



The Parish of St Matthew and St Nathanael, Bristol

**ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**  
*Registered Charity Number 1134719*

**THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF  
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEW AND ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL  
(REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT AS 'ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH' OR 'ST MATTHEW'S')**

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**THE VISION OF ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH**

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St Matthew's Bristol - Welcoming, vibrant and serving the community; God's love in action.

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**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT**

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St Matthew's benefits the local and wider community by:

1. Providing Christian religious worship services through regular services each Sunday and special services during different seasons (Harvest, Remembrance, Bereavement services) and at times of celebration (e.g. Lent, Easter, Christmas etc) and providing regular live-streamed online worship on Sundays and at other times.
2. Providing resources for moral, spiritual and intellectual development for its members and anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers
3. Enabling Christians to be able to give to, and practically support their local community through a broad range of activities organised by the church. These include: Sunday Club, youth group, refugee support, pre-school playgroups, home groups, prayer groups, community events, social outreach, arts events etc
4. Allowing third party organisations to use church buildings and facilities where and when possible, to run activities that help build a healthier community, including: toddlers, Brownies, Guides, choirs, local interest groups, work with ex-prisoners and environmental groups
5. Providing weddings, funerals and baptisms
6. Providing a place for prayer and support

The Trustees (Parochial Church Council referred to below as 'the PCC') are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in *The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit* and have had regard to it in their administration of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's.

The Trustees believe that this report, taken as a whole, provides further evidence that St Matthew's work in 2024 furthered its charitable purposes for the public benefit.

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## THE TRUSTEES

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The Trustees of St Matthew's Church are the PCC, which has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting the whole work of the Church in the ecclesiastical parish. The PCC is governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation, called Measures. These are the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969, as amended)

### PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. After the APCM, the following served as members (normal retirement is at the APCM in the year stated, unless otherwise shown):

Incumbent	Rev Ian Tomkins (Chairman)	
Other Clergy	Revd Richard Pendlebury (Associate Minister) Revd Juliet Dellow (Curate)	
Churchwardens	Mr Timothy Mizen (from May 2024) Ms Alison Edmonds (from May 2021)	
Representatives on the Diocesan Synod	Rev Ian Tomkins Mr Simon Pugh-Jones	City Deanery clergy member Chair of the Diocesan DAC
Representatives on the Deanery Synod	Mr Fabian Breckels Ms Laura Protheroe	from April 2019 from April 2019
Elected members	Mr Gregory Allen Ms Melanie Bunce Mrs Gael Browne Mr Kyle Douglas Mr Kevin Froud Mr Richard Graham Mr Andrew Hogg Mrs Emily Lissaman Mr Philip May Mrs Mary Parsons Ms Elaine Siu	from May 2025 from May 2023 from May 2024 until May 2025 from May 2025 from May 2024 from May 2023, resigned during 2024 from May 2023 from May 2025 from May 2024 from September 2020 until May 2025 from May 2024
	Mr David Fraser (Treasurer)	from May 2023
PCC Secretary	Ms Julia Wright	from May 2023
Associate Minister	Revd Richard Pendlebury (Non stipendiary, part-time)	
Licensed Lay Minister	Helen Aberdeen - (Non-stipendiary, part-time)	
Banks	National Westminster Bank plc, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP	
Independent Examiner:	Joshua Kingston ACA, Burton Sweet Limited The Clock Tower, 5 Farleigh Court, Old Weston Road, Flax Bourton Bristol BS48 1UR	

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## THE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

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The full PCC met 6 times during 2024, with an average attendance of 13.

The PCC operates through a number of sub-committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC. All these teams report to, and are overseen by, the PCC.

**Standing Committee:** It has the authority to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The Standing Committee consists of the vicar, the churchwardens, and three members of the PCC, and also met 4 times in 2024.

**Missions Committee:** It coordinates the church's support to its mission partners. As well as sending financial support, it aims to keep in touch with their news, writes to them, and prays for them on a regular basis. The group also promotes awareness of mission in the church by keeping the congregation up to date with news and encouraging members of the church who sense a calling to mission.

**Playgroup Management Committee:** It has responsibility for the management of the St Matthew's Playgroup on behalf of the PCC.

**Buildings Committee:** It works with the vicar and churchwardens in the co-ordination and implementation of the care of the fabric of the church building and grounds including oversight of the audio-visual and computer equipment.

**The Eco—Group Committee** was commissioned by the PCC with terms of reference. The Eco Group mission is to celebrate and care for God's creation, and to implement and promote sustainable practices within the St. Matthew's Church Community and in the wider neighbourhood in accordance with St Matthew's vision, to be Christ's church, that is welcoming, vibrant and serving the community: a witness to God's in action, all underpinned by the pillars of our discipleship, outreach, service, as a community of grace and gentleness.

**Staff Team:** The staff team comprises:

- The Vicar, Rev Ian Tomkins
- Associate Minister, Revd Richard Pendlebury (honorary position)
- Curate, Rev Juliet Dellow
- Licensed Lay Minister, Helen Aberdeen
- Church Administrator, Julia Wright

The staff team meets weekly on Monday mornings and the ministers meet every two weeks on Tuesdays.

The vicar also meets with the churchwardens, and the Standing Committee, with the treasurer, and meets on alternate months during the year.

**Growth:** The PCC is seeking to encourage growth in faith and numbers, through encountering and entering a relationship with Jesus Christ, by bible teaching, discipleship and a foundation of prayer, and encouraging the church family in Christian service in the church, their communities and in their daily lives.

2024 was another encouraging year. Steady growth in numbers and diversity continued, as did proactive engagement with our local parish community. The Friday Life Group Community continued to thrive, originally formed for those from Hong Kong, but now also welcoming others from the local community.

We continue to provide an English Conversation Group every Tuesday lunchtime, for those for whom English is not their first language.

Regular live-streamed services every Sunday morning, and also at other special services, has now become well-established, and is increasingly valued. It is viewed both by those enquiring about

church, as well as church members who are unable to come to church, whether through illness, or being away from home. It also has regular online visitors. Pastoral care for all those in special need continues, with the continued operation of our organized pastoral care network, looking outwards to the community. This is moving into a further phase of development and structuring.

Services in church have continued to grow encouragingly, at our weekly Sunday flagship 10.30am service, and attendances at Easter, Harvest and Christmas seasonal services.

Ministries to children, families and youth have continued, with church members taking on responsibilities, while we are currently without a children and families' minister. We still aspire to recruit and appoint an outreach minister for this vital area of ministry.

Our vision, to be **'Welcoming, Vibrant and Serving the community, with a focus on Discipleship, Outreach and Service'**, is at the heart of what we seek to do, all with a **Foundation of Prayer**.

Our prayer and planning in 2024 continued to embed this vision. A **'Welcome'** of grace, gentleness and openness for all, and our endeavours to practice this, and is resulting in many more visitors and new church members. The **'Vibrancy'** of St Matthew's grows, with more diversity in age range, cultural and social background. We are seeing a steady increase in attendance by younger adults seeking faith.

We continue to **Serve our community** as we can, with open gardens the ministry of the pre-school, social and community events, and pastoral care.

Our Eco-Group continues to oversee the regular opening of our gardens for the local community, and the development of the Wildlife Garden. With this clear and visible renewal of our church attendance, engagement with the local community and community activities, we continue into the future with sustained confidence and hope

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## **Worshipping and Deepening Discipleship Report**

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As a church we continue to focus on the vision:

*'St Matthew's: Welcoming, vibrant and serving the community - God's love in action'.*

Our vision recognizes continuing changes in society and church life over recent years, with the deepening relationships with our local parish community building bridges and opening new and imaginative ways to serve, alongside existing and established ministry pattern's. The key pillars of church life - Discipleship, Outreach and Service to the Community give us focus for all activities and ministry, reminding us that it is only by God's grace that we help build the Kingdom of God, and introduce Jesus to others, by the way we live and serve our neighbour.

In 2024, our Alpha Course continued, with a very encouraging Alpha in the Spring. This was the first time that we combined together English speaking and Cantonese speaking groups at Alpha, with everyone eating together and then splitting into the two groups for the film and discussion. This format also encouraged relationship and friendship building.

Easter and Holy Week were again very uplifting and encouraging, with the with beautiful services and steadily increasing attendance.

We continued to give pastoral support to those on their own, and those without access to online worship, with visits, home communion and other help where we can. We encourage our discipleship practices in all, with an outward looking focus of care and looking out for others.

Throughout the year, we engage with families through the Tuesday toddlers and parents / carers ministry, 'Kings Kids', using the outside gardens as much as possible. Kings Kids is becoming increasingly valued and appreciated across the community, with families beginning to come to special services and church events.

'Stay & Play', the shared ministry with E5 church in Stokes Croft, continues to serve in this part of the parish.

Outside summer community events continued in the church gardens, a Spring Fair and Harvest Fiesta being organised by the St Matthew's Eco team, and growing in appreciation and attendance by the parish community.

St Matthew's again hosted a November Community Fireworks, with hotdogs and hot chocolate. This event is hosted mainly by the church members who support children and youth ministry, and is becoming a hugely attended and appreciated local event.

St Matthew's Church again hosted the local Kingsdown community Fair in the building and gardens, and this again was an example of our church serving the community and being at the heart of community.

At Easter and Christmas, the services programme again included outside carols (which became 'inside carols' due to the weather!) at the beginning of Advent. This continues big growth in popularity, with many more students, young adults and families coming.

In the autumn and the approach to Christmas, as usual, St Matthew's prepared for and promoted through invitations delivered to all local households, with details of services and events, including the invitation to Alpha.

### **Worship**

In 2024, our worship in church continued encouragingly, especially with more visitors and new members. We maintained online services through weekly live-streaming of the Sunday 10.30am service. We continued to offer special services, including a Bereavement service, Ash Wednesday, and a full festival programme. Music involves many of the church family of all ages, playing and singing, as well as continued use of our organ.

We introduced a new monthly morning service, on the 4th Sunday of the month, called '**All Together Amazed**'. At this service, all ages are in together, and we recognise that adults as well as children learn in different ways. Therefore, we offer more creative opportunities, e.g. kin a craft activity after an interactive talk, to focus the message, active prayer (e.g. prayer tree, anointing etc, and creative ways of sharing readings and bible talks.

We remain open and creative, encouraging new ideas and an outward looking vision.

Our preaching continued to be a source of challenge and encouragement, with series on Jonah, 'Questions Jesus asked', and a summer programme to coincide with the Olympic Games called 'Olympics Season: Being an athlete for God'. We also preached on Christian stewardship, the environment, Advent, Christmas and Easter themes.

We continued to host Trinity College placements students, who play an active and creative role in contributing to and supporting our worship and ministry.

### **Prayer**

Prayer remains a vital and foundational element of church life. Our vision explicitly states that all our ministry is to be underpinned by a 'Foundation of Prayer'.

We maintain a cycle of prayer. We have prayer time before our main Sunday service, and prayer after Sunday services, with further development and training to come with this. We continue to offer opportunities for prayer, encouragements through prayer materials during e.g. Lent and Advent materials and different creative ways of engaging in prayer, especially in our monthly 'All-Together Amazed service.

### **Children's and Youth Work**

The impact of the pandemic on this vital ministry continues, as we seek to sustain what we offer, and re-grow this ministry. We maintained the weekly Sunday morning Sunday Club for children, and keep in touch with St Matts Youth group.

'Kings Kids' pre-school group meets on Tuesday mornings, for toddlers and parents/carers, with in between 30 and 40 children every Tuesday morning in term time. It is increasingly appreciated and popular in the local community, and much valued.

The use of our gardens in the summer continues support for families, with many continuing to meet there in a self-organized capacity during the summer holidays, as they maintain the community grown by Kings Kids during term time. Summer was important for engaging further with local families, with the Spring Fair in May, and the Kingsdown Community Fair.

Our 2024 Harvest Fiesta in September was an event for families and local community, including apple pressing.

Christmas 2024 was very encouraging, with continued growth in attendance. We again participated in the local community Advent Calendar displays, with a large-scale display on Christmas Eve 24 December.

### Midweek Discipleship

Our mid-week groups give an opportunity to share, worship, pray, and learn together. During 2024, there were 5 home groups meeting midweek with around half our regular adult attendees taking part in them. These groups continue, with the addition of development of a post Alpha group focusing on 'The Bible Course', and then encouraging participants into new groups after this.

The monthly group for women, called Gather, which aims to be an informal and relaxed time for women to explore God's heart through worship, creativity, discussion and friendship, continues to meet.

### Attendance Figures

The Church of England assesses the size of the church community by counting the Electoral Roll and Average Sunday Attendance (ASA). ASA is our October average. Figures are set out below.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Electoral Roll	155	141	149	145	110	86	84	91	87	94	95
All Age ASA**	147	129	128	114	93	133	56	89	101	79	89
Adult ASA**	129	108	103	93	80	113	46	75	80	73	81
Child ASA**	18	21	25	21	13	20	10	14	21	6	8

\*Indicates complete renewal of the Electoral Roll

\*\* in 2023, we also continued our live-streamed -services online, which is now a regular feature of main services.

A measure of attendance is usual Sunday attendance. This is calculated by looking at the attendance across the whole year and taking out 'unusual' figures (e.g. Festivals, Baptisms). In addition to the church services in the building, St Matthew's also has a regular viewing audience for its live stream Sunday service. The Electoral roll continued to increase in 2024 as new people joined and average Sunday attendance in church continued to pick up. Festivals also continued to show increases in attendance.

### Festival Attendance

Service	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
Average attendance	Under 16	Adult	Under 16	Adult	Under 16	Adult	Under 16	Adult	Under 16	Adult
Easter Day	-	-	-	-	21	99	17	140	10	134
Carol Services	17	64	8	128	43	150	33	257	39	388

Service	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
Christingle	-	-	37	70	49	123	42	145	55	155
Christmas Day	0	66	7	69	17	100	10	95	11	96

For completeness our occasional office numbers are also set out below.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Baptisms	7	10	2	3	2	0	5	1	3	3	1	2
Confirmations	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Weddings	1	3	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	2
Funerals	3	1	1	2	0	2	2	2	4	4	3	3

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## Church Community Activities Report

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Our vision and aspiration continued to be a church which is **‘Welcoming, Vibrant and Serving our community - God’s love in action’; focusing on Discipleship, Outreach and Service’**.

### Welcome

We continue our priority of developing, living out and sharing a culture of invitation and welcome to our local parish community, and also within the whole congregation, to encourage invitation and welcome of others and encouragement in the life and faith of the Church.

Our Service Wardens and Welcomers in church are trained and equipped, as we seek to share the grace of God in all our welcome, and in 2024, we had an increasing number of visitors to the church, and new members of all ages joining the church.

How better to welcome into a church community. Our continuing Alpha Course provides the opportunity to constantly invite new contacts to explore Christian faith. This remains a key part of our vision process as we look to go deeper in understanding and giving a true and godly welcome to all.

### Small Groups (between 5-12 members)

We continued groups in 2024. Growing new groups and developing the post Alpha group. Each group meets for fellowship, prayer and worship and pastoral support, both for each other, and for others in the church and community. The groups often follow the weekly sermon series in their studies. We are looking at a new group for younger adults, and a Hong Kongers group meets for Bible study.

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care of the church community continues to be led by the vicar and staff team and the small group leaders. Our pastoral care network is organized, to ensure we respond appropriately to any needs here may be. This is aimed at ensuring no one is isolated, and also encourages pastoral care in the community. The first line of pastoral care is through the mid-week groups. The staff team and the pastoral care network also support a number of other individuals in the parish. Pre-wedding, Baptism and Confirmation conversations and visits and preparation continued to be undertaken by the ministry team.

### St Matthew’s Eco Group

St Matthew’s has a passionate concern for and call to care for God’s creation, and to our responsibility as Christians in encouraging this. We participate in the A Rocha Eco-Church scheme, sustaining the Silver award in the programme of working towards becoming carbon neutral, and in our promotion of and care for the environment.

This group is active in the church and also in engaging with our community, e.g. organizing the regular Spring Festival & Plant Sale and the autumn Harvest Fiesta on Harvest Festival weekend. They also develop our beautiful gardens including a wild garden, encouraging wildlife and biodiversity. This group actively seeks to help the church and wider community in our understanding of the critical issues facing our world and how we can all play a part in caring. The group is a sub-committee of the PCC, showing the importance St Matthew's attributes to Christian care for creation.

### **Church Community Social Events**

Community events continued, with new initiatives, all of which were well received by our local community.

On Tuesday afternoons once a month, we now hold 'Open House', which encourages the elderly and anyone seeking 'tea and chat'. This provides different activities, e.g. games, crafts etc.

**Open House** also continues in the summer holidays every Tuesday afternoon, in the beautiful church gardens, welcome in anyone of all ages, locals and visitors, to pop in, have tea and enjoy relaxing together.

After church coffee times on Sundays are popular, with most service attendees staying for considerable time to meet with each other. They are an essential part of our church community relationships and welcome.

The St Matthew's Eco Group organized the **Spring Festival & Plant Sale** in May and the '**Harvest Fiesta**' in the church gardens in September, welcoming locals and visitors of all ages into the church and gardens. We also held the popular annual **Community Fireworks**

The gardens were open all summer for the community. Our church gardens are being very welcomed as a local community resource, especially for the many people who live in flats.

Serving our community and building our community contacts and relationships continues to be an important part of our vision and aims.

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### **Outreach Activities Report**

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Being welcoming, vibrant and serving our community, and a visible presence of God's love in action, by going into the world to make disciples and love our neighbour as ourselves.

#### **St Matthew's Open House - ministry to the elderly and others**

On Tuesday afternoons, once a month, Open House happens in the church hall. This offers friendship, tea and cakes, activities and topical talks, and is establishing itself well in church and community life, all run by faithful St Matthew's volunteers. Open House continued to offer tea and cake in the garden during the summer holiday, every Tuesday afternoon.

#### **Stay and Play**

This ethnically diverse group continued, meeting weekly in The Elim Centre on King Square. It is led by volunteers from St Matthew's and run in partnership with the St Paul's Children's Centre who provide a play specialist to work specifically with the children. St Matthew's volunteers provide chat, tea and cakes for the parents, and this provides an important community resource.

#### **King's Kids**

St Matthew's provides a group for young children and their parents or carers on a weekly basis under the leadership of the vicar and curate, with a great church team. In 2024, this continued to thrive, connecting hugely with the local community families. It is a lively, fun-filled morning and is much appreciated by the locals and families who attend.

### **St Matthew's Playgroup**

St Matthew's PCC runs an OFSTED regulated playgroup that remains popular in the local area. The playgroup is managed by a sub-committee of the PCC. This also provides a huge contribution to the local community. The hugely dedicated team continued to rebuild, providing a vital resource for many in the local communities. It is an Ofsted inspected, '*Outstanding in all areas*' playgroup. In 2024, following challenging times for all pre-school groups nationally, with financial and practical challenges, the PCC initiated a thorough review, which will continue into 2025, looking at the structuring of the groups, finances, and alignment with the vision of the church.

### **Support for Work outside the Parish**

Overseas and home mission continues to be a priority for St Matthew's. The Missions Committee recommends to the PCC the allocation of the Missions budget, which remained at 10% of the giving to the General Fund. In 2024, seven missionaries or societies were supported. Through use of our building and resources we also actively supported a number of locally-based charities including Sisters of the Church (based in St Paul's and serving those in need in the local community) and Friends of Alalay (Santa Cruz) (Children's charity).

### **Other**

Nick Stroud, a member of St Matthew's, continued to be involved with the Ashley House Probation Hostel community liaison and management group.

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## **Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults**

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Our Parish Safeguarding Officer and Administrator for Disclosure and Barring Service (Julia Wright) was available to deal with any concerns and dealt with the applications from those wishing to be involved with vulnerable adults, youth and children's work.

St Matthew's, alongside the Diocese of Bristol, continues to ensure required safeguarding checking, training and practices are sustained, and that the culture and practice of safeguarding are constantly under review and renewal.

Julia Wright continues to be St Matthew's nominated person for Vulnerable Adults.

The Safeguarding policy, which covers Children and Vulnerable adults and children and addresses all areas of safeguarding in line with the Diocese of Bristol's policies, is reviewed by the PCC in October every year, and the policy is reviewed to include and update social media and online operations, as well as taking forward all safer recruitment guidance. The updated St Matthew's Safeguarding Policy can be obtained from our website ([www.stmatthews-bristol.org.uk](http://www.stmatthews-bristol.org.uk)) or from the church office.

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## **Communications**

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Our website ([www.stmatthews-bristol.org.uk](http://www.stmatthews-bristol.org.uk)) continues to be well-used and well-managed.

We support an active Facebook page and Instagram account for St Matthew's church news and information.

Weekly e-bulletins are sent to those who have requested them and all our sermons are available as a podcast. We have also ensured that any not online, remain connected and in receipt of church news, community information, and items of practical and spiritual support.

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## **The Building**

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Following the 2023 Quinquennial Survey, the Building Committee continues to work through what is required. The Architect's Report records that, in summary, the building is structurally sound and generally in good condition

The garden which surrounds the building is also generally in very good order and continues to be regularly used and enjoyed by both the children's playgroup which meets in the building and also by members of the public to whom it remains regularly open during the week and in which a number of successful community events have been held.

During the course of this year the following major works were undertaken:

- The temporary trial of the radiant heater system in the worship space was completed and the new set up was made permanent with the addition of two further 'Halo' heaters to replace the remaining chandeliers. Horizontal strip heaters are to be installed in the side galleries shortly.
- The audio-visual system in the worship space was upgraded, to include, amongst other things, a new laser projector and the switch over from an analogue to a digital based system. The screens are now much brighter, sharper and easier to read even when bright sunshine is streaming through the east window.
- A defibrillator was installed on the outside of the building and training in its use given to a fairly large number of Church members.
- The carpets in the worship space were professionally cleaned and a new industrial size floor cleaning machine was acquired for use on the hard floors downstairs.
- An energy audit was completed, identifying a number of further potential energy saving projects, with the possibility of some diocesan grant funding towards them; these possible projects remain under consideration.
- The front doors were repainted.
- The main roof was checked over by professional contractors and some repair works undertaken.
- Four new external electric sockets were installed at each corner of the building to enable machinery and equipment to be powered outside when required.
- A water leak from a tank in the roof void above the vestry was repaired and the tank was decommissioned to avoid the risk of any future recurrence.
- The pump to the hot water system was removed to reduce unnecessary energy use.
- Preparations were made for essential refurbishment of the church organ.

The Building Committee also began a process of review of the general accessibility of the building for all, including the possible installation of a new lift.

There was also regular ongoing work and maintenance on the building and the garden.

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## Lay and Licensed Ministry in the Parish

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Rev Richard Pendlebury continues at St Matthew's as Associate Minister (self-supporting and part-time).

Rev Juliet Dellow joined St Matthew's as assistant curate in training, following her ordination as Deacon, in July 2024, with the Diocese of Bristol recognising St Matthew's as a good training environment

Helen Aberdeen continues as Licensed Lay Minister with St Matthew's Church, bringing considerable gifts of preaching and teaching to the church.

They all continued to offer their considerable gifts through preaching, teaching and leading of all ages, and supporting the ministry of the church in many areas.

In addition, the PCC employed one full-time member of staff during 2024. Julia Wright was our part-time Administrator throughout the year.

We are so very thankful to God for a congregation and church family of people who minister in a wide variety of ways both in the church and across the city.

Among them are musicians, intercessors, youth and children's group leaders, vergers, social event organisers, home-group leaders, sacristans, assistants at Communion, cleaners, flower arrangers, pastoral visitors, online and tech editors, buildings experts and others who contributed to the ongoing ministry of the church, by quietly offering acts of service and prayer, and supporting each other during the past challenging pandemic year. They are all very much appreciated.

We are very thankful for all the church community and for the contribution they make to worship and the life of the church, some in public and visible ways, some hidden and unseen.

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## Finance

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2024 saw unrestricted planned giving (standing orders and regular CAF donations) of our donors almost exactly in line with that in 2023 (just 0.6% lower) giving stability of income.

In addition, legacy donations of £97,659 (£2,000 without restrictions and £95,659 with some restrictions) were also received, boosting reserves for future projects. Our designated missionary and charitable giving stayed at similar levels of support to 2023, and our support is based on a policy of 10% of regular giving, excluding one-off gifts and legacies. Our Diocesan Parish Share, given to the Diocese of Bristol, was at a slightly higher level compared to 2023, at £84,593.

Our St Matthew's Playgroup delivered a surplus of £13,600, but no charge was made against this surplus to reflect the use of premises, as in prior years. Trading conditions for all pre-school groups remain challenging where Local Authority fees have remained relatively flat, per child, but labour costs have increased substantially with increases in the National Minimum Wage. The finances of the St Matthew's Playgroup continue to remain under critical review during 2025. Please see the full accounts for more information.

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## Reserves Policy

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The PCC endeavours to carry such Unrestricted General and Designated Reserves as it considers necessary to finance the work of the church over a period between 3 and 6 months. However, it also recognises that its largest outgoing, the Parish Share, is not a contractual obligation, and therefore could be reduced in the event of a material reduction in donated income from members, currently sufficient to maintain this intended commitment.

Because of this flexibility, if necessary, in paying the Parish Share each year, the Trustees believe the charity is a going concern.

Unrestricted General reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 were £27,414, up from £19,546 at December 2023. The PCC's forecast expenditure for 2025 is around £12,700 per month, including a commitment of £5,868 per month for Parish Share, which is not a legally-binding liability.

Therefore, the Unrestricted General reserves represent around 2.2 month's normal expenditure, including Parish Share, before regular standing order income is received. However, Unrestricted Designated reserves totalled £52,604 at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, excluding the Fixed Asset reserve, and these can, at any time, be reallocated by the PCC to Unrestricted General reserves, increasing the cover to 6.3 months of normal expenditure, including Parish Share, which falls above its Reserves policy above, of 3 to 6 months of expected expenditure.

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## **Grant making policy**

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As set out in note 10 to the accounts, the PCC adopts a policy of setting aside 10% of its regular income from donations for the support of mission partners, which further the ministry and charitable objectives of the charity, both in the UK and abroad, and details of these organisations are set out in Note 10. Commitment is given to each mission partner for a period of 4 years, with a review on termination or extension towards the end of the third year, so that at least a year's notice is given of support not continuing. The mission committee receives and considers, and recommends to the PCC, any application for new mission partner funding.

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## **The Future**

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During 2024, the Vicar the Rev Ian Tomkins, together with the ministry team, churchwardens, treasurer and PCC, continued to lead the church family through encouraging times of gentle growth and positive change.

The church community continues to care for each other and serve our local community and our neighbours in creative and imaginative ways. We have seen the blessings of this during 2024, with encouraging growth and wider engagement - all bringing us closer to this community, and helping us reconnect together.

Our church vision continues to be our foundation, to love the Lord our God, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

2024 was another very encouraging year, with so much to be thankful for.

Opportunity and challenges of course remain, including the financial pressures on individuals and church organisations due to continued cost-of-living levels and uncertain economic and political times. But St Matthews is a community in good heart, growing in discipleship, outreach and service, continuing to bless many.

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## **FINALLY**

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This Annual Report is a composite document prepared collaboratively by the officers and members of the PCC, in line with the terms of the Charities Act 2011. We hope that it gives a clear picture of the life of the church and the way in which the PCC has administered the task placed on them as trustees of St Matthew's Church.

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

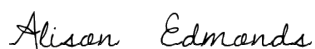
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Parochial Church Council



Tim Mizen  
Churchwarden



Alison Edmonds  
Churchwarden

24th October 2025

## St Matthew's Prayer

*Heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon St. Matthew's. Grant us a new vision of your Glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, a new consecration to your service so that, through our renewed witness your Holy Name may be glorified and your Kingdom advanced, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of PCC of St Matthew and St Nathanael, Bristol**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the PCC of St Matthew and St Nathanael, Bristol ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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.

*Joshua Kingston*

Joshua Kingston ACA  
Burton Sweet Limited  
The Clock Tower  
5 Farleigh Court  
Old Weston Road  
Flax Bourton  
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 24th October 2025

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL**  
Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
For the year ending 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds			TOTAL FUNDS	
		General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and Legacies	2(a) & 2(d)	152,575	3,956	102,400	258,931	185,888
Charitable Activities	2(b) & 2(e)	7,393	99,027	-	106,420	101,515
Investments	2(c) & 2(f)	2	988	1,521	2,511	1,782
TOTAL INCOME		159,970	103,971	103,921	367,862	289,185
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities						
Grants	3(a) & 3(d)	-	14,000	-	14,000	14,000
Activities directly relating to the work of the church	3(b) & 3(e)	118,170	126,446	-	244,616	231,118
Church management & administration	3(c) & 3(f)	18,675	40	-	18,715	18,168
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		136,845	140,486	-	277,331	263,286
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS		23,125	(36,515)	103,921	90,531	25,899
TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS	10	(15,257)	15,257	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		7,868	(21,258)	103,921	90,531	25,899
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY	10	19,546	133,775	17,644	170,965	145,066
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER	10	27,414	112,517	121,565	261,496	170,965

The comparatives funds are shown in note 5

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719**

**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	7	59,913	59,913
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	40,987	15,608
Short term deposits			
CBF - PCC Deposit		19,610	18,622
CBF - Educational Foundation		3,122	2,940
CBF - Mission Fund		13,981	12,641
Cash in Hand		628	-
Co-operative Bank Current Account		80,547	47,955
Playgroup Current Account		46,774	16,269
		<u>205,649</u>	<u>114,035</u>
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,066)	(2,983)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		201,583	111,052
TOTAL		<u><u>261,496</u></u>	<u><u>170,965</u></u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted:			
General	11	27,414	19,546
Designated	11	112,517	133,775
Restricted	11	121,565	17,644
		<u><u>261,496</u></u>	<u><u>170,965</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 24th October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

*Tim Mizen*

Tim Mizen  
Churchwarden

*Alison Edmonds*

Alison Edmonds  
Churchwarden

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention (except where otherwise stated in the accounting policy note) and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: 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) issued in October 2019, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following 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) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The charity is a public benefit entity.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Church's ability to continue as a going concern because over 75% of its unrestricted income is made up of giving by standing order and associated Gift Aid recovered, which reflects an ongoing commitment to continue giving in future. Any future increases to giving may well be impacted by the general cost-of-living increases in the economy, and there are always uncertainties with church members leaving membership of the church.

**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. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

Restricted funds are those given by the donor and specified only to be used for specific purposes.

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 owe their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

**Income**

*Voluntary income and capital sources*

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 the income is recognised.

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

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

*Other ordinary income*

Rental income from the letting of church premises is accounted for when the rental is due.

*Income from investments*

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable.

## **Expenditure**

### *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 related to the work of the Church*

The Diocesan Parish Share is accounted for when payable. Any Parish Share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

### *Governance*

Governance costs represent the expenditure related to statutory requirements such as audit or independent examination and legal advice. They have been included within support costs relating to charitable activities.

## **Assets**

### *Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings*

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.10(2)(c) of the Charities Act 2011.

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 in the SOFA and separately disclosed.

### *Expenditure on the church building*

During 2017 and 2018 the PCC undertook significant improvements to the entrance porch and ground-level hall. The PCC considers that the improvements are of a lasting nature and do not require depreciating. Any repairs to the building are expensed, as incurred.

### *Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment*

Equipment used within the church premises, costing less than £10,000, is expensed in the year in which it is incurred, for clarity. Any equipment above this limit is depreciated on a straight-line basis over 4 years.

### *Investments*

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

### *Current assets*

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

### *Creditors*

Creditors are measured at the settlement amount less any trade discounts.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL**  
Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
For the year ending 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted			TOTAL FUNDS	
	General	Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
	Fund	Funds	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2. INCOME</b>					
2(a) <i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Standing Orders	95,384	-	3,769	99,153	102,061
Envelopes	300	-	-	300	670
CAF donations	7,280	-	-	7,280	7,439
Income tax recoverable on					
Standing Orders, Envelopes,	27,495	-	942	28,437	27,642
and Sundry Donations					
Cash Collections	5,632	-	2,030	7,662	7,791
Legacies	-	2,000	95,659	97,659	-
One-off Donations	16,484	1,956	-	18,440	40,285
	<u>152,575</u>	<u>3,956</u>	<u>102,400</u>	<u>258,931</u>	<u>185,888</u>
2(b) <i>Charitable activities</i>					
Church and Hall lettings	6,615	-	-	6,615	8,665
Fees	778	-	-	778	817
Playgroup	-	99,027	-	99,027	92,033
	<u>7,393</u>	<u>99,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,420</u>	<u>101,515</u>
2(c) <i>Investments</i>					
Dividends and interest	2	988	1,521	2,511	1,782
	<u>2</u>	<u>988</u>	<u>1,521</u>	<u>2,511</u>	<u>1,782</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>159,970</u>	<u>103,971</u>	<u>103,921</u>	<u>367,862</u>	<u>289,185</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	2022 £
<b>2. INCOME (comparatives)</b>					
2(d) <i>Donations and legacies</i>					
Standing Orders	95,798	-	6,263	102,061	108,215
Envelopes	670	-	-	670	368
CAF donations	7,439	-	-	7,439	8,509
Income tax recoverable on Standing Orders, Envelopes, and Sundry Donations	26,076	-	1,566	27,642	29,516
Cash Collections	5,883	-	1,908	7,791	4,341
One-off Donations	3,585	36,700	-	40,285	14,839
	<u>139,451</u>	<u>36,700</u>	<u>9,737</u>	<u>185,888</u>	<u>165,788</u>
2(e) <i>Charitable activities</i>					
Church and Hall lettings	8,665	-	-	8,665	5,045
Fees	817	-	-	817	1,515
Playgroup	-	92,033	-	92,033	89,324
	<u>9,482</u>	<u>92,033</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,515</u>	<u>95,884</u>
2(f) <i>Investments</i>					
Dividends and interest	58	578	1,146	1,782	1,164
	<u>58</u>	<u>578</u>	<u>1,146</u>	<u>1,782</u>	<u>1,164</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u><u>148,991</u></u>	<u><u>129,311</u></u>	<u><u>10,883</u></u>	<u><u>289,185</u></u>	<u><u>262,836</u></u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 £	2023 £
<b>3. EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
3(a) <i>Grants (see note 8)</i>					
Missionary and charitable giving:					
Church overseas					
- missionary societies	-	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
- relief and development agencies	-	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
Home mission & other Church societies	-	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>14,000</u>
3(b) <i>Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</i>					
<i>Ministry:</i>					
Diocesan Parish Share	84,593	-	-	84,593	83,646
Clergy expenses	102	-	-	102	1,195
Sundry Support	10	-	-	10	10
Assistant Staff (Children & Youth work) :					
Salary	-	-	-	-	19,126
Playgroup:					
Salaries	-	83,207	-	83,207	81,762
Other expenses	-	2,220	-	2,220	3,374
<i>Church running expenses:</i>					
Heating and lighting	10,551	-	-	10,551	14,169
Cleaning & domestic	6,311	-	-	6,311	5,305
Insurance	5,750	-	-	5,750	5,562
Church maintenance	5,408	40,296	-	45,704	7,721
<i>Books &amp; publications:</i>					
Books & other materials	109	-	-	109	285
<i>Upkeep of services:</i>					
Music	1,469	-	-	1,469	1,311
Altar & other requisites	251	-	-	251	144
<i>Support costs:</i>					
Training	-	-	-	-	140
Children's & Young People's Work	85	463	-	548	914
Church Events	611	-	-	611	380
Church meals	415	-	-	415	532
PCC Gifts	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	803	260	-	1,063	4,034
<i>Governance costs:</i>					
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,702	-	-	1,702	1,508
	<u>118,170</u>	<u>126,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>244,616</u>	<u>231,118</u>
3(c) <i>Church Management and administration</i>					
Bank Charges	67	-	-	67	86
Printing, stationery and office expenses	1,145	40	-	1,185	906
Telephone	755	-	-	755	947
Sundry Administrative Costs	1,784	-	-	1,784	1,740
Salaries	14,924	-	-	14,924	14,489
	<u>18,675</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,715</u>	<u>18,168</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>136,845</u>	<u>140,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,331</u>	<u>263,286</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2023 £	2022 £
<b>3. EXPENDITURE ON (comparatives)</b>					
<b>3(d) Grants</b>					
Missionary and charitable giving:					
Church overseas					
- missionary societies	-	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
- relief and development agencies	-	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
Home mission & other Church societies	-	6,000	-	6,000	6,088
	<u>-</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>14,088</u>
<b>3(e) Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</b>					
<i>Ministry:</i>					
Diocesan Parish Share	83,646	-	-	83,646	80,097
Incumbent's expenses	1,195	-	-	1,195	876
Sundry Support	10	-	-	10	50
Assistant Staff (Children & Youth work) :					
Salary	10,458	-	8,668	19,126	32,838
<i>Playgroup:</i>					
Salaries	-	81,762	-	81,762	77,097
Other expenses	-	3,374	-	3,374	4,000
<i>Church running expenses:</i>					
Heating and lighting	14,169	-	-	14,169	9,582
Cleaning & domestic	5,305	-	-	5,305	5,424
Insurance	5,562	-	-	5,562	5,194
Church maintenance	5,721	2,000	-	7,721	82,082
<i>Books &amp; publications:</i>					
Books & other materials	285	-	-	285	450
<i>Upkeep of services:</i>					
Music	1,311	-	-	1,311	643
Altar & other requisites	144	-	-	144	240
<i>Support costs:</i>					
Training	140	-	-	140	35
Children's & Young People's Work	497	417	-	914	1,053
Church Events	380	-	-	380	1,023
Church meals	532	-	-	532	506
PCC Gifts	-	-	-	-	264
Equipment	448	3586	-	4,034	1,972
<i>Governance costs:</i>					
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,508	-	-	1,508	1,298
	<u>131,311</u>	<u>91,139</u>	<u>8668</u>	<u>231,118</u>	<u>304,724</u>
<b>3(f) Church Management and administration</b>					
Bank Charges	86	-	-	86	21
Printing, stationery and office expenses	906	-	-	906	2,323
Telephone	947	-	-	947	851
Sundry Administrative Costs	1,740	-	-	1,740	2,496
Salaries	14,489	-	-	14,489	14,094
	<u>18,168</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,168</u>	<u>19,785</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>149,479</u>	<u>105,139</u>	<u>8,668</u>	<u>263,286</u>	<u>338,597</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**4. STAFF COSTS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages & Salaries	94,463	110,256
Employer's National Insurance contributions	841	1,970
Employer's Pension Contributions	<u>2,827</u>	<u>3,151</u>
	<u>98,131</u>	<u>115,377</u>

No employee was paid more than £60,000 per annum and no members of staff received any monetary benefit, other than statutory employer pension contributions at the minimum statutory rate, during the current or previous year. The Incumbent, who is a Trustee, was paid £nil in expenses (2023: £nil) and no other Trustees were paid any expenses, during the current or previous year.

The average number of staff, paid by the PCC and employed during the year, was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Playgroup	5.00	5.00
Administration (Office Administrator)	1.00	1.00
Cleaner	0.33	-
Ministry (Youth and Children, Worship and Young Adults)	-	0.92
Total	<u>6.33</u>	<u>6.92</u>

The PCC delegates the day-to-day running of St Matthews to the staff team which consists of the above staff (excluding Playgroup), working under the line management of the Incumbent, and the Assistant Curates. In addition, the Churchwardens are closely involved in various day-to-day matters, where required. The total amount of salaries and benefits received by key management personnel was £40,337 (2023: £53,150).

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**5. COMPARATIVE FUNDS**

	<b>General Fund £</b>	<b>Designated Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>
<b>INCOME FROM</b>				
Donations and Legacies	139,451	36,700	9,737	185,888
Charitable Activities	9,482	92,033	-	101,515
Investments	58	578	1,146	1,782
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>148,991</u>	<u>129,311</u>	<u>10,883</u>	<u>289,185</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>				
Charitable activities				
Grants	-	14,000	-	14,000
Activities directly relating to the work of the church	131,311	91,139	8,668	231,118
Church management & administration	18,168	-	-	18,168
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>149,479</u>	<u>105,139</u>	<u>8,668</u>	<u>263,286</u>
 NET EXPENDITURE BEFORE TRANSFERS	 (488)	 24,172	 2,215	 25,899
<b>TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS</b>	2,800	4,309	(7,109)	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>	<u>2,312</u>	<u>28,481</u>	<u>(4,894)</u>	<u>25,899</u>
 BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY	 17,234	 105,294	 22,538	 145,066
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER</b>	<u><u>19,546</u></u>	<u><u>133,775</u></u>	<u><u>17,644</u></u>	<u><u>170,965</u></u>

**6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Vicar is remunerated by the Bristol Diocesan Board of Finance, to which Parish Share is paid. No member of the PCC received any payment during the year.

During 2024 donations received (excluding gift aid recovered) from PCC members and their close family members (spouses, parents, siblings, and children) was £32,110 (2023: £41,980). The decrease was a result of both changes in PCC membership and changes in individual giving by some PCC members.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
For the year ending 31 December 2024

**7. FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 January 2024	59,913	59,913
At 31 December 2024	<u>59,913</u>	<u>59,913</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<u>59,913</u>	<u>59,913</u>
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>59,913</u>	<u>59,913</u>

**8. DEBTORS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Income tax recoverable	35,240	6,402
Accrued income	3,365	7,549
Other debtors	199	398
Prepayments	2,183	1,259
	<u>40,987</u>	<u>15,608</u>

There were no capital commitments at 31st December 2023 or 31st December 2024.

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other creditors	4,066	2,983
	<u>4,066</u>	<u>2,983</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**10. FUND DETAILS**

The Restricted funds comprise:

- a) The Special Collections Fund (Restricted) relates to funds raised at special collections to support the work of certain individuals, societies and agencies.
- b) The Youth Worker Fund (Restricted) holds monies collected for application in the area of youth work and to fund a youth worker.
- c) The Educational Foundation (Restricted) holds monies on deposit with the Central Board of Finance under certain historic trusts (trustees including City Council representation) relating to the parish of Kingsdown. Income is in the form of dividends and interest.
- d) The St Matthews Mission Fund (Restricted) is monies held on deposit with the Central Board of Finance under a trust relating to mission within the parish of Kingsdown.
- e) Legacies (Restricted) are monies received as legacy donations, for specified applications as to how the funds can be used.
- f) The Playgroup Fund (Restricted) relates to revenues from the Local Education Authority.

Restricted Funds: Movement on these funds was as follows:

	<b>Balance at 1.1.24 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Transfers to General Fund £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Balance at 31.12.24 £</b>
Special collections	5,347	2,030	-	-	7,377
Youth Worker	2,198	4,711	-	-	6,909
Educational Foundation	2,940	182	-	-	3,122
St Matthews Mission	7,159	1,339	-	-	8,498
Legacies	-	95,659	-	-	95,659
	<u>17,644</u>	<u>103,921</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>121,565</u>

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**10. FUND DETAILS (continued)**

The designated funds comprise those funds where the PCC has decided to put monies aside for administrative purposes only. Such monies may be redesignated at the discretion of the PCC.

The Designated funds comprise:

- a) The Mission Fund holds funds specifically designated for external mission.
- b) The Building Fund holds funds designated for upkeep of the church building.
- c) The Fixed Asset NBV Fund represents past expenditure on changes and improvements to the church building, funded from the Legacy Fund and General reserves.
- d) The Legacies Fund holds the balance of funds remaining on legacies received, where the donor has not restricted their use but the PCC wishes to ensure they are used for specific purposes and not general day-to-day expenditure, typically something of a lasting nature.
- e) The Eco Fund holds the balance of funds raised from various events run by the Eco Group and funds can be used for purposes consistent with its purpose
- f) The Toddler Funds holds funds raised from donations, designated to be spent on Toddler activities.
- g) The Playgroup Fund holds the balance of income from parents and expenditure on childcare activity.

Designated Funds: Movement on these funds was as follows:

	<b>Balance at 1.1.24 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Transfers from/(to) General Fund £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Balance at 31.12.24 £</b>
Mission Fund	1,613	-	15,257	(14,000)	2,870
Building Fund	45,652	988	-	(40,296)	6,344
Fixed Asset NBV	59,913	-	-	-	59,913
Legacies	18,656	2,000	-	-	20,656
Eco Fund	960	546	-	(300)	1,206
Toddlers	4,230	1,410	-	(463)	5,177
Playgroup	2,751	99,027	-	(85,427)	16,351
	<u>133,775</u>	<u>103,971</u>	<u>15,257</u>	<u>(140,486)</u>	<u>112,517</u>

The Missions Group allocated £14,000 in grants this year, allocating to overseas mission societies and individuals: £2,000 to each of the Busoga Trust, Crosslink, Friends of Alalay, and FFRME, plus to home missions: £2,000 to each of Changing Tunes, CPAS, and the Sisters of the Church.

The balance of the Mission Fund is reviewed on an annual basis by the Mission Committee. The Transfer of £15,257 from the General Fund follows a policy, set by the PCC, of allocating 10% of General Giving to mission support.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEAL, BRISTOL**  
**Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**For the year ending 31 December 2024**

**10. FUND DETAILS (comparative year: 2023)**

Restricted Funds: Movement on these funds was as follows:

	<b>Balance at 1.1.23 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Transfers to General Fund £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Balance at 31.12.23 £</b>
Special collections	3,439	1,908	-	-	5,347
Youth Worker	3,037	7,829	-	(8,668)	2,198
Educational Foundation	2,825	115	-	-	2,940
St Matthews Mission	6,128	1,031	-	-	7,159
Playgroup	7,109	-	(7,109)	-	-
	<u>22,538</u>	<u>10,883</u>	<u>(7,109)</u>	<u>(8,668)</u>	<u>17,644</u>

The designated funds comprise those funds where the PCC has decided to put monies aside for administrative purposes only. Such monies may be redesignated at the discretion of the PCC.

Designated Funds: Movement on these funds was as follows:

	<b>Balance at 1.1.23 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Transfers from/(to) General Fund £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Balance at 31.12.23 £</b>
Mission Fund	1,613	-	14,000	(14,000)	1,613
Building Fund	12,049	35,603	-	(2,000)	45,652
Fixed Asset NBV	59,913	-	-	-	59,913
Legacies	22,242	-	-	(3,586)	18,656
Eco Fund	-	960	-	-	960
Toddlers	3,932	715	-	(417)	4,230
Playgroup	5,545	92,033	(9,691)	(85,136)	2,751
	<u>105,294</u>	<u>129,311</u>	<u>4,309</u>	<u>(105,139)</u>	<u>133,775</u>

The Missions Group allocated £14,000 in grants this year, allocating to overseas mission societies and individuals: £2,000 to each of the Busoga Trust, Crosslink, Friends of Alalay, and FFRME, plus to home missions: £2,000 to each of Changing Tunes, CPAS, and the Sisters of the Church.

The transfer of £7,109 from the Playgroup Restricted fund, and £9,691 from the Playgroup Designated Fund (£16,800 in total), to the General Fund is a charge for use of the church hall during the week.

The balance of the Mission Fund is reviewed on an annual basis by the Mission Committee. The Transfer of £14,000 from the General Fund follows a policy, set by the PCC, of allocating 10% of General Giving to mission support.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW & ST NATHANAEL, BRISTOL**  
Charity Commission Registration Number 1134719.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
For the year ending 31 December 2024

**11. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	<b>General funds</b>	<b>Designated funds</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	-	59,913	-	59,913
<b>Net assets</b>	27,414	52,604	121,565	201,583
	<b>27,414</b>	<b>112,517</b>	<b>121,565</b>	<b>261,496</b>

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>		<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	<b>General funds</b>	<b>Designated funds</b>		
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	-	59,913	-	59,913
<b>Net assets</b>	19,546	73,862	17,644	111,052
	<b>19,546</b>	<b>133,775</b>	<b>17,644</b>	<b>170,965</b>

**12. INVESTMENTS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES**

The incumbent and wardens are administrative trustees of the following investments held with the Central Board of Finance:

	<b>Market Value</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
54 CBF Fixed Interest Fund Shares	81	78
40 CBF Investment Fund Shares	925	904

Income from these investments is applied to the church's General Fund.

The incumbent and wardens, together with City Council representatives, are trustees of an Educational Foundation associated with the parish of St. Matthews, Kingsdown. It holds 1,054 income shares in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund, with a market value of £24,371 at 31st December 2024 (2023: £23,826).

This Educational Foundation does not form part of the assets under the direct ownership and control of the PCC.