deanery. The Service was provided by Carole Jones from Urchfont and led by Rev Gerry Lynch, Rosie Stiven gave us a very interesting talk during the Service. It was a joyful occasion and the retiring collection of £80.50 was given to the Salisbury Womens Refuge.

We had a Christmas table top sale and raffle won by Rosie Stiven.

At the end of the Year we gave £10 each to Christmas Appeal, Virtual Baby, Holiday Caravan, Sudan Fund for Medical Help and £20 for Erlestoke Prison Angel Tree Project.

Parish Room donation for 6 months was £40.

Juliet Bazeley Branch Leader

What Will You Do?

What will you do, the poet said, with this
One wild and precious life you have today
Within the womb the Baptist leaps for bliss
Upon the cross He gives his life away

What will we do indeed, for heaven's sake
We motley crew of children, priests, and fools
We offer fairy cakes and prayers, and break
Communal bread according to the rules

What did he do? He died, and rose again
Was unconventional, and wild, and brave
He gave his precious life that other men
Might rise in easy conscience from the grave

And you, sat there all cosy in your pew
What will you do with what he gave for you?

© Gail Foster 11th June 2017



**Being Welcoming
and Hospitable**



**Showing Care
and Respect for
the Natural World**



**Being
Concerned
about Social
Justice**



**Worshipping with
Reverence, Joy
and Praise**



**Living our
Wild and
Precious
lives by...**



**Being informed
by Scripture,
Tradition and
Reason**



Being Inclusive



**Being
Contemplative
and Rooted in
Prayer**



**Being Focussed
on the Needs of
the Wider
Community**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2021

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Rev. J Poston

Bank
Lloyds Bank
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Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
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10 Market Place
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

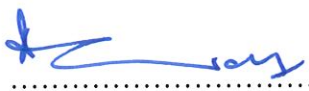
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

16 March 2022

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2021

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3	Balance Sheet
4 - 6	Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	2020 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	68,109	-	68,109	70,550
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	20,734	94,322	115,056	167,950
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	8,432	15	8,447	19,266
Income from Investments	2d	-	3	3	69
Total Incoming Resources		<u>97,275</u>	<u>94,340</u>	<u>191,615</u>	<u>257,835</u>
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	120,419	92,684	213,103	280,960
Total Resources Used		<u>120,419</u>	<u>92,684</u>	<u>213,103</u>	<u>280,960</u>
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		(23,144)	1,656	(21,488)	(23,125)
Proceeds on Realisation of Investments		3,000	-	3,000	-
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value and profit on Sale of Investments		20,303	-	20,303	10,957
Net Movement in Funds		159	1,656	1,815	(12,168)
Total Funds Brought Forward		<u>82,732</u>	<u>62,432</u>	<u>145,164</u>	<u>157,332</u>
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u>82,891</u>	<u>64,088</u>	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2021 £	2020 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2021		82,891	64,088	146,979	145,164
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		74,618	-	74,618	74,405
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		(91)	-	(91)	40
Devizes Municipal Charities		1,243	-	1,243	1,243
Faith in the Future		1,678	-	1,678	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		5	-	5	20
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Parish Room Maintenance		788	-	788	777
Rectors Mission Fund		4,505	-	4,505	4,531
Living Churchyard SJB		336	-	336	-
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	-
Bells		(279)	-	(279)	-
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	38,629	38,629	38,629
Choir Fund		-	366	366	466
Church Building Fund		-	6,101	6,101	5,310
Organ Fund		-	4,863	4,863	4,859
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	20,387	20,387	21,180
Sound System		-	(6,870)	(6,870)	(6,870)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,294	8,294	8,594
St Mary's Maintenance		-	(10,083)	(10,083)	(12,137)
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,041
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		82,891	64,088	146,979	145,164
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	4,563	20,054
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,648	2,647
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,098	4,096
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	92,563	81,669
CBF Investment Account 3J	43,107	36,698
Total Current Assets	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	74,618	74,405
Designated Funds	8,273	8,327
Restricted Funds	64,088	62,432
	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****for the year ended 31 December 2021****1. Accounting Policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources***Voluntary income and capital resources***

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2021****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total Funds 2021 £	2020 £
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	39,061	-	39,061	30,492
Other Offerings	14,078	-	14,078	19,692
Plate and Special Collections	2,023	-	2,023	1,059
Income Tax Recoverable	12,947	-	12,947	19,307
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	68,109	-	68,109	70,550
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	3,090	540	3,630	3,915
Grants:- Recurring	-	-	-	2,750
Other	16,289	93,727	110,016	148,389
Legacies	450	50	500	10,350
One Off Gifts	905	5	910	2,546
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	20,734	94,322	115,056	167,950
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	-	-	-	1,817
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	3,171	-	3,171	2,119
Church Hall Lettings	4,593	-	4,593	4,291
Magazine Sales and Advertising	300	-	300	459
Rent form Land and Buildings	368	15	383	1,832
St Marys Contribution	-	-	-	8,748
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	8,432	15	8,447	19,266
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	-	3	3	69
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	97,275	94,340	191,615	257,835
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 2020 £ £	
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	78,848	-	78,848	82,858
Mission and Grants	877	75	952	2,069
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	786
Clergy Expenses	950	-	950	2,044
Cleaning	-	-	-	232
Upkeep of Services	4,945	157	5,102	2,370
Bookstall	-	-	-	18
Assistant Staff Costs	513	-	513	432
Church Yard	114	153	267	-
Organ Repairs	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	217	-	217	302
Education	-	-	-	478
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,307	5,794	10,101	13,254
Light and Heat	1,759	714	2,473	5,127
Repairs and Maintenance	584	5,670	6,254	3,712
Choir and Organist Pay	6,037	100	6,137	6,171
Salaries	10,145	6	10,151	9,148
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	2,710	187	2,897	2,185
Equipment	599	-	599	550
Rental of Equipment	947	-	947	1,988
Professional Fees	390	-	390	300
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,453	-	1,453	1,677
Insurance	1,079	-	1,079	980
Repairs and Maintenance	518	-	518	1,003
Cleaning and Sundries	3,427	61	3,488	3,661
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	-	-	-	16,783
Major Repairs – Installations	-	-	-	28,285
New Building – Church	-	79,767	79,767	94,547
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	120,419	92,684	213,103	280,960
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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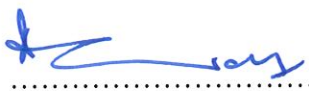
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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2021

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2021

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Living Churchyard SJB		336	-	336	-
Living Churchyard SMV		50	-	50	-
Bells		(279)	-	(279)	-
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	38,629	38,629	38,629
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St Mary's Maintenance		-	(10,083)	(10,083)	(12,137)
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,041
		<u>82,891</u>	<u>64,088</u>	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	4,563	20,054
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,648	2,647
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,098	4,096
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	92,563	81,669
CBF Investment Account 3J	43,107	36,698
Total Current Assets	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	74,618	74,405
Designated Funds	8,273	8,327
Restricted Funds	64,088	62,432
	<u>146,979</u>	<u>145,164</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 16 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)****for the year ended 31 December 2021****1. Accounting Policies (Continued)****Resources Used*****Grants***

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets***Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings***

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total Funds 2021 £	2020 £
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	39,061	-	39,061	30,492
Other Offerings	14,078	-	14,078	19,692
Plate and Special Collections	2,023	-	2,023	1,059
Income Tax Recoverable	12,947	-	12,947	19,307
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	68,109	-	68,109	70,550
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	3,090	540	3,630	3,915
Grants:- Recurring	-	-	-	2,750
Other	16,289	93,727	110,016	148,389
Legacies	450	50	500	10,350
One Off Gifts	905	5	910	2,546
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	20,734	94,322	115,056	167,950
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	-	-	-	1,817
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	3,171	-	3,171	2,119
Church Hall Lettings	4,593	-	4,593	4,291
Magazine Sales and Advertising	300	-	300	459
Rent form Land and Buildings	368	15	383	1,832
St Marys Contribution	-	-	-	8,748
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	8,432	15	8,447	19,266
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	-	3	3	69
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	97,275	94,340	191,615	257,835
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 2020 £ £	
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	78,848	-	78,848	82,858
Mission and Grants	877	75	952	2,069
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	786
Clergy Expenses	950	-	950	2,044
Cleaning	-	-	-	232
Upkeep of Services	4,945	157	5,102	2,370
Bookstall	-	-	-	18
Assistant Staff Costs	513	-	513	432
Church Yard	114	153	267	-
Organ Repairs	-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	217	-	217	302
Education	-	-	-	478
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	4,307	5,794	10,101	13,254
Light and Heat	1,759	714	2,473	5,127
Repairs and Maintenance	584	5,670	6,254	3,712
Choir and Organist Pay	6,037	100	6,137	6,171
Salaries	10,145	6	10,151	9,148
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Administration Costs	2,710	187	2,897	2,185
Equipment	599	-	599	550
Rental of Equipment	947	-	947	1,988
Professional Fees	390	-	390	300
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,453	-	1,453	1,677
Insurance	1,079	-	1,079	980
Repairs and Maintenance	518	-	518	1,003
Cleaning and Sundries	3,427	61	3,488	3,661
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	-	-	-	16,783
Major Repairs – Installations	-	-	-	28,285
New Building – Church	-	79,767	79,767	94,547
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	120,419	92,684	213,103	280,960
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts



Devizes St John & St Mary

Heart and Soul in the Centre of our Town

The Ecclesiastical Parish
of
St John with St Mary, Devizes

Annual Report 2020



Our Vision:

The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy
and walk humbly with our God: Micah 6:8

Administrative information

St John's Church is situated in Long Street, Devizes. St Mary's Church is situated in New Park Street, Devizes. The parish is part of the Diocese of Salisbury within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, The Parish Rooms, Long Street, Devizes SN10 1NP.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a registered charity No.1133990 and is made up of:

Incumbent: The Revd. Canon Paul Richardson (until October 2020)

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch (from June 2020)

Churchwardens: Peter Crofts
Jane Scorer (Lay Vice-Chair)
Bob Simpson

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Catherine Brown
Peter Crofts
David Evans

Elected members: Judy Bridger
Becky Edgington
Richard Evans
Alan Martin
Liz Overthrow (Secretary)
Karen Pugh
Stephanie Williams

Co-opted member: Becky Edgington (Treasurer)
Chris Cox (LLM)

Parish Ministry

Rector: The Revd. Canon Paul Richardson

Assistant Curate: The Revd. Gerry Lynch

Clergy with Permission to Officiate:

The Revd. Canon George Royle

The Revd. Robin Stephens

The Revd. Canon Chris Burdon

Licenced Lay Minister: Chris Cox

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Claire Arden

Catherine Brown

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank

The Market Place

Devizes

SN10 1JD

Auditors: J S Weeks

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF DEVIZES, ST JOHN & ST MARY

AIM AND PURPOSES

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

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of St John's Church, St Mary's Church and St John's Parish Rooms.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community.
- The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.
- Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.
- When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:
 - Worship and prayer; learning about the gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in God.
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our parish churches and the parish rooms.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments.

It is our policy to invest the short-term investment fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and the remainder in the CCLA Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules.

At St John & St Mary the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our rector), the associate priest and the assistant curate, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services / members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

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. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Covid 19 affected all our lives during this year and five of our meetings were held on Zoom.

We spent a long time discussing how we could keep the churches open for worship and Risk Assessments were carried out to enable this to happen safely. We are grateful to Alan Martin for all his work as Health and Safety Officer.

A new structure of PCC teams was introduced:

Ministry Team, Spirituality Team, Leadership Team, Parish Life Team, Buildings and Grounds Team and Finance Team.

When services went online, pastoral arrangements were made for PCC members to contact members of the congregation regularly.

In May we accepted the resignation of Ian Brown as our Treasurer and welcomed Becky Edgington as our new Treasurer. Ian Brown has put in enormous efforts on our behalf over many years and we are very grateful for his work.

Gerry Lynch, our new curate was welcomed at our meeting in August.

The Living Churchyard project was discussed but had to be postponed because of Covid-19.

Regular updates were received on the progress of the plans to redevelop St Mary's church.

Members were saddened at the Rector's decision to take early retirement and move away in September.

A Parish Profile was prepared, and a programme set in place for advertising, shortlisting and interviewing for a new Rector.

'Beyond the Present' - the diocese asked us to hold a discussion on the future, using questions from Bishop Karen. Feedback was gathered from members in preparation for the re-opening of our churches for worship.

Liz Overthrow

THE ELECTORAL ROLL

As ever, we have lost some friends throughout the year and gained some more. At 31 December 2020 there were 148 names on the Electoral Roll.

As always, I would urge members of the congregation to ask if those sitting next to them each Sunday are on the Electoral Roll.

If they are not on the roll, encourage them to see me and complete an application form. Forms will also be available in church.

Catherine Brown - Electoral Roll Officer

SAFEGUARDING

A definition of 'Safeguarding' is the action that the Church takes to promote a safer culture in all its churches.

During the year our safeguarding administration has been relatively quiet, partly as result of some activities reducing during the pandemic and partly due to a phase when few Data and Barring Service (DBS) checks or renewals have been required. Things will pick up from now on, as revised Church-wide procedures will require DBS checks and additional declarations for all the PCC, rather than just for some members.

Meanwhile the system of DBS checking has continued to work well. Some processes have been adapted temporarily, for example allowing document checks via Zoom where considered prudent. Similarly, some safeguarding training that previously required personal attendance has been moved online.

As usual in these reports, it is worth mentioning that, while some may find these procedures intrusive and cumbersome, they help to create an environment that is safer for all. Importantly they ensure that the PCC has complied with its duty to have "due regard" to the House of Bishops' guidance in relation to safeguarding. If you have a question about any aspect, by all means contact me.

Jerry King - Parish Safeguarding Officer

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT 2020

In the 2019 annual report Churchwardens' Thoughts began: 'The past year hasn't been an easy one for the parish'. As it turned out 2020 was significantly more testing, in many different ways and generated unprecedented challenges for us all.

A year dominated by a global pandemic that spread with alarming speed affecting millions, causing devastating social and economic disruption, with over 125,000 deaths in the UK alone.

As in parishes everywhere the wardens and PCC have had the safety of parishioners at the forefront of their minds, in making very difficult decisions about ministry and mission, which for us was made more demanding without a Rector in post.

Last spring, we were hopeful that Paul would be resuming his parish duties after a prolonged spell of ill health and during the first national COVID lockdown he celebrated Easter Day with an online service from his garden.

But, sadly his health problems persisted, preventing him from resuming his responsibilities here, and he decided to take a house for duty post in the Oxford Diocese, leaving the parish after his farewell service in September.

The search for his replacement has been hampered by the COVID restrictions, but the appointment process is continuing with plans to re-advertise the post after Easter 2021.

In line with Church of England guidance both churches closed during the first lockdown, so we made Sunday services available on-line and PCC members were asked to make regular contact by phone with isolated members of the congregation and those on the electoral roll.

Thanks must go to our Parish Administrator, Catherine Brown, who has worked hard to keep members of the congregation connected with regular updates on the website and via a weekly parish ebulletin, which she hand-delivers to those without email access.

St John's re-opened for communal worship in July with attendance limited to meet social distancing regulations and access defined by risk assessments, which our Health and Safety Officer Alan Martin has made sure are assiduously updated.

We had established a well-rehearsed pattern for managing Sunday services when the second national lockdown was imposed. With great reluctance, and not without criticism, it was decided to suspend communal worship again and return to recorded services masterminded by our new curate, the Rev Gerry Lynch.

There was further dismay when it was decided to withdraw the two scheduled live Christmas services at the last minute following a tightening of the government's original Christmas guidelines.

However, we were always clear that the churchwardens and the PCC have a duty of care to all those who come into the church and that we have a collective responsibility to each other.

It has been a baptism of fire for Gerry, who arrived in June and was eventually ordained in September. He has gone well beyond what would normally be expected from a newly ordained curate in training and his contribution in these strange times has been invaluable.

In addition, we have been well supported by the Archdeacon of Wilts, the Venerable Sue Groom, together with locally based retired clergy, namely Canon Chris Burdon and the Rev Robin Stevens, our LLM Chris Cox and LLM in training Mark Harrison.

Their willingness to embrace technology and adapt to conducting services electronically has ensured a choice of worship has been maintained.

We have much missed live singing from our talented choir, but Chris Totney, our Director of Music, has recorded contributions from members for inclusion in online services as well as playing uplifting pieces on the organ, which have been well received.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to being back in St John's for communal worship in March after the third lockdown.

However, it seems likely that online services are here to stay as a way in which we can reach out to those unable to attend services in person or anxious about returning to church.

No doubt we have all, at times, felt weighed down by what has happened, and may worry about what the future is going to look like, but let us remember that here in Devizes, as in so many other places, we have seen people coming together unselfishly to support those struggling to cope through anxiety, insecurity, or immobility. Clearly there have been many unseen acts of care and friendship both within our church family and outside in the wider community.

Frustratingly our activities and planned initiatives have been curtailed by COVID restrictions, but we can be thankful that many continue to use their gifts, their time, and prayers to sustain our church life. We are especially grateful to those who, despite not being able to attend services, are continuing to make their financial contributions to the fixed costs of running the parish, which are not significantly reduced despite the churches being closed.

The fallout from the pandemic will long outlive the health crisis, but with God's love to sustain and guide us, and working together, we can look forward to the future with hope and resolve to overcome the challenges we face in these testing times.

Jane Scorer, Bob Simpson and Peter Crofts

FROM THE CURATE:

I haven't had the start to curacy that any of us could have imagined at the start of 2020! My first nine months in the parish have been marked by an interregnum, two lockdowns, and the church being closed for public worship for three spells amounting to many months. It has, in a strange way however, been a particular privilege to start ordained ministry with you at a time like this. I have always been and remain absolutely delighted that I was called to serve my title at St John with St Mary.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome insofar as any of us have been able to give and receive hospitality in these strange times. One parishioner told me that he was sorry that it had been impossible to "wine and dine" me as was the normal custom of the parish; I can assure all of you that I would be delighted to receive – and indeed to give – such invitations once the present health restrictions are lifted for the remainder of my curacy.

We have been living with coronavirus for so long now that it often seems like the present emergency will never end; but it shall. Renewal most often follows periods of despair and death such as we have been enduring, and we Christians as people of the Resurrection should be especially expectant for new life, probably coming from directions we could never have predicted.

I think there are two key questions for us as a congregation to engage with during the remainder of 2021. Firstly, how can we deepen in faith and in relationship with one another? Part of that is deepening our trust that we really are the people God has called to serve him in this place, focusing on our many gifts rather than our inevitable limitations. In particular, I think we should be less concerned that our average age is relatively high than we often are. In a country and world that has dramatically aged and will still further at a time of falling birthrates and rising life expectancy, everyone will need to learn to depend more on the gifts of older people.

Secondly, how can we give people who are not yet part of our congregation the opportunity to engage with us, and provide pathways to faith for them in an era where cultural Christianity is over? We are, I think, people of open and welcoming hearts; how can we help more people to be transformed by our life of worship and our faith in Jesus Christ? Can our exploration of digital worship over the past few months assist in that, and if so, how?

As we emerge, perhaps a little stunned, into a new reality that none of us could have imagined, let us remember that this was precisely the experience of the disciples on the first Easter morning. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us in this new word into deeper faith in one another, hope for the future, and love for Christ and our neighbour.

Gerry Lynch

REPORT FROM BUILDING & GROUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

Progress on most fronts has been hampered this past year both by the pandemic and the lack of a rector in post. The latter has meant there has been no progress at all on either reordering within St John's or the issue of replacing the organ. Otherwise progress of note is as follows:

- St Mary's – planning permission has been granted for changes to the building to convert it to a multi-use function.

Likewise, the Diocesan Advisory Committee has now given the project a green light to proceed. So the project can now move forwards.

- Photo-voltaic cells and a linked storage battery system have now been installed in St John's and are operational. The cost of this scheme was borne by the Glanville Trust to whom we are most grateful. As yet we are still awaiting confirmation (after more than 5 months) from OFGEM that we will receive a (FIT) Feed-In Tariff. Hopefully, during 2021, we will start to reap the benefits from this installation both of reduced electricity bills and a modest FIT income.
- Plans are in hand to create a 'Friends of St John's Churchyard' group of volunteers. Once pandemic restrictions are lifted, we would hope to move forwards with our plans to create a 'Living Churchyard' to benefit the local community whilst at the same time developing our 'Eco' credentials as stewards of our own small plot of God's earth.
- The pigeons have finally been evicted from the porch at St Mary's through enhanced defensive arrangements – grills and pigeon spikes.
- It has been agreed with both our architect and the Archdeacon that the Quinquennial Review at St John's should be postponed by one year to 2022. The Review at St Mary's will go ahead this year as planned.

Mike McClelland

HEALTH & SAFETY

Throughout the past year the pre-occupation with Health & Safety, has required your PCC to consider Risk Assessments (RAs) relating to all aspects of worship, as we have found ourselves in and out of enforced COVID-19 lockdowns.

Understandably, the most comprehensive Risk Assessment related to our Sunday worship, while additional RAs were completed for home visits, visits to care homes, study groups and, should it be possible to hold the service, the service of compline.

At all times, RAs were drawn up following both Government and Church of England advice and guidelines. I am aware that some among our congregation found the RA disciplines our stewards were required to follow, somewhat regimental. However, they should be assured that all our RAs were in place to maintain required social distancing and the wellbeing of all attending services.

At the time of this Annual Parochial Church Meeting, we are on a pathway out of our third lockdown - but we should never be complacent about the possible recurrence of the pandemic. For this reason, our RAs will remain in place until we are satisfied we can return to what we consider to be normal. However, as has happened during this past year, additions to and deletions from the RAs will continue, in order to update current guidelines from the Church of England, the Government and additionally for the choir, from the Incorporated Society of Musicians.

A word of thanks must go to those who volunteered to steward our services during these difficult and uncertain times.

When we were able to attend our Sunday service, sadly, congregational singing was not permitted nor could our full choir join us. However, for those choir members who were permitted to join us, our Director of Music followed the strictest disciplines contained in the RA to ensure all were in a safe and COVID-19 free environment.

Finally, with no changes to the St John's and St Mary's Health & Safety policies, nor to St Mary's Fire Risk Assessment, your PCC agreed their annual review in February. (Any necessary changes required during the year were contained in specific Risk Assessments) The Fire Risk Assessment for St John's Church remains work in progress.

Alan Martin

PARISH ROOMS

The Parish Rooms group (Catherine Brown, Simon Fisher, Charles Slater and Judy Bridger) only met twice during the early part of the year because of the pandemic. During each lockdown, all bookings ceased, apart from Opendoors who continued to use the kitchen for preparation of meals delivered to guests. When lockdown eased in the summer, a few hirers returned with stringent risk and cleaning assessments. We are very grateful to Catherine Brown, our Parish Rooms Manager, Kevin Cox, our cleaner, and Alan Martin, our Health and Safety Officer, for all their work.

ST MARY'S FUTURE GROUP

Planning permission has been granted for the external build around the site of the Clergy Vestry on the north east side of the church. There are a number of conditions to this permission but they are all quite reasonable and will not impact the project.

The archaeological dig inside and outside the church has been completed and a report is available on the SMDT website.

The DAC has made it clear that it supports the plans submitted and at its meeting on 12th March the following statement was issued:

The DAC commended the scheme for its thoroughness and sensitivity. The committee approved the scheme and encouraged the parish to

move the application on to the next stage. The tenacity of the applicant was admired and members of the DAC look forward to visiting the church when the work is complete!

The formal faculty application papers will shortly be prepared for the DAC, which will give its advice to the Diocesan Registrar. It is the Registrar who will give us permission to do both the internal and external changes and building.

Support matrix.

The following project topics are being supported by volunteers:

Project Funding

Promotion of St Mary's as a top-class arts venue

Business Plan

Churchyard improvement and Zero Carbon

Heritage and Events

Governance

Spirituality

Interior fitments – IT Performance Housekeeping

Archaeological investigation

Sweetland Organ refurbishment

We would be delighted if anyone else wished to join one or more of these groups or be included in the reports they generate.

You can also get general updates circulated through the StMaryDevizesTrust.org web site, just sign up for the mailing list.

Funding. The costs of the project development phase so far have been covered by The St Mary Church and Poor Lands Charity – Church Branch, for which we thank them.

Sourcing funds for the construction phase is the next important step and a general strategy has been formulated. Our current estimate is in the region of £1.5m but we are awaiting a report from a Quantity Surveyor, who will itemise the build costs.

We have formally asked the Poor Land Charity for additional financial help during this phase, which would help kick start fund raising and be an exemplar to other major funders.

It is likely that funding will come from many different sources including national funding bodies, business organisations, local companies in cash or kind, as well as the invaluable support of the local community.

Tony Scorer, Project Manager, St Mary's Future Group

TREASURERS REPORT

2020 started off with a deficit of £11,235. Church closures linked to the COVID-19 restrictions have obviously made a difference to the income from worshippers during the year.

Income from Donors is reduced by 14%. Other voluntary donations show an increase of 79% (£52k vs £29k last year) although the true figure is £24k due to catch up payments from the Glanville Trust and Poorlands. This includes £10k of legacies £8k from Devizes Municipal Trust.

Income as a result of Church Activities e.g. Parish Room Hire and Book/Magazine Sales have been reduced significantly.

The Parish Giving Scheme is at 58 Members which contributes approximately £2,860 per month which has generated approximately £700 in gift aid. There are 37 members who give regularly by direct debit into the Bank Account.

The Church invests in shares to increase its income; although the interest on these was minimal in the first half of the year the second

half saw an increase of £6,789 in the General Fund and £3,050 in the Bells Fund. This shows as 'Gains on Investments, unrealised increase in value'.

The following items appear in both income and expenditure for the reasons set out below:

- During the year Solar Panels were installed which was reimbursed by The Glanville Trust; this sum of £23,580 appears in the Church Income and in Church Expenditure.
- Also held in the unrestricted income was the £1,400 which was collected for Paul's leaving present which increased the costs by the same amount.

These items increase the income and expenditure by a total of £24,980 Taking this out of the income reduces the working income to £115,159 which is less than 2019 by £18,437 or 14%.

In order to support the Church cashflow during this time £10,443 was raised by cashing in a very low interest investment.

Where possible costs have been reduced but the Church carries a high level of fixed costs regarding Diocesan Share, staff costs and utilities. The Share was £82,857 in 2020 and £79,610 in 2019, and increase of 4%. The share is not increasing in 2021. Despite the lockdown utility costs increased by £200 in the year which is 2.75%. This is probably because the Church was in use during the cold months of the year when the doors had to be left open. Church Insurance was increased by £127 (1.66%) but the good news is that another company has quoted a better price for 2021.

The PCC was able to make small donations to Friends of Salisbury Cathedral, Riding for the Disabled, The Childrens Society, OpenDoors, Waiblingen Way Fire Fund and Community First.

Becky Edgington

SPIRITUALITY TEAM

The spirituality team aims to oversee and enhance occasions for spiritual engagement and expression within the parish, including:

- The pattern of services and seasonal worship
- The development and progression of the parish as a 'Contemplative Community'
- Opportunities for prayer and worship
- Opportunities for spiritual engagement during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter
- The 'Reflection' group, Bible Study and Lectio Divina groups, the contemplative prayer group
- Quiet days, retreats and pilgrimages
- The musical and choral tradition within the parish.

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions the team last met on the 18th of March 2020 and discussed, amongst other things, the 2020 Lent course ('An Introduction to Contemplative Living'), and the parish retreat. The first two sessions of the Lent course were held on the 5th and 12th March before the remainder of the course had to be cancelled, and the parish retreat was postponed. Other groups overseen by this team were also temporarily cancelled i.e., 'Reflection' and the two Lectio Divina groups. Our monthly Compline service was also stopped.

A new weekly Lectio Divina group has recently been introduced (1st session held on 19th February 2021). This is an opportunity for individuals to practice Lectio at home. It is not an online group, simply a dispersed group of individuals engaging in this contemplative prayer practice at the same time each week in the comfort of their own homes. It is hoped that knowing that others are doing the same thing at the same time will engender a sense of togetherness.

Once COVID-19 restrictions are relaxed, the spirituality team will reconvene. Items for the agenda will include the reinstatement of those groups that had to be cancelled, the parish retreat, the 'Room to Breathe' initiative, the contemplative prayer group, the 'Mosaic Fellowship', and developing St John's as a 'Centre for Christian Spirituality'.

The Bible Study Group

The year began as the previous year had ended with the group meeting in the comfortable surroundings of Casterbridge, home of Julian and Becky Edgington, in order to study the Gospel according to St Matthew. Unfortunately, we fell victim to the national lockdown and our meetings had to be suspended. We hope that at some point in 2021 it may be possible to resume our activities. Things cannot be the same, however, because during the lockdowns Julian Edgington died, depriving us of a genial host and an astute commentator on the Biblical text.

MINISTRY TEAM

This is one of the new PCC teams with responsibility for co-ordinating ministry in the areas of worship, pastoral care, discipleship, vocations and outreach.

We noted with sadness that Paul, our Rector, had decided to take early retirement in the autumn and give thanks for his ministry among us.

We are very grateful to our Archdeacon Sue Groom, our retired clergy and lay ministers, and our new curate, Rev Gerry Lynch, for leading our worship, both actual and online, before and during the pandemic, to our organist, choir, sacristan and others, and to our churchwardens and parish administrator for organising this.

At the beginning of the year we began to look at developing our pastoral care, using Lay Pastoral and Eucharistic Assistants, with home communions which then, with the first lockdown, had to be put on

hold. Since then PCC members have continued some very limited pastoral care phone calls with elderly and isolated members of the congregation.

We hope to develop this team's remit further in the future.

Omnes Ad Unum - *St. John's does...*

We had plans to run the Annual Autumn Fayre and Christmas Tree Festival but of course Covid-19 put an end to that and all other usual events. At Christmas we decided that, as the church was open and there was a Christmas Eve midnight Mass due to be held, we would put up 2 big Christmas trees in the Churchyard plus strings of lights to welcome everyone to the service. Thanks to some of our sponsors we were able to do this without cost to ourselves. Sadly, with the worsening situation with the virus, the Church did not open for this service, however these decorations were obviously appreciated by people passing through the Churchyard.

We also started a new event which took place during December. The 13th Advent Calendar event was expanded to businesses and traders in Devizes and it attracted 48 entries. We invited the people of Devizes to walk around the Town and to enter a competition to identify hidden themes displayed in windows. Over 500 route maps and competition entries were collected reflecting the numbers viewing the displays.

We were amazed at the ingenuity and creativity of the displays notably Reeves Gingerbread Wise Men, the origami Three ships at Urban Rustics, Wansbrough's childrens' Christmas trees and Winkworth's entire Dickens room. The enthusiasm to participate, time and expense incurred notwithstanding obvious concerns regarding the pandemic and its impact upon income was amazing.

We are also delighted that many have come forward both from this year's participants and others to say they wish to be included in 2021. All are very welcome.

There are many specific thank you's required: firstly to all participants especially the individuals who continue each year with the original daily opening Calendar, the Town Council for printed material, our main Sponsors Grist Environmental and Cross Engineering and finally all of those who have made donations. All funds collected will be directed to Devizes vulnerable and needy.

Hopefully we shall be able to get back to organising fund-raising events later in 2021, when restrictions are lifted.

30/12/2020 OPENING BANK BALANCE		£6800.48
INCOME		£2100.00
EXPENDITURE	£8313.72	
CLOSING BALANCE 31 DEC 2020		£586.76

Breakdown of deposits and expenditure for Year 2020.

JAN/FEB 2021 CARRY OVER CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AND GRAND DRAW FROM 2019

INCOME		£1500.00
EXPENDITURE	£1123.72	

DISTRIBUTION

PCC ST JOHN'S CHURCH	£1500	
TRINITY SCHOOL	£100	
WILTSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE	£800	
WILTSHIRE YOUNG CARERS	£800	
JULIA'S HOUSE	£800	
ALZHEIMERS SUPPORT GROUP	£800	
DOROTHY HOUSE	£800	
DEVIZES FOOD BANK	£250	
DEVIZES OPPORTUNITY GROUP	£250	
5 LANES PRIMARY SCHOOL	£100	
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	£50	
MAYOR'S FUND	£100	
St PETER'S CHURCH	£100	
DRAW PRIZES	£200	
ADVANCE BOOKINGS FOR AUTUMN FAYRE 2020		£450
RETURNS DUE TO CANCELLATION	£450	

2020 CHRISTMAS ADVENT TRAIL for BUSINESSES and CHRISTMAS CHURCHYARD LIGHTS

EXPENDITURE	£90.00	
INCOME		£150
OVERALL TOTAL FOR 2020.	£8313.72	£2150.00
OPENING BALANCE FOR FUNDRAISING YEAR ENDING 01/01/2022		£586.00
PLUS CASH IN HAND		£73.30
TOTAL FUNDS		£659.30

Tim Lacy Hulbert – Hon Treasurer Omnes ad Unum

ST JOHN'S ANNUAL REPORT: CHOIR AND MUSIC (2020)

Although 2020 will go down as 'the year like no other', there was certainly no hint of what was to come when the choir started the year in style with a highly successful visit to sing the services at Bristol Cathedral on 5th January. The following day, a healthy number of us made the journey over to Zeals for Ben's installation in his new parish.

On the first Sunday back at St John's, Lauren's magnificent reign as Head Chorister came to an end, with the baton being passed on to Belinda.

Attention then turned towards a busy schedule over the following two months, with a magnificent programme of music for Candlemas, a performance at the Eisteddfod Celebration Concert and an Evensong at St Peter's Church. A team of 14 children once again took part in the annual Lions' Swimathon, raising £500 for the choir fund, before Annelies and Martha became the latest duo to conquer Allegri's *Miserere* on the First Sunday of Lent. With Chloë having surprised us with a new commission on her departure from the choir the previous year, the world première of Richard Sisson's setting of Psalm 121 took place as part of the Rule of Law Service for the High Sheriff on 15th March. Never has a 'farewell' piece been more poignantly received, as it turned out to be the last time that the full choir sang together.

During the first lockdown, the choir started out by making several virtual recordings until the novelty gradually wore off. It was certainly worth the challenge but it was a lot to ask, particularly of the children, with the difference between singing with others around them in the choir stalls versus doing so into a microphone at home clearly felt! At that point, it was equally lovely, as well as nostalgic, to delve into past recordings made by the choir for use in the online services which followed.

We are indebted to James Carey, who spent hours putting the virtual recordings together, and those who wished found opportunities further afield to join up with other friends in wider virtual projects.

By late May, once it was becoming increasingly doubtful that the choir would be back in any shape or form until after the summer holiday, attention was turned to social activity. A Zoom Meeting was organised for the children and it was so successful that it has been repeated every fortnight during all the lockdowns. Belinda has certainly risen to the challenge of needing to be the most creative Head Chorister ever, organising a myriad of on-screen games for everyone to play every time we meet – the number of new forms of entertainment I have discovered in the past year is beyond belief! The adults have also met separately on Zoom for a ‘glass-in-hand’ style chat at regular intervals on Friday evenings, ensuring that everyone has had the chance to keep in touch until normal times return.

Once amateur music-making was given the green light again in mid-August, plans were speedily but carefully made to convene a socially-distanced choir for an ‘experiment’ at the service on Sunday 30th August, which just happened to be my daughter Rosie’s first birthday. Since we had had to postpone her baptism, Jenny and I were very grateful to Gerry and Archdeacon Sue for jointly presiding over a thanksgiving ceremony on that day and, when the volunteer choir sang Tallis’ ‘If ye love me’ during communion, it was the most magical

moment imaginable, as choral music was once again heard in St John's for the first time in almost six months.

Thanks to the swift action of the Churchwardens and PCC, we were then able to bring the choir back in two teams in September, with each team singing on alternate Sundays. This enabled us to give Paul the send-off he deserved with a rousing rendition of Wesley's 'Blessed be the God and Father', his favourite anthem, and there was also the joy of singing at the wedding of former Head Chorister Rachel Bradley.

Although the lockdown in November briefly halted proceedings, we were able to make the best of the opportunity to sing some glorious Advent music, with highlights including the Responsories for the season and Steph Williams' wonderful solo in Gibbons' 'This is the record of John', before another shutdown came all too soon.

Perhaps the single most significant event which occurred as a result of the year's challenges was our first ever full-choir video recording of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, shot with multiple camera angles in a socially-distanced setup. It was a fitting tribute to the commitment and dedication shown by all our choir members over many years that they simply appeared on the night of the recording and truly went for it in 'all-guns-blazing' style on absolutely no rehearsal at all – just sheer adrenaline, memory recall and the will to pull together for the community! We are hugely grateful to Gerry for all the technical wizardry involved and, with the help of social media pushing it out far and wide, incredibly, the service was viewed by over 10,000 people between Christmas and New Year. A milestone indeed, it looks set to remain the only time that the full choir will sing together between March 2020 and the summer of 2021.

With the Mayor's Carol Concert also having to move online, the Town Council were quick to jump on the bandwagon of our recording evening. So, by way of a warm-up for our own Carol Service, the session began with a couple of light-hearted numbers which were matched up with pre-recorded arrangements from the Town Band.

We are indebted to Kelvin Nash for inviting us to take part in this wonderful community initiative.

During the year we have said goodbye to several choir members, notably Annelies, Esmé, Archie, Alex and Emerson, and we wish them all well for the future.

But in terms of longevity, will there ever be anyone like John Stott again? John was a most incredible man on so many levels and, because of the situation we have all found ourselves in over the past year, it is difficult to believe that he is no longer with us, as he preached with such characteristic gusto only two weeks before worship was suspended. Following Fran's move away from Devizes, we send her and the whole family our very best wishes and hope to celebrate John's life properly in the fullness of time. I'm sure there was plenty of Bach's music to greet him at those pearly gates!

Due to the ongoing difficulties, a small number of other choir members delayed their return for personal reasons, and we continue to hold them in our prayers and look forward to seeing them back in the stalls as soon as the time is right. We were especially delighted to see Janice Payne back with us just four months after falling ill.

One of the greatest success stories of the past year must be Anna's progress on the organ. With the help of a practice instrument at home when travel to church has not been possible, she continued to work incredibly hard towards her Grade 8 exam and passed it with distinction in December. We are incredibly grateful to the PCC, the RSCM and the Diocesan PipeUp Scheme who have supported her at various points along the way, as she now turns her attention to developing her service playing skills and starting work on her Associateship diploma for the Royal College of Organists.

As we look forward to the lifting of restrictions, a number of cathedral outings to help keep the choir challenged and stimulated will no doubt appear on the horizon, as well as the sheer week-to-week joy of being back in one another's company.

As always, my thanks to everyone who has helped keep the ship sailing through these choppy waters. When the power of music within the liturgy starts its engine up again, and the choir stalls are as full as we once knew them, I can see us all being deeply moved by just how much we missed it all. As we look forward to that day, please continue to hold in your prayers everyone who has been affected during this time.

Chris Totney, Director of Music

FAIR TRADE

Our Fair Trade stall continued to run in the first three months of the year but then had to stop because of the pandemic - thank you to all those who generously support us. Since then we have gradually sold off most of our perishable stock and given the remainder to Devizes Food Bank.

Judy Bridger and Trudy Fisher

THE FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild has now only twelve flower arrangers as Ann Sinden has moved away to be nearer her family. Julie Gilmore normally helps at Harvest time. Due to the restrictions, there were only two occasions when the church was decorated during the past year, for a wedding on November 6th and for Christmas.

Heather Blyth

THE BELLS AND BELLRINGERS

Importantly, throughout this past year we have remained a caring and enthusiastic group of friends who share the mutual love of bellringing.

Although we have not been able to ring the bells during the last year, we have still remained very active with bell work. Our last Sunday morning ring, when the Covid 19 restrictions forced us to stop, took place on March 15th and we certainly didn't imagine that one year later, we would still not be able to ring our bells.

We did ring four bells on Christmas morning, 'bubbles' observed, socially distanced and managing the masks with difficulty. Towards the end of January, one of our ringers, Richard Heath tolled a bell one hundred times to commemorate the one hundred thousand people who had sadly died from Covid 19. Dr John New tolled a bell at St Mary's on Saturday February 27th in tribute to Capt. Sir Tom Moore who by walking near his home, raised the staggering amount of over thirty-two million pounds for the NHS. On March 23rd I tolled a bell following a minute's silence when we remembered the anniversary of the very first lockdown in the UK.

I felt that it was very important to keep in touch with everyone so we started a weekly newsletter to which all of our ringers contributed by emailing me their news and photos and then every Thursday, the day of our regular practices, I emailed everyone a compilation. Now, after fifty-two editions it has proved a great success and we have learnt so much about each others' families, friends and hobbies and we all look forward to the weekly updates. We have also kept in touch on Zoom, phone and videos so that all ages have been catered for and the band is well informed.

With the prospect of the Ringing Chamber being empty for a few months we decided to have a thorough Spring clean and a team was formed, and overseen by our expert Richard Heath, they set about the task which took many hours of dusty endeavour. Working under strict Covid 19 regulations, pairs of ringers worked at carefully removing all the old paint, dirt and grime from the walls, revealing the clean stonework with the splendid Norman Intersecting Arches. Ropes and curtains were washed, lighting updated, drafts blocked and new carpet secured, the room now looks bright and welcoming and we are anxious to return soon. We have received enquiries from someone wishing to learn to ring and another experienced ringer wishing to join our band.

They will be very welcome and as will anyone else who would like to join our friendly group as we resume practices on Thursday evenings and once again enable the sound of our bells to ring out over the town.

Liz Merritt, Tower Captain

Deanery Synod.

The national lockdowns disrupted the usual pattern of Synod meetings, in that the spring meeting had to be cancelled. At the summer and autumn meetings churches reported their attempts to adapt to novel conditions especially by streaming online services. It was clear, however, that the pandemic had greatly aggravated the financial difficulties faced by many of our parishes. Keith Brindle, Assistant Rural Dean, made clear his view that the churches of the deanery might be able to work together to find a way at least to mitigate these problems. By the end of the year it had been decided to put Keith's proposals to a meeting of Synod members and additional parish representatives, which would allow the establishment of a group to make proposals concerning the way ahead.

The other important topic raised during the year was the situation of the churches in South Sudan and Uganda linked with our diocese. The continuing violence and consequent refugee problem are creating enormous difficulties and an urgent need for financial aid.

David Evans

What Will You Do?

What will you do, the poet said, with this
One wild and precious life you have today
Within the womb the Baptist leaps for bliss
Upon the cross He gives his life away

What will we do indeed, for heaven's sake
We motley crew of children, priests, and fools
We offer fairy cakes and prayers, and break
Communal bread according to the rules

What did he do? He died, and rose again
Was unconventional, and wild, and brave
He gave his precious life that other men
Might rise in easy conscience from the grave

And you, sat there all cosy in your pew
What will you do with what he gave for you?

© Gail Foster 11th June 2017



**Being Welcoming
and Hospitable**



**Showing Care
and Respect for
the Natural World**



**Being
Concerned
about Social
Justice**



**Worshipping with
Reverence, Joy
and Praise**



**Living our
Wild and
Precious
lives by...**



**Being informed
by Scripture,
Tradition and
Reason**



Being Inclusive



**Being
Contemplative
and Rooted in
Prayer**



**Being Focussed
on the Needs of
the Wider
Community**

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2020

Incumbent
Interregnum

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

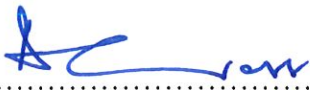
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

31 March 2021

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2020

I N D E X

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3 Balance Sheet

4 - 6 Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2020 £	2019 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	68,133	2,417	70,550	96,956
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	52,736	115,214	167,950	96,251
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	19,251	15	19,266	27,385
Income from Investments	2d	19	50	69	130
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		<u>140,139</u>	<u>117,696</u>	<u>257,835</u>	<u>220,722</u>
 Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	153,904	127,056	280,960	231,958
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		<u>153,904</u>	<u>127,056</u>	<u>280,960</u>	<u>231,958</u>
 Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources					
		(13,765)	(9,360)	(23,125)	(11,236)
Transfers Between Funds		(43)	43	-	-
 Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value		7,560	3,397	10,957	19,667
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		(6,248)	(5,920)	(12,168)	8,431
Total Funds Brought Forward		<u>88,980</u>	<u>68,352</u>	<u>157,332</u>	<u>148,901</u>
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u>82,732</u>	<u>62,432</u>	<u>145,164</u>	<u>157,332</u>
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2020 £	2019 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2020		82,732	62,430	145,162	157,332
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		74,405	-	74,405	82,345
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		40	-	40	-
Devizes Municipal Charities		1,243	-	1,243	-
Faith in the Future		1,678	-	1,678	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		20	-	20	-
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Parish Room Maintenance		777	-	777	788
Rectors Mission Fund		4,531	-	4,531	4,131
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	38,629	38,629	35,219
Choir Fund		-	466	466	592
Church Building Fund		-	5,310	5,310	5,291
Organ Fund		-	4,859	4,859	4,817
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	21,180	21,180	12,342
Sound System		-	(6,870)	(6,870)	(6,870)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,594	8,594	8,594
St Mary's Maintenance		-	(12,137)	(12,137)	5,967
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,040
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		82,732	62,432	145,164	157,332
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	20,054	32,804
CBF Deposit Account 1D	-	5,070
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,647	2,636
CBF Deposit Account 5D	-	293
CBF Deposit Account 6D	-	5,041
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,096	4,078
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	81,669	74,109
CBF Investment Account 3J	36,698	33,301
Total Current Assets	<u>145,164</u>	<u>157,332</u>
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	74,405	82,345
Designated Funds	8,327	6,635
Restricted Funds	62,432	68,352
	<u>145,164</u>	<u>157,332</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 31 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Resources Used

Grants

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Fund	Fund	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	30,492	-	30,492	20,166
Other Offerings	19,692	-	19,692	32,311
Plate and Special Collections	1,059	-	1,059	6,333
Income Tax Recoverable	16,890	2,417	19,307	38,146
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	68,133	2,417	70,550	96,956
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	3,633	282	3,915	6,746
Grants:- Recurring	2,750	-	2,750	21,786
Other	33,457	114,932	148,389	65,536
Legacies	10,350	-	10,350	2,000
Wall Box Donations	-	-	-	183
One Off Gifts	2,546	-	2,546	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	52,736	115,214	167,950	96,251
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	1,817	-	1,817	5,140
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	2,119	-	2,119	11,061
Church Hall Lettings	4,276	15	4,291	9,480
Magazine Sales and Advertising	459	-	459	427
Rent form Land and Buildings	1,832	-	1,832	1,245
Sale of Assets	-	-	-	32
St Marys Contribution	8,748	-	8,748	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	19,251	15	19,266	27,385
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	19	50	69	130
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	140,139	117,696	257,835	220,722
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	2019 £
3. Resources Used				
Activities Directly Relating to the Work of the Church				
<i>General</i>				
Parish Share	82,858	-	82,858	79,610
Mission and Grants	1,819	250	2,069	5,594
Fundraising Costs	786	-	786	44
Clergy Expenses	2,044	-	2,044	3,182
Cleaning	128	104	232	824
Upkeep of Services	2,279	91	2,370	14,095
Bookstall	18	-	18	-
Assistant Staff Costs	432	-	432	2,232
Training	-	-	-	259
Church Yard	-	-	-	173
Organ Repairs	-	-	-	588
Bank Charges	302	-	302	468
Education	478	-	478	-
<i>Church Expenses</i>				
Insurance	6,800	6,454	13,254	10,272
Light and Heat	3,770	1,357	5,127	5,983
Repairs and Maintenance	1,503	2,209	3,712	7,350
Choir and Organist Pay	5,997	174	6,171	10,861
Salaries	9,148	-	9,148	12,354
<i>Support Costs</i>				5,856
Administration Costs	2,185	-	2,185	
Equipment	550	-	550	
Rental of Equipment	1,988	-	1,988	
Professional Fees	300	-	300	
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,677	-	1,677	1,868
Insurance	980	-	980	919
Repairs and Maintenance	1,003	-	1,003	926
Cleaning and Sundries	3,661	-	3,661	4,015
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	-	16,783	16,783	54,566
Major Repairs – Installations	23,580	4,705	28,285	4,323
New Building – Church	(382)	94,929	94,547	4,689
Rectory	-	-	-	907
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	153,904	127,056	280,960	231,958
	=====	=====	=====	=====

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST JOHN & ST MARY
DEVIZES**

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

for the year ended 31 December 2020

Incumbent
Interregnum

Bank
Lloyds Bank
Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

Independent Examiner
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

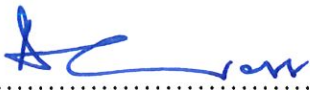
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Mrs A M Cross FCCA
The Alanbrookes Group Ltd
T/A JS Weeks & Co
10 Market Place
Devizes
Wiltshire
SN10 1HT

31 March 2021

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2020

I N D E X

Page

1 - 2 Statement of Financial Activities

3 Balance Sheet

4 - 6 Notes to the Financial Statements

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2020 £	2019 £
Incoming Resources					
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	68,133	2,417	70,550	96,956
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2b	52,736	115,214	167,950	96,251
Income from Charitable & Ancillary Trading	2c	19,251	15	19,266	27,385
Income from Investments	2d	19	50	69	130
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources		<u>140,139</u>	<u>117,696</u>	<u>257,835</u>	<u>220,722</u>
 Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	153,904	127,056	280,960	231,958
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Resources Used		<u>153,904</u>	<u>127,056</u>	<u>280,960</u>	<u>231,958</u>
 Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources					
		(13,765)	(9,360)	(23,125)	(11,236)
Transfers Between Funds		(43)	43	-	-
 Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised increase in value		7,560	3,397	10,957	19,667
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Net Movement in Funds		(6,248)	(5,920)	(12,168)	8,431
Total Funds Brought Forward		<u>88,980</u>	<u>68,352</u>	<u>157,332</u>	<u>148,901</u>
		-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Funds Carried Forward		<u>82,732</u>	<u>62,432</u>	<u>145,164</u>	<u>157,332</u>
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES – CONTINUED

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds	
				2020 £	2019 £
Total Funds Carried Forward At 31 December 2020		82,732	62,430	145,162	157,332
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Represented by:-					
Unrestricted					
General Funds		74,405	-	74,405	82,345
Designated Funds					
Choir Fund		40	-	40	-
Devizes Municipal Charities		1,243	-	1,243	-
Faith in the Future		1,678	-	1,678	1,678
Omnes ad Unum		20	-	20	-
Opportunities for Prayer		38	-	38	38
Parish Room Maintenance		777	-	777	788
Rectors Mission Fund		4,531	-	4,531	4,131
Restricted Funds					
Bells Appeal		-	38,629	38,629	35,219
Choir Fund		-	466	466	592
Church Building Fund		-	5,310	5,310	5,291
Organ Fund		-	4,859	4,859	4,817
Quinquennial (Glanville)		-	21,180	21,180	12,342
Sound System		-	(6,870)	(6,870)	(6,870)
St Mary's Organ		-	8,594	8,594	8,594
St Mary's Maintenance		-	(12,137)	(12,137)	5,967
Sunday School		-	360	360	360
Way Ahead Fund		-	2,041	2,041	2,040
		-----	-----	-----	-----
		82,732	62,432	145,164	157,332
		=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

BALANCE SHEET

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current and Deposit Bank Accounts		
Lloyds Bank Current Account	20,054	32,804
CBF Deposit Account 1D	-	5,070
CBF Deposit Account 3D	2,647	2,636
CBF Deposit Account 5D	-	293
CBF Deposit Account 6D	-	5,041
CBF Deposit Account 7D	4,096	4,078
Investments at Market Value		
CBF Investment Account 2J	81,669	74,109
CBF Investment Account 3J	36,698	33,301
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	145,164	157,332
	=====	=====
Represented By:-		
Unrestricted Funds	74,405	82,345
Designated Funds	8,327	6,635
Restricted Funds	62,432	68,352
	-----	-----
	145,164	157,332
	=====	=====

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 31 March 2021 and signed on its behalf by

.....
Chairman

.....
Treasurer

The notes on pages 4 to 7 form part of these accounts.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

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

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

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

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

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

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable.

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

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Interest is accounted for when receivable.

Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

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

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Resources Used

Grants

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Church

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

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

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total Funds 2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
2. Incoming Resources				
a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	30,492	-	30,492	20,166
Other Offerings	19,692	-	19,692	32,311
Plate and Special Collections	1,059	-	1,059	6,333
Income Tax Recoverable	16,890	2,417	19,307	38,146
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	68,133	2,417	70,550	96,956
	-----	-----	-----	-----
b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
Donations	3,633	282	3,915	6,746
Grants:- Recurring	2,750	-	2,750	21,786
Other	33,457	114,932	148,389	65,536
Legacies	10,350	-	10,350	2,000
Wall Box Donations	-	-	-	183
One Off Gifts	2,546	-	2,546	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	52,736	115,214	167,950	96,251
	-----	-----	-----	-----
c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
Fund Raising	1,817	-	1,817	5,140
Fees - Marriages and Funerals	2,119	-	2,119	11,061
Church Hall Lettings	4,276	15	4,291	9,480
Magazine Sales and Advertising	459	-	459	427
Rent form Land and Buildings	1,832	-	1,832	1,245
Sale of Assets	-	-	-	32
St Marys Contribution	8,748	-	8,748	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	19,251	15	19,266	27,385
	-----	-----	-----	-----
d. Income from Investments				
Deposit Interest	19	50	69	130
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Incoming Resources	140,139	117,696	257,835	220,722
	=====	=====	=====	=====

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST JOHN & ST MARY, DEVIZES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2020

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Bank Charges	302	-	302	468
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Salaries	9,148	-	9,148	12,354
<i>Support Costs</i>				5,856
Administration Costs	2,185	-	2,185	
Equipment	550	-	550	
Rental of Equipment	1,988	-	1,988	
Professional Fees	300	-	300	
<i>Hall Running Costs</i>				
Light and Heat	1,677	-	1,677	1,868
Insurance	980	-	980	919
Repairs and Maintenance	1,003	-	1,003	926
Cleaning and Sundries	3,661	-	3,661	4,015
<i>Other</i>				
Major Repairs – Structure	-	16,783	16,783	54,566
Major Repairs – Installations	23,580	4,705	28,285	4,323
New Building – Church	(382)	94,929	94,547	4,689
Rectory	-	-	-	907
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	153,904	127,056	280,960	231,958
	=====	=====	=====	=====