

# **ALL SAINTS, STRANTON CHURCH HARTLEPOOL**

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**



Rooted in God's love,  
Growing together with Jesus,  
Branching out in the power of the Spirit.

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## **Vicar's Report for Stranton Church 2023**

It's now been 18 months since I was licensed to the Central Hartlepool Group, which means I've had the opportunity to see a lot of what happens in each of our churches across the Group. I've been able to get to know many of you, but sadly we've had to say goodbye to many of our dear friends including James Lawson, Janice Young, Elizabeth Hotham, Kathleen Harkness, Alan Harkness, Dick Potter and Ann Courtenay.

As always, there are so many people who are and have been involved in so many different aspects of church life here at Stranton that without all of you, our church would not continue to survive or thrive. So, thank you, to all of you, for your support of our church and all who have helped lead and serve alongside me during 2023.

Particular thanks go to Rohan and Angela (our churchwardens), and Andrew (our lay vice chair) who have supported me as I've found my feet in Hartlepool, and to the rest of our Standing Committee (Maureen (PCC Secretary), Peter (Deputy Warden), and David (Treasurer)), who together have been a strong and supportive sounding board for me. Also, to our PCC who have worked with me as I have asked many, many questions, especially in the early months, which often dragged our meetings on much later than expected on occasion. I also want to say thank you to Mary, our Lay Reader, who does so much to support our children's ministry especially, but in so many other ways too.

2023 wasn't without its challenges, especially around Communities of Hope, but we navigated our way through them and have supported a number of ventures by the project including the Easter and Summer Holiday Clubs at St Luke's and the Christmas Hampers which saw 120 hampers given out to schools and members of the community across the Group.

It was a privilege throughout the year to take several weddings here at Stranton, and to be able to baptise many children here too – I continue to pray that they continue their own journey of faith in the years to come.

In February 2023, we welcomed Bishop Paul back to Stranton Church as he re-dedicated our church bells. It was a lovely service with many of our bellringers past and present coming along for the service, and it would be remiss of me not to thank Andrew Frost once again for his efforts in project managing the whole restoration effort in 2022 – I still haven't forgotten climbing onto the low-loader two days after being licensed here, as the bells came back to Hartlepool.

In April, we bid farewell to Clive and Ang Hall, and I was delighted to be able to support Clive as he was licensed in his new role in Withernsea (and I got to meet two of my predecessors in the process!). We are blessed to still receive Ang's contributions to our church magazine. I am also very grateful to Jordan for taking up the mantle and leading our sung worship, and even recording tracks to help out on those weeks he isn't available in person.

As well as the re-dedication, and Clive and Ang's farewell, we held and joined in with many joint services across the churches in the group including Trinity Sunday, the patronal festivals for St Luke and St Aidan, and on Christmas Day, we hosted a lovely joint Christmas Carol service at Stranton, attended by people from across the group, and we joined the Christmas Day service at St Luke's as we came together to celebrate the birth of Christ.

One of the biggest challenges we've faced is having one Stipendiary Priest to serve across the whole Central Hartlepool Group, while the other post remains vacant. We have been blessed by having Revd Andrew, Revd Kevin, and Revd Tony, serve us on a regular basis and other clergy helping us out from time to time too. I want to say a huge thank you to anyone and everyone who has supported and enabled our worship throughout 2023.

Looking ahead, we continue to hope and pray for church growth, and I will be looking at ways we can all work to facilitate that – in depth of faith and in our community links, as well as the growth of our numbers. We have an ideal opportunity to reflect on what God wants us to do next, on where our priorities lie in the years ahead, and how we can best serve those around us.

In grace and peace,  
*Revd John (Priest in Charge)*

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

All Saints, Stranton Church is situated in Church Row, Hartlepool TS24 7QT. It is part of the Diocese of Durham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is Stranton Church Office, St Matthew's Community Centre, Arncliffe Gardens Entrance, Hartlepool TS26 9JF.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission

PCC members who have served from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 until the date this report was approved are:

|  |   |                                |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <i>Priest in Charge:</i>                     | The Rev'd John Bell ( <i>ex-officio</i> )   | Chairperson                    |
| <i>Wardens:</i>                              | Mrs Angela Craig<br>Mr Rohan Wanduragala  |                                |
| <i>Representatives on the Deanery Synod:</i> | Mr Andrew Rogers<br>Mr Ken Shepherd   | from 30.04.2023                |
| <i>Elected members:</i>                      | Mrs Maureen Anderson<br>Mr Paul Anderson<br>Mr Peter Anderson<br>Mr David Craig<br>Mrs Diane Greenwood<br>Mr David House<br>Miss Kate Lawson<br>Mrs Cheryl Mills<br>Mrs Jacqui Rogers<br>Mrs Mary Tones | Secretary<br><br><br>Treasurer |

The full PCC met seven times during the year with an average level of attendance of 71%. Committees met between meetings and minutes of their deliberations were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

### **ELECTORAL ROLL**

There are 87 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, parish. Nine names removed during the year.

*Ken Shepherd*  
*Electoral Roll Officer*

### **FINANCE REPORT**

Our statutory accounts for the Year to 31st December 2023 show a break-even overall on realised gains and losses, with a surplus on Endowment Fund income covering small financial deficits in both the Church General Fund and the St Matthews Community Centre account. The Endowment Fund investments which are managed on our behalf by the Diocese of Durham also made a partial

recovery of valuation losses (market value) that had been experienced in the previous year. In summary, these results can be shown as follows:

|   | £:<br><b>2023</b> | £:<br><b>2022</b> |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund - Operating deficit:                         | -3,658            | -6,673            |
| St Matthews - Operating deficit (2022 – surplus)          | -356              | 2,768             |
| Endowment income (interest) surplus                       | 5,449             | 8,975             |
| Net Realised gains  | 1,435             | 5,070             |
| Unrealised Gains (2022 - losses) on Endowment investments | 11,526            | -16,146           |
| Total net gains /2022 - (losses)                          | 12,961            | -11,076           |

With the departure of Revd Clive Hall our Associate Minister in the spring, our payroll costs have reduced significantly overall, but at the same time the linked dedicated income support for him came to an end. Following the loss of quite a number of our older members, who had given regular commitment to supporting Stranton Church financially over many years, we also experienced an overall fall in regular giving from donors (as shown on page 6), though we must recognise with gratitude that we still have a core of key members who contribute seriously and sacrificially through the Parish Giving Scheme, and many of them have taken the option of annual inflation uplift. Our Parish owned accommodation in Clarkson Court also went on the rental market from August and is now making a useful contribution to our general income.

In short, we met all of our financial obligations as they fell due, including paying our Diocesan Parish “share” £38,775. We would have had a small surplus on General Fund had it not been for the Costs and Fees incurred (in excess of £6,000) in scoping, specifying and putting out to tender the now urgent stonework repairs which will need to be undertaken in 2024.

St Matthews Community Centre experienced its first deficit, which was attributable mainly to a retrenchment of Communities of Hope activities and a consequent fall in income from Church linked groups. A £2,000 contribution received from the Diocese of Durham towards the cost of urgent electrical upgrades helped to bring the finances back into focus at the end of the year

Highlights of the year with significant restricted fund impact included: The “Bells project” which has now been completed and the final Grant and Gift Aid Tax recovery support has been received, and continuing to host the Hartlepool Communities of Hope Team, on behalf of the Central Hartlepool Group of Parishes. In this continuing project we carry forward unspent resources as deferred income against future costs, as it does not generate a surplus for the Parish or Group.

On behalf of the PCC, and in thanks to God for the faithful spirit shown by our congregations, I acknowledge and celebrate the generosity of our members. I give thanks for those who commit to regular financial support, and add my encouragement to participate in this way in the fullness of Christ’s Kingdom. As always I also record my particular thanks to key individuals who make essential contributions of their time and skills to the financial resourcing (in the widest sense) of the Church.

Especially I thank Maureen Anderson, our assistant treasurer and PCC secretary, who performs the considerable daily tasks of controlling our bank accounts and cash books, and also manages the Community Centre Accounts; Ken Shepherd and the members of the Cash counting team; also Trish Playfor the Parish Administrator and others including our Independent Examiner Clive Rathbone for his diligence and for his gracious provision of time and expertise in reviewing these accounts to ensure objectively and independently that they meet necessary legal and professional standards.

*D A Craig, Hon Treasurer, April 2024*

## **BUILDING AND FABRIC OF THE CHURCH**

Thank you to everyone who, in whatever way, helped make our Church a house of prayer and worship, a place of welcome and friendship. The duties you performed and continue to perform, whether large or small, noticed or unnoticed, acknowledged or not: the word of God read, the Word

preached, praises sung, music played, the church cleaned and decorated seasonally, prayers said, people loved and prayed for and welcomed, the garden tended, refreshments provided and served and many more would not happen or wouldn't be the same without you. A big 'Thank you' from the Churchwardens to Peter Anderson and David House our assistant churchwardens for their continued help and guidance.

We continue to be encouraged by increasing cooperation particularly with St Luke's congregation and with joint services across the whole group. Looking forward, we sincerely hope Revd John will be joined by another group incumbent before the end of the year!

Meanwhile, all of the congregation needs to take their part in supporting Revd John and the running of Stranton Church. I encourage you all to be involved and join in work parties, bereavement support, visiting other members working with the pastoral group, weekday house groups, or cleaning the church: every little helps. We are urged in scripture not to stop meeting together to encourage one another. Hebrews 10: 25.

It is good to see succession for music worship leading, thanks to Jordan for taking this role and all who lead us in singing. Thanks to all who have taken up roles with leading and developing our young people and the support given to this by Mary Tones, Hayley Liversidge of the "Communities of Hope team ", Kate and the band of helpers.

### **Buildings:**

- Following the bells refurbishment project it has become clear that some of the Tower stonework has become severely weathered and pointing eroded to so that urgent and extensive remedial work is needed. Our architect inspected last year, and drew up a detailed specification for required work, which went to tender in December, and we are pleased to say that progress is being made; tenders have been received and we are now looking to accept one to commence pre-contract negotiations. Fundraising has started by applying for grants, we are blessed with some custodian trust funds and a recent bequest which will make it possible for us to raise the minimum £100,000 cost (Ex VAT) of essential works.
- In carrying out this work we will honour the legacy of past generations for maintaining this place of worship and witness. Also, we in turn will be doing our part to ensure the ongoing work of the church.
- Routine Inspections/service:
- Heating: Annual boiler service took place in October 2023. The leak in the Fulthorpe Chapel was completed after several attempts and the steps to the kitchen offshoot have been re-instated.
- Fire Safety: Inspection of the fire extinguishers completed March 2023.
- A new fob – activated intruder alarm system has been installed in church giving more comprehensive coverage: fewer accidental set offs have occurred.
- Lightning protection system: inspected and tested in July 2023.
- Tower clock: The clock was stopped for the bell refurbishment project. It has been serviced and re-started.
- An inspection of articles (communion plate, furniture and equipment) belonging to the church (terrier) was satisfactorily completed in March 2024
- Other minor maintenance tasks are carried out as required and recorded in the Church Logbook.
- Church yard and flower borders: Our thanks to the Council for maintaining the church grounds and rose beds and checking on safety of gravestones and cutting the grass. Ian White, a member of St Luke's congregation, has made for us a beautiful collection bowl from a piece of the dead and removed cherry tree at the bottom of the steps.
- Thanks to Pam Stockton for looking after the flower beds that line our churchyard path which make a joyful sight as we walk up the steps to worship God and look great on church photos too.

- Parking: Thanks to Camerons for their help and assistance with operating the car park and ensuring parking spaces are available, particularly at busy times when they also permit the use of their own designated parking areas and have on occasion supplied marshals.
- Church Bell refurbishment is complete. A great testimony to teamwork by ringers from the whole town, and elsewhere. We are immensely grateful to Andrew Frost for managing this project, to Maureen Anderson for undertaking the considerable burden of administrative tasks, and to David Craig for overseeing the finances. A special thank you to the volunteers who helped with the work which contributed to a significant saving in costs.

### **Health and safety report**

Health and Safety Audit of the church was carried out most recently in March 2024. The following matters are noted from that inspection:

- Lighting to the rear path to church has been improved.
- The carpet in church has been cleaned by Mark Sanders - a big thank you. The joints continue to be monitored. The replacement is on hold for the moment due to other pressing needs for our church funds.
- Two pews have been temporarily moved to the Fulthorpe chapel to give more space for our young children and for refreshments after services. A faculty will be required if this becomes permanent. *How do you find this change? Speak to a churchwarden or Revd John.*
- The replacement steps in the Fulthorpe Chapel to the kitchen have been completed.
- The five yearly Electrical Installation Condition check is due in 2024,
- The tower ladder for roof access does not meet current regulations for working at height: this area is not accessible to the public.
- Progress has been made in de-cluttering storage areas including disposing of old candles and clearing the Prayer Room.

No new hazards were found.

We have not yet restarted a sidesperson rota and this will be done as soon as possible after Annual Meeting. Please volunteer if you are able to be at one of the services half an hour before it starts to welcome and guide people and assist with guiding people to take Holy Communion.

*Angela Craig, Rogan Wanduragala*  
Churchwardens

### **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT**

Synod met twice during the year, in February and November. It continues to be an excellent vehicle not only to disseminate information, but also to provide a useful space to be able to discuss matters of mutual interest. It is ably chaired by Janet, our Area Dean and Julia Taylor now covers the role of Secretary.

During our February Synod topics of mutual interest discussed included; a desire to have a Christian presence at the Tall Ships event, new safeguarding and DBS arrangements, ensuring school visits were adequately supported and contacts with funeral directors.

The main agenda item was a report by Duncan Podbury, Diocesan Transformation Project Lead, on the progress of the Diocesan Transformation Project. The six threads of the Project being:-

- Missional Discipleship, Transforming Prayer,
- Church Planting and Revitalisation
- Missional Youth Chaplaincy to FE Collages & 11-16s
- Piloting Mission Hubs
- Resources for Local Change
- Culture Change - certainly "food for thought".

In the November Synod the officers for the 2023-2026 triennium were appointed; Lorraine Williams as Lay Chair; Ken Shepherd as Treasurer and Julia Taylor as Secretary.

Hart Church has received the Eco Church Gold Standard and has offered help and advice to others parishes considering Eco Church. Area Dean Janet mused whether the Deanery currently has a sense of direction and wondered what we could do together. Topics discussed were:-

- Have a Deanery social event
- Organise a Prayer Walk

Deanery Evensong (this took place last month in Stranton and it was a great event, well attended and the choir was in fine voice).

A pilgrimage to the Bishop Auckland Faith Museum (this has also taken place).

Revd Andrew Craig outlined the work of the Hartlepool Foodbank, a registered charity originally established by Hartlepool Churches Together. Along with food parcels the Foodbank now offers advice on financial and benefit matters. They are always on the lookout for more willing volunteers, not just distributing food but as warehouse people, signposting, driving or cleaning.

*Andrew Rogers*

### **SAFEGUARDING - CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION**

This year, Rev John Bell has been taking control of the parish dashboard (a mechanism to ensure we comply with diocesan policy) since Rev Clive Hall left earlier in the year. While it still requires some updating around training for specific roles in the church, progress is being made.

Concerns have been followed up quickly and effectively this year, showing our policies around safeguarding and recruitment are robust and effective, and in consultation with the diocese where necessary. However we are aware that role descriptions are required for various jobs in the church, and these help to prevent 'role creep'.

Twice-termly meetings have been scheduled between the parish safeguarding officer and incumbent to keep up to date with safeguarding issues, and we continue to comply with diocesan policy by automatically bringing updates to the PCC for approval

*Peter Hart*

*Safeguarding Officer*

### **GATHERED WORSHIP IN STRANTON PARISH**

There is a regular pattern of worship services across the parish, both weekly and monthly. The services are held in Church and St Matthew's Hall. Each service has its own characteristics. We hope and pray that there is something for those who have been part of a worshipping community for a long time and those attending for the first time. The pattern is summarised as follows –

#### **Stranton Church**

##### **Sundays**

|       |                          |   |
|-------|--------------------------|---|
| 9:00  | Holy Communion           | A quiet said service using traditional liturgy  |
| 11:00 | Morning Worship          | Each Sunday has a different characteristic. Generally the services are relaxed and welcoming including a mix of contemporary music and hymns. |
|       | Holy Communion           | 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays include communion   |
|       | Lighthouse Service       | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, Lighthouse is a good service to try if you are new to church, it includes welcomes for families wanting baptism.      |
|       | (provision for all ages) |   |

## St Matthew's Community Centre

|                               |              |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 4:00<br>second Sunday<br>only | Messy Church | A service for families based around craft, story<br>and sharing tea together |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|

### Wednesdays

|       |                |   |
|-------|----------------|---|
| 10:00 | Holy Communion | A said midweek communion in a more<br>accessible venue. |
|-------|----------------|---|

## **WORSHIP TEAM**

I took over running the worship team since Clive and Angela left, despite being initially hesitant! In this time, I've tried to develop the team to be more free, and we have a core group plus occasional helpers.

Sophie and Pam join us most weeks, while Stella sings with us when she's available. Mary Tones and Luke Tones have both joined in regularly, too, and we had Anne Courtney with us prior to her passing.

Anne passing was a shock to most of us, and in my very early days of leading the team, I massively appreciated her steadfast and reliable presence every Sunday - she's been missed!

I'm hoping that the team will continue to grow in confidence and in stature, and we'll be open to wherever the Lord takes us.

*Jordan Thornhill*

## **STRANTON TODDLER GROUP**

I took over the running of Toddlers in June 2022. It continues to be popular and thrive attracting between 27-35 children plus their accompanying adults each session. The large variety of activities on offer continue pretty much as they did before.

Both halls are used with a large amount of play equipment and more messy activities in the smaller room. At about 10am everyone comes together for a snack and squash/tea/coffee. Following tidy up time the sessions finish with singing nursery songs. It is busy but there is a lovely atmosphere and it is great to see the youngsters smiling, laughing and having fun.

As always, it is heavily dependent upon the help of volunteers to be able to run it. My sincere thanks to all those who help and put in such hard work to ensure it runs smoothly. It is very much appreciated.

Currently we could do with at least two more volunteers. One to help on a rota basis with the snack in the kitchen and another to help set up first thing in the morning. Setting up in the morning would particularly be when a volunteer is away so can't help. If you are interested please let me know.

I have enjoyed getting to know all the mums, dads, grandparents and child minders that come and look forward to seeing how it develops.

Thank you for your time and prayerful support.

*Hayley Liversidge*

## **MESSY CHURCH**

Messy Church for families is on the second Sunday of the month at 4:00 pm - 5.30 pm in St Matthew's Hall except for December when we have a Messy Christingle Service in church and on Good Friday morning when we have Messy Easter. The families who attend are a mix of those who attend the



11:00 am service at Stranton, those who only attend Messy church and those who are invited to attend a service prior to a Welcome or Baptism of children. Attendance varies between thirty to forty plus people in total.

Once everyone has arrived we tell a Bible story, say a prayer and sing a song. Then there are activities and crafts to complete based on the story, before we have tea together. This Spring we have told the story of Joseph in three sessions, last Autumn we focused on three of Jesus' parables.

The Messy Church team is small but committed, many thanks to Hayley Liversidge, Peter, Maureen and Paul Anderson and Jordan Thornhill. Any help to set up tables, chairs etc from 3pm, help with crafts and activities and socialise with families from 4pm, wash up or tidy away from 4.30pm would be gratefully accepted!

*Mary Tones*

## **SUNDAY CLUB**

Sunday Club takes place on the first three Sundays of the month during the 11am service in the Fulthorpe Chapel, except in school holidays. It is for school age children, although preschool children may attend if accompanied by a parent or carer. There have been two or three new families attending over the last year and we've enjoyed working with up to 16 children in Sunday Club, ages ranging from 2 to 14 years old, which is a challenge in a small space. We aim to provide a friendly, fun session that the children will enjoy while learning about their faith. We usually follow a different theme each term: in the Spring term we've been focusing on Jesus' healing miracles, last Autumn we looked at the Fruit of the Spirit and then the Birth of Jesus leading up to a performance of the Nativity in December.

Looking ahead, although the children are usually very patient and help each other with the activities, we would love to be able to run two groups of older and younger children, and have been praying and advertising for more helpers for several months. At the moment we have three leaders and three helpers (with DBS and safeguarding training), so it works out about one Sunday a month on the rota, depending on availability due to holidays etc.

We would like to find another children/young person's Bible to use as an alternative to the Beginners Bible, which is not so appropriate for the older children. It would also be good to be able to have a screen available to use; we have used a tablet/iPad from time to time, however they aren't really big enough for a large group of children to watch.

Many thanks to all the leaders and helpers: Kate, Pam, Gill, Helen and especially Annika Sanders, our most recent recruit.

*Mary Tones*



Our Youth Fellowship (YF) has continued to meet most Sunday evenings during term-time. We are a small group covering 11-18 year olds but only have 11-15 year olds at present.

Until April, the group was led by Revd Clive Hall. Mark Sanders took over from Clive and led YF through until September when Revd John took this on, all working alongside Rachel West who has been very much part of the team. We have been supported during 2023 by Peter Hart, Chloe Thornhill, Jordan Thornhill, Paul Anderson, Rebecca Bell and others who have stepped in on an ad-hoc basis to support us and keep the group running as much as possible. My thanks go to everyone who has played a part in helping make YF thrive.

In September, our group grew by 2 when Daniel B and Daniel G started secondary school and joined our numbers. We started the new academic year by looking at what the young people wanted from

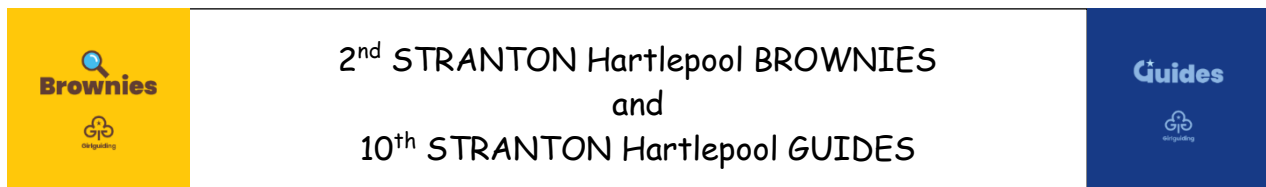
the group and giving them the opportunity to 're-brand' themselves - creating their own identity for the youth group. They chose to keep the Youth Fellowship name but came up with their own design for our new logo. They even came up with their own 'ground rules'.

We have enjoyed a couple of visits to the Pulse youth event at Durham Cathedral, including seeing the cathedral turned into the biggest indoor escape room, when 12 of us (8 youth and 4 adults) went along in October, which also allowed us to hear Bishop Paul give his last talk to Pulse.

During the autumn term, we spent several weeks looking at the fruits of the spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

We continue to meet, enjoying food, fellowship, fun and games, and of course studying the bible and the Christian faith. We are always on the lookout for new members to join us and for volunteers to come on board and help lead our young people in their journey with God. If you can help, then please speak to Revd John.

*Revd John*



The numbers in Brownies & Guides have increased slightly during the year, both groups have space available for new members. We have welcomed new members to Brownies and some Brownies have moved up to Guides. During the year, we have done a variety of activities, the summer term is when we hope to be out of the hall. We follow the Girlguiding programme of activities which allow the girls to gain a variety of awards and badges, which will lead to being awarded an extra award, the Gold Award being highest in each section.

Brownies – Bronze Award – 3 girls. Silver Award – 2 Girls, Gold Award – 1 girl

Guides – Bronze Award – 3 girls. Silver Award – 1 Girls, Gold Award – 3 girls

In between the Girlguiding programme we do crafts, celebrate special events. In the Summer months we were invited to join the 4<sup>th</sup> Norton Brownies and Guides to go the Girlguiding events at Waddow. Brownies went for the day to Magic and Mayhem; the Guides went for a weekend camping to Wristbands and Wellies. Both events were well organised, the girls had a brilliant time. The Guides organised a Fundraising event for Alice House, making items to sell, which was well supported by parents, friends and Church members, raising over £600, the Brownies helped on the night serving at tables. We did a collection for the Food Bank - we were lucky that Clive Hall could receive our contributions before he left to pastures new! We have visited the Lifeboat station, a very informative and interesting night, investigated the rock pools at the headland: the last meeting of the summer term we had a fun night at the beach followed by chips; supported 'Pudsey'; had activities and reading for Remembrance day, attending the Parade at the Cenotaph; celebrated World Thinking day – on the wave, a Division event on our meeting night; we Celebrated the Coronation at Division event, the badge for the event was designed by Alice, one of our Guides; they were given the Challenge Badge – 40 days of Summer for the Summer holidays.

The Leaders organised FUNDAYS, one in April where we had a picnic style lunch, painting, games, outdoor cooking and other crafts. The second one, we invited the 4<sup>th</sup> Norton Brownies and Guides, was at the end of November. We did Christmas crafts, mixology and baking plus Christmas dinner.

One of the Guides, now a young Leader was selected to represent Girlguiding North-East England (Cleveland and Hartlepool) at an international Camp, Roverway, in Norway in July 2024. Along with friends from Guides and Leaders they joined the sponsored Boxing Day dip at Seaton. As part of her fundraising. She has, with the support of her family, friends and the Guides helping her to fundraise £2000 required for her to attend. She is moving towards her target. One of our girls was selected (not

as a Guide) to be a crew member on the Tall Ships race, on the leg from Hartlepool to Norway. The Brownies and Guides were excited, they went to see her leave and many helped at the Girlguiding tent on the Marina, gaining a badge for their support.

We thank the Hall committee and Church for the support that they give the Brownies and Guides during the year.

*Cheryl Mills*

*Leader with Brownies & Guides*



Following an extremely busy open evening, we re-opened the Rainbows unit in May 2023 with a bang, taking on 20 girls (from a planned maximum of 15!).

Coming up to our first anniversary, with 24 girls now on our register, we have had an absolutely jam-packed year, and we couldn't have done it without the dedication of the three leaders Vikki, Sarah and Laura, and the invaluable support of our parent helpers Sara, Kirsty, Vicky and Suzane, not to mention our fabulous young leaders Nina and Grace.

The girls have enjoyed working through the girlguiding programme making friends and learning new skills through games, crafts and fun! We are thrilled that 18 of our girls have achieved their Rainbow Bronze award and are working hard on their Silver Award. We also said goodbye to one of our girls as she went up to Brownies, we have a lovely 'Pot of Gold' celebration to say goodbye and wish her well on her new adventure!

We have looked at a lot of exploring and explorers, learning about our local area with a visit to Summerhill Park in the Autumn to put our skills (and special binoculars) to the test.

We have had visits from Guide Dogs for the Blind where we learnt all about the challenges visually impaired people face as well as meeting a Guide Dog. Recently Pets4People joined us bringing special guests Mozart the giant bunny, and Romeo the Bearded Dragon, as well as a 'patch' of Stick Insects. We celebrated Thinking Day with the Brownies and Guides, as well as at a special event with the entire Hartlepool Division, our first event as a new unit and the girls were wonderful ambassadors for the Hartlepool Second Rainbows.

We are looking forward to the adventures we will have in the coming year with plans for a camp day, baking, outdoor games and much much more!!!!

*Vikki Richardson*

*Leader with Rainbows*



4<sup>th</sup> Hartlepool Boys Brigade  
Founded 1930  
HQ - St. Matthews Community Centre  
Find us on Facebook



The number of adult leaders remain the same and we have gained a helper in the Anchor Boys.

We now have a two tiered NCO structure (Sgts and L/Cpl) we hope to add another tier in September so that we have the three NCO ranks (L/Cpl, CPL and Sgt) it will be the first time for several years that this will happen

We average 6 boys in Anchors, 15 boys in Juniors and 15 lads in Company (Boys in name only!!!)

We are disappointed with the Anchor numbers but hope to recruit more in September if not sooner

### Highlights

We held a Christmas Carol Service in Stranton Church which was very well attended, spent a Saturday morning weeding and tidying St Matthew's car park, and served bacon butties at St Matthew's before the Harvest Festival and Palm Sunday services.

Our devotions in 2024 have been based on the Boys Brigade hymn. *We have an Anchor* and Luke 2 v 52 (King James Bible) *And Jesus increased in Wisdom and Stature and was in Favour with God and Man.* (Every activity we do at Boys Brigade is based on this verse)

Two fayres were held and we had visits from the Police and Captain Wells of the TA spoke about Remembrance Sunday. All Sections did displays or activities for both Services

Our camp which was held at Fanwood Scout Centre was a great success and all events were organized by the younger leaders

### The Future

We have received a grant from Cleveland Police for two keyboards and associated equipment. We have hired a band master so that we can form a band other advantages are that in future years music training can be done in-house and in time a percussion band be formed for the Anchor Boys section. It also benefits all our sections in regards to devotions. .

### Camp

This year's Camp is at Helsey Wood Scout Centre South Yorkshire from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> July, initial planning has already started

### Summary

We are always looking for new ideas and activities for our members and try as much as possible, through parades, church displays, Easter Eggheads, St Matthews Tidy Ups, Leaders bell ringing and a journalist for Signpost to be as big a part of Stranton Church as possible.

If you know any 5-8 year olds please send them along to Anchor Boys on a Friday Night  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

*George Bainbridge, Leader in Charge, 4<sup>th</sup> Hartlepool Boys Brigade*

## **PASTORAL GROUP**

We have been very pleased to welcome a new member to our team this year. Gill Siddons has recently joined Cheryl Mills, Ian Walker, Rohan Wanduragala and myself, with Diana Wanduragala as an associate member. We continue to maintain regular contact with members of our congregation who cannot get to church and with others who appreciate a bit of support or company. This may be in the form of home visits, home communion, telephone calls, meeting for walks or coffee or other ad hoc support. Some have had spells in hospital or care homes and, where possible during these times, we make every effort to maintain contact and make visits.

Unfortunately, we have again to report the passing away of some of our pastoral contacts – Kath and Alan Harkness, Betty Hotham and Doreen Lathan. They are sadly missed and remembered with love.

We continue to deliver Christmas and Easter cards (with some form of chocolate!) to those who are unable to attend services. David and Angela Craig and Ian Walker deliver copies of the weekly notice sheet and some people receive copies of Signpost and bible notes, delivered by a wider church team. All these things are important in helping to maintain our connection with those who, often after many years of faithful attendance and service, are no longer physically able to attend services on a regular basis.

It is also important to note that a lot of informal pastoral care is provided by both members of the congregation and the leadership team.

Some of our team members have, with John's guidance, been involved this year in a shared venture across our group of churches to explore ways of providing bereavement support and this is ongoing.

There are cards at the back of church which can be used by anyone wanting to request pastoral support either for themselves or for others.

*Pam Stockton*

## **BELLRINGING REPORT**

I am pleased to continue to be the Stranton Tower Captain and I now have Thelma Adams as the Steeplekeeper having taken over from Rohan Wanduragala.

The bells are now making a much more pleasant sound and are significantly easier to ring and strike correctly following their complete refurbishment. Following insulation of sound proofing in the Belfry in early 2024 (which has reduced the noise level in the ringing chamber), the project is now fully complete. Taylor's of Loughborough have inspected the bells twice since they were rehung and small adjustments made.

We continue to practice at Stranton on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month with good attendance. Elspeth Craig runs a bell handling session and foundation training on most Tuesdays and her teaching has helped considerably to improve ringers' striking.

We ring at Stranton every other Sunday morning and often manage to ring on all 8 bells. If we have enough people available we can sometimes ring at both Stranton and St Aidan's on the same morning.

A number of quarter peals (45 minutes) and one full peal (3 hours) have been rung through the year. Fittingly the maiden full peal on the newly refurbished bells was dedicated to former Tower Captain Andy Kaye and to Margery Maughan, widow of Bill Maughan.

We have had visiting bell ringers and teams of ringers through the year. On 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 we were pleased to host members of the Maughan family. Six of the family had learned to ring at Stranton and were taught by their father, Bill. Margery had passed away earlier in 2023 and that weekend was their opportunity to get together and scatter her ashes on Roseberry Topping to be with those of their father. It was a memorable and emotional day to have them all ring on Stranton's refurbished bells.

*Joseph Wilson*  
*Tower Captain*

## **ST MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT**

During 2023 there have been some changes to our St Matthew's management team. Diana Wanduragala has retired after many years of loyal service to St Matthew's and Carol Laud has stepped down from her role as Secretary after many years of dedicated service, although she remains a committee member. We thank them both for their work at St Matthew's. Jack Hanlon has been elected as our new secretary and our best wishes go to him in his new role. Two new members, Mark Sanders and Vince Gaffney, have been elected to the committee during 2023.

Buildings such as St Matthew's require constant maintenance and upgrading and the extent of this challenge was highlighted in a commissioned report from a qualified surveyor at the end of 2022. The recommended improvements to the small hall which included repointing of brickwork, replacement and repair of guttering and installation of protective drain covers have been completed and funded from existing income. The car park and the front of the small hall were the subject of a summer clean up involving committee members and volunteers from Boys Brigade.

However, the work required on the main building is much more extensive and expensive and will require advice and support from experienced members of the PCC. We have identified possible grant givers and we require more tenders from experienced contractors. At present our focus is to make the building water tight, since following bad weather flooding the cellar we have discovered some of the lead flashing has been removed from the roof and some brickwork damaged, which is also causing ingress of water to the main hall and Asda Room.

In the longer term the committee have agreed that the building is underused, particularly during the day, and we will increase our efforts through advertising and social media etc to increase awareness of the facilities we can offer to potential users. Our efforts regarding availability for parties and other functions is slowly bearing fruit, but most bookings still come from personal recommendations.

During 2024 we will be working more closely with the PCC as recent changes to Charity Commission Law means the constitution and terms of reference for St Matthew's in the PCC standing orders need to be examined and updated where necessary. The coming months will be a challenge for everyone involved with St Matthew's but we are all committed to meet this challenge for all our community and church members.

*George Bainbridge*  
*Chair*

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish  
of  
All Saints, Stranton**

**Registered Charity No. 1134753**

**Accounts for the Year to 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Certificate for Stranton PCC Accounts: Charity Number: 1134753**

**I report to the trustees of: All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

Independent examiner's statement:

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

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the following requirements have not been met:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with
- the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- to account for statutory fees correctly.

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Clive Rathbone

Date: April 26<sup>th</sup> 2024

21 Wolviston Road, Hartlepool



# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

|  |               | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2023 | FUNDS<br>2022  |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Incoming resources</b>  | Note:         |                       |                     |                    |               |                |
| Incoming resources from donors                                     | 2a            | 71,982                | 8,488               | -                  | 80,470        | 79,740         |
| Other voluntary incoming resources                                 | 2b            | 4,137                 | 68,771              | -                  | 72,908        | 140,855        |
| Income from charitable and ancillary trading                       | 2c            | 28,851                | -                   | -                  | 28,851        | 31,749         |
| Other ordinary incoming resources                                  | 2d            | -                     | -                   | -                  | -             | -              |
| Income from investments  | 2e, 10        | 1,333                 | -                   | 5,449              | 6,782         | 9,242          |
| Total incoming resources   |               | 106,303               | 77,259              | 5,449              | 189,011       | 261,586        |
| <b>Resources Expended</b>  |               |                       |                     |                    |               |                |
| Grants to Home and overseas mission and other charities            | 3a            | 5,100                 | -                   | -                  | 5,100         | 7,729          |
| Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church             | 3b            | 85,015                | 77,259              | -                  | 162,274       | 202,858        |
| Fund Raising and Publicity   | 3c            | 0.00                  | -                   | -                  | 0             | 1,765          |
| Church Management and Administration                               | 3d            | 20,201                | -                   | -                  | 20,201        | 29,593         |
| Total resources Expended   |               | 110,316               | 77,259              | -                  | 187,575       | 241,945        |
| <b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Church &amp; see note 10</b> | <b>-3,658</b> |                       |                     |                    |               |                |
| <b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Community Centre</b>         | <b>-356</b>   | <b>-4,014</b>         | <b>-</b>            | <b>5,449</b>       | <b>1,435</b>  | <b>5,070</b>   |
| Other Net Gains/losses: Investment revaluation                     | 10            | -                     | -                   | 11,526             | 11,526        | -16,146        |
| Net movement in funds  |               | <b>-4,014</b>         |                     | <b>16,975</b>      | <b>12,961</b> | <b>-11,076</b> |
| Balances Brought Forward at 1 January 2023                         |               | 115,934               | 95,235              | 172,179            | 383,348       | 394,424        |
| Balances Carried Forward at 31 December 2023                       |               | 111,920               | 95,235              | 189,154            | 396,309       | 383,348        |

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2023

|   | Note:    | 2023           | 2022           |
|---|----------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                 |          |                |                |
| Tangible fixed Assets                               | 5a       | 182,770        | 184,177        |
| Investment Assets                                   | 5b, 10   | 171,595        | 162,819        |
|   |          | <u>354,365</u> | <u>346,996</u> |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                               |          |                |                |
| Debtors and prepaid expenses                        | 7        | 13,429         | 72,148         |
| Short Term Deposits                                 |          | 8,624          | 414            |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand                            |          | 67,075         | 43,645         |
|   |          | <u>89,128</u>  | <u>116,207</u> |
| Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year    | 8        | 47,184         | 79,855         |
| Deferred grant and donation revenue (bells project) | 8        | -              | -              |
| <b>Net Current (Liabilities)/ Assets</b>            |          | <u>47,184</u>  | <u>79,855</u>  |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                                   |          | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |
| <b>Funds:</b>                                       | 6, 9, 10 |                |                |
| Unrestricted reserves (see below)                   | 9        | 111,920        | 115,934        |
| Restricted reserves (Buildings and Organ fund)      | 9        | 95,235         | 95,235         |
| Endowment reserves                                  | 10       | 189,154        | 172,179        |
| <b>Total Reserves</b>                               |          | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |

Approved by resolution of the Parochial Church Council, dated 15th April 2024

Rev'd. John G Bell (Chairman)

Mr David Craig (Hon. Treasurer)

## All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council Year to 31 December 2023

### Note 1 - Accounting policies

#### 1a) Basis of Preparation

These Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets. They have been prepared to meet the requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 together with applicable Accounting Standards, the Charities Acts 2011 and 2016 and Statements of Recommended Practice. They have been prepared on an accruals basis to match income and related expenditure relating to the year under review. The statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible. Financial statements for various Church related activities or groups for which the PCC is not responsible are not included. Subsidiary Financial statements for the activities of the st Matthews Community Centre which are consolidated in these Accounts are available separately. The Accounts include the Endowment Trust Funds held and administered for the benefit of the PCC by the Diocese of Durham, as custodian Trustees.

#### 1b) Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost: freehold land and buildings are not depreciated as in the view of the PCC the effect of depreciation of these assets would not be material to an appreciation of the PCC's financial position. Office and computer equipment furniture and fixtures are depreciated using a straight line method over a period (generally 4-5 years) estimated to reflect the useful economic life of the Assets.

#### 1c) Investments

Investments are revalued annually and carried at the lower of realisable and current market value, the difference between cost and carrying value is recorded in a revaluation reserve where the value is greater than original cost: a provision is made for each investment asset for which the market value is less than its original cost. Reserves and provisions are not netted off. Endowment investments are revalued to lower of market or realisable value annually by the custodian trustees and any difference adjusted against endowment reserve.

#### 1d) Stocks

Inventory (where material) is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value and written off as expenditure when issued.

#### 1e) Debtors

Amounts receivable are stated at the value prudently expected to be realised. Full or partial provision is made for bad or doubtful debts as soon as they become apparent.

#### 1f) Liabilities, Provisions, deferred income and capital grants

Full estimates are made of income and capital grants received in advance and of outstanding liabilities incurred in the course of the PCC's Activities, and provision made in compliance with current relevant Financial Reporting Standards and recommended charity practice.

#### 1g) Pensions

Paid Staff employed by the PCC (i.e. who are not stipendiary clergy licensed by the Diocese of Durham) who are eligible for Workplace pension are offered membership of the Defined Contribution Scheme operated for the PCC by Peoples Pension (formerly B&CE), this scheme complies with the national legal membership requirements and contribution rates for workplace pensions.

#### 1h) Employment

In 2023 The PCC employed two full time (one church and one project) and five part time (two church and three project) staff. The church policy is to review pay annually by benchmarking and to ensure that as a minimum the rate of National Living Wage is maintained.

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2022

|  | 2023<br>Total | 2023<br>Unrestricted | 2023<br>Restricted | 2023<br>Endowment<br>see note 10 | 2022<br>Total  |
|--|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Operating activities</b>  |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Operating surplus / (deficit)  | 1,435         | -4,014               | -                  | 5,449                            | 5,195          |
| add items not involving movement of funds: Depreciation                        | 1,407         | 1,407                | -                  | -                                | 0              |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors   | -32,671       | -35,328              | 2,657              | -                                | 29,492         |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Debtors   | 58,719        | 42,908               | 15,811             | -                                | -45,401        |
| <b>Cash utilised in (2022 - generated from) operations</b>                     | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-1,748</b>  |
| <b>Investing activities</b>  |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Cash generated from sale of assets   | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| Cash invested in assets  | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| Other investments made   | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| <b>Grants &amp; donations (released from) / transferred to deferred income</b> | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>             | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-51,280</b> |
| <b>Cash (utilised) in investing activities - (Audiovisual System 2021)</b>     | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>             | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>       |
| <b>total cash movements from Operating and Investing activities</b>            | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-53,028</b> |
| <b>Represented by:</b>   |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Church Current account increase (2022 - decrease) in balances                  | 21,083        | 2,615                | 18,468             | -                                | -65,820        |
| Community Centre Current Account increase in balance                           | 2,346         | 2,346                | -                  | -                                | 3,851          |
| Deposit account increase in balance  | 11            | 11                   | -                  | -                                | 4              |
| Decrease (2021- increase) in cash balances (Community Centre)                  | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -38            |
| Increase in endowment cash balances (Custodian balances)                       | 5,449         | -                    | -                  | 5,449                            | 8,975          |
| <b>Net Movement in liquid balances</b>   | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-53,028</b> |

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

| Heading   | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | TOTAL 2023 | FUNDS 2022 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| <b>2 Incoming resources</b>                                       |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| <i>2a Incoming resources from donors</i>                          |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Planned Giving  |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Gift Aided  | 40,240             | -                | -               | 40,240     | 41,799     |
| Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid inc donations                  | 10,060             | -                | -               | 10,060     | 10,450     |
| other income tax recoverable                                      | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| other Voluntary giving  | 16,215             | -                | -               | 16,215     | 17,400     |
| Other collections   | 5,467              | -                | -               | 5,467      | 4,017      |
| Gift Day  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Bell restoration appeal - donations (deferred income see note 3b) | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Communities of Hope - Other income                                | -                  | 8,488            | -               | 8,488      | 6,074      |
|   | 71,982             | 8,488            | -               | 80,470     | 79,740     |
| <i>2b Other voluntary incoming resources</i>                      |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Grants - not including Capital Grants                             | 4,531              | -                | -               | 4,531      | 6,058      |
| Bell restoration appeal - Gift aid Tax recovered                  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Bell restoration appeal - 2022 Grants - incl LPOW VAT             | -                  | -                | -               | -          | 35,060     |
| Communities of Hope - External Grants                             | -                  | 1,695            | -               | 1,695      | 5,205      |
| Communities of Hope - SDF funding via Diocese                     | -                  | 59,528           | -               | 59,528     | 67,879     |
| Appeals etc   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | 496        |
| Legacies and Donations,   | -394               | 85               | -               | -309       | 22,488     |
| Income tax recoverable on Gift Aided Donations                    | -                  | 7,463            | -               | 7,463      | 3,669      |
| Fundraising   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
|   | 4,137              | 68,771           | -               | 72,908     | 140,855    |
| <i>2c Income from Charitable and ancillary Trading</i>            |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Magazines and book sales  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Lettings (Halls etc) contribution                                 | 20,485             | -                | -               | 20,485     | 25,385     |
| Fees  | 5,480              | -                | -               | 5,480      | 6,279      |
| Rents receivable and other income                                 | 2,886              | -                | -               | 2,886      | 85         |
|   | 28,851             | -                | -               | 28,851     | 31,749     |
| <i>2d Other ordinary incoming resources</i>                       |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Contribution to secretarial costs                                 | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Insurance claims  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
|   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| <i>2e Income from investments</i>                                 |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Dividends, interest and bonuses including adjustment (note 10)    | 1,333              | -                | 5,449           | 6,782      | 9,242      |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources:</b>                                  | 106,303            | 77,259           | 5,449           | 189,011    | 261,586    |

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### 3. Resources Expended

#### 3a Grants made

##### Missionary and Charitable Giving

##### Overseas mission

##### Relief & development agencies

##### Home missions and other Church Societies

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2023 | FUNDS<br>2022 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | 3,750                 | -                   | -                  | 3,750         | 3,000         |
|  | -                     | -                   | -                  | -             | 0             |
|  | 1,350                 | -                   | -                  | 1,350         | 4,729         |
|  | 5,100                 | -                   | -                  | 5,100         | 7,729         |

#### 3b Activities directly related to the work of the Church

##### Ministry:

##### Parish Share

##### Communities of Hope Hartlepool Staff costs

##### Communities of Hope other operating costs and deferred income

##### Staff expenses,

##### Property costs - staff accommodation

##### Church running expenses, excl hall recharge

##### Church repairs and maintenance

##### Recruitment and training costs incl DBS certification

##### Ministry costs excluding Pay cost -Burbank, Youth and families Work

##### Magazine - costs included in Stationery

##### Church hall running costs

##### Professional fees,surveys etc - (2021 included in capital expenditure)

##### Parish lay worker remuneration

##### Cost of parish events

##### Deferred Income to 2022 Bells restoration (see note 2b)

##### Current and accrued Expenditure - Bells restoration

|  |        |        |   |         |         |
|--|--------|--------|---|---------|---------|
|  | 38,775 | -      | - | 38,775  | 35,250  |
|  | -      | 46,962 | - | 46,962  | 62,464  |
|  | -      | 22,749 | - | 22,749  | 16,694  |
|  | 1,759  | -      | - | 1,759   | 2,125   |
|  | 281    | -      | - | 281     | 402     |
|  | 12,512 | -      | - | 12,512  | 13,189  |
|  | 7,930  | -      | - | 7,930   | 2,683   |
|  | 201    | -      | - | 201     | 34      |
|  | 722    | -      | - | 722     | 3,786   |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | 14,959 | -      | - | 14,959  | 14,446  |
|  | 0      | -      | - | 0       | 1,500   |
|  | 7,875  | -      | - | 7,875   | 22,506  |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | -      | 7,548  | - | 7,548   | 42,225  |
|  | 85,015 | 77,259 | - | 162,274 | 217,304 |

#### 3c Fundraising and publicity

##### costs associated with generating funds

#### 3c Fundraising and publicity

|  |   |   |   |   |       |
|--|---|---|---|---|-------|
|  | 0 | - | - | 0 | 1,765 |
|  | 0 | - | - | 0 | 1,765 |

#### 3d Church management and administration

##### Administrator remuneration incl pension contribution, and expenses

##### Stationery and printing

##### Hall overhead

##### Depreciation equipment & computers

##### Bank Charges

##### Legal and professional fees / costs .

|  |        |   |   |        |        |
|--|--------|---|---|--------|--------|
|  | 13,713 | - | - | 13,713 | 16,193 |
|  | 1,620  | - | - | 1,620  | 1,551  |
|  | 3,059  | - | - | 3,059  | 2,465  |
|  | 1,407  | - | - | 1,407  | 8,967  |
|  | 402    | - | - | 402    | 418    |
|  | -      | - | - | -      | 0      |
|  | -      | - | - | -      | 0      |
|  | 20,201 | - | - | 20,201 | 29,593 |

### Total Resources Expended:

|  |         |        |   |         |         |
|--|---------|--------|---|---------|---------|
|  | 110,316 | 77,259 | - | 187,575 | 256,391 |
|--|---------|--------|---|---------|---------|

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### 4. Staff costs

Clergy stipends are paid by the Diocese: all other remuneration shown under note 3b and 3d was paid to the Parish lay worker, parish administrator and from October 2020 to the staff working on behalf of the Central Hartlepool Group of Parishes in the Communities of Hope Hartlepool - a project funded by the Diocese of Durham, and include social security costs and pension contributions made under a defined benefit scheme operated by Peoples Pension

### 5. Fixed Assets

#### 5a Tangible fixed Assets

|                         |                                | Freehold Land<br>And Buildings | Equipment,<br>fixtures<br>and IT Assets | TOTAL          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------|
| <i>Gross book value</i> | At 1 January 2023              | 178,551                        | 48,866                                  | 227,417        |
|                         | Revaluations                   | -                              | -                                       | -              |
|                         | Disposals                      | -                              | -                                       | -              |
|                         | Additions:                     | -                              | -                                       | -              |
|                         | Capital Grants applied         | -                              | -                                       | -              |
|                         | At 31 December 2023            | <u>178,551</u>                 | <u>48,866</u>                           | <u>227,417</u> |
| <i>Depreciation</i>     | At 1 January 2023              |                                | 43,240                                  | 43,240         |
|                         | Disposals                      |                                | -                                       | -              |
|                         | Charge for the year/impairment |                                | 1,407                                   | 1,407          |
|                         | At 31 December 2023            |                                | <u>44,647</u>                           | <u>44,647</u>  |
| <i>Net Book Value</i>   | At 31 December 2023            | 178,551                        | 4,219                                   | 182,770        |
|                         | At 31 December 2022            | 178,551                        | 5,626                                   | 184,177        |

Freehold land and buildings comprise St Matthew's Community Hall, and staff house accommodation at 10 Clarkson Court:

Other Tangible Fixed assets are amortised over periods estimated to reflect their economic lives from the date of acquisition, generally 4 to 5 years. Assets scrapped/sold are disposals

The Church building is not included in the statement of financial position as it has no historic cost record. Church buildings are insured for reinstatement costs

The Audio Equipment installed in church in 2020 has been subject to accelerated depreciation over 2 years in view of the potential for obsolescence and likely realisable value

#### 5b Investments:

The PCC does not directly hold any investments but receives income from certain designated trust funds held by Durham Diocese as custodian

As the PCC is the ultimate beneficiary of these funds they have been included in these accounts

see note 10 for an analysis of these custodian funds and their realised and unrealised changes in valuation.

#### 6 Analysis of net assets by fund

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>2023  | Total<br>2022  |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets  | 97,087                | 85,683              | -                  | 182,770        | 184,177        |
| Endowment investment funds                                | -                     | -                   | 171,595            | 171,595        | 162,819        |
| Current Assets  | 46,643                | 24,926              | 17,559             | 89,128         | 116,207        |
| Deferred Grants and donations revenue see notes 2b and 3b |                       |                     |                    | -              | 0              |
| Current Liabilities                                       | -31,810               | -15,374             | -                  | -47,184        | -79,855        |
|   | <u>111,920</u>        | <u>95,235</u>       | <u>189,154</u>     | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |

#### 7 Debtors:

|                           | 2023          | 2022          |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Tax Recoverable           | 4,091         | 20,876        |
| other debtors/receivables | 9,338         | 8,997         |
|                           | <u>13,429</u> | <u>72,148</u> |

#### 8. Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year:

|   | 2023          | 2022          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Accruals and deferred income                                      | 33,881        | 41,250        |
| Creditors for goods and services                                  | 6,143         | 27,091        |
| Other Provision: mission support                                  | 8,000         | 8,000         |
| Deferred grant and donations - restricted income: (belts project) | -             | -             |
| Other creditors: Tax and NIC                                      | -             | 3,514         |
|   | <u>48,024</u> | <u>79,855</u> |

#### 9: Funds

|  | Unrestricted   | Restricted    | Note 10<br>Endowment | Total 2023     | 2022           |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Unrestricted and Restricted Capital (Buildings) reserves     | 42,292         | 85,683        | 179,794              | 307,769        | 290,794        |
| Unrestricted - St Matthew's Hall Management Committee        | 62,759         |               |                      | 62,759         | 63,115         |
| Unrestricted - General Fund:                                 | 6,869          |               |                      | 6,869          | 10,527         |
| Restricted: Organ Fund £7,552 and Restoration Bequest £2,000 |                | 9,552         |                      | 9,552          | 9,552          |
|  |                |               | 9,360                | 9,360          | 9,360          |
|  | <u>111,920</u> | <u>95,235</u> | <u>189,154</u>       | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |

Locally managed endowment funds consist of a number of specific legacies, the income from which may be used for the general purposes of the PCC:

Other Endowment funds are "custodian" funds invested by the Diocese of Durham on behalf of the parish as shown in note 10

**All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council**  
**Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Note 10 Investment assets**

These accounts include the consolidation of endowment funds held in trust on the PCC's behalf by the Diocese of Durham. These funds are ultimately under the control of the PCC for church purposes, subject to endowment restrictions in each Trust deed.

*The funds are invested in low risk investment funds and interest bearing deposits in accordance with Diocesan investment policy*

|                           | Valuation<br>1/1/22 | 2022 financial year |                         | Valuation<br>31/12/22 | 2023 financial year |                         | Valuation<br>31/12/23 | Notes         |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                           |                     | income              | investment<br>gain/loss |                       | income              | investment<br>gain/loss |                       |               |
| Tithe Act                 | 6,502               |                     | -762                    | 5,739                 |                     | 545                     | 6,284                 | interest remi |
| Brunswick St              | 7,291               |                     |                         | 7,291                 |                     |                         | 7,291                 |               |
| Interest                  | 446                 | 102                 |                         | 548                   | 360                 |                         | 908                   |               |
| Windrim                   | 130,428             |                     | -15,285                 | 115,142               |                     | 10,928                  | 126,070               | see note 10.  |
| Interest                  | 23,588              | 8,832               |                         | 32,420                | 5,033               |                         | 37,453                |               |
| Church                    | 1,380               |                     | -99                     | 1,281                 |                     | 53                      | 1,334                 |               |
| Interest                  | 356                 | 41                  |                         | 397                   | 56                  |                         | 453                   |               |
| Investment<br>reserve     | <u>169,990</u>      |                     |                         | <u>162,819</u>        |                     |                         | <u>179,794</u>        |               |
| Interest realised         |                     | <u>8,975</u>        |                         |                       | <u>5,449</u>        |                         |                       |               |
| Investment<br>Gain/(Loss) |                     |                     | <u>-16,146</u>          |                       |                     | <u>11,526</u>           |                       |               |

**10.1 The Windrim Trust (income only) is to be used for the maintenance and improvement of the Fabric of the Church**

**Note 11 Related party transactions**

The charity did not enter into any financial transactions, remuneration arrangements or contracts involving trustees or related parties in the financial year to 31 December 2023 or in the financial year to 31 December 2022



**All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council**  
**Restricted funds 2023**

| Communities of Hope | Bells appeal | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|
|---------------------|--------------|-------|

**Grants & Donations**

|                                     |          |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Sir John Priestman Charity 2022     | 8000.00  | 8000.00  |
| C Cookson Trust 2022                | 4000.00  | 4000.00  |
| All Churches Trust 2022             | 3400.00  | 3400.00  |
| Donations (individual) 2022         | 35880.00 | 35880.00 |
| Diocese of Durham 2023              | 4000.00  | 4000.00  |
| Northumbria Historic Churches Trust | 5000.00  | 5000.00  |
| Durham and Northumbria Bellringers  | 10000.00 | 10000.00 |
| CCBR                                | 2000.00  | 2000.00  |
| Donations 2023                      | 7165.00  | 7165.00  |
| Contribution from contractor        | 85.00    | 85.00    |
| LPOW VAT Grant                      | 14060.17 | 14060.17 |
| HMRC Gift aid Tax reclaimed         | 7462.50  | 7462.50  |

|                                 |          |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| SDF funds via Diocese of Durham | 59528.00 | 59528.00 |
| Other sources of Income - HAF   | 8488.00  | 8488.00  |
| DBF missional Grant             | 500.00   | 500.00   |
| Grants <£1000                   | 1195.00  | 1195.00  |

|  |          |           |           |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Project income (Bells) to date             | 69711.00 | 101052.67 | 170763.67 |
| less: recognised in prior year(s) itemised above | 0.00     | -93505.17 | -93505.17 |

|                              |          |         |          |
|------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| total restricted income 2022 | 69711.00 | 7547.50 | 77258.50 |
|------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|

**Project expenditure**

|  |          |         |          |
|--|----------|---------|----------|
| Capital Grant St Matthews CC                           |          |         |          |
| Group parishes; premises expenditure                   | 9579.00  |         | 9579.00  |
| other Operating costs and future commitment:           | 10514.00 |         | 10514.00 |
| Suppliers and contractors - Repairs and refurbishments |          | 7547.50 | 7547.50  |
| less costs accrued in previous period                  |          |         |          |
| Salaries costs   | 46962.00 |         | 46962.00 |
| Accrued costs and contractual liabilities              | 2656.00  |         | 2656.00  |
| Total Restricted Expenditure                           | 69711.00 | 7547.50 | 77258.50 |

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish  
of  
All Saints, Stranton**

**Registered Charity No. 1134753**

**Accounts for the Year to 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Certificate for Stranton PCC Accounts: Charity Number: 1134753**

**I report to the trustees of: All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council on accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

Independent examiner's statement:

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

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the following requirements have not been met:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with
- the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;
- to account for statutory fees correctly.

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Clive Rathbone

Date: April 26<sup>th</sup> 2024

21 Wolviston Road, Hartlepool

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

|   |        | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2023 | FUNDS<br>2022 |
|---|--------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Incoming resources</b>                               | Note:  |                       |                     |                    |               |               |
| Incoming resources from donors                          | 2a     | 71,982                | 8,488               | -                  | 80,470        | 79,740        |
| Other voluntary incoming resources                      | 2b     | 4,137                 | 68,771              | -                  | 72,908        | 140,855       |
| Income from charitable and ancillary trading            | 2c     | 28,851                | -                   | -                  | 28,851        | 31,749        |
| Other ordinary incoming resources                       | 2d     | -                     | -                   | -                  | -             | -             |
| Income from investments                                 | 2e, 10 | 1,333                 | -                   | 5,449              | 6,782         | 9,242         |
| Total incoming resources                                |        | 106,303               | 77,259              | 5,449              | 189,011       | 261,586       |
| <b>Resources Expended</b>                               |        |                       |                     |                    |               |               |
| Grants to Home and overseas mission and other charities | 3a     | 5,100                 | -                   | -                  | 5,100         | 7,729         |
| Activities Directly relating to the work of the Church  | 3b     | 85,015                | 77,259              | -                  | 162,274       | 202,858       |
| Fund Raising and Publicity                              | 3c     | 0.00                  | -                   | -                  | 0             | 1,765         |
| Church Management and Administration                    | 3d     | 20,201                | -                   | -                  | 20,201        | 29,593        |
| Total resources Expended                                |        | 110,316               | 77,259              | -                  | 187,575       | 241,945       |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Church & see note 10 |        | -3,658                |                     |                    |               |               |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources: Community Centre     |        | -356                  | -4,014              | -                  | 5,449         | 1,435         |
|   |        |                       |                     |                    | 1,435         | 5,070         |
| Other Net Gains/losses: Investment revaluation          | 10     | -                     | -                   | 11,526             | 11,526        | -16,146       |
| Net movement in funds                                   |        | -4,014                |                     | 16,975             | 12,961        | -11,076       |
| Balances Brought Forward at 1 January 2023              |        | 115,934               | 95,235              | 172,179            | 383,348       | 394,424       |
| Balances Carried Forward at 31 December 2023            |        | 111,920               | 95,235              | 189,154            | 396,309       | 383,348       |

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2023

|   | Note:    | 2023           | 2022           |
|---|----------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                 |          |                |                |
| Tangible fixed Assets                               | 5a       | 182,770        | 184,177        |
| Investment Assets                                   | 5b, 10   | 171,595        | 162,819        |
|   |          | <u>354,365</u> | <u>346,996</u> |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                               |          |                |                |
| Debtors and prepaid expenses                        | 7        | 13,429         | 72,148         |
| Short Term Deposits                                 |          | 8,624          | 414            |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand                            |          | 67,075         | 43,645         |
|   |          | <u>89,128</u>  | <u>116,207</u> |
| Liabilities: Amounts falling due within one year    | 8        | 47,184         | 79,855         |
| Deferred grant and donation revenue (bells project) | 8        | -              | -              |
| <b>Net Current (Liabilities)/ Assets</b>            |          | <u>47,184</u>  | <u>79,855</u>  |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                                   |          | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |
| <b>Funds:</b>                                       | 6, 9, 10 |                |                |
| Unrestricted reserves (see below)                   | 9        | 111,920        | 115,934        |
| Restricted reserves (Buildings and Organ fund)      | 9        | 95,235         | 95,235         |
| Endowment reserves                                  | 10       | 189,154        | 172,179        |
| <b>Total Reserves</b>                               |          | <u>396,309</u> | <u>383,348</u> |

Approved by resolution of the Parochial Church Council, dated 15th April 2024

Rev'd. John G Bell (Chairman)

Mr David Craig (Hon. Treasurer)

## All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council Year to 31 December 2023

### Note 1 - Accounting policies

#### 1a) Basis of Preparation

These Accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets. They have been prepared to meet the requirements of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 together with applicable Accounting Standards, the Charities Acts 2011 and 2016 and Statements of Recommended Practice. They have been prepared on an accruals basis to match income and related expenditure relating to the year under review. The statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible. Financial statements for various Church related activities or groups for which the PCC is not responsible are not included. Subsidiary Financial statements for the activities of the st Matthews Community Centre which are consolidated in these Accounts are available separately. The Accounts include the Endowment Trust Funds held and administered for the benefit of the PCC by the Diocese of Durham, as custodian Trustees.

#### 1b) Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost: freehold land and buildings are not depreciated as in the view of the PCC the effect of depreciation of these assets would not be material to an appreciation of the PCC's financial position. Office and computer equipment furniture and fixtures are depreciated using a straight line method over a period (generally 4-5 years) estimated to reflect the useful economic life of the Assets.

#### 1c) Investments

Investments are revalued annually and carried at the lower of realisable and current market value, the difference between cost and carrying value is recorded in a revaluation reserve where the value is greater than original cost: a provision is made for each investment asset for which the market value is less than its original cost. Reserves and provisions are not netted off. Endowment investments are revalued to lower of market or realisable value annually by the custodian trustees and any difference adjusted against endowment reserve.

#### 1d) Stocks

Inventory (where material) is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value and written off as expenditure when issued.

#### 1e) Debtors

Amounts receivable are stated at the value prudently expected to be realised. Full or partial provision is made for bad or doubtful debts as soon as they become apparent.

#### 1f) Liabilities, Provisions, deferred income and capital grants

Full estimates are made of income and capital grants received in advance and of outstanding liabilities incurred in the course of the PCC's Activities, and provision made in compliance with current relevant Financial Reporting Standards and recommended charity practice.

#### 1g) Pensions

Paid Staff employed by the PCC (i.e. who are not stipendiary clergy licensed by the Diocese of Durham) who are eligible for Workplace pension are offered membership of the Defined Contribution Scheme operated for the PCC by Peoples Pension (formerly B&CE), this scheme complies with the national legal membership requirements and contribution rates for workplace pensions.

#### 1h) Employment

In 2023 The PCC employed two full time (one church and one project) and five part time (two church and three project) staff. The church policy is to review pay annually by benchmarking and to ensure that as a minimum the rate of National Living Wage is maintained.

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2022

|  | 2023<br>Total | 2023<br>Unrestricted | 2023<br>Restricted | 2023<br>Endowment<br>see note 10 | 2022<br>Total  |
|--|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Operating activities</b>  |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Operating surplus / (deficit)  | 1,435         | -4,014               | -                  | 5,449                            | 5,195          |
| add items not involving movement of funds: Depreciation                        | 1,407         | 1,407                | -                  | -                                | 0              |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors   | -32,671       | -35,328              | 2,657              | -                                | 29,492         |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Debtors   | 58,719        | 42,908               | 15,811             | -                                | -45,401        |
| <b>Cash utilised in (2022 - generated from) operations</b>                     | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-1,748</b>  |
| <b>Investing activities</b>  |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Cash generated from sale of assets   | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| Cash invested in assets  | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| Other investments made   | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -              |
| <b>Grants &amp; donations (released from) / transferred to deferred income</b> | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>             | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-51,280</b> |
| <b>Cash (utilised) in investing activities - (Audiovisual System 2021)</b>     | <b>-</b>      | <b>-</b>             | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>       |
| <b>total cash movements from Operating and Investing activities</b>            | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-53,028</b> |
| <b>Represented by:</b>   |               |                      |                    |                                  |                |
| Church Current account increase (2022 - decrease) in balances                  | 21,083        | 2,615                | 18,468             | -                                | -65,820        |
| Community Centre Current Account increase in balance                           | 2,346         | 2,346                | -                  | -                                | 3,851          |
| Deposit account increase in balance  | 11            | 11                   | -                  | -                                | 4              |
| Decrease (2021- increase) in cash balances (Community Centre)                  | -             | -                    | -                  | -                                | -38            |
| Increase in endowment cash balances (Custodian balances)                       | 5,449         | -                    | -                  | 5,449                            | 8,975          |
| <b>Net Movement in liquid balances</b>   | <b>28,890</b> | <b>4,973</b>         | <b>18,468</b>      | <b>5,449</b>                     | <b>-53,028</b> |

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

| Heading   | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | TOTAL 2023 | FUNDS 2022 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| <b>2 Incoming resources</b>                                       |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| <i>2a Incoming resources from donors</i>                          |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Planned Giving  |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Gift Aided  | 40,240             | -                | -               | 40,240     | 41,799     |
| Income Tax recoverable on Gift Aid inc donations                  | 10,060             | -                | -               | 10,060     | 10,450     |
| other income tax recoverable                                      | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| other Voluntary giving  | 16,215             | -                | -               | 16,215     | 17,400     |
| Other collections   | 5,467              | -                | -               | 5,467      | 4,017      |
| Gift Day  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Bell restoration appeal - donations (deferred income see note 3b) | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Communities of Hope - Other income                                | -                  | 8,488            | -               | 8,488      | 6,074      |
|   | 71,982             | 8,488            | -               | 80,470     | 79,740     |
| <i>2b Other voluntary incoming resources</i>                      |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Grants - not including Capital Grants                             | 4,531              | -                | -               | 4,531      | 6,058      |
| Bell restoration appeal - Gift aid Tax recovered                  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Bell restoration appeal - 2022 Grants - incl LPOW VAT             | -                  | -                | -               | -          | 35,060     |
| Communities of Hope - External Grants                             | -                  | 1,695            | -               | 1,695      | 5,205      |
| Communities of Hope - SDF funding via Diocese                     | -                  | 59,528           | -               | 59,528     | 67,879     |
| Appeals etc   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | 496        |
| Legacies and Donations,   | -394               | 85               | -               | -309       | 22,488     |
| Income tax recoverable on Gift Aided Donations                    | -                  | 7,463            | -               | 7,463      | 3,669      |
| Fundraising   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
|   | 4,137              | 68,771           | -               | 72,908     | 140,855    |
| <i>2c Income from Charitable and ancillary Trading</i>            |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Magazines and book sales  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Lettings (Halls etc) contribution                                 | 20,485             | -                | -               | 20,485     | 25,385     |
| Fees  | 5,480              | -                | -               | 5,480      | 6,279      |
| Rents receivable and other income                                 | 2,886              | -                | -               | 2,886      | 85         |
|   | 28,851             | -                | -               | 28,851     | 31,749     |
| <i>2d Other ordinary incoming resources</i>                       |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Contribution to secretarial costs                                 | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| Insurance claims  | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
|   | -                  | -                | -               | -          | -          |
| <i>2e Income from investments</i>                                 |                    |                  |                 |            |            |
| Dividends, interest and bonuses including adjustment (note 10)    | 1,333              | -                | 5,449           | 6,782      | 9,242      |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources:</b>                                  | 106,303            | 77,259           | 5,449           | 189,011    | 261,586    |



# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### 3. Resources Expended

#### 3a Grants made

Missionary and Charitable Giving

Overseas mission

Relief & development agencies

Home missions and other Church Societies

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | TOTAL<br>2023 | FUNDS<br>2022 |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | 3,750                 | -                   | -                  | 3,750         | 3,000         |
|  | -                     | -                   | -                  | -             | 0             |
|  | 1,350                 | -                   | -                  | 1,350         | 4,729         |
|  | 5,100                 | -                   | -                  | 5,100         | 7,729         |

#### 3b Activities directly related to the work of the Church

Ministry:

Parish Share

Communities of Hope Hartlepool Staff costs

Communities of Hope other operating costs and deferred income

Staff expenses,

Property costs - staff accommodation

Church running expenses, excl hall recharge

Church repairs and maintenance

Recruitment and training costs incl DBS certification

Ministry costs excluding Pay cost -Burbank, Youth and families Work

Magazine - costs included in Stationery

Church hall running costs

Professional fees,surveys etc - (2021 included in capital expenditure)

Parish lay worker remuneration

Cost of parish events

Deferred Income to 2022 Bells restoration (see note 2b)

Current and accrued Expenditure - Bells restoration

|  |        |        |   |         |         |
|--|--------|--------|---|---------|---------|
|  | 38,775 | -      | - | 38,775  | 35,250  |
|  | -      | 46,962 | - | 46,962  | 62,464  |
|  | -      | 22,749 | - | 22,749  | 16,694  |
|  | 1,759  | -      | - | 1,759   | 2,125   |
|  | 281    | -      | - | 281     | 402     |
|  | 12,512 | -      | - | 12,512  | 13,189  |
|  | 7,930  | -      | - | 7,930   | 2,683   |
|  | 201    | -      | - | 201     | 34      |
|  | 722    | -      | - | 722     | 3,786   |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | 14,959 | -      | - | 14,959  | 14,446  |
|  | 0      | -      | - | 0       | 1,500   |
|  | 7,875  | -      | - | 7,875   | 22,506  |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | -      | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | -      | 7,548  | - | 7,548   | 42,225  |
|  | 85,015 | 77,259 | - | 162,274 | 217,304 |

#### 3c Fundraising and publicity

costs associated with generating funds

3c Fundraising and publicity

|  |   |   |   |   |       |
|--|---|---|---|---|-------|
|  | 0 | - | - | 0 | 1,765 |
|  | 0 | - | - | 0 | 1,765 |

#### 3d Church management and administration

Administrator remuneration incl pension contribution, and expenses

Stationery and printing

Hall overhead

Depreciation equipment & computers

Bank Charges

Legal and professional fees / costs .

|  |         |        |   |         |         |
|--|---------|--------|---|---------|---------|
|  | 13,713  | -      | - | 13,713  | 16,193  |
|  | 1,620   | -      | - | 1,620   | 1,551   |
|  | 3,059   | -      | - | 3,059   | 2,465   |
|  | 1,407   | -      | - | 1,407   | 8,967   |
|  | 402     | -      | - | 402     | 418     |
|  | -       | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | -       | -      | - | -       | 0       |
|  | 20,201  | -      | - | 20,201  | 29,593  |
|  | 110,316 | 77,259 | - | 187,575 | 256,391 |

### Total Resources Expended:

# All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council

## Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

### 4. Staff costs

Clergy stipends are paid by the Diocese: all other remuneration shown under note 3b and 3d was paid to the Parish lay worker, parish administrator and from October 2020 to the staff working on behalf of the Central Hartlepool Group of Parishes in the Communities of Hope Hartlepool - a project funded by the Diocese of Durham, and include social security costs and pension contributions made under a defined benefit scheme operated by Peoples Pension

### 5. Fixed Assets

#### 5a Tangible fixed Assets

|                         |                                | Freehold Land<br>And Buildings | Equipment,<br>fixtures<br>and IT Assets | TOTAL   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------|
| <i>Gross book value</i> | At 1 January 2023              | 178,551                        | 48,866                                  | 227,417 |
|                         | Revaluations                   | -                              | -                                       | -       |
|                         | Disposals                      | -                              | -                                       | -       |
|                         | Additions:                     | -                              | -                                       | -       |
|                         | Capital Grants applied         | -                              | -                                       | -       |
|                         | At 31 December 2023            | 178,551                        | 48,866                                  | 227,417 |
| <i>Depreciation</i>     | At 1 January 2023              |                                | 43,240                                  | 43,240  |
|                         | Disposals                      |                                | -                                       | -       |
|                         | Charge for the year/impairment |                                | 1,407                                   | 1,407   |
|                         | At 31 December 2023            |                                | 44,647                                  | 44,647  |
| <i>Net Book Value</i>   | At 31 December 2023            | 178,551                        | 4,219                                   | 182,770 |
|                         | At 31 December 2022            | 178,551                        | 5,626                                   | 184,177 |

Freehold land and buildings comprise St Matthew's Community Hall, and staff house accommodation at 10 Clarkson Court:

Other Tangible Fixed assets are amortised over periods estimated to reflect their economic lives from the date of acquisition, generally 4 to 5 years. Assets scrapped/sold are disposals

The Church building is not included in the statement of financial position as it has no historic cost record. Church buildings are insured for reinstatement costs

The Audio Equipment installed in church in 2020 has been subject to accelerated depreciation over 2 years in view of the potential for obsolescence and likely realisable value

#### 5b Investments:

The PCC does not directly hold any investments but receives income from certain designated trust funds held by Durham Diocese as custodian

As the PCC is the ultimate beneficiary of these funds they have been included in these accounts

see note 10 for an analysis of these custodian funds and their realised and unrealised changes in valuation.

#### 6 Analysis of net assets by fund

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Endowment<br>Funds | Total<br>2023 | Total<br>2022 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Fixed Assets  | 97,087                | 85,683              | -                  | 182,770       | 184,177       |
| Endowment investment funds                                | -                     | -                   | 171,595            | 171,595       | 162,819       |
| Current Assets  | 46,643                | 24,926              | 17,559             | 89,128        | 116,207       |
| Deferred Grants and donations revenue see notes 2b and 3b |                       |                     |                    | -             | 0             |
| Current Liabilities                                       | -31,810               | -15,374             | -                  | -47,184       | -79,855       |
|   | 111,920               | 95,235              | 189,154            | 396,309       | 383,348       |

#### 7 Debtors:

|                           | 2023   | 2022   |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|
| Tax Recoverable           | 4,091  | 20,876 |
| other debtors/receivables | 9,338  | 8,997  |
|                           | 13,429 | 72,148 |

#### 8. Liabilities - amounts falling due within one year:

|   | 2023   | 2022   |
|---|--------|--------|
| Accruals and deferred income                                      | 33,881 | 41,250 |
| Creditors for goods and services                                  | 6,143  | 27,091 |
| Other Provision: mission support                                  | 8,000  | 8,000  |
| Deferred grant and donations - restricted income: (belts project) | -      | -      |
| Other creditors: Tax and NIC                                      | -      | 3,514  |
|   | 48,024 | 79,855 |

#### 9: Funds

|  | Unrestricted | Restricted | Note 10<br>Endowment | Total 2023 | 2022    |
|--|--------------|------------|----------------------|------------|---------|
| Unrestricted and Restricted Capital (Buildings) reserves     | 42,292       | 85,683     | 179,794              | 307,769    | 290,794 |
| Unrestricted - St Matthew's Hall Management Committee        | 62,759       |            |                      | 62,759     | 63,115  |
| Unrestricted - General Fund:                                 | 6,869        |            |                      | 6,869      | 10,527  |
| Restricted: Organ Fund £7,552 and Restoration Bequest £2,000 |              | 9,552      |                      | 9,552      | 9,552   |
|  |              |            | 9,360                | 9,360      | 9,360   |
|  | 111,920      | 95,235     | 189,154              | 396,309    | 383,348 |

Locally managed endowment funds consist of a number of specific legacies, the income from which may be used for the general purposes of the PCC:

Other Endowment funds are "custodian" funds invested by the Diocese of Durham on behalf of the parish as shown in note 10

**All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council**  
**Notes to the Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Note 10 Investment assets**

These accounts include the consolidation of endowment funds held in trust on the PCC's behalf by the Diocese of Durham. These funds are ultimately under the control of the PCC for church purposes, subject to endowment restrictions in each Trust deed.

*The funds are invested in low risk investment funds and interest bearing deposits in accordance with Diocesan investment policy*

|                           | Valuation<br>1/1/22 | 2022 financial year |                         | Valuation<br>31/12/22 | 2023 financial year |                         | Valuation<br>31/12/23 | Notes         |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
|                           |                     | income              | investment<br>gain/loss |                       | income              | investment<br>gain/loss |                       |               |
| Tithe Act                 | 6,502               |                     | -762                    | 5,739                 |                     | 545                     | 6,284                 | interest remi |
| Brunswick St              | 7,291               |                     |                         | 7,291                 |                     |                         | 7,291                 |               |
| Interest                  | 446                 | 102                 |                         | 548                   | 360                 |                         | 908                   |               |
| Windrim                   | 130,428             |                     | -15,285                 | 115,142               |                     | 10,928                  | 126,070               | see note 10.  |
| Interest                  | 23,588              | 8,832               |                         | 32,420                | 5,033               |                         | 37,453                |               |
| Church                    | 1,380               |                     | -99                     | 1,281                 |                     | 53                      | 1,334                 |               |
| Interest                  | 356                 | 41                  |                         | 397                   | 56                  |                         | 453                   |               |
| Investment<br>reserve     | <u>169,990</u>      |                     |                         | <u>162,819</u>        |                     |                         | <u>179,794</u>        |               |
| Interest realised         |                     | <u>8,975</u>        |                         |                       | <u>5,449</u>        |                         |                       |               |
| Investment<br>Gain/(Loss) |                     |                     | <u>-16,146</u>          |                       |                     | <u>11,526</u>           |                       |               |

**10.1 The Windrim Trust (income only) is to be used for the maintenance and improvement of the Fabric of the Church**

**Note 11 Related party transactions**

The charity did not enter into any financial transactions, remuneration arrangements or contracts involving trustees or related parties in the financial year to 31 December 2023 or in the financial year to 31 December 2022

**All Saints Stranton Parochial Church Council**  
**Restricted funds 2023**

| Communities of Hope | Bells appeal | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|
|---------------------|--------------|-------|

**Grants & Donations**

|                                     |          |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Sir John Priestman Charity 2022     | 8000.00  | 8000.00  |
| C Cookson Trust 2022                | 4000.00  | 4000.00  |
| All Churches Trust 2022             | 3400.00  | 3400.00  |
| Donations (individual) 2022         | 35880.00 | 35880.00 |
| Diocese of Durham 2023              | 4000.00  | 4000.00  |
| Northumbria Historic Churches Trust | 5000.00  | 5000.00  |
| Durham and Northumbria Bellringers  | 10000.00 | 10000.00 |
| CCBR                                | 2000.00  | 2000.00  |
| Donations 2023                      | 7165.00  | 7165.00  |
| Contribution from contractor        | 85.00    | 85.00    |
| LPOW VAT Grant                      | 14060.17 | 14060.17 |
| HMRC Gift aid Tax reclaimed         | 7462.50  | 7462.50  |

|                                 |          |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| SDF funds via Diocese of Durham | 59528.00 | 59528.00 |
| Other sources of Income - HAF   | 8488.00  | 8488.00  |
| DBF missional Grant             | 500.00   | 500.00   |
| Grants <£1000                   | 1195.00  | 1195.00  |

|  |          |           |           |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Total Project income (Bells) to date             | 69711.00 | 101052.67 | 170763.67 |
| less: recognised in prior year(s) itemised above | 0.00     | -93505.17 | -93505.17 |

|                              |          |         |          |
|------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| total restricted income 2022 | 69711.00 | 7547.50 | 77258.50 |
|------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|

**Project expenditure**

|  |          |         |          |
|--|----------|---------|----------|
| Capital Grant St Matthews CC                           |          |         |          |
| Group parishes; premises expenditure                   | 9579.00  |         | 9579.00  |
| other Operating costs and future commitment:           | 10514.00 |         | 10514.00 |
| Suppliers and contractors - Repairs and refurbishments |          | 7547.50 | 7547.50  |
| less costs accrued in previous period                  |          |         |          |
| Salaries costs   | 46962.00 |         | 46962.00 |
| Accrued costs and contractual liabilities              | 2656.00  |         | 2656.00  |
| Total Restricted Expenditure                           | 69711.00 | 7547.50 | 77258.50 |