

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE
BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Graham Campbell	
	Rosalind Campbell	
	Emily Dean	
	Audrey Kerr-Taylor	
	David Richards	
	Rev. Mike Smith	
	Rev. John Teasdale	
	Charles Hayward	(Appointed 26 April 2023)
	Maxwell Heumann	(Appointed 26 April 2023)
	Helen Barber	
	Rev. James Doo	(Appointed 17 December 2023)
	Timothy Heumann	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
	Jacqueline Barton	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
	Mary Rollinson	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
Charity number	1134217	
Independent examiner	Mitchell Charlesworth	
	24 Nicholas Street	
	Chester	
	CH1 2AU	
Bankers	Virgin Money	
	34 Princess Street	
	Stockport	
	SK1 1RE	

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

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THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing documents (the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules), the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.

In accordance with the requirements of the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956, the PCC cooperates with the ministers in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The main activities of the PCC are:

- the provision of regular public worship that is open to all
- the provision of pastoral work including the visiting of the sick, the elderly and the bereaved
- the teaching of the Christian faith through sermons, small groups, courses for adults, children's meetings and links with the local schools
- the promotion of the Christian faith through various events organised by the PCC
- the support of other charities involved in Christian outreach and development

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

During the year all the 'usual' groups for young ones and not-so-young ones, men, women and children took place. Evenings, breakfasts, days away and weekends away. We said goodbye to family members, at funerals, and welcomed new family members at baptisms and weddings.

Missionary

Support

The Missionary Strategy Group comprises the Vicar, Minister of Christ Church, Churchwardens plus a missionary supporter from each church. The group makes recommendations to PCC about missionaries to support and to what financial level and duration.

Regular information about our mission partners is communicated through the monthly Missionary Prayer News update. Each church's website has a section with information about our mission partners. We make a point of praying for our missionaries at our regular church prayer meetings and during our Sunday services.

In total, we donated £45,806 to missionary organisations in 2023.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reserves and financial review

The Trustees have considered the advice provided by the Charity Commission in their note CC19. We believe that a prudent level of reserves is approximately a month to six weeks cash outflow to allow sufficient working amounts in the current accounts at both St. John's and Christ Church.

During 2019, we started a 5-year strategy to build an additional 'Staffing Reserve' for future hiring requirements, and this continued throughout 2020 and the first half of 2021. This reserve was to minimise and spread the required increases in planned giving in the following years. As a result of this strategy, cash at the end of 2023 was higher than normal and was also exceptionally high due to an unexpected large gift (of almost £67,000). Jon Teasdale joined us as Associate Vicar for St John's in July 2021. With Jon's arrival our parish share increased (Jon, like other clergy, is an office holder whose stipend is paid by the Diocese) and the Staffing Reserve (which reached £60,000 by June 2021, but had reduced to £12,000 at December 2023) has been used to offset the additional amount of parish share. Nathan Heeb, who joined the team as our Youth Worker in December 2020, made a valuable contribution to the work during his time with us, but he left in July 2023 and we haven't been able to recruit a replacement as yet, which has meant that we have unexpectedly saved money on his salary, thus increasing our cash reserves at the end of 2023.

During the spring of 2021, we unexpectedly received an influx of people from Hong Kong, who had relocated to mid-Cheshire following the additional restrictions imposed by the Chinese Authorities. The PCC agreed to employ one of their number, Lewis Li, who is undertaking theological training, as a lay minister to the Cantonese speaking members of the congregation. To manage the financial risk, Lewis was employed initially on a temporary one year contract, but this was made permanent in 2022. We have already received generous gifts supporting this work and in 2023, we received a further donation of £6,000 - half of which is to contribute to Lewis' ministry and half to support another member of staff. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless this work financially.

The charity's main income is from planned (regular) giving and associated Gift Aid tax refunds. This comes from around 130 givers at St John's and 50 at Christ Church. A sudden cessation of income is therefore unlikely. In the event of a shortfall, the Trustees will seek to increase income by holding a gift day. Expenditure could also be reduced by postponing capital expenditure, reducing staff levels, withholding parish share (a voluntary payment) or reducing the amount donated to Missionary Societies (a discretionary payment). Our reserve gives adequate time for the trustees to assess any situation and take appropriate action. Since the end of the Covid restrictions as life has returned to normal, plate income and fees have recovered, and the use (and hence income) of the Centre has increased.

The PCC's primary income is Gift Aided planned giving, this was unaffected by the pandemic, but has remained static in spite of inflation, probably due to the cost of living crisis.

The huge rise in energy costs since the start of 2022 has put a considerable strain on our finances during 2023, and we are monitoring these costs closely and investigating ways of reducing energy consumption.

Looking forward to 2024, the Minister and Christ Church Committee have informed the PCC of their intention to leave the Church of England and hence leave the parish of St John The Baptist, following the decision of the Church of England to introduce prayers for the blessing of same-sex couples who enter a civil marriage. They will set up a separate charity and continue their ministry as an Anglican church under the auspices of the Anglican Mission in England. This will mean a significant drop in both the Income and Expenditure of the parish, but the Trustees are confident that St John's will continue to be financially viable and will be able to continue its work in the whole parish and to continue to support our mission partners. Those Trustees from Christ Church who will be leaving are also confident that the new charity will be financially viable and will thrive in its mission.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial Commentary

The PCC had another highly unusual and challenging financial year in 2023, but, by God's grace and through the recovery of donations and rental income from the Church Centre, described in the previous section, we were able to meet our commitments to ministry in the parish (including ministry to newcomers from Hong Kong), support our Mission Partners and to finance the ordained ministry by use of the Staffing Reserve.

Planned Giving at the two churches, the PCC's main source of income, remained largely unchanged as noted in the section above. Following the end of Covid restrictions, life has returned to normal, and plate collections, fees and income from the Church Centre have recovered to pre-Covid levels. A Gift Day at St John's raised around £5,000, and because of these donations, together with some generous one-off gifts to Christ Church, the PCC was able to achieve all its financial targets. In addition, in November 2023, the PCC received an unexpected gift of almost £67,000, with no restrictions on its use, but the donor requested that some of the money be used to reduce the amount outstanding on the Church Centre mortgage – so half the gift has been allocated to the Centre Project Fund.

During 2023, one of our parishioners, Dr Ruth Port, very sadly died and bequeathed her house to the PCC, either for use by the PCC or to be sold and the proceeds to be used to support youth work, with a small proportion being used to repay some of the loan outstanding on the Church Centre mortgage. After some discussion, the PCC decided to take the second option. The estate received probate just before Christmas, and the house is now in the hands of an estate agent.

Reserves policy

The PCC's undesignated and unrestricted cash balances at December 2023 were £119,872 (2022: £121,017). The total cash balances including Designated, Restricted and Endowment Funds amounted to £194,165 (2022: £166,739). The main areas of PCC expenditure are Parish Share, the payment of staff salaries, the support of mission and relief agencies, the maintenance of properties, plus rent and mortgage payments, and since 2022, the increased energy costs of heating and lighting our 3 buildings. In addition, £8,000 of General Funds was used to pay part of the mortgage on St John's Church Centre and £33,500 of the unexpected gift transferred to the Centre Project Fund.

The PCC has a non-contributory pension scheme which is a Defined Benefit Scheme run by the Church of England Pensions Board. It is auto-enrolment compliant and the permanent staff were auto-enrolled into this scheme in July 2016 in compliance with the appropriate legislation. There is no liability for a deficit at the moment for the Pension Scheme.

Regular giving towards the repayment of the loans on St John's Church Centre continued to be received. Gifts received during the year were £18,694 plus £4,271 tax refund on Gift Aided donations. In addition, the PCC General Fund subsidised the mortgage repayments by £8,000 and the PCC allocated £33,500 of the unexpected donation to this Project. All congregational loans have now been repaid, leaving the mortgage loan with Virgin Money (previously Yorkshire Bank). The outstanding balance at 31 December 2023 was £147,045 (2022: £167,564). The restricted balance in the Church Centre Project Fund in December 2023 was £41,554 (2022: £8,208).

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Future Plans

The Charity's objective is to preach the Gospel, and we plan to do this by:

- ministering to the people of Hartford and Greenbank
- supporting Mission Partners both in the UK and overseas
- further developing links with local schools and colleges
- developing and resourcing new opportunities for Christian outreach as they arise

These plans are reviewed regularly by the PCC through the work of its sub-committees.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Structure, governance and management

The PCC is a corporate body. Its governing documents are the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended and the Church Representation Rules. PCC members are recruited in a number of ways. The clergy and churchwardens are members by virtue of their office. General Synod and Diocesan Synod members are also ex-officio PCC members. Deanery Synod representatives and elected lay PCC members are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM, also referred to informally as AGM) and hold office for three years.

PCC members and Deanery Synod representatives are elected from both churches in the parish. At the APCM in April 2013 a resolution was passed to divide the elected places on Deanery Synod and PCC between St John's and Christ Church according to the ratio between attendance in the two churches, using a sample month each year.

At the APCM in October 2020, the size of the PCC was reduced to reflect the increased importance of the church sub-committees.

'From the next APCM, the total number of elected lay representatives to the Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist Hartford and Christ Church Greenbank shall be 9, consisting of 6 from St John's and 3 from Christ Church'.

At the first meeting of a newly elected PCC, members are reminded that they are Charity Trustees and are given a brief summary of their duties. On election each Trustee completes a Statement of Trustee's Interests and a Register of Trustees' Interests is kept.

PCC Sub-committees

In addition to the PCC, we manage the activities of the parish using PCC sub-committees.

The Standing Committee has delegated powers to make decisions between PCC meetings, subject to keeping the PCC informed.

There are two church sub-committees – St John's Committee and Christ Church Committee. Each committee comprises the clergy, those members of the PCC who worship at each respective church plus additional members who may be co-opted for one year.

There is one Missionary Strategy Group, operating across both churches. The PCC retains full financial decision-making powers but where possible other decisions are delegated to the relevant church committee.

- Standing Committee
- St John's Committee
- Christ Church Committee
- Missionary Strategy Group

Each church may establish further local sub-committees as required.

Senior Management Personnel

At the report date, and throughout the period, the senior personnel and administrative team included the following individuals:

Mike Smith – Vicar

Jon Teasdale – Associate Vicar

Dimitri Alldridge – Minister of Christ Church Greenbank

Jackie Barton – Church Administrator (retired September 2023)

Graham Sunners – Operations Administrator

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Rev. Dimitri Alldridge	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Rev. George Agar	(Resigned 25 August 2023)
Ian Barton	(Resigned 26 April 2023)
Graham Campbell	
Andre Bulbeck	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Rosalind Campbell	
Barry Chidlow	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Emily Dean	
Simon Greatrex	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Danny Greaves	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Audrey Kerr-Taylor	
David Richards	
Rev. James Robson	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Rev. Mike Smith	
Catherine Yevseyev	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Fiona Hughes	(Resigned 29 August 2023)
David King	(Resigned 24 April 2024)
Caroline Mackenzie	(Resigned 26 April 2023)
Helen Small	(Resigned 26 April 2023)
Rev. John Teasdale	
Charles Hayward	(Appointed 26 April 2023)
Maxwell Heumann	(Appointed 26 April 2023)
Helen Barber	
Rev. James Doo	(Appointed 17 December 2023)
Timothy Heumann	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
Jacqueline Barton	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
Mary Rollinson	(Appointed 24 April 2024)

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Graham Campbell

Trustee

Dated: 24 September 2024



Rev. Mike Smith

Trustee

Dated: 24 September 2024

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Hartford, Chester Diocese (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Robert Hall, FCA
Mitchell Charlesworth

24 Nicholas Street
Chester
CH1 2AU

Dated: 27/9/24

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes					
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	506,683	26,840	-	533,523	501,442
Charitable activities	4	39,301	5,332	-	44,633	50,639
Investments	5	5,369	52	142	5,563	2,078
Other income	6	17,536	5,186	-	22,722	13,047
Total income and endowments		568,889	37,410	142	606,441	567,206
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	545,889	21,184	-	567,073	583,367
Other expenditure	12	17,536	-	-	17,536	3,432
Total expenditure		563,425	21,184	-	584,609	586,799
Net income/(expenditure)		5,464	16,226	142	21,832	(19,593)
Transfers between funds		(20,997)	20,997	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	9	(15,533)	37,223	142	21,832	(19,593)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 January 2023		1,286,522	14,295	4,421	1,305,238	1,324,831
Fund balances at 31 December 2023		1,270,989	51,518	4,563	1,327,070	1,305,238

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	474,850	26,592	-	501,442
Charitable activities	4	44,318	6,321	-	50,639
Investments	5	1,948	73	57	2,078
Other income	6	7,793	5,254	-	13,047
Total income and endowments		528,909	38,240	57	567,206
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	552,297	31,070	-	583,367
Other expenditure	12	3,432	-	-	3,432
Total expenditure		555,729	31,070	-	586,799
Net income/(expenditure)		(26,820)	7,170	57	(19,593)
Transfers between funds		12,052	(12,052)	-	-
Net movement in funds	9	(14,768)	(4,882)	57	(19,593)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		1,301,290	19,177	4,364	1,324,831
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		1,286,522	14,295	4,421	1,305,238

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	1,355,209	1,385,625
Current assets			
Debtors	15	10,636	12,201
Cash at bank and in hand		192,744	166,739
		<u>203,380</u>	<u>178,940</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(34,308)	(37,240)
Net current assets		<u>169,072</u>	<u>141,700</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,524,281</u>	<u>1,527,325</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(197,211)	(222,087)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>1,327,070</u>	<u>1,305,238</u>
Net assets		<u><u>1,327,070</u></u>	<u><u>1,305,238</u></u>
The funds of the charity			
Endowment funds	20	4,563	4,421
Restricted income funds	21	51,518	14,295
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,270,989</u>	<u>1,286,522</u>
		<u>1,327,070</u>	<u>1,305,238</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 25 March 2024



Graham Campbell
Trustee



Rev. Mike Smith
Trustee

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations			46,011		2,627
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(693)		(359)	
Investment income received		5,563		2,078	
Net cash generated from investing activities			4,870		1,719
Financing activities					
Repayment of bank loans		(24,876)		(24,249)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(24,876)		(24,249)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			26,005		(19,903)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			166,739		186,642
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			192,744		166,739

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St John the Baptist, Hartford, Chester Diocese is an unincorporated charity registered in England and Wales. The primary correspondence address is St John's Church Centre, School Lane, Hartford, Northwich, CW8 1NP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956, the Church Representation Rules, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Charitable Activities

The Charity has only one charitable activity, therefore all governance costs have been allocated to support costs.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	50 years or shown at original purchase price, not depreciated
Fixtures, furniture and equipment	Between 3 and 5 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.6 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and gifts	502,433	26,840	529,273	474,850	26,592	501,442
Legacies receivable	4,250	-	4,250	-	-	-
	<u>506,683</u>	<u>26,840</u>	<u>533,523</u>	<u>474,850</u>	<u>26,592</u>	<u>501,442</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Sale of goods	5,355	5,332	10,687	5,695	6,321	12,016
Other income	33,946	-	33,946	38,623	-	38,623
	<u>39,301</u>	<u>5,332</u>	<u>44,633</u>	<u>44,318</u>	<u>6,321</u>	<u>50,639</u>

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Interest on PCC funds	5,369	52	142	5,563	1,948	73	57	2,078

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Donations to be sent to other charities	17,536	-	17,536	7,793	-	7,793
Parochial fees collection for diocese	-	3,209	5,186	-	5,254	5,254
Sundry income	-	1,977	-	-	-	-
	<u>17,536</u>	<u>5,186</u>	<u>22,722</u>	<u>7,793</u>	<u>5,254</u>	<u>13,047</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Direct costs		
Depreciation and impairment	31,109	31,921
Donations to Mission and Relief Agencies	45,806	62,050
Costs of Charitable Activities within the Parish	440,000	395,528
Support Costs in support of Charitable Activities	35,184	76,770
Support Costs	14,974	17,098
	<u>567,073</u>	<u>583,367</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	545,889	552,297
Restricted funds	21,184	31,070
	<u>567,073</u>	<u>583,367</u>

8 Independent Examiner's Remuneration

The amount payable to the Independent Examiner totaled £1,938 (2022: £2,184).
This total can be analysed as follows:
Independent Examination fees - £1,938 (2022: £1,764).
Fees for other work - £Nil (2022: £420).

9 Net movement in funds

	2023 £	2022 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>31,109</u>	<u>31,921</u>

10 Trustees

Expenses amounting to £10,408 were paid to 3 Trustees (2022 - Expenses amounting to £7,917 were paid to 3 Trustees).

The main expenses incurred were car travel, public transport, purchase of theological books, telephone/mobile/internet costs, attendance at conferences & training courses and computer hardware & software.

With the exception of those disclosed above and below in Note 27, there were no other disclosable transactions in respect of PCC members, persons closely connected with them or related parties.

None of the trustees held paid positions within the charity during the time that they were trustees. None of the current trustees of the charity currently hold paid positions.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2023 Number	2022 Number
8	8
<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

The stipendiary clergy are office holders not employees and are paid a stipend through the Diocese, the non-stipendiary clergy receive no remuneration for their service.

12 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Donations sent to other charities	17,536	3,432
	<u>17,536</u>	<u>3,432</u>

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures, furniture and equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	1,747,215	79,248	1,826,463
Additions	-	693	693
At 31 December 2023	1,747,215	79,941	1,827,156
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2023	362,633	78,205	440,838
Depreciation charged in the year	30,563	546	31,109
At 31 December 2023	393,196	78,751	471,947
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2023	1,354,019	1,190	1,355,209
At 31 December 2022	1,384,582	1,043	1,385,625

15 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	10,336	11,057
Prepayments and accrued income	300	1,144
	10,636	12,201

16 Loans and overdrafts

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	221,611	246,487
Payable within one year	24,400	24,400
Payable after one year	197,211	222,087

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	16	24,400	24,400
Deferred income	19	-	1,803
Trade creditors		9,908	11,037
		<u>34,308</u>	<u>37,240</u>

Bank loans include mortgages totalling £24,400 (2022 - £24,400) which are secured against properties held within fixed assets.

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	16	<u>197,211</u>	<u>222,087</u>

Bank loans include mortgages totalling £197,211 (2022 - £222,087) which are secured against properties held within fixed assets.

19 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Arising from Amounts received in 2022 relating to 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>1,803</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>1,803</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 January 2023	1,803	-
Released from previous periods	(1,803)	-
Resources deferred in the year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,803</u>
Deferred income at 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>1,803</u>

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

20 Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the assets form part of the fund.

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	At 31 December 2023 £
Permanent endowments	4,421	142	4,563

Previous year:	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	At 31 December 2022 £
Permanent endowments	4,364	57	4,421

21 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
	14,295	37,410	(21,184)	20,997	51,518
Previous year:	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
	19,177	38,240	(31,070)	(12,052)	14,295

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

22 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2023 £
General funds	1,286,522	568,889	(563,425)	(20,997)	1,270,989
Previous year:	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 December 2022 £
General funds	1,301,290	528,909	(555,729)	12,052	1,286,522

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:				
Tangible assets	1,355,209	-	-	1,355,209
Current assets/(liabilities)	112,991	51,518	4,563	169,072
Long term liabilities	(197,211)	-	-	(197,211)
	1,270,989	51,518	4,563	1,327,070
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
At 31 December 2022:				
Tangible assets	1,385,625	-	-	1,385,625
Current assets/(liabilities)	122,984	14,295	4,421	141,700
Long term liabilities	(222,087)	-	-	(222,087)
	1,286,522	14,295	4,421	1,305,238

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, HARTFORD, CHESTER DIOCESE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

24 Pensions

The PCC participates in the Pension Builder Classic Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the PCC and the other participating employers.

25 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	-	20,000
	=====	=====

26 Events after the reporting date

Details of events after the reporting period can be seen in the Trustees report. These subsequent events are deemed to be non-adjusting events.

27 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity received total donations of £64,861 (2022: £49,737) from the trustees. All donations received from the trustees were received without conditions.