

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn
Charity Number 1134810

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024



SECTION A REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity Name

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Bartholomew, Quorn

Other Names by which charity is known

None

Registered Charity Number

1134810

Charity's Principal Address

St Bartholomew's Church
Church Lane
Quorn
LE12 8DP

Names of Trustees who Manage the Charity

Revd K A Beecham
Revd S K Marshall
Mrs D E Bird
Mr M G Bird
Mr D F Bodicoat
Mr A G Coates
Dr D C Cooper
Mr J H Cox
Mr K F Croysdale
Mrs J Croysdale
Ms D E Daly
Dr M Gilbert
Mrs M H Llewellyn-Howells (joined 14th May 2024)
Mr J D Jonczyk (joined 10th June 2024)
Mrs P S Jonczyk (joined 14th May 2024)
Mr L A Mosley
Miss H D A Shacklock
Miss A M Treasure
Mr P Turlington
Mrs S Turlington
Mrs C I Young

Names of the Trustees for the Charity, if any (for example custodian trustees)

The Trustees for St Bartholomew's Church (custodian trustee)

SECTION B STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of Governing document

Local Ecumenical Project Sharing Agreement between the Anglican and Methodist churches of Quorn: 10th May 1983

How the charity is constituted

Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods

Ministers, together with people elected by the general meeting of all church members to specific posts. Plus, church representatives elected at the AGM for fixed terms.

SECTION C OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The focus of this review of church activities and achievements will be how St Bartholomew's United Church reflects our love and devotion to God and our commitment to church members and the wider community.

Ministry, Worship and Music

The Worship Committee

During this Interregnum we have continued to maintain the variety of services that have long been a feature of this church. Regular Morning Worship (some with Baptism) and Family services have also been held, usually on the second and fourth Sundays. We continue to have a Book of Common Prayer sung Evensong service at 6.30 pm once a month, usually on the second Sunday and a midweek Book of Common Prayer Service of Holy Communion once a month on a Wednesday at 10 am. Methodist services are usually on the third Sunday. Rev Steve Delaforce usually officiates at our Common Worship Communion services on the first Sunday of the month.

Services are regularly reviewed and any feedback from members of the congregation is noted. This feedback informs our future planning. Future services are discussed up to six months in advance. I book the Officiants and prior to the service I also liaise with the Minister, Choir and Organist and those on our rotas (Readings and Intercessions) so that all are aware of what is planned for that particular service.

A few services have been led by members of our congregation. Keith Croysdale continues to lead the quarterly Taizé services to which members of the Baptist Church are also invited. Julie Croysdale led our service on Safeguarding. Paul Turlington, Tony Coates and Su Turlington lead different forms of Compline in Holy Week.

Special arrangements were made for the Service of Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day on 9th June and the Deputy Lieutenant attended. Dawn Daly gave a moving address. The Chair of Quorn Branch of the Royal British Legion, David Bowler, and the Deputy Chair of Quorn Parish Council, Bill Hollingworth, were present. The schools were represented and the Guides also were in attendance.

The Service of Commemoration of 80 years since the sinking of HMS Quorn on 4th August also required special arrangements and Loughborough Sea Cadets from TS Venomous, Leicester Sea Cadets from TS Tiger, the Quorn Branch RBL, the Leicester Senior Service Club, the Type 42 Destroyer Association, Members of the Parish Council and the Quorn Hunt joined the congregation. Rev Steve Delaforce officiated and Dennis Marchant gave a talk about the sinking of HMS Quorn.

On 11th August Claudia Domin, a Speaker from Intercare, spoke at our Morning Worship service. It marked the occasion when Kathleen Allwood stepped down from organising the monthly Intercare parcel after many years and Alison Cain took over.

In September a Celtic Morning Worship was led by Rev Steve Delaforce using some music from Celtic Daily Prayer, published by the Northumbria Community. Part of the service was accompanied by the Organ. The Hymns and music before and after the service were accompanied by the Folk Band (Mary Treasure, Keith Croysdale, Steve Delaforce and Helen Shacklock).

Bishop Saju, together with the Methodist Circuit Superintendent Rev Karen Beecham, officiated at our Confirmation service on 6th October. Four candidates were confirmed and given the Right Hand of Fellowship during the service. They were prepared for Confirmation by Dawn Daly and Heulwen Howells.

Dawn Daly, our Lay Minister, has had responsibility for Families and Life Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals.) Over the past year she has continued to develop the Family service to include an expanding team of adults and an enthusiastic group of children who regularly take part. Heulwen Howells has assisted Dawn Daly with the Family services and has taken several services herself. We are very grateful to Dawn and the team for the hard work they have put into the planning of Family services, and to Dawn for planning and organising Morning Worship services, including those with Baptism.

Heulwen has now started her Associate Ministry training, having completed her first term from September to December 2024, during which she completed her first placement in the benefice of St. Botolph's, Shepshed with St James the Greater, Oaks in Charnwood. As part of her training, Heulwen led a daily prayer for Advent in St. Bartholomew's on Saturday 21st December, welcoming members of the Coffee and Chat group and others to participate as the congregation. Trainee Associate Minister Richard Hedley was placed here in St Bartholomew's from September to December. It is with great pride and pleasure that it can be announced that he found his placement a revelation, resulting in a glowing report about all that is being done here in Quorn.

The Crib service on Christmas Eve 2024 was very well attended by young families. Julie Croysdale, Diane Bird and the team put in a lot of hard work to ensure its success.

We have continued to develop our links with Quorn Baptist Church, supporting Joint Church events and services and in January 2024 we were invited to Quorn Baptist Church for a Unity service as part of the week of Christian Unity.

I am grateful to the members of the Committee for their support.

Helen Shacklock (Chair, Worship Committee)

St Bartholomew's Church Choir

Choir Practice has been held on a Friday throughout the year and the choir has been present at services every Sunday. Anthems have been sung at special services at Epiphany, Candlemas, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Pentecost, the Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day, the Commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of the sinking of HMS Quorn, St Bartholomew's Day, Confirmation, the Memorial Service for the Bereaved, the Advent Candlelight Service and Nine Lessons and Carols. We have sung anthems at the monthly Book of Common Prayer Evensong services and have also begun to sing special settings of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. Several additional people joined the choir for Advent and Nine Lessons and Carols. Members of the choir have also sung with the Circuit choir at festival Circuit services during the year.

Services have been accompanied on the organ by Angus McKechnie and Helen Shacklock. Angus has assisted at Choir Practice and shared the conducting at Evensong.

Tony Coates, Mary Treasure, Heulwen Howells, Charlotte Young and Steve Delaforce have played guitar, violin, alto saxophone and bass guitar at the monthly Family services. The orchestral group organised by Mary Treasure and Lindsey Holleworth, and assisted by Kathryn Barwell and members of Charnwood Orchestra, played at two services.

As ever, I am very grateful to the members of the choir, organists and musicians for their support, hard work and loyalty over the past year.

A Children's Choir, Children's Voices, trained by Anna Davies has performed at Family services during the year. Rachael Roberts has accompanied them on the piano or Keith Croysdale on guitar.

We are always keen to attract new choristers. Anyone who is willing to learn, enjoys singing and is enthusiastic, is invited to join us. Those with previous choral experience who can read music would be particularly welcome.

Helen Shacklock (Director of Music)

Bellringers

The last Bell Maintenance Service was completed in December 2024, no issues were identified. Discussions are ongoing with the Property group regarding confined space access under the bells for clock maintenance.

Ringling during 2024 included practice nights most weeks and Sunday Service ringling, as well as ringling for wedding and other special events. We continue to monitor that there is adequate air circulation and have the window / door open and extractor fan on when ringling to maintain this. This has meant that during really cold weather we have cancelled practice due to the ringling room being very cold. In 2024 we also had a number of visiting ringers and trainee ringers.

There have been limited opportunities for social events during the year; we did enjoy an evening meal in January 2024.

Faith Daykin (Tower Captain)

Children and Families

Monthly all-age services, mainly led by our voluntary Associate Minister Dawn Daly, have been held to offer families opportunities to worship and learn together and also to meet other families. Amanda Moxon, former Collective Worship lead at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School until her retirement in July 2024, has also taken a role in some services, involving a number of children who have some connections with our church. We pass on to Amanda our grateful thanks for her enthusiastic support and we wish her a long and enjoyable retirement. Other members of the congregation and parents have also contributed, bringing their gifts of music, drama and creativity. Also involved has been the Children's Voices choir, led by Anna Davies.

Some special services are also geared to families and the Christmas Eve Crib service, now coordinated and organised by Julie Croysdale, Diane Bird and team, attracts sufficient families to fill the church. Children and their parents participate, and the nativity is portrayed visually with costumes, etc.

Uniformed youth organisations participated in the village Remembrance Service and in the service to commemorate the sinking of HMS Quorn. It has been noted by leaders that it is now more difficult than in the past to get members of these organisations to engage with church services.

Family-oriented activities are published on social media as well as by more conventional means.

During all services, families are welcome to use our 'children's area' at the front of the church, which has been reorganised by Children's Leader, Jasmine Austin, who ensures that it is resourced with activities that reflect the theme of the service.

A long-standing 'Open the Book' team, jointly run with Quorn Baptist Church, continues to offer a weekly assembly to the Primary School's Key Stage 1 students; it is much appreciated by both pupils and staff. Our voluntary Associate Minister, Dawn Daly, also leads Key Stage 2 assemblies two or three times a term, and Rev Sandra Marshall has done some too. Church members are involved with Christmas and Easter sessions for the Primary School at QBC and also with the Holiday Club in August.

The joint Holiday Club with Quorn Baptist Church was run as a single whole day activity in 2024. Bible-themed drama, crafts, music and games were presented to 11-year-olds. We are fortunate that Quorn Baptist Church take on the role of the main organisers and leaders, with St Bartholomew's contributing financially and to the planning, and supporting with leaders and safeguarding assistance on the day. Joint activities with QBC for children also take place at Easter.

Several families have brought their children to St Bartholomew's for baptism in 2024. The families are offered a preparation session in church and are supported through a home visit by Heulwen Howells.

In October 2024 we celebrated the confirmation of three of our younger members, Lyra, Eden and Amélie, together with Amélie's mother Marie. Bishop Saju certainly filled the church with his larger-than-life personality. It is wonderful to report that our confirmation candidates are actively continuing their spiritual growth through Bible study sessions using the Bibles presented to them by the church at their confirmation.

The basis for this report is the format initiated by Ruth Treseder in 2023 in her role as Youth Co-ordinator. We pass on our heartfelt thanks to Ruth for all she has done in St Bartholomew's for so many years.

Jasmine Austin (Children's Leader)
Heulwen Howells (Youth Leader)

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School

Since the retirement of Amanda Moxon, responsibility for RE, Collective Worship and upholding the Christian ethos of the school has been ably continued jointly by the Headteacher, two Assistant Heads and Hannah Taylor. Leadership is enthusiastic, inspirational and supported by weekly input from the 'Open the Book' team of volunteers re-enacting Bible stories in costume for the three younger age groups.

Daily Collective Worship for the older classes takes a variety of forms held in the hall or classrooms. News items are discussed, inviting response from the children as to how this affects their lives. Termly themes recently have included Spirituality, the 'Big story of the Bible' and a series of important characters from the Old and New Testaments. These assemblies are led in turn by RE lead staff, Dawn Daly (C of E Lay Associate Minister), Rev Ian Smith (Baptist Minister), Keith Munro from SOAR (schools' outreach) and myself as Foundation Governor. A worship group of the oldest pupils set up the altar in the hall and do the final blessing. They also plan and deliver an assembly themselves several times each term showing great understanding and maturity.

RE is taught as a core subject with emphasis on Christianity and Christian values, but also an introduction is given to the other main world religions and their traditions. There is so much in common between the religions, and in a multicultural society children need to be aware of this rather than the divisions. Workshops are held to prepare for the major Christian festivals with craftwork and music. Children's work is often displayed in church and some take part in monthly family services.

Services for the whole school are held (in two consecutive sessions) in St Bartholomew's Church at the end of each term and many parents attend. Christmas productions by each age group are held at school and are also eagerly watched by proud family members.

Christian symbols and passages from scripture are evident around the school and quiet prayer spaces are available. The school pays great attention to the safety, well-being and spiritual development of the children and staff in preparing the pupils to be caring, thoughtful and responsible members of society.

As the school begins to prepare for SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) by the Diocese next academic year, I believe that good evidence of the upholding of Christianity, its values and ethos will be found and celebrated. The strong links and a happy working partnership between the school, Quorn United Church and Quorn Baptist Church give a very firm foundation, so I feel that St Bart's will show itself to be a very good example of a Church of England School.

Alison Cooper (Retiring Foundation Governor)

Rawlins Academy – a Church of England School

Our church's link with Rawlins continues to strengthen. A vice-principal has been charged with the overall responsibility for RE and Collective Worship, with a senior member of staff leading Collective Worship and another for RE. The next SIAMS inspection is expected around September/October 2025. The monthly church magazine includes an article about Rawlins, written by staff, and it is good to have their good news shared with us.

The school has experienced difficulty in appointing and retaining suitably qualified and experienced RE teachers but there has been some improvement in this regard.

RE is now taught throughout the school, including Post 16, as a separate subject to PSHE. RE GCSE is compulsory, rather than an option, and the first Year 11 cohort sat the RE GCSE exam in June 2024. I am delighted to report that there were a number of A* grades awarded.

Rawlins' students attend a service in church at least once a term, with over 1000 students attending at Christmas 2024 and the same number expected at Easter. The number will increase each year and it is anticipated that by 2027 all year groups will be included in the end of term services, which have been led by Rev Steve Delaforce. A welcome service in church at the start of Year 7 was introduced in September to maintain the links that most new students have with a church, as the majority of our feeder primary schools are church schools.

A lunchtime club for Year 7, based on worship, is run by Heulwen, and although numbers are small, the students are most enthusiastic. From October to Christmas, they looked up the symbols of Christmas and enthusiastically built and painted small lanterns, which they were presented with to take home after the church Christmas service. They produced pinecone angels for a display for the church Nativity Festival and were accompanied to church by the principal, Bob White, to set up their display. Students from the Art Club, run by teacher Hayley Fern, produced some beautiful drawings of angels to complement the display. The worship group, named Rawlins Reflections, is very keen to continue in 2025 and will look at topics such as Epiphany, saints, Lent, etc.

Year 8 students have a Friday lunchtime session with a Youth Worker from Mountsorrel Christchurch and St Peter's. Before Christmas our joint groups completed a project on Poverty, an initiative of the Bishop's Children and Youth Council. Listening to the views of young people in the Diocese is a priority for Bishop Martyn and it is good that Rawlins is firmly on board to participate.

*Heulwen Howells
Foundation Governor (Ex-officio), Rawlins Academy
Youth Leader, St. Bartholomew's Church, Quorn*

Safeguarding

We continue to be busy as we embed safeguarding to ensure it is core to our mission as a church and helping us to build a safer community.

In accordance with the request from the Diocese, the church continues to operate the "Promoting a Safer Church Policy"; a copy of which is held at the back of the church in the policy folder and is available online for everyone to view [Diocese of Leicester | Resources for Church Settings \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org/diocese-of-leicester/resources-for-church-settings). In addition to the online resources and training, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team have offered advice and supported the church officers directly this year to help us ensure we are creating a safe environment for all our parishioners.

I am pleased to report that the church is continuing to actively use the Parish Dashboard as a means of keeping up to date with recording and reporting safeguarding activity, which covers a number of areas of compliance around training, policies and reporting, and church activities. The dashboard is an excellent tool which is RAG rated and therefore is a simple way to keep on top of any outstanding actions. A report is created for each UCC meeting and circulated as part of the minutes so the committee members can see any actions which are required.

We have continued to use the Parish Facebook page to promote services and it has been a great asset to ensure the villagers are aware of the portfolio of services on offer throughout the week; it was a particular help at Christmas as part of the wider communication strategy. The church members administering our social media pages are fully compliant with the Diocesan Social Media Policy.

The focus this year has been to make a start with reviewing the National Safeguarding Standards and making recommendations to the UCC on improvements we need to make to enhance our assurance; we have started with prevention. Our aim with review and offering assurance around these standards is to implement sustainable change that will make a difference to our church community.

We will hold our third safeguarding service in March 2025.

Julie Croysdale (UCC Safeguarding Lead)

Property

During the year, the electrical lighting in the Chancel was replaced with new LED units, and the church electrical earth was connected to the existing lightning conductor as per IEE regulations. Some wiring in the tower was replaced and a new 3 phase circuit breaker box fitted. The five-yearly electric safety audit was carried out, and some corrective work undertaken. We were advised that the church passed this time, but major rewiring will be required at the next inspection.

Heating problems led to the installation of a new heat exchanger unit, water pressurisation unit and boiler timer control unit. One radiator at the rear of the North Aisle was replaced. A new water heater was fitted under the sink in the kitchen.

Work started on the provision of a new Memorial Garden for the interment of ashes as the Garden of Remembrance is almost full.

All annual maintenance tasks were successfully carried out.

Susan Turlington (Chair, Property Group)

Church Rooms

2024 proved to be a year of mixed fortunes for the Church Rooms. Financially it is good to be able to report a surplus of over £1700 after returning £2000 to the Church Council in respect of the financial assistance provided in the previous year towards the cost of the roof repairs. Fortunately

there were no such major problems arising in 2024. The expenditure has stabilised as a result of favourable fuel tariffs, by current standards, which will remain fixed for two more years.

Still on financial matters, there was a perceptible reduction in lettings income in 2024 by comparison with the previous year, as some regular hirers either ceased to meet altogether during the year or chose to take their custom elsewhere. One frequent cause of complaint by hirers is that of car parking difficulties. Whilst this is valid, there are similar difficulties in other halls in Quorn – for example, the Old School has no parking at all. Notwithstanding such issues, there are still frequent 'spot' bookings and, of course, the Pre-School, which is the principal user during school terms, is a substantial and welcome community facility in the village.

As regards the membership of the Committee, Michelle Pullen, our splendid Bookings Secretary for the past three years, left Quorn to live in Spain in September and Charlotte Young assumed the role, introducing more interactive arrangements for booking the Church Rooms, with an almost seamless transfer. This has worked very well. The whole matter of the Church Rooms Committee's functionality will need to be given attention in the near future.

David Bodicoat (Treasurer, Church Rooms Committee)

Acknowledgements

2024 was another busy year for the church, as can be seen from the above reports.

St Bartholomew's was placed in a Minster Community grouping comprising 13 churches to start Phase 2 of the formation process. Eight Working Groups, made up of members of these churches, have met to discuss the following aspects: Buildings; Growing faith & schools; Discipleship, mission & pioneering; Engagement, governance and safeguarding; People & ministry; Worship, liturgy & music; Geography, context & resources; Finance & generosity. Their findings have been submitted to the Co-ordinating Group which will produce a Minster Community proposal for church councils to consider in the Spring. We are grateful to all who have given much time and thought to this on-going process.

The church was open on the first Sunday in September, providing tea, coffee and biscuits for visitors to the Quorn Food and Craft Fair. The following week we were part of the Historic Churches Ride and Stride route.

Coffee and Chat takes place every Saturday morning, sessions which are enjoyed by the 'regulars' as well as those just popping in. Many thanks to the volunteers providing service on the day.

The very popular Parish Lunch, usually held after the service on the third Sunday of the month, continued through the year. Our thanks go to all those providing soup, sandwiches and desserts, and those attending. From 2025 it will move to the second Sunday of the month.

In addition, we are very grateful to the cleaners, brass cleaners and flower arrangers who keep the church looking so nice throughout the year, to those who provide refreshments after services, to those who play any part before and during services, and to those who organise the rotas.

We are also grateful for the immense amount of work done by our Worship Committee, providing a continuity of services throughout the year, and also the Property Committee for ensuring that the church structure remains in good condition.

We are thankful for all those, lay and ordained, who continue to be available to take our services through the interregnum. Without them we could not keep the level of ministry at its present level.

Finally, we would thank all our congregation for their love, support and prayers.

Paul Turlington (Transition Churchwarden)

SECTION D FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our financial position has deteriorated year on year since 2020. In 2023 we made a loss of some £8000. Consequently, at the start of 2024 we embarked on a fundraising campaign. Many generous people increased their giving while we also lost some donors. We set up the Heritage Fund to support the fabric of the building which has attracted additional donors but also diverted donations from the church towards specifically supporting the building. This should raise close to £5K in a full year. By the end of 2024 our income from donations, collections and planned giving had increased by just over 30%, £16K, although some of those were one-offs to pay towards major boiler repairs. We also had several generous bequests which helped the financial situation.

Having taken steps to increase income we have also reviewed our expenditure. Our major expenditure has always been our Parish Gift to the Diocese. In 2023 it was £45K. In 2024 we took on an administrator who was funded by reducing the gift pro-rata. It has now been decided to fund the administrator ourselves and reduce the payment to the Diocese to £32K. As a result of our actions we only lost £1.5K in 2024.

Despite the increase in income, 2024 was financially challenging. Work to improve the lighting ended up costing 2½ times more than expected because of unexpected electrical problems, and the boiler failure has cost over £20K with some payments still due and some ongoing issues. Particular thanks are due to those individuals who generously donated specifically for that project.

Our current financial position is now on a firmer footing and barring further unexpected problems, we might be able to start replenishing reserves lost over the last few years.

Jon Cox (Treasurer)

SECTION E BRIEF STATEMENT OF THE CHARITY'S POLICY ON RESERVES

The Church policy is to follow the 2015 Leicester Diocese recommendation suggesting that ideally, overall reserves should be maintained between 25% and 50% of the previous year's expenditure. Reserves at the end of 2024 were £34K (including Church rooms accounts). This is 29% of expenditure, down from 35% the previous year and low for a Grade I listed building. We have just found out how expensive repairs can be. A review of the policy will be made shortly.

Jon Cox (Treasurer)

SECTION F DETAILS OF ANY FUNDS MATERIALLY IN DEFICIT

None

Deanery Synod Report for Akeley East Deanery 2024

Three Deanery Synod meetings were held during the year. Our representatives at these meetings were Paul Turlington and Keith Croysdale, joined by Julie Croysdale following her election at the APCM in May.

At the meeting held on 7th February, Simon Wilson, Director of Finance for the Diocese, gave a short presentation on the current financial situation. Expenditure has exceeded income year on year since around 2014. The Diocese has been selling assets to try to balance the books but needs a different strategy as this is unsustainable. Even though expenditure has been streamlined and cuts made, inflation compounded by the drop in parish contributions mean that our costs continue to rise. It was noted that National Church funding is now no longer given for general ministry but targeted at specific strategic projects, making us even more dependent on parish contributions to form the main source of income for day-to-day running costs. The costs of maintaining ministry form the bulk of our expenditure at around £6.5m, with Diocese and support staff costing £2.3m, central operating overheads £1.6m, and a smaller amount for Chaplaincy. We now consistently have an annual deficit of over £2m.

At the meeting held on 20th June, Elizabeth York, Lead Chaplain at Loughborough University, gave a short presentation on the ways in which the multi-faith chaplaincy team supports a community of 20,000 students, 3,500 of which are international students from 135 different countries, and 4,000 staff. The team supports the University in promoting an inclusive community and works to build partnerships between "town and gown". Chaplains make it a point to be out and about on campus, providing unconditional, non-judgmental support to everyone, whether they are of any faith or none. Activities include bereavement cafés, workshops to support mental and spiritual wellbeing, and events such as Holocaust Memorial Day collaborating with Loughborough Council of Faith. Regular services include Holy Communion and Morning Prayer, as well as Catholic Mass, and seasonal worship around Christmas and Easter. The team also works to build supportive relationships with 13 different student faith groups and societies, 7 of which are Christian. The four Minster Community groupings are now moving into Phase 2, where work will focus on developing a strategy for how each might come together to set up a Minster Community and function together. Part of this process involves recalibrating spiritual leadership as we provide greater opportunities for lay leadership and ministry. The importance of encouraging each other and maintaining active PCCs was highlighted.

The final meeting of the year was held on 8th October. Matt Long, Youth Engagement & Intergenerational Communities Enabler, gave a short presentation on the work of the Bishop's Children & Youth Council (BCYC) to engage and listen to younger people across our Diocese and to develop intergenerational worshipping communities. The most important thing is to listen well, especially to young people, children, and families. This isn't always as straightforward as it sounds as each generation almost has its own language. Listening well helps us to understand what matters to them and how it builds worth, confidence and self-esteem. Such listening is vital in building meaningful relationships of trust and creating a culture of 'being heard.' The BCYC is now a Diocese-wide network of 227 under-18s. Everyone involved works in listening groups to gather feedback from children and young people in their own areas, which is reflected on and reported to the Bishop who then responds. Recent listening reports and responses are available at:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/info-for-parishes/children-families-and-young-people/bishops-children-and-youth-council-bcyc/>, along with further information on how to get involved.

Probably the least developed area of ministry for children and young people is how to engage with the missing generation of their parents. By thinking about intergenerational rather than multigenerational communities, the hope is to shift the focus onto how we get people worshipping and doing things together. The importance of relationships with grandparents was also highlighted, with many valuing the contribution that relationships with "surrogate" grandparents at church had made to their own faith journeys. Christ Church will be inviting godparents of children baptised in the church to a special "Godparents Day" to reconnect and hopefully build some relationships with those who have expressed an interest in faith and church in the past.

Report on the Proceedings of the UCC 2024

The UCC held six meetings during 2024 plus two additional meetings. The average attendance was 15 members. Each meeting commenced with an opening prayer. The summary of proceedings is as follows:

16th January

Due to our current financial situation, payments to the Diocese will be suspended for two months to allow reserves to be replenished. Costs are rising year on year and our income is not going to go back up to what it was pre-pandemic. A fundraising campaign is required. A heritage fund will also be set up specifically for donations towards the upkeep of the church. UCC supports the introduction of the Prayers of Love and Faith (same-sex blessings). A votive candle stand will be gifted to the church in memory of the Orton family.

12th February

Minster Community process: preparatory meeting for the Discernment Day on 24th February, when discussions will take place with other churches in our proposed Minster Community grouping.

20th March

The church fundraising campaign has commenced. An annual budget will need to be set in order to determine how much we can afford to pay the Diocese in future. It was agreed to proceed with the appointment of a church administrator. An independent safeguarding structure has been proposed for the C of E. It was agreed that another Christmas festival will be held this year.

25th March

Minster Community process: meeting to complete the proposed grouping response for Group D membership.

14th May Annual Parochial Church Meeting

12th June

Giving still needs to increase; QR codes will be introduced in order to encourage donations. There is a pressing need for new members for the Church Rooms committee, also for a new Bookings Secretary. The new Church Administrator is now in post. A Churchwarden and Church Steward rota will be set up. Minster Community Phase 2: working groups will now start to meet. The Chancel lighting and earthing work will finally commence on 15th July.

10th September

We are still not raising enough money to cover our running costs. It has been decided to proceed with much-needed repairs to the heating system, at a cost of £11k. Funding applications will be made to the National Lottery and the Diocese which should cover a large part of the cost. Repair work required on the Tower buttresses, recommended at the last Quinquennial, is not considered urgent and can be delayed until the heating has been addressed. An online booking system for the Church Rooms has been put in place. The new National Safeguarding Standards have been introduced. Rev Karen Beecham is now Superintendent of the Melton Circuit as well as the Loughborough Circuit and discussions are ongoing merge the two Circuits from September 2025. Rev Sandra Marshall will be retiring in the summer of 2025.

13th November

Thanks to grants obtained, the VAT refund and an additional £5k funding, the costs of the heating repair have been covered and work is currently underway. The water heater in the kitchen needs to be replaced. A better way of accessing the clock mechanism for maintenance is being considered. A large number of church records have now been archived in the County Records Office. A small group has commenced working through the new safeguarding standards; it is a three-year rolling programme of sustainable change.

SECTION G DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature A. M. Treasure

Full name..... ANNE MARY TREASURE

Position (eg Secretary, Chair) SECRETARY

Date..... 19.04.25



St Bartholomew's United Church, Quorn

Registered Charity Number 1134810

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31st December 2024

Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 06/03/2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	82,349	0	0	82,349	59,901
Charitable activities	13,576	0	0	13,576	15,287
Other trading activities	22,238	0	0	22,238	22,440
Investments	835	0	0	835	884
Separate material item of income	0	0	0	0	0
Other	2,496	0	0	2,496	1,289
Total	121,493	0	0	121,493	99,802
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	117,514	0	0	117,514	103,531
Separate material item of expense	0	0	0	0	0
Other	5,436	0	0	5,436	4,985
Total	122,949	0	0	122,949	108,516
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	-1,456	0	0	-1,456	-8,713
Net gains/(losses) on investments	0	0	0	0	0
Net income/(expenditure)	-1,456	0	0	-1,456	-8,713
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds	-1,456	0	0	-1,456	-8,713
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward	750,620	0	0	750,620	
Total funds carried forward	749,164	0	0	749,164	

St Bartholomew's United Church, Quorn

Notes to the financial statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006, together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP (FRS102) 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the United Church Council is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are general funds which may be used for United Church Council ordinary purposes. All Church funds are within this category.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax funds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the United Church Council is legally entitled to the amounts due. Interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Resources expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the United Church Council. The Diocesan Parish Share and Methodist Circuit Assessment are accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Related Party Transactions

During the year £1116 was paid to one trustee as assistant organist. There were no other related party transactions in the year.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

The Church Rooms buildings are included in the financial statements at a deemed valuation being the insured value. The United Church Council considers it inappropriate to make any depreciation charge.

As there is also insufficient cost information available for any further assets they are not valued in these financial statements. In recent years no individual item has cost more than £1000, so all such expenditure has been written off when incurred.

Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 06/03/2025

December 2024

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
S01 Donations and legacies					
Donations received	13,390	0	0	13,390	3,213
Planned giving	41,337	0	0	41,337	37,965
Collections	7,073	0	0	7,073	4,648
Gift aid tax income	10,548	0	0	10,548	11,075
Grants received	5,000	0	0	5,000	0
Bequests and legacies	5,000	0	0	5,000	3,000
	82,349	0	0	82,348	59,901
S02 Charitable activities (inc.)					
Sales	98	0	0	98	13
Parochial fees	13,478	0	0	13,478	15,275
	13,576	0	0	13,576	15,288
S03 Other trading activities					
Fundraising income	1,934	0	0	1,934	1,621
Quorn News	1,037	0	0	1,037	789
Letting/hire income	0	0	0	0	25
Lettings (Previous year)	240	0	0	240	168
Lettings	7,807	0	0	7,807	9,165
Quorn Pre-School lettings	11,221	0	0	11,221	10,673
	22,239	0	0	22,239	22,441
S04 Investments					
Interest received	835	0	0	835	884
	834	0	0	835	884
S05 Separate material item of income					
	0	0	0	0	0
S06 Other (inc.)					
Other income	1,185	0	0	1,185	605
Reimbursements	792	0	0	792	684
VAT refunds	520	0	0	520	0
	2,498	0	0	2,497	1,289
S08 Raising funds					
	0	0	0	0	0
S09 Charitable activities					
Charitable donations	1,449	0	0	1,449	824

Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 06/03/2025

December 2024

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Vicars expenses	7,551	0	0	7,551	1,933
Parish magazine costs	1,437	0	0	1,437	1,075
Service expenses	953	0	0	953	354
Music	844	0	0	844	331
Youthwork, outreach, pastoral	631	0	0	631	481
Parish Gift	38,246	0	0	38,246	45,000
Circuit assessment	9,767	0	0	9,767	9,462
Volunteer expenses	569	0	0	569	1,134
Utilities	352	0	0	352	212
Electricity	3,848	0	0	3,848	5,472
Gas	5,498	0	0	5,498	10,373
Water charges	415	0	0	415	361
Refuse collection	1,107	0	0	1,107	1,178
Insurances	5,030	0	0	5,030	4,572
Carctaking	4,071	0	0	4,071	3,997
Repairs & maintenance	24,120	0	0	24,120	14,352
Maintenance - consumables	426	0	0	426	609
Significant building works	5,588	0	0	5,588	0
Clock	316	0	0	316	287
Heating	420	0	0	420	0
Professional fees	481	0	0	481	0
Printing/photocopying	361	0	0	361	133
Postage,stationery,etc	65	0	0	65	31
Publicity costs	576	0	0	576	260
Subscriptions	285	0	0	285	155
IT costs	954	0	0	954	642
Equipment purchases	1,119	0	0	1,119	0
Other costs	1,035	0	0	1,035	304
	117,516	0	0	117,514	103,532
S10 Separate material item of expense					
	0	0	0	0	0
S11 Other (exp.)					
Parochial fees DBF	1,882	0	0	1,882	1,710
Other fees	3,554	0	0	3,554	3,275
	5,436	0	0	5,436	4,985
S14 Net gains/(losses) on investments					
	0	0	0	0	0
S16 Extraordinary items					
	0	0	0	0	0
S17 Transfers between funds					
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0

Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 06/03/2025

December 2024

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
	0	0	0	0	0
S18 Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets					
	0	0	0	0	0
S19 Other gains/(losses)					
	0	0	0	0	0

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Intangible assets	0	0
Tangible assets	715,000	715,000
Heritage assets	0	0
Investments	0	0
<i>Total fixed assets</i>	715,000	715,000
Current assets		
Stocks	0	0
Debtors	0	0
Investments	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand	34,164	35,620
<i>Total current assets</i>	34,164	35,620
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0
<i>Net current assets/(liabilities)</i>	34,164	35,620
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>	749,164	750,620
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0
Provisions for liabilities	0	0
Total net assets or liabilities	749,164	750,620
Funds of the charity:		
Endowment funds	0	0
Restricted income funds	0	0
Unrestricted funds	749,164	750,620
Revaluation reserve	0	0
Total charity funds	749,164	750,620

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
<i>Susan Torlingston</i>	SUSAN TORLINGSTON	14.03.2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the United Church Council (UCC)

St Bartholomew's United Church, Quorn

This report on the financial statements of the UCC for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out in the Income and Expenditure Accounts together with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations'), s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act') and Charities SORP 102.

Respective responsibilities of the UCC and the Examiner

As members of the UCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commission under s.43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 Edition.

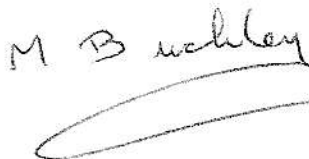
That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the UCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter comes to my attention:

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

Michael Buckley
Independent Examiner
14th February 2025



Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 14/03/2025

Year to December 2024

All fund codes consolidated

	<u>Turnover year to date</u>	<u>Turnover last year to date</u>
Voluntary Income		
Donations received	13,390	3,213
Planned giving	41,337	37,965
Collections	7,073	4,648
Gift aid tax income	10,548	11,075
Grants received	5,000	0
Bequests and legacies	5,000	3,000
	<u>82,348</u>	<u>59,901</u>
Fundraising Income		
Fundraising income	1,934	1,621
Quorn News	1,037	789
Letting/hire income	0	25
Lettings (Previous year)	240	168
Lettings	7,807	9,165
Quorn Pre-School lettings	11,221	10,673
	<u>22,239</u>	<u>22,441</u>
Investment Income		
Interest received	835	884
	<u>835</u>	<u>884</u>
Charitable Activities Income		
Sales	98	13
Parochial fees	13,478	15,275
	<u>13,576</u>	<u>15,288</u>
Other Income		
Other income	1,185	605
Reimbursements	792	684
VAT refunds	520	0
	<u>2,497</u>	<u>1,289</u>
Charitable Activities Costs		
Charitable donations	1,449	824
Vicars expenses	7,551	1,933
Parish magazine costs	1,437	1,075
Service expenses	953	354
Music	844	331
Youthwork, outreach, pastoral	631	481
Parish Gift	38,246	45,000
Circuit assessment	9,767	9,462

Charity no. 1134810

St Bartholomew's United Church Quorn

Printed: 14/03/2025

Year to December 2024

All fund codes consolidated

	Turnover year to date	Turnover last year to date
Volunteer expenses	569	1,134
Utilities	352	212
Electricity	3,848	5,472
Gas	5,498	10,373
Water charges	415	361
Refuse collection	1,107	1,178
Insurances	5,030	4,572
Caretaking	4,071	3,997
Repairs & maintenance	24,120	14,352
Maintenance - consumables	426	609
Significant building works	5,588	0
Clock	316	287
Heating	420	0
Professional fees	481	0
Printing/photocopying	361	133
Postage,stationery,etc	65	31
Publicity costs	576	260
Subscriptions	285	155
IT costs	954	642
Equipment purchases	1,119	0
Other costs	1,035	304
	(117,514)	(103,532)
Other Resources Costs		
Parochial fees DBF	1,882	1,710
Other fees	3,554	3,275
	(5,436)	(4,985)
TOTAL SURPLUS/DEFICIT	(1,455)	(8,714)
BS FIGURES START OF YEAR		
Money	35,620	44,334
Creditors	0	0
Other Net Assets/Liabilities	715,000	715,000
	750,620	759,334
BS FIGURES END OF PERIOD		
Money	34,164	35,620
Creditors	0	0
Other Net Assets/Liabilities	715,000	715,000
	749,164	750,620

Independent Examiner's Report to the United Church Council (UCC)

St Bartholomew's United Church, Quorn

This report on the financial statements of the UCC for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out in the Income and Expenditure Accounts together with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the regulations'), s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act') and Charities SORP 102.

Respective responsibilities of the UCC and the Examiner

As members of the UCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commission under s.43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 Edition.

That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the UCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter comes to my attention:

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

Michael Buckley
Independent Examiner
14th February 2025

