



**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Review of the
Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended 31st December
2023**

Including the Agenda for the APCM 2024 and the Minutes of the APCM
held on 14th May 2023

**Agenda of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
In St Mary the Virgin, Cheshunt**

**Sunday 12th May 2024
following the 10 am Eucharist**

1. Appointment of Clerk to the meeting.
2. Circulation of lists of attendance and apologies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on Sunday 14 May 2023.
4. Matters arising from those minutes.
5. Election of Churchwardens for the coming year.
6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities.
7. Date of Next Meeting.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

8. Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 14th May 2023.
9. Matters arising from those minutes.
10. To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss
 - a) Report on the Electoral Roll.
 - b) The Annual report of the PCC.
 - c) The independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2019.
 - d) A Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church.
 - e) A Report on Safeguarding.
 - f) A Report on the proceedings of the Cheshunt Deanery Synod.
 - g) Aspects of Parish Life.
11.
 - a) Elect up to 3 Parochial representatives of the laity to the PCC.
 - b) Appoint an Independent Examiner for the ensuing year at a remuneration to be fixed by the PCC.
12. Any Other Business. (Any items proper to the meeting not relating to the above agenda).
13. Clergy Charge
14. Date of Next Meeting.
15. Closing Prayer.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETINGS
OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT
HELD IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH ON SUNDAY 14th May 2023**

Chairman: The Revd. Eugene Hanshaw
Clerk to the Meeting: Helen Palmer

The meeting was preceded by 10am Eucharist.

1. It was unanimously carried by those present at the meeting that Helen Palmer be appointed Clerk to the meeting.
2. The attendance and apologies lists were circulated.

In attendance:- Geoffrey Parks, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Phyllis Seeby, Jeffrey Lawson, June Haynes, Doris Ridgewell, Patrick Flower, Lynne flower, Andrew Clarke, Pat Higgins, Maureen Bruce, Mark Escott, Angela Dronyij, Carol Lee , Roy Lee, Trevor Coombs, Marion Coombs,
Rosemary Trundell, Maureen Gedge, Norman reed, Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake, Carole Parks, Elizabeth Sugg, Angela Corlett, Victoria Clarke
Apologies:- Jill Barkway

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parishioners held on 15th May 2022

The minutes of this meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Trevor Coombs, Seconded by Elizabeth Sugg. Carried unanimously

4. Matters Arising from those Minutes

There were none.

5. Election of Churchwardens for the Coming Year

Fr. Eugene thanked Angela Corlett and Victoria Clarke for their help over the past year.

As this was to be Angela Corlett's last term of office as Churchwarden a thank-you gift was presented to her with grateful thanks for all she has done.

Nominations were received for Victoria Clarke, proposed by Angela Corlett and Seconded by Terence Hoare and Angela Dronyij, proposed by (Illegible), seconded by Maureen Bruce. There being no further nominations it was unanimously agreed that Victoria Clarke and Angela Dronyi be duly elected as Churchwardens

6. Report on the Cheshunt Churchwardens Charities

Victoria Clarke reported that there are funds available for use via the Churchwardens Charities and encourages the use of these. Submissions for consideration for grants can be submitted either to Fr. Eugene or to the Churchwardens

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was announced that the date of the next meeting will be Sunday 14th May 2024

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

In attendance:- Geoffrey Parks, Terry Hoare, Marion Hoare, Phyllis Seeby, Jeffrey Lawson, June Haynes, Doris Ridgewell, Patrick Flower, Lynne flower, Andrew Clarke, Pat Higgins, Maureen Bruce, Mark Escott, Angela Dronyij, Carol Lee , Roy Lee, Trevor Coombs, Marion Coombs,

Rosemary Trundell, Maureen Gedge, Norman reed, Elspeth Ellis, Edna Oake, Carole Parks, Elizabeth Sugg, Angela Corlett, Victoria Clarke

Apologies:- Jill Barkway

8. Minutes of the APCM held on Sunday 15th May 2022

The minutes of this meeting were agreed following a correction of the name of Samantha Whorlow being changed to Samantha King and were then signed as a correct record.

Proposed by Phyllis Seeby and seconded by Angela Corlett. Carried unanimously.

9. Matters Arising from those minutes

There were none

10. To receive from the PCC with the opportunity to discuss

a) Report on the Electoral Roll

Fr. Eugene thanked Lynne Flower, the Electoral Roll Officer for all her work.

She reported that:

There was no real change and one name added taking the number on the electoral roll to **98**

b) The Annual report of the PCC

Please refer to the document entitled Report of the PCC to the Annual Meeting 2023 for detail . This included reports on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church and Safeguarding (given by Victoria Clarke Churchwarden)

c) The Independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Geoff Parkes our financial officer gave the report of the finances of the church ..

The financial position of the church during 2022. remains precarious. Please refer to the financial report for full detail.

We had received three separate legacies during 2021 & 2022 and without these gifts the church finances would be struggling to meet budget.. We are still managing to pay our Parish Share at present which is important..

GP thanked the Friends of St. Marys for their continued support.

Fundraising events have been planned and carried out which do help to add to the finances of the church.

No questions were asked

Thanks were given to Geoff for all his hard work with the finances.

d). VC gave the report on the Fabric Goods and Ornaments of the Church and read the statutory statement

e). VC read out the Statutory statement regarding safeguarding within the church. There are no safeguarding issues to report.

DBS checks continue to be carried out by Beverley Hanshaw. PCC members will be contacted when their current qualification expires.

f). Excerpts of the Deanery synod report were read out by Fr. Eugene. Please refer to page 12 and 13 for full detail.

g). Aspects of Parish life – All encouraged to read this within the document

11. a) elect up to three members of the laity to the PCC ∴ Angela Corlett and Marion Hoare were duly elected as members of the PCC. All other members continue their current term of office.

b) Deanery Synod representatives. These officers can continue for a further (2nd term) of 3 years term of office. Geoffrey Parkes and Elizabeth Sugg.

c) Appoint an Independent examiner. Steve Sell was duly elected again at a fee of £110 AOB None.

13 Discussion on Mission.

Fr. Eugene talked about that since Covid and the death of her late Majesty QE11 St. Marys finds itself very busy within the community which has translated itself into increasing numbers in the congregation.

He mentioned initiatives such as Bible in one year which was done during 2022 and Bible Bash (to discuss the readings) and also the recent prayer course during Easter.

Wednesday coffee morning is proving very popular with a good mix of attendees,

Chips and Chaps for men and

Puddings and Prosecco for women are also doing well.

14 Date of next meeting 12th May 2024

15. The meeting closed with prayer at 12.15

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Report of the Parochial Church Council
of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended 31st
December 2023**

The Church of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt
Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8 9NB.

HMRC reference number:
Contents:

7 Trustees' Annual Report

14 The PCC Report

15 Deanery Synod Report

18 Financial Review

! Financial Report

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7854/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMaryCheshunt

Team Vicar: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, The Vicarage, Churchgate, Cheshunt, Herts, EN8
9DY

Church Wardens: Mrs Angela Dronyi, Mrs Victoria Clarke,

Independent Examiner: Stephen Sell FCCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank and CCLA Investment Management Ltd

Trustees' Annual Report for 2023

Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC of St Mary's has the responsibility of co-operating with Revd Eugene in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical

The Trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The purpose of our charity is to promote the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England, obeying Christ's two commandments *'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'* Mark 12.30-31a.

- Our key aims can be divided into four areas: Leadership, Fabric, Worship and Community.

Leadership:	to Manage parish affairs responsibly
Fabric:	to care for St Mary's Church as a place of worship, historic monument and community resource; to provide a hospitable welcome for worshippers and visitors
Worship:	to worship reverently, inclusively and accessibly; to grow in understanding and experience
Community:	to communicate our ministry and services effectively; to serve our local community; to offer support beyond our parish boundary

Objectives and Activities

For 2023 we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims:

Leadership:

Encourage more Lay leaders and more people to explore vocations during 2023

Fabric:

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric as we prepare for the Quinquennial Inspection in 2024

Worship:

Enhance and build on our Family Services

Develop a programme of worship for Young People, (School Years 7-13).

Provide opportunities for Christian study

Continue to implement our Mission Action Plan

Community

Continue to build closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools

Continue to provide help for those in need

Achievement and performance

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives

LEADERSHIP

Cheshunt is a large parish with diverse population. The socio-economic make-up of the parish is mixed, with much hidden, and not so hidden poverty.

A relatively small number of mostly volunteers make possible the benefit which our charity offers to others.

Assistant Curate-in-Training

Reverend Mark Escott has become an integral part of the ministry team at St Mary's, and it has been a joy to be a part of his training and formation. Rev Mark will leave us during 2024 as he takes up his first incumbency.

Lay Leader of Worship

We have two LLW's, Andrew Clarke and Terry Hoare. They have served at the altar including as Sub-Deacon's and Liturgical Deacon's during 2023.

FABRIC

We are blessed with a beautiful historic church built on ancient foundations. This carries a responsibility to preserve its fabric for effective use, both today and into the future. We take this responsibility seriously, mindful of the benefit to the community that the church building provides.

WORSHIP

Welcome:

St Mary's Church interior is a holy space set apart for peaceful reflection and prayer.

A wide range of parishioners contribute to our welcome and the enhancement of our worship, including arranging flowers, ringing bells, cleaning, singing, playing music and assisting with our church services.

Services:

Our main times of worship are on Sunday's at 8am and 10am, Tuesday at 7.30pm and Thursday at 11am.

We welcomed Dewhurst St Mary Primary School into church for their Year 6 Leavers Service, Christingle, their Easter Service and their Harvest Festival. St Mary's High School attended the church for their Carol Service and the Robert Dewhurst Founders Day Service.

We had our usual services to mark the major Christian festivals as well as Remembrance Sunday and an All Souls service.

Services designed for families:

We continue with the Family service. This is a non-Eucharistic service with a mix of worship songs more suitable for families. We have seen a steady rise in numbers at this service.

Study:

Studying together may be considered an extension of worship. Our parish values opportunities to learn and deepen faith and spirituality.

During Lent we followed The Prayer Course, and our Team Advent Course took place at St Clement's Church, Turnford where we looked at Christmas Carols and their place in our church history, tradition and Scripture.

Mission Action Plan:

We continue to

COMMUNITY

Communication:

To communicate Christian values and serve community both locally and further afield we aim to provide an effective communication network.

The monthly church newsletter continues to be produced and distributed on-line or by hard copy for those unable to access the internet.

St Mary's now has a regularly updated 'A Church Near You' page which provides information on church services, events, how to arrange a wedding/baptism/funeral, and contact details.

The church has established a presence on social media with a St Mary's Facebook page. This page is used to distribute information regarding church activities, as well as live streaming Sunday services. This page is viewed by many people in the wider Cheshunt community and beyond, and many people join our Sunday services who would otherwise not be able to access church.

The church "WhatsApp" group has provided a circle of prayer and support that has been much in use throughout the lockdowns.

Building closer ties with the local church primary and secondary schools:

Revd Eugene has led Collective Worship at both of our church schools, Dewhurst St Mary Primary and St Mary's High School. He has also been able to go into classes at both schools and welcome classes from Dewhurst St Mary into church as he has helped to enhance the learning of the RE curriculum at both schools. Beginning in September 2023 Revd Eugene worked with the Year 6 class at Dewhurst St Mary's on a new diocesan initiative called 'The Alban Way'. This project seeks to help the children as they transition from primary to secondary school and teach them about mental and spiritual wellbeing through a 'rule of life'.

Revd Eugene is a Foundation Governor at both schools, while four members of the St Mary's congregation are Foundation Governors at St Mary's CE High School.

Students from St Mary's CE High School gave boxes of gifts and Christmas cards to many members of the church congregation. Many who received gifts have written letters of thanks to individual students.

Continue to provide help to those in need:

The Christian community stretches beyond parish boundaries out into the world. The parish continues to support the Broxbourne Food Bank by providing a collection point in church, as well as two of our congregation helping in the day-to-day operation of the Foodbank. The parish also contributed financial support to the St Albans Diocese Harvest Appeal, the Children's Society and Crisis

Through a lease agreement with B3 Living, Church House continues to provide eight flats for rent, to tenants of the housing association.

Aims and objectives for 2024

For 2024 the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims are planned:

Leadership:

As Revd Eugene leaves the Parish we will work with the Diocese of St Albans to appoint a new parish priest.

Establish a financial policy that enables realistic continuity and development of ministry

Fill casual vacancies on the PCC

Encourage people to consider leadership roles within the church both lay and ordained.

Fabric:

Continue repairs and maintenance to the church fabric following the 2019 Quinquennial Report.

To make progress on the Community Access Projects (initially the installation of toilets in church) with the help of the architects and the DAC.

Worship:

Continue to develop worship with children and families

Continue to implement the MAP

Continue to develop the roles of Lay Leader of Worship

Continue to develop co-operation across the Cheshunt Team Ministry

Community:

Continue to enhance online communications

Explore potential for improving our facilities in church to better serve the community

Support Churches Together in Cheshunt and Waltham Cross

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary the Virgin Cheshunt is a registered charity no 1134781

Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Incumbent: The Revd Eugene Hanshaw

Assistant Curate: The Revd Mark Escott

Wardens: Victoria Clarke, (Lay Vice-Chair), Angela Dronyi.

Elected Members

Angela Corlett

Christopher Isham (Resigned)

Marion Hoare

Jeffrey Lawson

Jill Barkway

Samantha Whorlow

Pat Higgins

Co-opted Members

Mrs Helen Palmer

Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Victoria Clarke

Deanery Synod

Mr Geoffrey Parks

Mrs Elizabeth Sugg

Appointed Officers:

Data Protection	Vacancy
Chair of Finance:	Geoff Parks
Chair of Fabric:	Vacancy
Electoral Roll Officer:	Lynne Flower
Environmental Officer:	Vacancy
Fire Officer:	Angela Corlett
Giving Secretary:	Geoff Parks
Health and Safety:	The Churchwardens
Parish Secretary:	Vacancy
PCC Minute Secretary:	Helen Palmer
Properties Officers:	The Churchwardens and Geoff Parks
Refreshments Officer:	Pat Higgins
Safeguarding	Vicky Clarke

Standing Committee of the PCC – ex officio appointments:

The Incumbent/Lay Vice Chair
Churchwardens
Deputy Churchwardens
Chair/Deputy of Finance as required
PCC Appointee

Deanery Synod

Geoff Parks & Elizabeth Sugg.

Team Council:

The Incumbent
Angela Corlett
Victoria Clarke

SALARIED APPOINTMENTS

None

FEE PAID STAFF

Cleaner:	Fay Metin
Organists:	Caroline Sayer-Thomas David Border
Verger:	Victoria Gibson-Musk

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church, the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods) and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM).

Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE PCC

The PCC operates through committees and agrees their terms of reference. Membership is determined by the PCC in consultation with the committee chairman. The Incumbent and/or Chairman of the PCC are ex-officio members and may assume the Chair at meetings.

Standing Committee: The only committee required by law; it has power to transact the Business of the PCC between meetings and is subject to directions given by the PCC; it consists of a minimum of five persons of which the Incumbent and the Churchwardens are ex officio members. The Treasurer/Chair of Finance and Deputy Wardens are appointed by the PCC.

Fabric Committee: This committee reconvened during 2023

Finance Committee: This committee assists the Treasurer in his tasks of overseeing Church finances by monitoring income and expenditure, budgeting, maintaining appropriate financial controls and preparing the Annual Report and Accounts for approval by the PCC. It will oversee arrangements for the independent scrutiny of the accounts and undertake responsibility for risk management.

MANAGEMENT OF RISKS


The PCC has noted the requirement to identify risks, which if ignored, may come to bear adversely upon the life of the Church of St Mary's. These risks are not merely financial but include other concerns.

The PCC remains aware of the challenge to retain financial liquidity in order to maintain and develop the mission of the Church, upkeep its historic Church building and provide DDA compliant facilities for its members and those of the community. It is important to the Church community that they are not merely maintaining a museum, but that the church should also be a place of vibrant worship of, and witness to God's work across the whole of humanity as well as being aware of the needs of the wider community and the building and worshipping community should be able to reflect those needs.

The Trustees, to the best of their knowledge and belief, advise that there have been no serious financial incidents (as defined by the Charity Commission) during the year 2019 relating to our charity, which have not been brought to the attention of the Charity Commission.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair



Date 22/4/24

PCC Report for year ending 31 December 2023

Fabric, Goods and Ornaments

The Church Wardens have discharged their duties under sections 4 and 5 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 to maintain all appropriate records relating to the fabric of the church building and its contents and to inspect the fabric of the church.

The annual fabric report was presented to the PCC at their meeting on 22nd April and approved.

During 2023 regular servicing and inspections were carried out as follows: -

Five yearly fixed wiring test (Jan), PAT testing (Sept), Gas inspection and heater servicing (Nov), Organ blower motor inspection (?), Roof alarm (Oct), Fire extinguishers (Dec).

In addition, repairs to the south wall were completed and the north wall was also redecorated. Thanks to a generous donation, it was possible to have the gates on the south porch repainted.

The down pipes on the north side were in a bad state, and one had completely broken. This was replaced and the rest were repaired and repainted. The roof was cleared of pine needles at the same time.

The clock was found to be in a dangerous state and the mechanism was taken away and repaired over the summer.

There were more problems with the screen and the projector, and these were fixed in November.

Safeguarding

The PCC has complied with the duty under s5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

At their meeting on 6th March 2023 the following policies were read and agreed:- Policy for Safeguarding Children 2023, Policy for Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults 2023, Policy for Responding to Domestic Abuse 2023, Policy for Lone Working 2023.

The policy for Managing Ex-Offenders was read and approved at the meeting on 17th April 2023.

A photo of the Parish Safeguarding Officer (Vicky) was displayed on the notice board as were contact details of the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and organisations that provide help and support for victims.

Following the Archdeacon's inspection (carried out by the Rural Dean) the church page on the "A Church Near You" website was updated to ensure that safeguarding information was easily accessible.

Safeguarding is a standing item on each PCC Agenda and Vicky reports on any new information in the Diocesan Safeguarding Newsletter. Members of the PCC continue to access on-line safeguarding training as well as sessions at the Vicarage.

CHESHUNT DEANERY SYNOD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD – 2023

Synod Officers

Rural Dean: Revd Dr. Rachel Pennant (St. Catherine and St. Paul, Hoddesdon) until September

Revd. Chris Kilgour (St. Thomas a Becket, Northaw with St. Andrew Cuffley, from October)

Lay Chairman: Mrs Gillian Hutchinson (St. Clement, Turnford)

Honorary Secretary & Treasurer: Miss Dorothy Ayre (St. Cuthbert, Rye Park)

Synod Meetings: The Deanery Synod met on three occasions during 2023.

- February via Zoom
- June at Goffs Oak
- October at Cheshunt

7 February – Mrs. Theresa Britt, Trustee of the Beds. and Herts. Historic Churches Trust spoke to us. She explained the background to the Trust and ways it can help. It dates from 1991 when a registered charity was formed to make grants to churches still open for public worship to make repairs to their fabric. Most supporters are church members, but others are concerned to preserve the national heritage. To receive assistance churches must become a corporate member. The trust helps non Anglican church buildings too, but must be part of the local Churches Together and be the owner of their building. Modern buildings are not excluded. The trust has awarded £3.5 million since it began. Once awarded a grant remains active for two years and is paid out on receipt of an Architect's certificate of satisfactory completion. The money comes from regular supporters who pay an Annual subscription plus proceeds from fundraising events, chief amongst them being the Bike and Hike.

Congratulations were extended to Charles Hudson, on his appointment as Archdeacon of St. Albans. Rachel mentioned the refugees in the Marriot Hotel. Helen reported on the situation at St. Clement's, who have contact with 25-30 Iranian Christians and how they are supporting those who are now attending. She appealed for donations, and local people who have been through a safer recruitment process to help midweek. Churches Together are working with a charity worker from Care4Calais who have experience in working with two similar hotels. It is not easy to get help quickly, and frustrating for people willing to help. The Treasurer gave an up to date report on the Finances, with current funds held £5,320.33

13 June AGM – Held at Goffs Oak together with Eucharistic and Social time and refreshment with Officers from the parishes. Reports were received from the Treasurer with end of year accounts showing funds held of £6,621.73 this included £4,139.50 Deanery Hub Grants awaiting distribution to parishes for various Youth/Children's ministry. Since the beginning of the year £1,250 had been paid out in grants. Rural Dean's expenses and Administrator Support paid out had been reimbursed by the Diocese. The Standing/Mission and Pastoral

Committee had met on two occasions to discuss Pastoral Aid Grants for 2023. Incumbents and Treasurers met to review the Parish Share Factor which they decided to leave the same.

We were advised that the main topics discussed at the Diocesan Synod during the year included Living in Love and Faith as discussed by General Synod, a process which has been underway for about six years, enabling all to reflect on relationships, sexuality, marriage, gender and human identity. One of the key issues raising most concern was the Prayers of Love and Faith, which the House of Bishops commended for use. The Synod acknowledged the need for younger and more diverse members of our communities to be introduced to God and to develop their faith, within the broad mission and ministry offered by our parishes. Also to enable growing younger and more diverse the Synod. David White, Diocesan Secretary introduced the new Diocesan Grant Schemes

The Coronation of King Charles III was raised by Bishop Alan. The King wanted the theme of the Service to be about service. The churches could serve their parishes by screening the Coronation Service, holding our own Coronation Big Lunch, Live Stream the Coronation Concert, and supporting 'The Big Help Out', a day of celebrating volunteering and an opportunity to engage in some volunteer work in our parishes.

10 October – We welcomed Kate Ford, Diocesan Giving Adviser who gave a talk on "Growing giving in your Parish", which was supported by a Power Point presentation illustrating the points. Those highlighted included the various ways of giving, Regular Giving, Legacy Giving, Contactless, Online and QR Giving. It is vital to have good communication with your Parish to advise why we should give. The National Giving Survey 2021 showed there were 2,000 regular worshippers in Church of England Parishes, with 33% not giving to their church at all, 40% have never been asked to give regularly, and less than 33% are regularly thanked for their giving. What's the message? Christian understanding of generosity, your building, your impact. Don't assume that people know that your church is a charity, and your church is entirely self-supporting.

Jeremy Pearce was appointed as our Lay Representative on Diocesan Synod. The Treasurer reported we have a balance of £4,340.56 in our Barclays Bank Account, £2,889.50 relates to Deanery Hub Grants still available for new projects with Children and Families, growing faith within home, school, or church. Meeting dates were arranged for 2024.

Business of Note:

- a) Finance: Reports are prepared by Miss Dorothy Ayre, Honorary Treasurer.
- b) The Synod also seeks:
 - To encourage representatives on Synod to take back to their parishes matters of impact for consideration in their PCC.
 - To bring back to Synod any consideration their PCC may have.
 - To invite members of each congregation to appropriate discussions or to hear speakers covering a wide range of issues.

Charitable Status of Deanery Synod: The Synod has charitable status and is exempt from registration with the Charity Commissioners.

Full Minutes: Full Minutes of each Deanery Synod Meeting are circulated to all Synod Members. Parishes requiring a fuller report on any of the Synod's proceedings should ask one of their Deanery Synod Members for more details. Copies of previous Deanery Synod minutes are available to PCC Secretaries on request.

Further information can be obtained from the Deanery Secretary/Treasurer or Rural Dean.

2024 Deanery Synod Meeting Dates
12 February 7.30 pm on Zoom,
24 June AGM, Eucharist and Social, St. Clement's, Turnford
7 October St. Augustine's Broxbourne

20 February 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial Budget

The budget set for 2023 predicted an income/expenditure deficit of £11,913, however the actual deficit for the year was £30,140. A considerable amount of restoration work had to be undertaken at the church and improvements to the portacabin during the year, the cost of which mainly accounted for the increase in the deficit.

Reserves Policy

Reserves Policy was to retain a minimum of £30,000 in the Barclays Business Account to enable the church to meet financial commitments. A fall below this level would require a review of income/expenditure and potential draw down from reserve funds.

Reserve funds are invested in accounts with the CCLA Bank of which there are ten; designated or restricted, for specific funding purposes. Additional investments are made by the Diocesan Board of Finance on behalf of the church in to three further specific funds.

Funding Initiatives

Online giving was established during 2020 using the SumUp 'Give a Little' web portal. There are direct links from the church Facebook page and 'A Church Near You'. A debit/credit card reader is used to make giving to St Mary's easier, as well as enabling easier payment of fees for weddings. A charity donation bucket has been placed at the south porch entrance, to encourage donations from attendees to weddings/funerals/baptisms and events at the church.

Planned Giving

The church is grateful to all those members of the congregation that have been able to support the church, by continuing to make a regular donation to the church collection, particularly by Standing Order Payments or the Parish Giving Scheme. Having the benefit of regular payments affords the church better financial planning and management. Giving by these two methods raised £39,969 towards the church finances.

Stewardship

A stewardship campaign did not take place during the year.

Parish Share

At the outset of the year the PCC had made a commitment to pay the Parish Share in full for 2023 and this was achieved. This was possible thanks to the continued financial support of the congregation and fund raising activities, for which all associated with St Mary's, can be justifiably proud.

Properties

Church House

The property is subject to a 49-year lease with B3 Living Housing Association, providing affordable accommodation to eight local families. The church receives an annual ground rent which is subject to review on a 5 yearly cycle. The ground rent was reviewed during 2023 and this increased from £2000 to £2276.

Estimated market value of the property is £2,100,000.

Curates House – 4 Goff's Lane

The property continues to be occupied by the church Curate Mark Escott and his family, who maintained the property in good condition.

Occupancy of 4a Goff's Lane by the curate means that the church benefits from a reduction in the Parish Share paid. The Diocese is responsible for all service and community bills, except for water rates, which the church pays.

During the year improvements were made to the rear garden of the property, making it more manageable by adding grey slate chippings to replace the patchy lawn.

A monthly standing order for £125 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Church Property', to provide funds for any maintenance charges to the property.

Church Office (Portacabin)

The property is in a reasonable state of repair for its age. The unit was only ever intended to be a temporary structure and during the year, it was necessary to replace sections of the south facing wall to ensure continued integrity against water penetration. Guttering was also added to improve drainage. It is intended, when possible, for the portacabin to be replaced with a more permanent structure.

Improvements to the interior of the portacabin comprised securing the wash room hand basin (which had become detached from the wall) and

replacing the hot water unit, which had ceased working. The five year electrical certification and PAT testing was carried out. The opportunity was also taken to replace the existing electric heaters (one of which had ceased working) with new more energy efficient thermostatically controlled units. This allowed a frost setting to be activated, keeping the portacabin to a minimum temperature, preventing freezing pipes in the wash room and maintaining an acceptable ambient temperature for the photocopier to operate.

Having previously upgraded the internet connection to the office, it became necessary to replace the office computer, which was out of date, to effectively utilise the improved connection. Thanks to a generous donation, it was possible to purchase a high specification laptop, which is now in use. It was also possible to obtain software and cloud storage free of charge from Microsoft, under the church charitable status.

Main Church Building

A Fabric Committee has been established to restart working towards the development of the Baptistry area and manage other church improvement projects. The church is grateful to Jim Gardener, Funeral Directors for the generous donation of £5000 towards decorative improvements to the church. With this money it was possible to carry out replastering and painting of the north wall and restore and paint the south porch gate, which had a new notice board attached.

The unexpected collapse of one of the church downpipes to the north side of the church, resulted in a survey of all the downpipes on that side of the church. The poor condition of all the downpipes and hoppers resulted in 'Between Time Ltd' being commissioned to carry out the necessary restoration work identified, including repainting.

Regular servicing of tower clock, heating, fire extinguishers, roof alarm, organ and inspection of the lightning conductor was undertaken. Later the tower clock needed a further major repair to be carried out. A monthly standing order of £100 is paid into the CCLA bank account for 'Planned Major Maintenance'. Thanks go to the 'Friends of St Mary's for providing funds for the replacement of a heater in the church and also for the replacement of the projector and operation of the screen.

Thanks also go to the Church Holiday Committee for financing the restoration of the Aumbrey Lamp from funds remaining, following closure of the Church Holiday account.

Gas and Electricity Utility Bills

The rising cost of utility bills presents an ongoing challenge to the church financially. Gas and electricity provided to the church is purchased through the "Parish Buying Energy Basket." This scheme provides access

to cheaper utility rates than would otherwise be available to the church independently. The church had been paying VAT on all its gas and electricity bills at the full rate of 20% instead of the 5% rate it was entitled to. However, this has now been corrected and the church was able to have all bills reviewed over a period of four years, resulting in the church utility accounts being credited with the overcharge made during this period and a refund to cover the Portacabin electricity account.

Current Financial Position

St Mary's continues to find itself in a challenging financial position as with previous years. Legacies received over recent years have provided an important lifeline to the church, which like any other charity, could not continue in its mission, without such support. Legacy money received, together with the financial support of the congregation, has enabled the church to pay its Parish Share in full for a fifth consecutive year. Please consider leaving a legacy to the church to help secure its continued future. There are individual inheritance tax advantages for providing a legacy.

The greatest challenge faced by the church is the rise in utility bill costs. These will continue to have, a significant impact on finances for the foreseeable future. In order to manage this, it is important that all future expenditure on church fabric, is considered against church reserves held and the ability of the church to pay the utility bills. The replacement of the Portacabin heaters should help to reduce costs and now that the church is being charged the correct amount of VAT on its utility bills, this will be an additional benefit.

Late on in 2022 there was an incident with the organ blower overheating. This resulted in an evacuation of the church and intervention by the Fire Brigade. Fortunately, no extensive damage resulted, and the organ blower was removed, repaired and reinstalled. A contract has now been put in place to ensure that the Organ Blower is inspected and serviced annually.

The viability of the church depends entirely on growing the congregation and fund-raising events. During the year organised fund raising events took place which helped support of the church finances. Thanks to all that organised and supported these events.

Outlook for 2024 and beyond

A new CCLA account was opened for the purpose of managing funds associated with the 'Hand Bell' ringers.

The contract for the photocopier was due to expire and a new contract was negotiated with a new supplier, Vision Office Technical Services. The contract is for thirty-six months after which the church will own the copier outright. At the end of this period the church will only pay for printing costs and servicing. This should see a substantial cost saving to the church.

The PCC will explore as many ways as possible to introduce new initiatives to raise funds, implement long term cost savings (which may involve an initial expenditure) to improve the church finances, as well as make improvements to the fabric of the church, to the benefit of the congregation and sustainability of the church.

The financial outlook for the church in 2024 remains challenging. It is intended once again to try to pay the Parish Share in full for the year. This will obviously be a financial challenge, but it is important that we endeavour to meet this commitment.

While the church finances are supported by reserve funds, these are not finite. Once utilised, it will be difficult if not impossible to replenish these, requiring careful consideration on any future drawdown of funds.

Finance Team

All aspects of church finances have been devolved to the meetings of the PCC. Full financial disclosure and reports were provided to the members of the PCC by the church treasurer at scheduled meetings. It is intended to set up a new Finance Committee in 2024.

Gratitude

The PCC would like to express its thanks to members of the congregation that have despite the challenging times, managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Thanks also to the 'Friends of St Mary's' for the financial and other support they provided to the church, throughout the year.

The PCC would also like to express their sincere gratitude and thanks to Jim Gardener Funeral Directors for their generous donation to the church and members of the congregation for other donations made.

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC
and signed on their behalf by

The Revd Eugene Hanshaw, Chair

Date: 22 April 2024

**Financial Report of the Parochial Church
Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
Cheshunt St Mary for the year ended
31st December 2023**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the
accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

PCC OF St Mary Cheshunt

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1134781

Set out on pages

IV to XV

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2023**.

Responsibilities and basis
of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

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

Signed:

Stephen J Sell FCCA.

Date:

24/04/24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHESHUNT, HERTFORDSHIRE

Name: STEPHEN JOHN SELL

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

FCCA

Address:

16 GARNER DRIVE

BROXBOURNE, HERTFORDSHIRE

EN10 6AP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern
(see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and
guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
MONEY IN		£	£	£
Church				
Cash collections at regular services	1	4,087	4,087	
Cash collections charity specific	2	181		181
Donations	3	12,151	12,151	
Gift Aid envelopes		390	390	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed				
Other Cash Collections	4	1,157	1,157	
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	1	36,839	36,839	
Planned Giving via Standing Order	1	3,130	3,130	
Sumup/Easy Fund Raising	5	569	569	
Wedding & funeral fees income		9,768	9,768	
Church House				
Church House Ground Rent		3,052	3,052	
Curate's House				
4a Goff's Lane rental income	6			
General				
Fund raising	7	5,905	5,905	
Fund raising charity specific		257		257
Legacies	8			
Other receipts	9	11,131	11,131	
Banking				
Barclays reward		44	44	
Interest & Dividend	10	512	512	
Interest & Dividend	10	1,127		1127
CCLA Accounts Interest	11	7,554	7,554	
Barclays Saver Account Interest	12	612	612	
Total money in		<u>98,299</u>	<u>96,901</u>	<u>1398</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Note</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>
MONEY OUT		£	£	£
Church				
Church energy & water bills		12,262	12,262	
Church maintenance/repairs	13	27,602	27,602	
Church servicing	14	4,977	4,977	
Clergy expenses		4,113	4,113	
Cost of organists at regular church services		2,305	2,305	
Other costs to run regular church services		0	0	
Parish Share	15	41,995	41,995	
Payments to Charities	16	407	407	
Salaries, Wages, Honoraria	17	1,248	1,248	
Wedding & funeral fee payments	18	8,060	8,060	
Banking				
Barclays Commission		448	448	
Curates House				
Curates House expenses	19	603	603	
Portacabin				
Portacabin energy & water bills		2,299	2,299	
General				
Admin & sundries	20	1,062	1,062	
Insurance	21	5,116	5,116	
Other payments	22	4,793	5,267	
Phone and Broadband		511	511	
Photocopier		1,451	1,451	
Total money out		<u>119,251</u>	<u>119,725</u>	
DEFICIT		-20,785	-22,825	1,565

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS WITH PRIOR YEARS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Difference 2022 & 2023</u>	
MONEY IN	£	£	£	£	%
Church					
Planned Giving via Standing Order	6,350	3,605	3,130	-439	-1%
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	29,759	36,403	36,839		
Cash collections at regular services	4,316	4,487	4,087		
Cash collections charity specific	546	808	181	-627	-78%
Donations	9,834	3,204	12,151	8,947	279%
Gift Aid envelopes	1,410	550	380	-160	
HMRC gift aid reclaimed	2,863	3,962	-	-3,962	
Other cash collections	462	1,702	1,157	-545	-32%
SumUp/Easy Fund Raising	2,658	2,404	569	-1,835	
Wedding & funeral fees income	13,663	10,720	9,768	-952	-9%
Church House					
Church House Ground Rent	2,000	2,000	3,052	1,052	53%
Curate's House					
4a Goff's Lane rental income					
General					
Fund raising	840	6,642	5,905	-737	-11%
Fund raising charity specific	546	374	257	-117	-31%
Grants					
Legacies	32,555	115,665	-	-115,665	
Other receipts	2,332	5,942	11,131	5,189	87%
Banking					
Barclays Reward	28	59	44	-15	-25%
Interest & Dividend	536	1,912	512	-1,400	-73%
MONEY OUT					
Church					
Church energy & water bills	6,448	6,685	12,262	5,577	83%
Church maintenance/repairs	1,437	8,364	27,602	19,238	230%
Church servicing	7,392	11,465	4,977	-6,488	
Clergy expenses	3,321	4,871	4,113	-758	-16%
Cost of organists at regular church service	1,875	2,230	2,305	75	3%
Other costs to run regular church services	287	0	0	0	
Parish Share	47,124	34,727	41,995	7,268	21%
Payments to Charities	441	832	407	-425	-51%
Salaries, Wages, Honor	685	1,248	1,248	0	0%
Wedding & funeral fee payments	8,842	6,359	8,060	1,701	27%
Banking					
Barclays Gen & Fees Commission	312	470	448	-22	-5%
Curates House					
Curates House expenses	348	1,301	603	-698	-54%
Portacabin					
Portacabin energy, water & other costs	1,092	3,323	2,299	-1,024	-31%
General					
Admin & sundries	846	892	1,062	170	19%
Insurance	4,700	4,885	5,116	231	5%
Other payments	4,183	1,295	4,793	3,498	270%
Phone & Broadband	1,736	777	511	-266	-34%
Photocopier	1,195	1,383	1,451	68	5%

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<u>Opening balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Closing balance</u>
Barclays Unrestricted Income Funds					
General	1,110	79,781	111,073	31,183	1,000
Weddings & Funeral Fees	1,363	9,225	8,178	-1,910	500
Saver	81,703	612	0	-29,735	52,580
<i>Totals</i>	<u>84,176</u>	<u>89,618</u>	<u>119,251</u>	<u>-462</u>	<u>54,080</u>
CCLA Unrestricted Designated Funds					
General	9,489	456	0	964	10,909
Planned Major Maintenance	21,100	920	0	-3,441	18,579
Legacy	100,170	4479	0	0	104,649
<i>Totals</i>	<u>130,760</u>	<u>5855</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-2,477</u>	<u>134,138</u>
CCLA Restricted Income Funds					
St Mary's Parish Centre	25,072	1,127	0	680	26,880
Special Funds	3,508	152	0	-120	3,540
Youth	2,025	120	0	1,085	3,231
Belfry	3,146	140	0	-110	3,176
Church Property	1,775	111	0	1,375	3,261
Hand Bells	0	12	0	350	362
Junior Church	389	37	0	557	983
<i>Totals</i>	<u>35,916</u>	<u>1,699</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,817</u>	<u>41,432</u>
<u>Diocesan Board of Finance</u>					
CBF Deposit Fund Restricted					
156 Churchgate Sale Proceeds	25,195	1,127	0	0	26,322
<i>Totals</i>	<u>25,195</u>	<u>1,127</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>26,322</u>
CBF Endowment Funds					
Fabric	14,621	436	0	436	15,937
Chancel	2,572	77	0	77	2,803
<i>Totals</i>	<u>17,193</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>513</u>	<u>18,740</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>276,046</u>	<u>98,298</u>	<u>119251</u>	<u>1003</u>	<u>274712</u>

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023


Church unrestricted funds are the Barclays General, Fee and Saver accounts, which are all used for the general running of the Parish.

Church CCLA Designated funds are the deposit used for General Reserves, the Planned Periodic Major Maintenance for major maintenance work and the Legacy Fund for legacies received. Restricted Income funds are the St Mary's Parish Centre fund, the Special fund originally for expenditure mainly on altar front and nave altar, the Youth fund for youth work with children over thirteen years of age, the Junior Church fund for children under thirteen years of age, the Belfry fund for major work on the bells, the Church Property Fund specifically for maintenance and servicing of the Curates House at 4A Goff's Lane, Cheshunt, and the Hand Bell Fund.

Most restricted income has already been transferred to the appropriate restricted fund during 2023. The notes on pages IX to XV form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21 April 2024

And signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Angela Dronyij (Church Warden)



Mrs Victoria Clarke (Church Warden)

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Accounting basis and procedures

St Mary's 2023 accounts have been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis, which is permitted for charities with an annual turnover less than £250,000. It should be noted that this accounting method only records the actual bank transactions in the calendar year and the bank balance at the end of the year. A deficit does not mean an overdraft.

Excel spreadsheets have been used to record online banking transactions, which are then reconciled with invoices, cheque stubs and weekly cash income records. The Data Developments system 'MyGiving.online' is used to claim gift aid from HMRC.

RECEIPTS

Income overall was down £19,996 compared with 2022. This loss is obviously of financial concern to the church and not sustainable in the long term. It is imperative that the church and congregation make every effort to support the church finances through fund raising and other financial contributions to ensure the viability of the church into the future.

1. Planned Giving

Thanks go to all the congregation members, that despite the challenging times, have managed to continue to contribute to the church collection, either through standing order payments or the Parish Giving Scheme.

Cash collections at regular services	£4,087
Planned Giving via Parish Giving Scheme	£36,839
Planned Giving via Standing Order	£3,130

2. Cash Collections Charity Specific

The church was able to undertake collections to support the 'Bishops Harvest Appeal' and 'Poppy Appeal'.

Collection	£150 – Bishops Harvest Appeal
Collection	£31 – Poppy Appeal

3. Donations

Edna Oake – Repair of North Wall	£1000
Friends of St Mary's – Heater Repairs	£763.40
Hand Bells	£50
Altar Candles - In memory of Phil Rogerson	£20
M.U. – Use of church	£150
Katie	£100
Friends of St Mary's – Projector & Screen	£4470

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Jim Gardener Funeral Directors	£5000
Other (Charity Bucket etc)	£597

4. Other Cash Collections

Baptisms	£664
Funerals	£79
Weddings	£0 (See Charity Bucket)
Schools	£191
Wall Safe	£24
Candle Stand	£200
Charity Bucket	£284

5. SumUp/Easy Fund Raising

SumUp and Easy Fund Raising continue to prove beneficial to the church, in raising additional funds that might otherwise not be donated at church events and online. The SumUp card reader is also used to collect wedding payments.

Total receipts £569

6. Fund Raising

Fund raising activities make an important contribution to church finances and thanks go to those individuals that organised, managed and supported these events.

Burns Night	£394
Table Top Sale (March)	£762.80
Bunny Fun	£352.42
Lottery Bonus Ball	£1245
Quiz Night	£205
Coffee Morning	£177.10
David Border Choir Concert	£87.50
Saturday Coffee Morning	£300.20
Summer Fayre	£1790.45
Auction	£290.50
Three Valleys Choir	£103
Autumn Fayre	£1022.60
Bauble Party	£86.10
Tea with Santa	£76
Total receipts	£5,889

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7. Fund Raising Charity Specific

The following charities were supported through the fund raising efforts of the church.

Advent Lunch	£135.35 – Crisis at Christmas
Children's Society	£121.66

8. Legacies

No legacies were received during the course of the financial year.

9. Other receipts

Parish Breakfast	£509
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Miscellaneous Receipts

Including:

CCLA Belfry Restricted Acc	£640
CCLA Hand Bell Acc	£350

10. DBF Accounts Interest

Including:

Restricted Deposit Fund

156 Churchgate	£1127
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Endowment Funds

Church Fabric Fund	£437
Church Chancel Fund	£76

11. CCLA Accounts Interest

Total receipts	£7,554
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12. Barclays Saver Acc Interest	£612
--	------

PAYMENTS

13. Church Maintenance/Repairs

Including:

Between Time - Repair to South Wall	£7,143
Between Time – Repair to Down Pipes	£425
Purchase of New Hand Wash Unit	£88
A James Jewellers – Clock Repair	£2712
Tanker & Drains Solutions – Blocked Drain	£80
Speaker Repair	£80.49

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

R.P. Gibbs – Portacabin Plumbing	£84
Ormsby of Scarisbrick - Refurbish Aumbrey Lamp	£3590
R.P. Gibbs – Install Portacabin New Heating	£936
Repair to Portacabin Wall	£111
D.M. Music.Ltd – Projector restoration	£4770
Between Time - Restoration of Down Pipes	£5,395
Between Time – Restoration of South Gate	£1,887
Between Time – Feasibility Study	£300
 Total Invoices	 £27,602

14. Church Servicing

Including:

Morgan Fire – Fire Extinguisher Inspection	£356
J. Scott & Sons – Church Heaters	£594
Ace Defence – Roof Alarm Service	£1,009
A. Curtis - Organ Tuning & Maintenance	£379
Watkins & Watson – Organ Blower	£249
W. Larkin Ltd – Lightning Rod	£110
J. Coram – Portacabin Plumbing	£89
J. Taylor & Co – Servicing Tower Bells	£750
A. James Jewellers – Tower Clock Service	£378
Key Cutting	£80
R.P. Gibbs – Portacabin Elec Installation	£998
Replacement Screws	£5
 Total Invoices	 £4,897

15. Parish share

The church paid the Parish Share in full for 2023, totalling **£38,839**. The final payment of 2022 for £3157 was not debited until January 2023, resulting in a payment statement of £41,995 in accounts. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Parish Share has been paid in full. Unpaid Parish Share from previous years remains at **£89,018**.

16. Payments to Charities

Payments to charities included:

Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£150
Crisis at Christmas	£121
National Childrens Homes	£94
Other	£42

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17. Cleaner Fees

There were no payments made to PCC members as salaries. Any payments made would only be to reimburse costs incurred by them in the first instance, upon expenses for the running of the church and associated activities. Service on the PCC is voluntary. Paid staff costs are summarised as follows:

Fay Metin - Church Cleaner	£1,248
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18. Wedding & Funeral Fee Payments

These fees include payments to Organist, Verger and Bell Ringers as well as Parochial Fees paid to the Diocese.

Organist, Verger, Bell Ringer Fees	£1,325
Parochial 2022 Fees Owing	£3,744
Parochial 2023 Fees	£2,991

19. Curate's House Expenses

Garden Slate	£246
Thames Water – Total Monthly Bills	£357

20. Admin & Sundries

Data Developments – Monthly Fees	£180
C.C.L.I. - Licensing	£645
G. Parks – Account Supplies	£93
Broxbourne Print & Design	£103
Broxbourne Print & Design	£103
B.B.C. Small Lottery Licence	£20
ThirtyOneEight - Fee	£6

21. Insurance

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group provide all our insurance via a group scheme policy and our policies provide the following cover:

- Church buildings £11,710,000 and contents £140,000
- Organ £500,000
- Also covered are public and employers' liability for Incumbent, churchwardens, PCC members and many organised church activities.

Total Invoices	£5116
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ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

22. Other payments

Other payments included the following:

Independent Examiner	£100
Fund Raising	£40

Miscellaneous payments:

Beds & Herts H.C.T.	£40	Membership Fee
Royal School of Church Music	£127	Membership Fee
Mark Escott	£90	Notice Board
Churches Together	£15	Membership Fee
Church Requisites	£507	Catering/Cleaning Supplies
Childrens Corner	£100	Activity Boxes
Tea Urn	£110	Vestry

MONETARY ASSETS

23. Current accounts

The Barclays General Account is used to manage all church receipts and payments other than wedding and funeral fees and payments. The Fees Account with Barclays is used to manage all wedding and funeral fees and payments. Both accounts are automatically linked to the Barclays Saver account to keep a working balance at the end of each day.

24. Saver Account

This is a Barclays Account, which receives money automatically transferring from the Barclays General and Fees Accounts to leave a working balance in each account and earns a small amount of interest.

25. CBF Church of England Deposit Funds (CCLA)

Standing Orders with Barclays are used to deposit £125 monthly into the Church Property Account to fund potential maintenance and repair costs to the Curate's House. A further £100 is deposited monthly into the Periodic Planned Major Maintenance Account.

26. Endowment Funds

The Chancel Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment; this arose from the Tithe Redemption Commission in the 1940s to enable landowners with a liability for chancel insurance and repair to discharge their liability in a one-off payment. The restricted income is to be used towards the cost of insuring the chancel or towards the maintenance and repair of the chancel, church and churchyard. It is applied to the repair of the St Mary's church fabric through a restricted fund. In 2023, total dividend income was £76 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

ST MARY THE VIRGIN CHURCH, CHESHUNT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Fabric Fund investment represents a Permanent Endowment established by deed on 27 April 1932. The designated income is to be applied to the upkeep, repair or maintenance of the fabric of St Mary's church through a designated fund, unless an alternative use is authorised by the Archdeacon of Hertford. In 2023, total dividend income was £437 and was paid into the Barclays General account.

Following the purchase of 4a Goff's Lane the residue money from the sale of 156 Churchgate was invested by the Diocesan Board of Finance in a CBF Deposit Fund which is restricted. The trusts contained in the original conveyance provide that "until applied (for furthering the religious and other charitable work of the Church of England in the parish) they (the net proceeds) shall be invested by the Board and the income thereof shall be applied by the (PCC) for the like purposes. In 2022, total dividend income was £1127.

OTHER ASSETS

27. Freehold properties

51 Churchgate

In 2016 Church House was leased to B3Living for 49 years and redeveloped into eight flats for community use. The first tenants moved into during June 2019 and the flats are now fully occupied. A ground rent is paid annually to the church and reviewed every five years. This review took place March 2023 and as a consequence the rent has increased from £2000 to £2276. The current estimated value of the property is approximately £2,100,000.

4a Goff's Lane

In 2018 the previously owned Curate's house was sold and a new more modern property, 4a Goff's Lane, was purchased. The current estimated value of the property is £480,000 approx.

Portacabin

The Portacabin was purchased in 2015 and is utilised as the church office and is also used by the clergy. The only church toilet is located here.

OTHER NOTES

28. Other Charities

Not under the control of the PCC and therefore omitted from the accounts is The Cheshunt Parish Charities. These charities are traditionally known as "The Churchwardens' Charities". The incumbent and churchwardens are trustees, and their Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. The objects of the charities, some of which are ancient, are to support specific educational causes and those suffering hardship.

The Friends of St Marys is a separate registered charity which raises money for the upkeep and improvement of the church building.

