

Ministry Area Penybont ar Ogwr

England & Wales · Charity number 1135927

Details

Other names	COITY, NOLTON AND BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-05-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: The promotion of the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, in the parish.

Activities: Entering in to the mission of the Church

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Bridgend

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£296,347	£361,856	-	-
2023-12-31	£291,373	£367,281	-	-
2022-12-31	£355,503	£490,107	-	-
2021-12-31	£192,230	£185,459	-	-
2020-12-31	£177,229	£185,746	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jennifer Ann Morgan	Chair	2024-01-01
Amanda Jane Buckley		2025-07-08
Anthony John Harris		2026-05-31
Dr NADER OMIDVAR		2025-06-29
Hilary Markwell		2023-04-30
JOHN LEWIS		2024-06-30
Linda Ann Jones		2025-06-29
Menna David		2026-05-31
Penelope Williams		2022-02-03
REV MARK PHILIP BROADWAY		2024-06-25
Rev Roger Thomas Pitman		2023-09-01
Richard John Castle		2025-07-29
Sandra Elizabeth Arnott		2026-01-27
Simon John Buckley		2023-04-30
Stuart Donald DAVIDSON		2007-04-28
Susan Margaret Parfitt		2025-09-23
Valerie Joy Turner		2023-05-08

Accounts

CHARITY NUMBER 1135927

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
FOR
MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR**

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CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity Name	Ministry Area, Penybont Ar Ogwr
Registered Charity Number	1135927
Principal Address	St Marys Church Hall Merthyr Mawr Road North Nolton Bridgend CF31 3NH
Contact Details	01656 667690

Charity Trustees

Rev M Broadway (appointed 25 June 2024)
Rev M Thorne (resigned 31 March 2024)
Rev R Pitman

P Williams
V Turner
H Markwell
S Buckley
S Davidson

J Morgan (appointed 1 January 2024)
L Davies (appointed 1 May 2024)
J Lewis (appointed 30 June 2024)
A Buckley (appointed 30 June 2024)
J Blackwell (appointed 26 November 2024)
Dr N Omidvar (appointed 29 June 2025)
L Jones (appointed 29 June 2025)
R Castle (appointed 29 July 2025)
S Parfitt (appointed 23 September 2025)

M David (appointed 3 February 2024, resigned 31 May 2024)
R Gauci (appointed 3 February 2024, resigned 30 June 2024)

H Evans (resigned 30 April 2024)
P Smith (resigned 30 June 2024)
I Hartley-Brown (resigned 5 September 2024)
G Coles (resigned 1 December 2024)
P Coulson (resigned 29 June 2025)
A Dix (resigned 29 June 2025)
H Harrison (resigned 29 June 2025)
S Jones (resigned 29 June 2025)

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the Charity for the year ending 31 December 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are achieved by promoting throughout the Ministry Area the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – within our parish. This includes the following:

- Conducting regular Christian worship including the Holy Eucharist, marriages, funerals and baptisms;
- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of the churches, churchyards and associated buildings for which we are responsible;
- The maintenance of Christian burial places;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scripture;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the churches and the wider community;
- Pastoral care and visiting the sick & dying;
- Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
- Supporting the work of other charities.

In preparing this report, the Ministry Area Council have considered the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In each decision made, we have sought to weigh up the benefit and/or detriment both for those who join us for public worship within our congregations and those resident in our communities. The Ministry Area Council believes that the Church's activities detailed above are the main activities undertaken to meet the charity's public benefit objectives and to achieve its overall aim of promoting the Ministry Area and whole mission of the church.

The Ministry Area measures its success based on the level of activities – both religious and social – that it undertakes throughout the year. The Trustees believe that 2024 was a successful year, with a number of activities being undertaken both internally and joining with the community, for example local schools. The Area is seeking to expand on this in future periods.

Monies are raised by freewill offertory, fundraising activities and specific appeals. These are used to support the work and administration of the churches and wider mission. Both the Ministry Area, and its constituent local churches, continue to actively increase attendance and develop mission work in the community. Many of those involved in the main functions of the churches are volunteers.

The Ministry Area is grateful to all of those who freely give of their time on a voluntary basis. The majority of functions performed within the Area, including serving on the Area Council, are performed on a voluntary basis. These include various administrative functions, but also keeping each Church in a clean and serviceable state including limited maintenance, helping at services and organising events both religious and social around the service calendar. Without the significant numbers of individuals from each church giving their time the activities of the Area would be severely restricted.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**Achievements and Performance**

2024 marked a major turning point in the life of the Ministry Area with the appointment of a new Lay Chair in January 2024, the retirement of the Ministry Area Leader in March – followed by the appointment of a new Ministry Area Leader in June, along with two new Ministry Area Wardens following the Annual Vestry Meeting at the end of that month. These changes come at an exciting time within UK Christianity, as many churches are beginning to report a “quiet revival” and the churches of our Ministry Area have seen some evidence of that. However, significant challenges remain: the growth that was seen in the final two quarters of 2024 has not been enough to remedy the damage incurred over recent decades. The Clergy within the MA were wonderful in the acceptance of the management situation, although it would have been preferable if there were three priests, associate priests and a curate, as in the past. Local retired Clergy continued to offer support and cover throughout 2024 wherever needed and the Licensed Lay Ministers assisted in keeping everything ticking over on the alternate weeks so that there was always a service in every Church every Sunday. A Cleric joined the team in August 23 which eased the dire Clergy situation, and unusually, the MA was able to advertise the post of MA Leader whilst the current MA Leader was still in post which allowed her to be involved in the process of writing the profile. The successful candidate Reverend Mark Broadway took up his post in June 2024.

Unfortunately, while there were new additions to our congregations and 18 confirmations in November, the year saw a loss of significant members of our congregations. We miss them all and the contribution they made to the life of the MA.

Finances have again dominated the year, or, it would be more correct to say, lack of finances has again dominated the year. The MA is truly fortunate to have such a gifted finance officer without her thriftiness and clarity of thought, the financial position would be hopeless. There is also a wonderful team of Local Treasurers serving all the Churches working in close liaison with the finance team. Although seven out of our eight congregations have showed consistent growth in the final quarter of 2024, maintained their new “normal” levels of attendance, the MA receives far, far less in offering each week than would cover the Common Fund payment required by the diocese. Throughout the year the income received has not been enough to cover the increased costs including the increased general cost of living and utility charges which are crippling us. We have therefore adopted “generosity” as one of our four key cultural pillars and have received teaching and guidance in this area.

The Churches within the Ministry Area have been proactive in Mission which is reflected in the individual church's statement of mission and there is plenty of evidence that the congregations are playing their part in realising those statements to try and grow in God's Kingdom. In brief these are:

- St Mary's Coity had a year of further consolidation. A strong congregation with regular church choir grew over the year with weekly Sunday Club held to bring the next generation into the Church community. Coity continued to support the local Foodbank throughout the year
- St Mary's Nolton saw a slow but noticeable recovery of worshippers coupled with increased numbers of Baptisms and Weddings. A variety of mission events were held or hosted throughout the year which included school study visits, a new 'drop in café' and attendance by the local community at special annual events. Nolton church continued to support the local Foodbank
- Both Coity and Nolton churches are the focus for many larger community events such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and other occasional services
- St Mary's Brackla is the only one of our congregations not growing in terms of Average Sunday Attendance, but has focused on building firm relationships within and outside the Church. Events were held to become more visible in the wider community, Open the Book was a regular weekly feature in school assemblies and Messy Coffee Mornings were introduced for inter-generational links. Success was the result of vision, commitment and fellowship of Brackla members and working with the Diocesan Mission Enablers

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

- All Saints, Pen -y-Fai, are very proactive in working with the Community to strength and grow. Events that continued throughout the year include Open the Book initiative at the local primary school, Warm Welcome lunches, working in close association with Communities and Schools to support the community and charities alike. Friendships with non-church attenders are strengthening and the locals are "owning" their church
- St Crallo's is disadvantaged in Mission works as there is no running water, or toilet facilities. St Crallo's therefore opted for a gentle approach with members offering their homes for afternoon teas and other fundraising events which were very successful. Other events St Crallo's hosted included the local primary school Easter and Harvest services. Community lessons and carol services, annual Nativity and Christingle service. All events held in the vision of increasing growth
- St Illtyd's have had a challenging year uniting the different traditions in the Churches in the Ministry Area. However, with continued prayer and commitment from the congregation at St Illtyd's changes were embraced and the future outlook is to move forward in faith, hope and love to further God's kingdom
- St David's have been busy in proactively ensuring everyone has a warm welcome at St David's church. There has been some growth in attendees at Baptisms and Weddings becoming regular church members and work for the Fellowship within the Ministry Area and to grow in Faith continues
- St Teilo's benefited from a more consistent delivery of Sunday Services which resulted in a dramatic increase in Average Sunday attendance towards the end of the year. Fundraising events were held almost every month and were open to the wider public. Whilst the events were financially rewarding and allowed St Teilo's to make contributions to a number of charities, the true success was in bringing large numbers, old and new friends, to church. St Teilo's is exceptionally proactive and successful at holding events.

The last year has seen a marked increase in many community schools using the churches for services and for educational sessions which is resulting in strong and lasting friendships. Every meeting had its profound moments of sharing experiences and appreciation of God's Creation.

Overall, the Ministry Area in 2024 has had successes in trying to grow God's Kingdom which are down to the vision, commitment, time given, skills of those holding roles within the MAC and parishioners alike. The MA continues to grow in fellowship with each other and there has been good improvement in creating a team spirit in helping and supporting each other.

The Ministry Area experienced mixed fortune in 2024, but it still needs to look to God for its direction and purpose. We look forward to seeing our congregations and the whole of the Ministry Area grow in faith, fellowship and number, and we look forward to seeing your ministries go from strength to strength.

Financial Review

During 2024 there has been continuing progress in implementing a central accounting function with ongoing progress. A central bank account was opened in 2023 and slowly each of the individual church bank accounts is being transferred to allow the sharing of resources, while still enabling the individual churches to identify and monitor their own elements via the accounting system. This has impacted on the local Churches Treasurers, but ultimately as day to day processes are consolidated, their time will be freed to apply their skills to the key financial issues facing the church.

2024 has been a challenging year for finance despite good growth in attendance in the final quarter of the year, it has not been possible to cover basic Church running costs.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

As work of combining the original parish records, and investigation of certain assets is continuing further information is coming to light. There is ongoing research to clarify the position of various assets, particularly properties, and the original source of funds particularly some of the older restricted funds. This work is not yet complete and the notes to the accounts explain some of the outstanding areas. This may lead to adjustments to the accounts when the investigations are complete in future years.

The day-to-day finances are administered by the MAC, the Finance Officer and local Church Treasurers as agreed and directed by the MAC. As the MAC developed it became clear that for efficient governance there was a need for a Finance and Policy sub-committees to be set up. These have been formed in 2024.

During the year the charity had a total income from activities and assets of £296,347 (2023 - £291,373) before gains and losses on investments. This sum was split between restricted income of £83,078 (2023 - £77,794) and unrestricted income of £213,269 (2023 - £213,579). The majority of the restricted income relates to investment income from restricted funds such as investments and investment property.

In the year, the charity had total expenses of £361,856 (2023 - £367,281). Of the expenditure £262,887 (2023 - £214,398) was unrestricted and £98,969 (2023 - £152,883) was restricted. There were no major repair works carried out in 2024. The recurring spend therefore exceeded the recurring income resulting in a deficit of £65,509 a small improvement on last year's deficit of £75,908. The deficit has been made up by utilising cash reserves.

The major recurring expense in the year is the parish share paid to the Diocese. This totalled approximately £141,000 (2023 - £158,000) in the year. Of the total expenditure, some items such as the parish share were met by utilising the cash reserves brought forward in individual churches when the churches were merged with into the Ministry Area. It is intended to continue using these reserves of the individual churches to pay the parish share and other parish related expenses in future years until those reserves are exhausted.

The majority of the investments are held in shares in the Common Investment Fund administered by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The value of the shares in the Fund fluctuates with time. The Representative Body follows the Church of Wales ethical guidance on ethical investments prohibiting investments for example in armaments, predatory lending activities, gambling and alcohol and seeks to promote good levels of environmental, social governance responsibility. The investments are held to provide some income to the parishes and to provide funds where necessary for, in particular, capital projects in line with the original donations. The Ministry Area can utilise the funds as necessary subject to restrictions, particularly on capital projects, but does not want to draw down on the investments except in necessity as once spent they cannot be easily replaced!

The net assets of the charity at the year end totalled £2,179,105 (2023 - £2,218,401). However, the majority of these assets are restricted, with only unrestricted net assets of £88,850 (2023 - £132,432). Within this there was only £71,425 (2023 - £116,192) of unrestricted cash. While there was also some funds brought forward in individual churches which are classed as restricted but can be used for fund specific church costs such as parish share, it can be seen that the Area needs to generate significant unrestricted income each year to cover its on-going costs and avoid drawing down on cash reserves.

During the year the Ministry Area disposed of one investment property for approximately £113,000 after costs, and subsequent to the year end the Ministry Area is in negotiations to dispose of the remaining property. Unfortunately, while this process realises cash for the Area, these funds are classed as restricted as the source of the original funds for the purchase of the investments is researched. This cash at present is therefore not available for the day-to-day running costs of the charity.

Reserves Policy

Although the charity has £2,179,105 (2023 - £2,218,401) of total funds, a large proportion are restricted and also tied up in investments. At the year end the charity therefore held only £71,425 (2023 - £116,192) in cash which was freely available to meet on-going expenses – approximately 4 months of available reserves. While there is on-going income, the charity intends to develop plans to hold sufficient cash reserves at any point in time to cover at least 6 months of recurring expenditure.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Plans For Future Periods

The Trustees recognise the need to improve the charity's on-going unrestricted cash position.

The Trustees are seeking to:

- improve giving, particularly regular giving which will also assist with gift aid reclaims. The Trustees recognise that declining church attendance over a number of years has reduced incoming funds and they are seeking to address this both by seeking to increase attendance, and also by encouraging the congregation to contribute more per individual where their personal resources allow together with more fundraising events
- reduce expenditure. A review of expenditure is being undertaken to centralise expenditure where appropriate particularly to determine whether any savings can be achieved from central contracts
- cutting costs and eliminating substantial amount of waste and needless spends
- work with the province to improve the return on investment
- a Finance Working Group has been set up to lead and advise on complex matters
- a Hall Management Working Team has been established to optimise the return from church halls
- Chasing down money that is owed to the MA through unclaimed gift aid and unpaid invoices.

Priority is to be given to: Addressing the pastoral issues that have caused decline ensuring that the situation does not deteriorate further; Implementing the Growth & Revitalisation Strategy, so that we can go forwards towards growing our membership; Building on our four key cultural pillars of generosity, hospitality, prayerfulness and evangelism, so that our members feel confident and hopeful in our joint vision, and so feel inclined to give generously.

We are asking our members to get involved in some keyways as we face this situation together:

First, to pray. The church is fundamentally a spiritual society, and its material decline follows its spiritual decline. We are encouraging our members to come to church early, and leave late, so that they have more time to pray. We are encouraging them to develop a pattern of praying every morning and every evening, bringing their requests to God with thankfulness.

Second, to serve. We are encouraging everyone who can to join a team or a rota. That may look like hosting a group or putting oneself forward to train to lead services. We would love everyone to offer up some time each week to spreading the gospel.

Finally, to give. We are encouraging our members to ask the Lord to show you how much they each should be giving to his church. It is the norm for Christians to offer 10% of their regular income to support gospel work. Some people are called to give more, some people are not able to give this much – but decisions around giving should begin with prayer and be motivated by thankfulness.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Ministry Area is a charity registered with the Charities Commission. The Area is an amalgamation of local churches as part of the Diocese of Llandaff, part of the Anglican Province of the Church in Wales set up under the Welsh Churches Act 1914. The Churches are governed in accordance with the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

On 1 January 2023, the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla were combined with the neighbouring parishes of All, Saints, Penyfai, St Crallos, Coychurch, St Davids, Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr to form a new Ministry Area under the charity registration of the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds the land and property of the Church in Wales. They are an exempt charity set up under section 13(2) of the Welsh Churches Act. They act on behalf of the province in paying stipends and administering various aspects of central administration such as central investments.

The Ministry Area Council acts as both Parish Church Council and charity Trustees for the entire Ministry Area. It is not a body Corporate, so its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The Ministry Area Council is responsible for ensuring that reviews of all major risks are conducted and that wherever possible systems have been established to mitigate risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the churches, graveyards and church halls. The Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient resources, including financial resources to achieve the Area's objectives.

The Ministry Area has identified safeguarding as a risk and has therefore adopted the Church in Wales safeguarding policy and has undertaken a number of training sessions.

Apart from The Ministry Area Leader, Lay Chair and Clergy, Trustees are appointed on a voluntary basis to the Ministry Area Committee (MAC) with no time deadline set. Lay Chair is a selected position and has a term of service being 3 years. Clergy serve on the Committee while they are post.

The Trustees are appointed annually at the Annual Vestry Meeting or co-opted depending on their individual expertise.

The Ministry Area Council will be reviewing the training, including safeguarding training, facilities given to Trustees over the coming months to ensure that all members have sufficient support to fulfil their responsibilities.

The Trustees have appointed various sub-committees to handle different aspects of the charity administration. A finance sub-committee advises on finance matters, including the level of salary and remuneration for staff which is benchmarked externally for similar roles with minimum of the living wage being used.

The day-to-day management of the Area is undertaken by the Clergy Team led by Rev Maggie Thorne until her retirement on 31 March 2024, and then by Rev Mark Broadway from 25 June 2024. The day-to-day administration is assisted by a Treasurer, who is employed by the Area and is not a Trustee, together with a number of salaried staff.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act requires the Council to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which comply with the regulations made under the Act.

The Council is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and contain entries showing from day to day all monies received, and monies expended by the charity and the matters in respect of which those transactions took place and also contain a record of the assets and liabilities of the charity. The law also sets out the responsibilities for the preparation and content of the Annual Report.

The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and ensuring their proper application under charity law and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Rev M Broadway

Date: 11 October 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 12 to 28.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts, and it is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA (CONTINUED)

The Ministry Area was set up via a combination of the existing Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla with the inclusion of a number of parishes of the Church in Wales in the local area. In doing so, there are a number of historical financial records that needed clarifying and some of these are still in the process of being investigated further. These include:

- the title and valuation of various properties to clarify the ownership and amounts to be included in the accounts as detailed in the fixed asset note 9 to the accounts
- exact restrictions on a number of restricted funds within the Ministry Area as summarised in the reserves note 14 to the accounts.

Except as noted above, 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

JE Payne ACA
ICAEW
Xeinadin South Wales & West Limited
Court House, Court Rd
Bridgend, CF31 1BE

Date : 11 October 2025

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

		2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds		Funds	Funds	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES	1						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations, legacies and grants		124,861	27,202	152,063	128,445	17,169	145,614
Charitable activities		84,469	7,701	92,170	81,153	4,197	85,350
Investments		2,620	46,689	49,309	2,268	56,428	58,696
Other income		1,319	1,486	2,805	1,713	-	1,713
Total income		213,269	83,078	296,347	213,579	77,794	291,373
RESOURCES EXPENDED	2						
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		(258,687)	(98,969)	(357,656)	(208,998)	(152,883)	(361,881)
Other expenditure		(4,200)	-	(4,200)	(5,400)	-	(5,400)
Total expenditure		(262,887)	(98,969)	(361,856)	(214,398)	(152,883)	(367,281)
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(49,618)	(15,891)	(65,509)	(819)	(75,089)	(75,908)
Net gains/(losses) on investments:							
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments	11	1,185	65,219	66,404	1,143	65,077	66,220
Loss on revaluation of investment property	10	-	(40,000)	(40,000)	-	(82,500)	(82,500)
Loss on disposal of investment property		-	(3,617)	(3,617)	-	-	-
Investment income re-invested	11	-	3,426	3,426	-	3,565	3,565
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(48,433)	9,137	(39,296)	324	(88,947)	(88,623)
Funds brought forward		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Transfer between funds	15	4,851	(4,851)	-	(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-
Funds carried forward	14	88,850	2,090,255	2,179,105	132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401

Included within restricted income is £23,535 (2023 - £20,946) arising from endowment investments. Prior year income has been increased by £10,158 as a result of further information regarding one particular legacy being reclassified as endowment.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

		2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	121,001	121,001	-	124,001	124,001
Investment Properties	10	-	325,060	325,060	-	481,177	481,177
Investments	11	22,825	1,274,552	1,297,377	21,640	1,205,907	1,227,547
Total fixed assets		22,825	1,720,613	1,743,438	21,640	1,811,085	1,832,725
Current assets							
Cash at bank and in hand		71,425	369,642	441,067	116,192	274,884	391,076
Debtors	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
		71,425	369,642	441,067	116,192	274,884	391,076
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year:	13	(5,400)	-	(5,400)	(5,400)	-	(5,400)
Net Current Assets		66,025	369,642	435,667	110,792	274,884	385,676
Net assets		88,850	2,090,255	2,179,105	132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401
Brought forward		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Transfers	15	4,851	(4,851)	-	(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(48,433)	9,137	(39,296)	324	(88,947)	(88,623)
Carried Forward	14	88,850	2,090,255	2,179,105	132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401
Restricted Funds are split between:							
Endowment - Permanent	11		988,844			917,718	
Other			<u>1,101,411</u>			<u>1,168,251</u>	
			<u>2,090,255</u>			<u>2,085,969</u>	

Prior year endowment assets have been increased by £467,896 as a number of legacies have been reclassified as endowment.

These financial statements were approved by the Ministry Area Council on 11 October 2025

Signed on their behalf by

Trustee – Rev M Broadway

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historic cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments to fair value in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'

As a charity, the church is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) within the meaning of FRS102.

The accounts presentation is in line with the requirements of the Annual Financial Return to Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. Some of these differ from the format and disclosure requirements of the SORP (FRS102) because, in the opinion of the PCC, the format adopted best represents the activities of the church.

The Ministry Area is a multi-church parish which comprised, at the beginning of 2022, the three churches of St Marys, Coity, Nolton and Brackla. On 1st January 2022, five additional churches – All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos, Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr, were also added to the charity which was renamed the Ministry Area.

The key accounting estimates used in the preparation of the accounts are:

- the estimated useful life of fixed assets
- recoverability of debts.

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that the charity will be able to continue its operations for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and the trustees confirm that no material uncertainties relating to this position exist.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

Accruals accounting

All income is credited gross on the date on which it is received, or when it becomes due and can be reasonably estimated. All expenditure is fully accrued based on the date that the liability has arisen.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular specific purpose. Endowment funds are investments where capital is maintained, and income can be used in the parishes for the purposes specified by the original donors.

Investment Properties

Investment properties are originally included in the financial statements at cost including incidental costs such as professional fees. Investment properties are then revalued periodically to market value with gains and losses credited or charged to a revaluation reserve, classified as restricted or unrestricted according to the original nature of the funds used to acquire the property.

Church Land and Buildings

The land upon which all together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The Ministry Area pays for all maintenance expenses of the church halls, along with the maintenance of individual churches within the Area. Significant improvements for any buildings which are not consecrated, such as church halls, are capitalised as part of fixed assets. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates, in order to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is provided on:

- equipment at the annual rate of 15% and 25% reducing balance in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.
- leasehold improvements over 10 years from the date of the improvements completed.

Investment assets

Fixed asset investments in The Representative Body of the Church in Wales Common Investment Fund or other Charity Investment Vehicles are valued initially at original purchase cost and subsequently at their market value at the year end with any gains or losses going through the SOFA.

Amounts held at recognised UK banks are classified as cash at bank and in hand.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors are recognised and measured at cost with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash

Cash consists of monies held in Banks by each of the Churches together with the Area plus, cash in hand at each of the individual churches plus funds held by the Representative Body in bank account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

INCOME

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it's more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The following specifies the policies applied and the main types of income that are included within the particular categories of incoming resources:

Collection

The Ministry Area received its main income from the Direct Giving of its Parishioners and there are three main categories of this direct income:

- Gift Aided envelope which is remitted either by the use of a specially designed red envelope at a Church Service offertory collection, by direct payment to the Benefice Covenant Secretary or credited direct by bank transfer by Direct Giving.
- Casual Gift Aided contributions which are enclosed in the newly designed envelopes, which are signed and handed in at a Church Service offertory collection.
- Cash - offertory collections at a Church Service.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met on a performance basis.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when the receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations, gifts and legacies

Gift aid receivable is included in income where there is a valid declaration from the donor and is recognised when the claim is successfully received. Any Gift Aid amount recovered is considered to be part of the original donation and as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Income from interest and dividends

The benefice has two main sources of investment income and is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount received can be measured reliably:

- Surplus cash resources are invested in Bank Deposits
- Trust Fund capital is invested in the Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. This is an income producing account with a Capital growth potential. The Benefice Churches involved received a quarterly income payment from the Representative Body.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustee's annual report.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of VAT which is not recoverable as the organisation is not VAT registered.

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. The charity has creditors which are measured at the amounts due in settlement.

TAX

The charity is exempt from corporation tax.

SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS

The majority of income and expenditure is based on cash movements through the bank account. There are therefore limited judgements made in the overall accounts. These judgements include:

- estimates of the value of investment property
- an estimate of the useful life of tangible fixed assets
- estimates of expenditure incurred, but not yet billed at the time of the accounts
- recoverability of debts, including debts from rental of assets and gift aid.

A key judgement area is ensuring restricted funds are correctly identified and that the allocation of expenditure to individual restricted funds is in accordance with the terms of that specific fund. The Trustees are continuing to investigate brought forward funds to determine the details of all restrictions as identified in individual notes to the accounts.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2024

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Donations, Legacies and Grants						
Planned Giving	85,382	-	85,382	80,471	-	80,471
Loose Collections	16,480	-	16,480	19,598	-	19,598
Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	11,662	-	11,662	18,440	-	18,440
Donations	6,088	17,237	23,325	8,694	1,469	10,163
Legacies	-	-	-	-	100	100
Grants	5,249	9,965	15,214	1,242	15,600	16,842
	124,861	27,202	152,063	128,445	17,169	145,614
Charitable Activities						
Fees - Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings	6,134	7,701	13,835	8,185	4,197	12,382
- Hall hire	68,064	-	68,064	60,278	-	60,278
- Money Raising Events	10,271	-	10,271	12,690	-	12,690
	84,469	7,701	92,170	81,153	4,197	85,350
Income From Investments						
Investment Property Income	-	17,850	17,850	-	28,876	28,876
Investment Income	540	25,259	25,779	512	23,135	23,647
Interest	2,080	3,580	5,660	1,756	4,417	6,173
	2,620	46,689	49,309	2,268	56,428	58,696
Other Income						
Other Incoming Resources	1,319	1,486	2,805	1,713	-	1,713
	1,319	1,486	2,805	1,713	-	1,713

2 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £
Charitable Activities Expenditure						
Support for Ministry including parish share	99,134	41,967	141,101	72,302	85,694	157,966
Ministry Area parish share rebate	(9,004)	-	(9,004)	(19,229)	-	(19,229)
Maintenance of Services	10,871	-	10,871	5,130	-	5,130
General Parish Expenses	85,831	-	85,831	74,347	18,016	92,363
Maintenance of Churches	30,971	29,799	60,770	46,345	12,369	58,714
Maintenance of Property	37,420	21,224	58,644	26,687	33,804	60,491
Mission (Donations)	3,464	2,979	6,443	3,416	-	3,416
Depreciation	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
	258,687	98,969	357,656	208,998	152,883	361,881
Other Expenditure						
Legal and Professional	4,200	-	4,200	5,400	-	5,400

3 MAINTENANCE OF MINISTRY AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

To fund the provision of Ministry, the Ministry pays a "Parish Share" to the Diocese. This Parish Share was split and allocated between each church as agreed within the Area.

The total charge for Parish Share for the Area was £137,496 (2023 - £153,873).

During the year the area received a rebate for the parish share from the diocese of £9,004 (2023 - £19,229).

The total amount outstanding from the area to the diocese at the year end was £Nil (2023 £Nil).

4 MISSION

The Ministry Area recognises that an important part of its Christian Stewardship is to financially support the work of Church Missions, Christian Charities, Social and Emergency appeals. The amounts paid out for mission and charity donations in the year totalled £6,443 (2023 - £3,416).

5 LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL

Amounts included in the accounts due to Independent Examiners, including VAT, for:

Independent Examination	£4,200	(2023 – £4,200)
Accounting	Nil	(2023 – £Nil)

6 CLERICS AND TRUSTEES TRANSACTIONS

The Ministry Area pays the cost of all expenses incurred by the Church in Wales Clerics and Church Wardens in the performance of their Parish duties. The amounts paid to Clerics were £6,337 (2023 - £9,252), including £Nil (2023 - £Nil) of baptism, funeral and wedding fees and £3,158 (2023 - £5,721) for re-imbursement of water rates, electricity and gas to 3 (2023 – 3) individuals. The amounts paid to vergers totalled £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

Other trustees received expenses totalling £Nil (2023 - £Nil) for reimbursement of expenses incurred relating to the general running and administrative costs of the charity.

Other than detailed above, the Area does not pay any remuneration to the Church in Wales Clerics. The clergy team, including the Dean, are remunerated by the Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. No payments were made to other Trustees for remuneration.

Some trustees give anonymously to the charity via the weekly church collections. Specific donations from trustees with conditions attached totalled £Nil (2023 - £Nil).

7 WAGES AND SALARIES

During the year the area employed an average of 4 (2023 – 4) part time employees at a total cost of £54,975 (2023 - £49,170). The total cost included £Nil (2023 - £Nil) of employer's national insurance costs and £541 (2023 - £526) of employer's contributions to personal pension schemes. The estimated number of equivalent full time employees for the year is 2 (2023 - 2).

A trustee resigned in 2022 period to accept a paid role within the Ministry Area, and their costs are included above for 2023 and 2024 as an employee.

No employees earned over £60,000 (2023 - Nil).

8 OTHER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income includes government grants of:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other government grants	<u>10,515</u>	<u>10,600</u>

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Property</u>	<u>Leasehold Improvements</u>	<u>2024 Total</u>	<u>2023 Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Cost/valuation brought forward and carried forward	100,001	30,000	130,001	130,001
Depreciation brought forward	-	(6,000)	(6,000)	(3,000)
Depreciation in year	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Depreciation carried forward	-	(9,000)	(9,000)	(6,000)
Net Book Value brought forward	100,001	24,000	124,001	127,001
Net Book Value carried forward	100,001	21,000	121,001	124,001

The land upon which all churches together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area, they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The following properties are, however, potentially believed to be held for the benefit of the Ministry Area:

Nolton Rectory and Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of this land and property is now believed by the Trustees to be held by The Representative Body of the Church in Wales and therefore no amounts are included in the accounts in relation to these buildings.

Coity Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of the Hall is currently under investigation, but it is currently understood that the Ministry Area is the beneficial owner of the property.

The original cost of this property cannot be fully determined, although shown in the 2021 accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs - at a cost of £507,168. Due to the uncertainty surrounding this cost, Coity Church Hall is included in the accounts at valuation for balance sheet purposes of £100,000. The valuation was undertaken in the previous year by Watts & Morgan, Chartered Surveyors in accordance with RICS valuation rules effective as at 31 December 2022 as a freehold property. Watts & Morgan have confirmed that they believe there has been no material change in this value during the current year.

A significant proportion of the value of the Hall is considered to be the land on which the property is based. No depreciation is charged on the land. The useful life of the Hall is considered to be in excess of 20 years. Accordingly no depreciation on the balance of the valuation has been included in the accounts as it is considered immaterial to the overall accounts.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS CONTINUED

Laleston Church Hall

Laleston Church Hall is held by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales as custodian trustee for The Ministry Area under terms of a 999 Year Lease which include covenants that render the Lease valueless to the Ministry Area under the required RICS assumptions as to balance sheet values. The lease is included in the accounts at a nominal of £1.

Leasehold Improvements to the property at an apportioned estimated cost of £30,000 were made in 2021 prior to the merger. These improvements are being depreciated over a 10 year estimated useful life.

Newcastle Church Hall

Subsequent to the year end, the Area is in the process of disposing of this property. However, investigations are required as to whether the proceeds will be released to the parish, held by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales or paid to a third party. Accordingly, this property is not included in the Ministry Area balance sheet for 2023 or 2024.

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Valuation brought forward	481,177	563,677
Disposal	(116,117)	-
Revaluation	(40,000)	(82,500)
Total carried forward	<u>325,060</u>	<u>481,177</u>

Leominster Property was purchased in 2015 for £442,026. In the opinion of the trustees the current valuation of the property is £325,060 (2023 - £365,000). The original source of funds is uncertain and therefore the property is classed as restricted while investigations are in progress. The rental income is restricted from the property is also restricted for use within the Coity and Nolton parishes.

Port Talbot Property was purchased in 2022 and remained at cost at the end of 2023 as the trustees estimated that this was still a fair reflection of its market value at the end of the previous year. The property was sold during 2024. The original proceeds used to acquire the property are believed to be restricted – although further clarification is being sort - and therefore the proceeds are classified as restricted. The property was sold during the current year at a net loss of £3,617.

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

The long-term investment of the Ministry Area consists of monies that have been donated or bequeathed to the Benefice and/or one of its churches by parishioners and also Stock issued by the Governing Body of the Church of Wales under the Tithe Act. The use to which some of these capital and income items may be put is restricted to the specific terms of the individual Trust Deed.

The majority of this money is under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales in its capacity as the Special Trustee of all the Deeds and is invested by the Representative Body in its Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under its supervision.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

	2023 Market Value £	Fund	Purchase/ Disposals No	Shares No	2024 Market Value £
Shares No					
Held at Representative Body – Common Investment Fund					
Coity, Nolton and Ministry Area					
(All religious purposes investments combined in current year and comparatives amended)					
Religious purpose in general but primarily for the use in Coity and Nolton Parish					
437,444	967,845	- Capital	-	437,444	1,020,864
9,781	21,640	Legacy held for religious purposes in general		9,781	22,825
St Iltyds, Church, Newcastle					
4,008	8,868	Maintenance of graveyard		4,008	9,353
St Crallo’s, Coychurch					
2,976	6,584	Maintenance of Church and Churchyard, Maintenance of West Memorial Window		2,976	6,945
1,154	2,553	- Capital		1,154	2,693
3,659	8,096	- Accumulated income	112	3,771	8,800
	71	- Cash for re-investment		-	77
All Saints, Penyfai					
Maintenance of Church Buildings					
15,863	35,097	- Capital		15,863	37,019
39,910	88,301	- Accumulated income	1,208	41,118	95,958
-	609	- Cash for re-investment			888
2,373	5,250	Maintenance of Churchyard		2,373	5,538
St Davids, Laleston					
Chancel repair fund					
614	1,358	- Capital		614	1,432
814	1,801	- Accumulated income	33	847	1,977
	23	- Cash for re-investment			25
	1,148,906	Sub-total			1,214,394
Held at Church					
St Marys, Coity					
	20,393	Maintenance of graveyard – COIF Charities Investment Fund			20,854
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr					
	59,058	LGT investment fund			62,129
	79,451	Sub Total			82,983
	1,227,547	Totals			1,297,377

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11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

(CONTINUED)

	Coity/Nolton/ Ministry Area	Newcastle	Coychurch	Penyfai	Laleston	Merthyr Mawr	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January	1,009,878	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,227,547
- Income retained in portfolio	-	-	265	3,082	79	-	3,426
- Revaluation	54,665	485	946	7,064	173	3,071	66,404
At 31 December	1,064,543	9,353	18,515	139,403	3,434	62,129	1,297,377
Restricted – General	115,855	-	8,877	96,846	2,001	62,129	285,708
Restricted - Endowment	925,863	9,353	9,638	42,557	1,433	-	988,844
Restricted Total	1,041,718	9,353	18,515	139,403	3,434	62,129	1,274,552
Unrestricted	22,825	-	-	-	-	-	22,825
Investments Total	1,064,543	9,353	18,515	139,403	3,434	62,129	1,297,377

Note:
14

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Movement:

	Brought Forward	Reclass	Income	Transfer to Parish	Revaluation	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted – General	712,192	(467,896)	15,997	(12,571)	37,986	285,708
Restricted - Endowment	493,715	467,896	12,688	(12,688)	27,233	988,844
Restricted Total	1,205,907	-	28,685	(25,259)	65,219	1,274,552
Unrestricted	21,640	-	541	(541)	1,185	22,825
Total	1,227,547	-	29,226	(25,800)	66,404	1,297,377

Prior year endowment assets have been increased by £467,896 as a number of legacies have been reclassified as endowment.

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12 DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	-	-

Amounts previously included in other debtors included amounts due for unclaimed gift aid. There are currently potential amounts that were not claimed at the year end, but due to the uncertainty of their ultimate receipt have not been included in income or debtors for the period.

13 CREDITORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	4,200	4,200
Other creditors including tax and social security	1,200	1,200
	<u>5,400</u>	<u>5,400</u>

All accruals and creditors are classed as unrestricted.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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14 RESERVES

The Ministry Area aims to be at least break-even in future years so that its reserves are maintained so that fixed asset investments are only drawn down for major capital expenditure.

	1 Jan 2024 £	Adjustments £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2024 £
Restricted					
Fixed Assets					
Investment Property	481,177		(112,500)	(43,617)	325,060
Tangible fixed assets - property					
St Davids, Laleston	24,001		-	(3,000)	21,001
Coity Hall	100,000		-	-	100,000
	124,001		-	(3,000)	121,001
Investments					
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes	967,845	-	-	53,019	1,020,864
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:					
St Marys, Coity	20,393	-	-	461	20,854
St Iltyds, Newcastle	8,868	-	-	485	9,353
St Crallos, Coychurch	17,304	-	-	1,211	18,515
All Saints, Penyfai	129,257	-	-	10,146	139,403
St Davids, Laleston	3,182	-	-	252	3,434
For use in parish					
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	59,058	-	-	3,071	62,129
Total Investments (note 11)	1,205,907	-	-	68,645	1,274,552
Other debtors/creditors	-		-	-	-
Cash					
Mission	-		-	2,000	2,000
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	83,818	3,368	112,500	1,593	201,279
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings					
St Iltyds, Newcastle	3,299	-	-	544	3,843
St Crallos, Coychurch	27,015	(17,220)	-	1,138	10,933
All Saints, Penyfai	1,604	-	-	(4,335)	(2,731)
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	53,499	(7,000)	-	(6,538)	39,961
Other specific purposes within parishes					
St Davids, Laleston	7,008	-	-	3,737	10,745
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	1,219	(1,219)	-	-	-
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	17,220	-	-	17,220
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure					
St Iltyds, Newcastle	86,392	-	-	-	86,392
All Saints, Penyfai	11,030	-	-	(11,030)	-
Total Cash	274,884	(4,851)	112,500	(12,891)	369,642
Total Restricted	2,085,969	(4,851)	-	9,137	2,090,255
Unrestricted					
Tangible fixed assets					
Investments (note 11)	21,640	-	-	1,185	22,825
Cash	116,192	4,851	-	(49,618)	71,425
Debtors/creditors	(5,400)	-	-	-	(5,400)
Total unrestricted	132,432	4,851	-	(48,433)	88,850
Total	2,218,401	-	-	(39,296)	2,179,105

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton, St Davids and St Iltyds are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2024

The prior year comparatives show:

	1 Jan 2023 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2023 £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2023 £
Restricted						
Fixed Assets						
Investment Property	116,177	447,500	563,677	-	(82,500)	481,177
Tangible fixed assets - property						
St Davids, Laleston	27,001	-	27,001	-	(3,000)	24,001
Coity Hall	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	100,000
	27,001	100,000	127,001	-	(3,000)	124,001
Investments						
Religious Purposes for Coity and Noltan parishes	455,954	460,754	916,708	-	51,137	967,845
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:						
St Marys, Coity	18,677	-	18,677	-	1,716	20,393
St Iltyds, Newcastle	8,399	-	8,399	-	469	8,868
St Crallos, Coychurch	16,128	-	16,128	270	906	17,304
All Saints, Penyfai	119,288	-	119,288	3,206	6,763	129,257
St Davids, Laleston	2,925	-	2,925	89	168	3,182
For use in parish						
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	55,140	-	55,140	-	3,918	59,058
Total Investments	676,511	460,754	1,137,265	3,565	65,077	1,205,907
Other debtors/creditors	-	9,625	9,625	-	(9,625)	-
Cash						
Brackla, Coity and Noltan parishes	124,112	-	124,112	-	(40,294)	83,818
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	4,105	-	4,105	-	(806)	3,299
St Crallos, Coychurch	29,924	-	29,924	-	(2,909)	27,015
All Saints, Penyfai	652	-	652	-	952	1,604
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	53,035	-	53,035	-	464	53,499
Other specific purposes within parishes						
St Davids, Laleston	7,008	-	7,008	-	-	7,008
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr				-	1,219	1,219
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	86,392	-	86,392	-	-	86,392
All Saints, Penyfai	28,695	-	28,695	-	(17,665)	11,030
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	3,425	-	3,425	-	(3,425)	-
Total Cash	337,348	-	337,348	-	(62,464)	274,884
Total Restricted	1,157,037	1,017,879	2,174,916	3,565	(92,512)	2,085,969
Unrestricted						
Investment property	447,500	(447,500)	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-	-
Investments	481,251	(460,754)	20,497	-	1,143	21,640
Cash	120,010		120,010	-	(3,818)	116,192
Debtors/creditors	1,226	(9,625)	(8,399)	-	2,999	(5,400)
Total unrestricted	1,149,987	(1,017,879)	132,108	-	324	132,432
Total	2,307,024	-	2,307,024	3,565	(92,188)	2,218,401

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Noltan and St Iltyds are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

15 FUND TRANSFERS

The Trustees have been investigating the restrictions, including were possible obtaining copies of wills relating to the original donations. This, together with detailed analysis of spend, has resulted in the following reclassifications to last year's opening position which are shown as transfers during 2024:

	£
St Teilos	
Spend not allocated in prior year	1,219
Expenditure allocated to churchyard fund	7,000
Coity, Nolton and Brackla spend not allocated in prior year	(3,368)
Total reclassifications	<u>4,851</u>

In 2023 a number of other transfers were made between restricted and unrestricted funds:

	£
Coity Hall	100,000
Investment Property	447,500
Coity, Nolton and Brackla for religious purposes	460,754
Investment property rental debtor	9,625
	<u>1,017,879</u>

The ownership of Coity Hall is undetermined (per note 9) and was therefore reclassified as restricted

The original source of funds for the investment property, and therefore related debtors, is believed be derived from a number of sources, but is being investigated, and therefore was reclassified as restricted.

Further information was obtained relating to the investments for religious purposes and these are now understood to be restricted and so were reclassified in 2023

16 COMMITMENTS

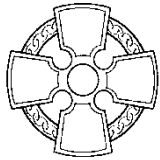
The charity had operating lease commitments of

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year	1,396	1,396
Due between 1 and 5 years	<u>3,141</u>	<u>4,886</u>
	<u>4,537</u>	<u>6,282</u>

The charity made payments under operating leases in the period of £1,396 (2023 - £5,413).

The charity had no capital commitments at the year end (2023 - £Nil).

Accounts



THE CHURCH IN WALES

YR EGLWYS YNG NGHYMRU

Annual Vestry Report

For year ended

31st December 2023

Ministry Area

Penybont ar Ogwr

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Ministry Area Council Report

For the year ended December 31st 2023

Introduction

The new Ministry Area Penybont ar Ogwr was formed and licensed from January 2022. This is the second Annual report of the Ministry Area.

Annual Vestry Report by the Ministry Area Leader

Re-reading last year's end of year report, I'm a little disappointed that there isn't very much to report that's different. Unfortunately, the situation in the Church in Wales (if not across the whole of the Church in the UK) hasn't changed and we're still facing a decline in both church attendance and in vocations to the priesthood. Furthermore, many priests are retiring early, me included. You have all been absolutely wonderful in your acceptance of the management of the situation, although I'm sure that you would far rather there were three priests, associate priests and a curate, as in the past. Those days are well and truly gone. What is fantastic is that the Revd. Roger has joined the team and the Revd. Mark Broadway is soon to take up the reins as Ministry Area Leader. Please give them as much support as you've always given me. Our local retired clergy, Canon Edward Evans, Canon Graham Holcombe and the Revd. Mike Lewis have continued to offer support and cover wherever it's been needed and Canon Tim Jones is a monthly regular. Furthermore, the Licensed Lay Ministers, Pete Craven, Penny Williams and Val Turner, plus the local lay teams, have kept everything ticking over on the alternate weeks so that there is always a service in every church every Sunday. Of course, there are no promises that this will continue in the future. This year has also seen the loss of significant members of our congregations. We miss them all and the contribution they made to the life of the MA. Finances have dominated the year, or, it would be more correct to say, lack of finances has dominated the year. The MA is truly fortunate to have such a gifted Treasurer in Sandra Arnott (indeed there is a wonderful team of treasurers serving all the churches), and without her thriftiness and clarity of thought, our financial position would be hopeless. Sandra will give a full account of the finances, but I mention here that we are struggling. Although since the pandemic our congregations have maintained their new 'normal' levels of attendance, the MA receives far, far less in offerings each week than the £11.55 per person which would cover our costs. Like our own domestic bills, utilities are crippling us, along with high insurance costs on all of our buildings. I'd urge you to reconsider your giving as a matter of urgency. Please be as generous as you possibly can. Unusually, and with the agreement of + Mary, the MA was able to advertise the post of MA Leader whilst I was still with you. This meant that I was involved in the process of writing the profile. It was thrilling to read each church's statement of mission and there's plenty of evidence that the congregations are playing their part in realising those statements. Coity and Nolton churches continue to support the local Food Bank and both churches are the focus for many larger community events such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and other occasional services. All Saints has again received funding to offer Warm Spaces through the winter. Friendships with non-church attenders are strengthening and the locals are 'owning' their church. St Crallo's has opted for a gentle approach with members offering their homes for afternoon teas and other fundraising events. Similarly, St Illtyd's have opened the church for various lunches and suppers when there's been anything at all to celebrate! St Teilo's continues in its ministry to visitors with new ideas for attracting interest, with the Remembrance display being particularly well-attended. St David's has held various successful social events and hosted the Mothers' Union Advent service and World Day of Prayer service. Brackla has built on the good foundations left by the diocesan mission enablers, and now runs a monthly 'Messy Coffee' in the school. Open the Book

has had a good year and in addition to sessions in Archdeacon John Lewis Primary School and Aberkenfig Primary School, a strong and lasting friendship has developed through the engagement of the team at Penyfai Primary School. These and many other community schools are using our churches for services through the year and for educational sessions. Now that the MA has an events calendar thanks to Mandy Buckley of St Teilo's, it will be easier to support one another in whatever way you can, whether as an organiser, helper or attender. Forest Church has continued to meet throughout the year but has been thwarted more often than not by poor weather. We've learnt that it's better to meet at one of our churches and hope for the best for the 'service' to be outside. This has meant that our activity, thanks to Philippa Coulson, our MA eco lead, has often been done inside and our displays left in the church porches as a 'Forest Church was here' mark. Every meeting has had its profound moments of sharing and often new people join us or ask what we're doing and then share a memory of the past with us. Hopefully this year will be a drier one and once again those who attend will be able to fully enjoy and appreciate the glories of God's Creation all around us in this especially attractive part of the country. The local representatives and office holders will give their own reports to supplement this and I take this opportunity to thank all those who are standing down from the MAC for giving their time, skill and experience in the service of the MA. For those continuing in their roles and for new members, thank you for your commitment and your ministries. The MA has experienced mixed fortunes this year, but it still needs to look to God for its direction and purpose. You have heard me quote this before, but it still holds true and I leave it with you.... 'Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.' (Ephesians 3. 20-21)

The Revd. Maggie Thorne MA Leader until 31st March, 2024

Annual Vestry Report by the Ministry Area Lay Chair

A largely successful year with significant developments to report.

The combined services proved to be increasingly popular with a congregation of 152 at its best. Also of note were the number of events organised by our various member churches. These were varied in nature from Eucharist services to charity events but all were increasingly well supported. The use of our social media sites in advertising and general communication seems to have played a part in this. Perhaps the most significant development is the creation and use of the Ministry Area diary. Thanks to Mrs Buckley for her efforts in developing the system and thanks to everyone who worked so hard in this field of communication. The diary is all already showing signs of its true value.

There were one or two notable social events held during the year which again were well supported. Chiefly of course, there was a party to celebrate the King's coronation. We thanked Councillor Tim Wood, Mayor of Bridgend, for planting a commemorative tree in the church grounds at St. Mary's Nolton.

As part of the overall development of the Ministry Area, several policy statements of importance were created. Chiefly, a Safeguarding policy was introduced during the year with all Ministry Area Council members having the opportunity to undergo safeguarding training so that now the significant majority of members hold a D.B.S.certificate. The training was either online or in person and very well attended. Thanks to Helen Harrison for leading the way. Perhaps of equal importance was the development of an Employment policy. This was achieved over several months of discussion, sometimes a little controversial but always well intended. The final document is thorough, legal and practical. Well done and thank you to all concerned in this work.

As with all organisations, the year saw some change of personnel. Rev. Maggie announced her retirement and the quest for a replacement began while Rev. Roger was appointed as priest to the Ministry Area. A welcome return to our Area by Rev. Roger as many will remember his first stint here (or the Parish as was). Several council members retired during the year and we thank them all for their efforts, especially in the early years. Equally, we thank the incoming replacements for taking on the role of Ministry Area Council member. It should be noted that there are still a few gaps in the appointments to various posts.

December 31st saw the end of my term in office as Lay Chair. A memorable and, I hope, a productive three years. Now we look forward to the next three years with Jenny in the Chair, and I welcome her wholeheartedly. Thanks to everyone for the support afforded to me during my term

Andrew Dix Lay chair (retired.)

Annual Vestry Meeting 2022 Minutes

Annual Vestry Meeting 2023

Minutes of meeting held on Sunday 30th April 2023

Following Joint Ministry Area service starting at 10:00

At Nolton Church

Apologies: Rev David Lloyd, Barrie Williams, Gloria Williams, Tricia Davidson, Karen Phillips, Bishop David Yeomans, Janice Yeomans, Alison Craven

The meeting was opened with prayer and Introduction by Vicar, Rev Maggie Thorne with a short reading from gospel according to St Luke

1. Chairman's Introduction. Andrew Dix (Lay Chair) thanked all MAC members for their work including those who had left service during the year. Thanks to Gaynor Coles who is standing down as a Ministry Area Warden. Worship has continued with the help of lay readers and retired clergy under difficult circumstances which Rev Maggie has managed very well. Finances have proved difficult to manage but Ministry Area continues to develop.
2. Annual Reports and Accounts
Rev Maggie Thorne delivered her report on our first year as a Ministry Area. The report had been circulated to all members. Allie Rogers was thanked for all her hard work as MA administrator Sandra Arnott (treasurer) presented financial report as distributed. Enquiries and valuations on assets are being completed before final accounts can be finalised and audited. It was confirmed that Fairer Share is under review currently. Full accounts will be available when RB and accountants have finalised details. Sandra was thanked for all her fantastic work on MA finances so far.

The meeting agreed to accept Annual Report as published with audited accounts to be added when available
3. Election of Ministry Area Council Members
Lay chair is appointed by Bishop until the end of 2023, other members of MAC are reappointed/ elected at AVM

The meeting agreed to the proposal to appoint those nominated as MAC representatives as published below

Deputy Lay Chair, Penny Williams

Treasurer, Sandra Arnott

Secretary, Stuart Davidson

Warden to MA, Hollie Evans

Warden to MA, Ian Hartley-Brown

Eco Church Rep, Philippa Coulson

Heritage Secretary, Allan Dowlman

Health and Safety Officer, Paul Smith

Nolton Representative, Andrew Dix

Coity Representative, Stuart Davidson

Brackla Representative, Gaynor Coles

Newcastle Representative, Hilary Markwell

Coychurch Representative, Rachel Gauci

Laleston Representative, Menna David

Pen-y-fai Representative, Penny Williams

Merthyr Mawr Representative, Simon Buckley

Safe guarding Officer, Helen Harrison

Diocesan Conference Representative – Ian Hibble

Clergy team and Lay readers are also members of Ministry Area Council

4. Appointment of Independent Auditor. It was proposed that Andrew Lee of Graham Paul Accountants of accounts be appointed as Independent Auditor of Accounts for 2023. Andrew has extensive experience of working with Ministry Area accounts. This appointment was agreed. Auditing MA accounts will be at a cost but there are Diocese Grants available to help with this.
5. Ian Hibble presented his Diocesan Conference Report which had been circulated and also the Annual deanery Conference report from Rev Ian Hodges. Ian also reported that MA would not have to pay Deanery subs this year.
6. AOB –.
Adrian Kendall asked about the caretaker position at Nolton Hall he had recommended a person for this part time role and had concerns over the termination of the position. Andrew Dix explained it was a procedural issue while MAC ensured it was following correct employment procedures. Engagement of caretaker was under way. A HR subcommittee will determine procedures for engagements going forward.
7. First meeting of new Ministry Area Council will be held on Tues 20th June at 19 30 in Nolton Hall
8. The meeting was declared Closed with prayers by Rev Maggie Thorne at 12:25.

Description of the Ministry Area

The Ministry Area Penybont ar Ogwr was created at the beginning of 2022 comprising the old Parishes of Coity, Nolton & Brackla, Coychurch, Newcastle, Laleston with Merthyr Mawr and Penyfai. It is part of the Deanery of Bridgend, which is within the Diocese of Llandaff and the Province of the Church in Wales. The Ministry Area is a Registered Charity – Charity Commission number 1135927.

Rev Maggie Thorne was appointed as Ministry Area Leader and Andrew Dix as Lay Chair of the Ministry Area Council.

Dedication of Churches

There are 8 churches in the Ministry area.

In the Village of Coity the Church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin.

Very close to Bridgend Town Centre in the area of the Town known as Nolton the Church is also dedicated to St. Mary.

Within the Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School, on the Brackla Estate is a Church, also dedicated to St. Mary.

Overlooking Bridgend Town Centre and on the edge of Cefn Glas Estate the Church is dedicated to St Illtyd. In the village of Coychurch the church is dedicated to St Crallo.

In the village of Laleston the church is dedicated to St David.

In the village of Merthyr Mawr the church is dedicated to St Teilo.

In the village of Pen-y-fai the church is dedicated to All Saints.

Objectives

The Church in Wales is a Province within the Anglican Communion and as such has the task of advancing the Christian Religion, through worldwide Mission. The Ministry Area Council (MAC) is required to ensure that the life and work of the churches within their area is fulfilled both locally and further afield.

The MAC is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are set out and regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales. This is amended from time to time to keep pace with changing times. It is set up under Section 3(1) of the Welsh Churches Acts of 1914. Elections to serve on the Ministry Area Council take place at the Annual Vestry Meeting.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds lands and property, which includes the churches, their contents and churchyards. It also acts on behalf of the Province for paying stipends to full time clergy.

The MAC is responsible for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, all expenditure, the care and maintenance of church fabric and churchyards and also for acting on any matter referred to in the Constitution. The Council is the normal channel of communication between lay members and the Bishop of the Diocese.

With regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the advancement of religion, we try to enable people in our communities to live out their faith as part of our Ministry Area through: worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge, faith and trust in Jesus; providing pastoral care for the people of the Ministry Area; and engaging in missionary and outreach work. To facilitate this work we consider it vital that we maintain the fabric of our churches and three church halls.

There is also a greater emphasis in managing and protecting the Environment which the Ministry Area has been actively engaged in building eco-friendly policies.

Administrative Information

Ministry Area Leader:	Revd Maggie Thorne, (until March 31 st 2024) The Rectory, Merthyr Mawr Road North, Bridgend CF31 3NH
Ministerial Team	Revd David Lloyd (retired August 2023) Rev Roger Pitman (from July 2023) Lay Readers –Mrs C Judd (until August 2023), Mr P Craven, Mrs Penny Williams, Mrs Val Turner
Independent Examiner	Andrew Lee (Graham Paul Accountants)
Bankers	H.S.B.C. Bank Plc, 13 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
Professional Advisers	Davies Sutton Architects: Penhevad Studios, Penhevad Street, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF11 7LU

Members of the Ministry Area Council for 2023/2024

MA Leader, Rev Maggie Thorne (until end of March 2024)
Clergy, Fr. David Lloyd, (until August 2023)
Rev Roger Pitman (from July 2023)
Lay Minister, Penny Williams, Peter Craven (until May 2024), Val Turner, Chris Judd (until May 2023)
MA Lay Chair, Andrew Dix (until Dec 31st 2023),
Jenny Morgan (from 1/1/2024)
Deputy Lay Chair, Penny Williams
Treasurer, Sandra Arnott
Secretary, Stuart Davidson
Warden to MA, Hollie Evans (until April 30th 2024)
Warden to MA, Ian Hartley-Brown
Eco Church Rep, Philippa Coulson
Heritage Secretary, Allan Dowlman (until 30/9/2023)
Health and Safety Officer, Paul Smith
Safeguarding Officer, Helen Harrison
Nolton Representative, Andrew Dix
Coity Representative, Stuart Davidson
Brackla Representative, Gaynor Coles
Newcastle Representative, Hilary Markwell
Coychurch Representative, Rachel Gauci
Laleston Representative, Menna David (until May 2024) Lesley Davies (from June 2024)
Pen-y-fai Representative, Penny Williams
Merthyr Mawr Representative, Simon Buckley
Diocesan Conference Representative: Ian Hibble (until May 2023) Stephen Jones (from May 2023)

Organisation of Ministry Area Council

The Ministry Area Council is organised into sub committees, which carry out the duties and business assigned to it by the parent body. All the deliberations and recommendations of the Sub Committees are brought back to the MAC for ratification and/or authorisation. Membership of the sub committees is decided at the first full meeting of the MAC after the Annual Vestry Meeting, each year.

The Ministry Area Leadership team meets to agree Policy and Agenda for MAC meetings
. There were 11 full meetings of the MAC held during 2023/2024 and 10 meetings of MALT.

Bank of Treasurers

The Committee has been primarily concerned with managing the amalgamation of Finances across the Ministry Area the Treasurer presents a written financial report to the MAC at each meeting.

Heritage Committee

The Committee normally meets prior to each MAC meeting. The Committee has a pro-active concern for the fabric of the churches, churchyards, church halls, boundary walls and houses of the clergy. It also considers in detail and prepares budgets for items referred to it by the MAC. Under the guidance of its chairman it also ensures a prompt response to all recommendations resulting from Quinquennial Inspections.

Following the resignation of Heritage Secretary (Allan Dowlman) at end of September 2023. Heritage and Fabric matters have had to be led by local church representatives with decisions made by full Mac meeting

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll for Ministry Area was renewed from January 2022 as the Electoral Roll for the new Ministry Area and will be in effect until 2027. There are currently 230 members enrolled across the Ministry Area

Sunday Services

The regular Sunday schedule of services have had to be adapted due to Clergy availability.

The timetable of services across the Ministry Area is published each month in the Newsletter and sent to each church to be posted on Notice boards

Diocesan Conference Report

- Stephen Jones (Diocesan Conference representative)

I attended the Diocesan Conference last year. I was, unfortunately, the sole representative of the MA as Revd Maggie had another commitment. There were some interesting sessions – more information should be available on the Diocesan website. It was Bishop Mary's first conference in Llandaff.

I took the opportunity to raise with the Bishop and key staff privately and on the floor the stresses that the financial situation impose on MA Treasurers, and the response was that this was understood, and it was an issue that Bishop Mary had sought to address as Archdeacon of Bangor. Among the many intentions was to seek to provide practical support to Treasurers in the form of Book Keeping support – this was a work in progress. It was also revealed that the Fairer Share process would be iterative; a draft budget would be set and then discussions would take place with MA's about their ability to pay share. In the light of this the budget was to be reviewed. I know Sandra is not sure about some of this, but representatives from the Diocese intend to speak to the MAC. We can follow this up then

There were interesting presentations from the Dean and from a Revd Dr Brian Oakley on the subject of poetry, which is something to which Archbishop Rowan attaches great importance. I learnt one poem. (I find this useful as then I can "read" it in my mind or aloud when I am doing something else)

It is ludicrous, says reason
It is what it is, says love

It is calamity, says calculation
It is nothing but pain, says fear
It is hopeless, says insight
It is what it is, says love

It is ridiculous, says pride
It is foolishness, says caution
It is impossible, says experience
It is what it is, says love

Local Church Reports

St Mary's Coity: It has been a year of further consolidation unfortunately hampered by the loss of several regular members of our congregation. A strong congregation with regular church choir has grown over the year and Sue Hawthorne continues to lead the Sunday Club which meets weekly throughout the year to bring the next generation into our church community. Mike Hawthorne has led the services when clergy are not available to maintain continuity. Despite the loss of our tower captain Fred Custerson, Bell ringing meets weekly and rings for services on most Sunday mornings and at weddings throughout the year. Flower club meets and decorates the church as we continue to try to Grow God's Kingdom in our community. A monthly collection for Bridgend Foodbank is well supported.

ST Illtyd's Newcastle : 'There have been challenges along the way uniting different traditions in the churches of our Ministry Area, however continued prayer and commitment from our congregation at St Illtyd's we have embraced the changes, and continue to support the clergy and enjoy the coming together with the other churches. Together we can look forward in faith, hope and love to continue to work to further God's kingdom'

St David's Laleston have been busy ensuring everyone has a warm welcome at St. David's church, Laleston. It has been a pleasure to meet new people who have attended Weddings and Baptisms and have now become regular members of our congregation.

We will continue welcoming and encouraging the local community, spreading the word of services whether in person or online and inviting them to join us.

Moving forward to continue the Fellowship within our Ministry Area and for us to grow in Faith together.

St Teilo's Church, Merthyr Mawr:

During 2023 St Teilo's benefitted from a more consistent delivery of Sunday services. Although the times of the services varied, a Eucharist or Morning Prayer was offered in the church on most Sundays. A key result of this was that the congregation numbers attending St Teilo's were maintained. A great deal of effort was expended by a smallish group within St Teilo's to offer an event within the church almost every month which was open to the wider public. Examples of such events included a Bluebell Festival, Craft and Chat Group, a Folk concert, Christmas Fayre, Pop Up Teas, Poppy and Remembrance Celebration. Whilst these events were financially rewarding and allowed St Teilo's to make contributions to a number of charities, their true success was in bringing large numbers, old and new friends, into the church. It is our intention to build upon this success and attract more people to our haven of peace, prayer, tranquillity and meditation during 2024. We hope that some of these new friends may also consider returning to St Teilo's to take part in Sunday services.

All Saints' Church Penyfai: Every member of the congregation at All Saints' is of the belief that the doors should be 'wide enough to welcome everybody in and narrow enough to keep prejudice out.'

In the past year they have worked together to maintain our beautiful church building; to welcome all who attend services, weddings, funerals and baptisms; to grow, and strengthen, our Sunday Group; to continue and develop, the bell ringing tradition; to decorate the church beautifully; to continue the exceptional 'Open the Book' initiative, in the wonderful Bettws Primary School; to continue the extremely well attended 'Warm Welcome' lunches; to provide exceptional social events; to work in conjunction with the Penyfai Community Association with regard to whole community events; to continue to work closely with the staff and pupils at Penyfai Primary School and to support charities, the whole community and each other. Our thanks go to all who support us, and our activities, and who have welcomed us into the Ministry Area as we move forward together as a church family in mission and fellowship.

St. Mary's Nolton The year ending December 2023 was largely successful. Rev. Maggie was able to produce programmes of worship to meet the needs of all the Churches in the Area. St Mary's Nolton experienced a slow but noticeable recovery of worshipers with attendance at Lay led services often matching full Eucharist services. The year saw a pleasing number of Baptism events and weddings, joyful events in themselves but even more pleasing when they inspired a small number of worshipers to return to regular worship. Naturally, we experienced an average number of funerals with one or two long serving members departing this life.

The year saw the welcome addition of Rev Roger to the clerical team. Many of us remember Roger's first spell of service with us and are delighted at the return. Following on from Rev. Maggie announcing her retirement plans, arrangements to appoint a replacement were instigated.

As part of our regular worship we were able to welcome worshipers from all our Ministry Area Churches to join in joint services .Wonderful (every fifth Sunday) to see so many supporting these joint efforts in a spirit of togetherness.

A variety of events were held or hosted in Church during the year. We were especially pleased to welcome pupils from Brynteg School on study visits when members of our congregation were pleased to talk to pupils on a variety of aspects of church life and history. The Kings Coronation was celebrated with a garden party, indoors of course, when Councillor Tim Wood, as Mayor of Bridgend, planted a tree in honour of the king. It seems to be flourishing well. We were pleased to welcome the Baby Loss group for their service of remembrance and the Love light group concert to kick off Christmas celebrations in December. This was closely followed by the Comprehensive school's annual carol services. Church was packed on both nights The Service of Remembrance was held in November with town dignitaries joining our congregation for this annual national event. The only problem of note this year was a significant leak to the roof on the west side. The problem was identified and repaired effectively by local roofer Stuart Cox. So a busy and full year drew to a close with my last days as Lay Chair to the Ministry Area Council. My three year stint in office ended on 31 st December and we look forward to the next three years under the chairperson ship of Jenny Morgan. Welcome Jenny. Andrew Dix. Lay Chair, 2021 to 2023.

St Mary's Brackla continues to flourish and build firm relationships with members of staff, pupils and parents of Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Primary school. A number of events were held to become more visible in the wider community.

The Family Fun Day held in August was a great success with displays from local Marching Band, Brass Band and Karate groups. More than 100 people came and enjoyed an afternoon of activities, entertainment and refreshments.

Messy Coffee Mornings have been introduced throughout the school year for each age group in turn. Grownups were invited to join their children to make craft items relating to a biblical theme followed by refreshments and fellowship. Members of St Mary's facilitate these events and inter-generational links have been much appreciated.

Open the Book continues to feature regularly in weekly assemblies with volunteers from Brackla and Nolton churches supporting. If anyone would like to get involved please speak with Rev Roger.

We arranged 'Experience 'events at Harvest and Lent where the school hall was transformed into areas of interactive learning. The whole church was involved in sourcing items for each 'station' and our efforts were very much appreciated by staff and pupils alike.

We have also introduced a Prayer Space for the whole school to utilise. Funds were received from the ministry area along with donations from church members and friends of. This is the first of its kind in South Wales schools.

We continue to support the ministry area football team and look forward to planning joint events in the future.

This has all been achieved through the vision, creativity, commitment and fellowship of all the members of St Mary's, Brackla

St Crallo's Coychurch: It has been a busy year in St Crallo's. We have hosted a few forest church services. The children from the local primary school have come to the church for their Easter and Harvest services. The hundred club has successfully continued with its quarterly draws. Lay members held an afternoon tea and a cheese and wine evening in their homes to raise some vital funds. We held a moving remembrance service which started at the church and concluded around the memorial plaques down at the memorial hall. At Christmas time we welcomed in the WI for their annual lessons and carols service and we also welcomed in villagers along with the wider community for our annual community carol service. We held a Christmas Fayre that was widely attended by the community and it was absolutely lovely to see St Crallo's packed to the rafters for our much loved Christmas Eve Nativity and Christingle service which is a long standing tradition in the village. Going forward our aspiration is to continue building bonds across the ministry area under its new leadership, not only by reviving our once thriving relationship with Llangrallo/Coychurch primary school, but also by welcoming people from across the ministry area for joint services and reciprocating with visits to our fellow churches in return.

Financial Report

A draft Financial report and summary of accounts as of 31st December 2023 is available and will be distributed with this report .

Audited accounts will be distributed when auditors report is completed

CHARITY NUMBER 1135927

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR**

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CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity Name	Ministry Area, Penybont Ar Ogwr
Registered Charity Number	1135927
Principal Address	St Marys Church Hall Merthyr Mawr Road North Nolton Bridgend CF31 3NH
Contact Details	01656 667690

Charity Trustees

Rev M Broadway (appointed 25 June 2024)
Rev M Thorne (resigned 31 March 2024)
Rev R Pitman (appointed 1 September 2023)
Rev D Lloyd (retired 31 August 2023)

G Coles
P Coulson
S Davidson
A Dix

H Harrison (appointed 3 February 2023)
P Williams (appointed 3 February 2023)
S Buckley (appointed 30 April 2023)
H Markwell (appointed 30 April 2023)
S Jones (appointed 8 May 2023)
V Turner (appointed 8 May 2023)
J Morgan (appointed 1 January 2024)
L Davies (appointed 1 June 2024)
J Lewis (appointed 30 June 2024)
A Buckley (appointed 30 June 2024)

P Craven (resigned 16 May 2023)
C Judd (resigned 16 May 2023)
I Hibble (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 16 May 2023)
A Dowlman (resigned 30 September 2023)
J Dowlman (resigned 3 February 2023, co-opted 6 April 2023 and re-appointed formally 20 June 2023, resigned 31 October 2023)
H Evans (resigned 3 February 2023 re-appointed 30 April 2023, resigned 30 April 2024)
M David (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 31 May 2024)
R Gauci (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 30 June 2024)
P Smith (resigned 30 June 2024)
I Hartley – Brown (resigned 5 September 2024)

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the Charity for the year ending 31 December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are achieved by promoting throughout the Ministry Area the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – within our parish. This includes the following:

- Conducting regular Christian worship including the Holy Eucharist, marriages, funerals and baptisms;
- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of the churches, churchyards and associated buildings for which we are responsible;
- The maintenance of Christian burial places;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scripture;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the churches and the wider community;
- Pastoral care and visiting the sick & dying;
- Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
- Supporting the work of other charities.

In preparing this report, the Ministry Area Council have considered the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In each decision made, we have sought to weigh up the benefit and/or detriment both for those who join us for public worship within our congregations and those resident in our communities. The Ministry Area Council believes that the Church's activities detailed above are the main activities undertaken to meet the charity's public benefit objectives and to achieve its overall aim of promoting the Ministry Area and whole mission of the church.

The Ministry Area measures its success based on the level of activities – both religious and social – that it undertakes throughout the year. The Trustees believe that 2023 was a successful year, with a number of activities being undertaken both internally and joining with the community, for example local schools. The Area is seeking to expand on this in future periods.

Monies are raised by freewill offertory, fundraising activities and specific appeals. These are used to support the work and administration of the churches and wider mission. Both the Ministry Area, and its constituent local churches, continue to actively increase attendance and develop mission work in the community. Many of those involved in the main functions of the churches are volunteers.

The Ministry Area is grateful to all of those who freely give of their time on a voluntary basis. The majority of functions performed within the Area, including serving on the Area Council, are performed on a voluntary basis. These include various administrative functions, but also keeping the Church in a clean and serviceable state including limited maintenance, helping at services and organising events both religious and social around the service calendar. Without the significant numbers of individuals from each church giving their time the activities of the Area would be severely restricted.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)**Achievements and Performance**

It is disappointing that there isn't very much to report that is different from the prior year. Unfortunately, the situation in the Church in Wales (if not across the whole of the Church in the UK) hasn't changed and we are still facing a decline in both church attendance and in vocations to the priesthood. Furthermore, many priests are retiring early including our previous MA Leader who retired in March 2024. The Clergy within the MA were wonderful in the acceptance of the management situation, although it would have been preferable if there were three priests, associate priests and a curate, as in past, but sadly those days are well and truly gone. Local retired Clergy continued to offer support and cover throughout 2023 wherever needed and the Licensed Lay Ministers assisted in keeping everything ticking over on the alternate weeks so that there was always a service in every Church every Sunday. A Cleric joined the team in August 23 which eased the dire Clergy situation, and unusually, the MA was able to advertise the post of MA Leader whilst the current MA Leader was still in post which allowed her to be involved in the process of writing the profile. The successful candidate Reverend Mark Broadway took up his post in 2024.

Unfortunately the year saw a loss of significant members of our congregations. We miss them all and the contribution they made to the life of the MA.

Finances have dominated the year, or, it would be more correct to say, lack of finances has dominated the year. The MA is truly fortunate to have such a gifted finance officer without her thriftiness and clarity of thought, the financial position would be hopeless. There is also a wonderful team of Local Treasurers serving all the Churches working in close liaison with the finance team. Although since the pandemic our congregations have maintained their new "normal" levels of attendance, the MA receives far, far less in offering each week than the £11.55 per person which the Diocese estimate would cover the Parish Share. Throughout the year the income received has not been enough to cover the increased costs including the increased general cost of living and utility charges which are crippling us. There is a need for urgent reconsideration of giving and generosity for future long-term survival.

The Churches within the Ministry Area have been proactive in Mission which is reflected in the individual church's statement of mission and there is plenty of evidence that the congregations are playing their part in realising those statements to try and grow in God's Kingdom. In brief these are:

- St Mary's Coity had a year of further consolidation. A strong congregation with regular church choir grew over the year with weekly Sunday Club held to bring the next generation into the Church community. Coity continued to support the local Foodbank throughout the year
- St Mary's Nolton saw a slow but noticeable recovery of worshippers coupled with increased numbers of Baptisms and Weddings. A variety of mission events were held or hosted throughout the year which included school study visits, attendance by the local community at special annual events. Nolton church continued to support the local Foodbank
- Both Coity and Nolton churches are the focus for many larger community events such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and other occasional services
- St Mary's Brackla continued to flourish and build firm relationships within and outside the Church. Events were held to become more visible in the wider community, Open the Book was a regular weekly feature in school assemblies and Messy Coffee Mornings were introduced for inter-generational links. Success was the result of vision, commitment and fellowship of Brackla members and working with the Diocesan Mission Enablers
- All Saints, Pen-y-Fai, are very proactive in working with the Community to strength and grow. Events that continued throughout the year include Open the Book initiative at local primary school, Warm Welcome lunches, working in close association with Communities and Schools to support the community and charities alike. Friendships with non-church attenders are strengthening and the locals are "owning" their church

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

- St Crallo's is disadvantaged in Mission works as there is no running water, or toilet facilities. St Crallo's therefore opted for a gentle approach with members offering their homes for afternoon teas and other fundraising events which were very successful. Other events St Crallo's hosted included the local primary school Easter and Harvest services. Community lessons and carol services, annual Nativity and Christingle service. All events held in the vision of increasing growth
- St Illtyd's have had a challenging year uniting the different traditions in the Churches in the Ministry Area. However with continued prayer and commitment from the congregation at St Illtyd's changes were embraced and the future outlook is to move forward in faith, hope love to further God's kingdom
- St David's have been busy in proactively ensuring everyone has a warm welcome at St David's church. There has been some growth in attendees at Baptisms and Weddings becoming regular church members and work for the Fellowship within the Ministry Area and to grow in Faith continues
- St Teilo's benefited from a more consistent delivery of Sunday Services which resulted in no change in congregation numbers attending service. Fundraising events were held almost every month and were open to the wider public. Whilst the events were financially rewarding and allowed St Teilo's to make contributions to a number of charities, the true success was in bringing large numbers, old and new friends, to church. St Teilo's is exceptionally proactive and successful at holding events.

The last year has seen a marked increase in many community schools using the churches for services and for educational sessions which is resulting in strong and lasting friendships. Forest Church has continued to meet throughout the year with numbers increasing. Every meeting had its profound moments of sharing experiences and appreciation of God's Creation.

Overall the Ministry Area in 2023 has had successes in trying to grow God's Kingdom which are down to the vision, commitment, time given, skills of those holding roles within the MAC and parishioners alike. The MA continues to grow in fellowship with each other and there has been good improvement in creating a team spirit in helping and supporting each other.

The Ministry Area experienced mixed fortune in 2023, but it still needs to look to God for its direction and purpose. We look forward to seeing our congregations and the whole of the Ministry Area grow in faith, fellowship and number, and we look forward to seeing your ministries go from strength to strength.

Financial Review

During 2023 there has been good progress in implementing a central accounting function with ongoing progress. A central bank account has been opened and slowly each of the individual church bank accounts have been transferred to allow the sharing of resources, while still enabling the individual churches to identify and monitor their own elements via the accounting system. This has impacted on the local Churches Treasurers, but ultimately as day to day processes are consolidated, their time will be freed to apply their skills to the key financial issues facing the church.

2023 has been a challenging year for finance both with declining attendance of congregations and decline in giving whereby the contribution needed to cover basic Church running costs was not met.

As work of combining the original parish records, and investigation of certain assets is continuing further information is coming to light which has so far resulted in the reclassification of investments from unrestricted to restricted. There is ongoing research to clarify the position of various assets, particularly properties, and the original source of funds particularly some of the older restricted funds. This work is not yet complete and the notes to the accounts explain some of the outstanding areas. This may lead to adjustments to the accounts when the investigations are complete in future years.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

The day-to-day finances are administered by the MAC, the Finance Officer and local Church Treasurers as agreed and directed by the MAC. As the MAC developed it became clear that for efficient governance there was a need for a Finance and Policy sub-committees to be set up. These have been formed in 2023.

During the year the charity had a total income from activities and assets of £291,373. This sum was split between restricted income of £77,794 and unrestricted income of £213,579. The majority of the restricted income relates to investment income from restricted funds such as investments and investment property.

In the year, the charity had total expenses of £367,281. Of the expenditure £214,398 was unrestricted and £152,883 was restricted. There were no major repair works carried out in 2023. The recurring spend was approximately £367,281 against potentially recurring income of £291,373 – a significant deficit of £75,908. This is compounded by a loss on property valuation of £82,500, partially offset by gain on investments of £66,220. The shortfall has been made up by utilising cash reserves.

The major recurring expense in the year is the parish share paid to the Diocese. This totalled approximately £157,000 in the year. Of the total expenditure, some items such as parish share were met by utilising the cash reserves brought forward in individual churches when the churches were merged with into the Ministry Area. It is intended to continue using these reserves of the individual churches to pay the parish share and other parish related expenses in future years.

The majority of the investments are held in shares in the Common Investment Fund administered by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The value of the shares in the Fund fluctuates with time. The Representative Body follows the Church of Wales ethical guidance on ethical investments prohibiting investments for example in armaments, predatory lending activities, gambling and alcohol and seeks to promote good levels of environmental, social governance responsibility. The investments are held to provide some income to the parishes and to provide funds where necessary for, in particular, capital projects in line with the original donations. The Ministry Area can utilise the funds as necessary subject to restrictions, particularly on capital projects, but does not want to draw down on the investments except in necessity as once spent they cannot be easily replaced!

The net assets of the charity at the year end totalled £2,218,041. However, the majority of these assets are restricted, with only unrestricted net assets of £132,432. Within this there are £116,192 of unrestricted cash. While there is also some funds brought forward in individual churches which are classed as restricted but can be used be fund specific church costs such as parish share, it can be seen that the Area needs to generate significant unrestricted income each year to cover its on-going costs and avoid drawing down on cash reserves.

Reserves Policy

Although the charity has £2,218,401 of total funds, a large proportion are restricted and also tied up in investments. At the year end the charity therefore held only £116,192 in cash which was freely available to meet on-going expenses, – approximately 4 months of available reserves. While there is on-going income, the charity intends to develop plans to hold sufficient cash reserves at any point in time to cover at least 6 months of recurring expenditure.

The charity is therefore seeking to improve its position as summarised below.

Plans For Future Periods

The Trustees recognise the need to improve the charity's on-going cash position.

The charity has recently put the Port Talbot property up for resale as the property has not generated significant income. However, the Trustees are aware that this may not improve the unrestricted cash position of the charity as the original funds used to purchase the property may entail restrictions and further investigation is on-going.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

The Trustees recognise the difficulties of raising funds in a general atmosphere of declining Church attendance throughout the country, together with a reduced number of available clergy to celebrate services. The Charity is developing plans to set up key targets for the future including average number of persons attending services, and average giving per member of congregation.

The Trustees are also however seeking to:

- improve giving, particularly regular giving which will also assist with gift aid reclaims. The Trustees recognise that declining church attendance over a number of years has reduced incoming funds and they are seeking to address this both by seeking to increase attendance, and also by encouraging the congregation to contribute more per individual where their personal resources allow together with more fundraising events
- reduce expenditure. A review of expenditure is being undertaken to centralise expenditure where appropriate particularly to determine whether any savings can be achieved from central contracts.
- cutting costs and eliminating substantial amount of waste and needless spends
- work with the province to improve the return on investment
- a Finance Working Group has been set up to lead and advise on complex matters
- a Hall Management Working Team has been established to optimise the return from church halls
- Chasing down money that is owed to the MA through unclaimed gift aid and unpaid invoices.

Priority is to be given to: Addressing the pastoral issues that have caused decline ensuring that the situation does not deteriorate further; Developing a Growth & Revitalisation Strategy, so that we can go forwards towards growing our membership; Building a culture of generosity and hope, so that our members feel confident and hopeful in our joint vision, and so feel inclined to give generously.

We are asking our members to get involved in some keyways as we face this situation together:

First, to pray. The church is fundamentally a spiritual society, and its material decline follows its spiritual decline. We are encouraging our members to come to church early, and leave late, so that they have more time to pray. We are encouraging them to develop a pattern of praying every morning and every evening, bringing their requests to God with thankfulness.

Second, to serve. We are encouraging everyone who can to join a team or a rota. That may look like hosting a group or putting oneself forward to train to lead services. We would love everyone to offer up some time each week to spreading the gospel.

Finally, to give. We are encouraging our members to ask the Lord to show you how much they each should be giving to his church. It is the norm for Christians to offer 10% of their regular income to support gospel work. Some people are called to give more, some people are not able to give this much – but decisions around giving should begin with prayer and be motivated by thankfulness.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Ministry Area is a charity registered with the Charities Commission. The Area is an amalgamation of local churches as part of the Diocese of Llandaff, part of the Anglican Province of the Church in Wales set up under the Welsh Churches Act 1914. The Churches are governed in accordance with the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

On 1 January 2022, the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla were combined with the neighbouring parishes of All Saints, Penyfai, St Crailos, Coychurch, St Davids, Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr to form a new Ministry Area under the charity registration of the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds the land and property of the Church in Wales. They are an exempt charity set up under section 13(2) of the Welsh Churches Act. They act on behalf of the province in paying stipends and administering various aspects of central administration such as central investments.

The Ministry Area Council acts as both Parish Church Council and charity Trustees for the entire Ministry Area. It is not a body Corporate, so its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The Ministry Area Council is responsible for ensuring that reviews of all major risks are conducted and that wherever possible systems have been established to mitigate risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the churches, graveyards and church halls. The Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient resources, including financial resources to achieve the Area's objectives.

The Ministry Area has identified safeguarding as a risk and has therefore adopted the Church in Wales safeguarding policy and has undertaken a number of training sessions.

Apart from The Ministry Area Leader, Lay Chair and Clergy, Trustees are appointed on a voluntary basis to the Ministry Area Committee (MAC) with no time deadline set. Lay Chair is a selected position and has a term of service being 3 years. Clergy serve on the Committee while they are post.

The Trustees are appointed annually at the Annual Vestry Meeting or co-opted depending on their individual expertise.

The Ministry Area Council will be reviewing the training, including safeguarding training, facilities given to Trustees over the coming months to ensure that all members have sufficient support to fulfil their responsibilities.

The Trustees have appointed various sub-committees to handle different aspects of the charity administration. A finance sub-committee advises on finance matters, including the level of salary and remuneration for staff which is benchmarked externally for similar roles with minimum of the living wage being used.

The day-to-day management of the Area is undertaken by the Clergy Team led by Rev Maggie Thorne. The day-to-day administration is assisted by a Treasurer, who is employed by the Area and is not a Trustee, together with a number of salaried staff

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

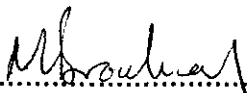
STATEMENT OF MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act requires the Council to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which comply with the regulations made under the Act.

The Council is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and contain entries showing from day to day all monies received, and monies expended by the charity and the matters in respect of which those transactions took place and also contain a record of the assets and liabilities of the charity. The law also sets out the responsibilities for the preparation and content of the Annual Report.

The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and ensuring their proper application under charity law and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above


.....

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Rev M Broadway

15/10/2024
.....

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 28.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts, and it is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

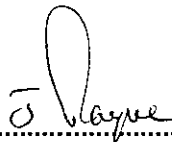
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA (CONTINUED)

The Ministry Area was set up via a combination of the existing Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla with the inclusion of a number of parishes of the Church in Wales in the local area. In doing so there are a number of historical financial records that needed clarifying and some of these are in the process of being investigated further. These include:

- the title and valuation of various properties to clarify the ownership and amounts to be included in the accounts as detailed in the fixed asset notes to the accounts
- exact restrictions on a number of restricted funds within the Ministry Area as summarised in the reserves note to the accounts.

Except as noted above 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER



.....
JE Payne ACA
ICAEW
Graham Paul Limited
Court House, Court Rd
Bridgend, CF31 1BE

Date: 15/10/24

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

		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES	1						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations, legacies and grants		128,445	17,169	145,614	130,771	86,301	217,072
Charitable activities		81,153	4,197	85,350	64,952	5,337	70,289
Investments		2,268	56,428	58,696	49,156	1,766	50,922
Other income		1,713	-	1,713	16,112	1,108	17,220
Total income		213,579	77,794	291,373	260,991	94,512	355,503
RESOURCES EXPENDED	2						
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		(208,998)	(152,883)	(361,881)	(239,514)	(240,284)	(479,798)
Other expenditure		(5,400)	-	(5,400)	(10,309)	-	(10,309)
Total expenditure		(214,398)	(152,883)	(367,281)	(249,823)	(240,284)	(490,107)
Net income before investment gains/(losses)		(819)	(75,089)	(75,908)	11,168	(145,772)	(134,604)
Net gains/(losses) on investments:							
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments	11	1,143	65,077	66,220	(53,056)	(77,419)	(130,475)
Loss on revaluation of investment property	10	-	(82,500)	(82,500)	-	-	-
Investment income re-invested	11	-	3,565	3,565	9,006	-	9,006
(Losses) on disposal of investments		-	-	-	-	(147)	(147)
Net (expense)/income before extraordinary items		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	(223,338)	(256,220)
Extraordinary income	1	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820
NET INCOME AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	392,482	359,600
Funds brought forward		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Transfer between funds	15	(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-	(40,900)	40,900	-
Funds carried forward		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024

*The restricted and total income comparative figures have been adjusted to reclassify a VAT refund from Charitable Activities income to Donations, Legacies and Grants for £22,585.

Included within restricted income is £10,788 (2022 - £8,526) arising from endowment investments.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	124,001	124,001	100,000	27,001	127,001
Investment Properties	10	-	481,177	481,177	447,500	116,177	563,677
Investments	11	21,640	1,205,907	1,227,547	481,251	676,511	1,157,762
Total fixed assets		21,640	1,811,085	1,832,725	1,028,751	819,689	1,821,440
Current assets							
Cash at bank and in hand		116,192	274,884	391,076	120,010	337,348	457,358
Debtors	12	-	-	-	9,625	-	9,625
		116,192	274,884	391,076	129,635	337,348	466,983
Creditors:							
amounts falling due							
within one year:	13	(5,400)	-	(5,400)	(8,399)	-	(8,399)
Net Current Assets		110,792	274,884	385,676	121,236	337,348	458,580
Net assets		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Brought forward		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Transfers		(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-	(40,900)	40,900	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	392,482	359,600
Carried Forward	14	132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Restricted Funds are split between							
Endowment			493,715			455,954	
Other			1,592,254			701,353	
			<u>2,085,969</u>			<u>1,157,037</u>	

These financial statements were approved by the Ministry Area Council on 15/01/24

Signed on their behalf by


Trustee – Rev M Broadway

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparation**

The accounts are prepared under the historic cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments to fair value in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'

As a charity, the church is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) within the meaning of FRS102.

The accounts presentation is in line with the requirements of the Annual Financial Return to Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. Some of these differ from the format and disclosure requirements of the SORP (FRS102) because, in the opinion of the PCC, the format adopted best represents the activities of the church.

The Ministry Area is a multi-church parish which comprised, at the beginning of 2022, the three churches of St Marys, Coity, Nolton and Brackla. On 1st January 2022, five additional churches – All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos, Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St llyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr, were also added to the charity which was renamed the Ministry Area.

The key accounting estimates used in the preparation of the accounts are:

- the estimated useful life of fixed assets
- recoverability of debts.

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that the charity will be able to continue its operations for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and the trustees confirm that no material uncertainties relating to this position exist.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

Accruals accounting

All income is credited gross on the date on which it is received, or when it becomes due and can be reasonably estimated. All expenditure is fully accrued based on the date that the liability has arisen.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular specific purpose. Endowment funds are investments where capital is maintained, and income can be used in the parishes for the purposes specified by the original donors.

Investment Properties

Investment properties are originally included in the financial statements at cost including incidental costs such as professional fees. Investment properties are then revalued periodically to market value with gains and losses credited or charged to a revaluation reserve, classified as restricted or unrestricted according to the original nature of the funds used to acquire the property.

Church Land and Buildings

The land upon which all together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The Ministry Area pays for all maintenance expenses of the church halls, along with the maintenance of individual churches within the Area. Significant improvements for any buildings which are not consecrated, such as church halls, are capitalised as part of fixed assets. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates, in order to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is provided on:

- equipment at the annual rate of 15% and 25% reducing balance in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.
- leasehold improvements over 10 years from the date of the improvements completed.

Investment assets

Fixed asset investments in The Representative Body of the Church in Wales Common Investment Fund or other Charity Investment Vehicles are valued initially at original purchase cost and subsequently at their market value at the year end with any gains or losses going through the SOFA.

Amounts held at recognised UK banks are classified as cash at bank and in hand.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors are recognised and measured at cost with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash

Cash consists of monies held in Banks by each of the Churches together with the Area plus, cash in hand at each of the individual churches plus funds held by the Representative Body in bank account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

INCOME

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it's more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The following specifies the policies applied and the main types of income that are included within the particular categories of incoming resources:

Collection

The Ministry Area received its main income from the Direct Giving of its Parishioners and there are three main categories of this direct income:

- Gift Aided envelope which is remitted either by the use of a specially designed red envelope at a Church Service offertory collection, by direct payment to the Benefice Covenant Secretary or credited direct by bank transfer by Direct Giving .
- Casual Gift Aided contributions which are enclosed in the newly designed envelopes, which are signed and handed in at a Church Service offertory collection.
- Cash - offertory collections at a Church Service.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met on a performance basis.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when the receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations, gifts and legacies

Gift aid receivable is included in income where there is a valid declaration from the donor and is recognised when the claim is successfully received. Any Gift Aid amount recovered is considered to be part of the original donation and as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Income from interest and dividends

The benefice has two main sources of investment income and is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount received can be measured reliably:

- Surplus cash resources are invested in Bank Deposits
- Trust Fund capital is invested in the Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. This is an income producing account with a Capital growth potential. The Benefice Churches involved received a quarterly income payment from the Representative Body.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustee's annual report.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of VAT which is not recoverable as the organisation is not VAT registered.

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. The charity has creditors which are measured at the amounts due in settlement.

TAX

The charity is exempt from corporation tax.

SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS

The majority of income and expenditure is based on cash movements through the bank account. There are therefore limited judgements made in the overall accounts. These judgements include:

- estimates of the value of investment property
- an estimate of the useful life of tangible fixed assets
- estimates of expenditure incurred, but not yet billed at the time of the accounts
- recoverability of debts, including debts from rental of assets and gift aid.

A key judgement area is ensuring restricted funds are correctly identified and that the allocation of expenditure to individual restricted funds is in accordance with the terms of that specific fund. The Trustees are continuing to investigate brought forward funds to determine the details of all restrictions as identified in individual notes to the accounts.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Donations, Legacies and Grants						
Planned Giving	80,471	-	80,471	83,420	325	83,745
Loose Collections	19,598	-	19,598	12,043	-	12,043
Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	18,440	-	18,440	18,457	-	18,457
Donations	8,694	1,469	10,163	16,031	1,051	17,082
Legacies	-	100	100	-	118	118
Grants	1,242	15,600	16,842	820	84,807	85,627
	128,445	17,169	145,614	130,771	86,301	217,072
Charitable Activities						
Fees - Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings	8,185	4,197	12,382	13,781	5,337	19,118
- Hall hire	60,278	-	60,278	45,714	-	45,714
- Money Raising Events	12,690	-	12,690	5,457	-	5,457
	81,153	4,197	85,350	64,952	5,337	70,289
Income From Investments						
Investment Property Income	-	28,876	28,876	40,169	-	40,169
Fixed Asset Investment Income	512	23,135	23,647	8,329	327	8,656
Deposit Account Interest	1,756	4,417	6,173	658	1,439	2,097
	2,268	56,428	58,696	49,156	1,766	50,922
Other Income						
Other Incoming Resources	1,713	-	1,713	3,845	1,108	4,953
Covid related grant from Diocese	-	-	-	12,267	-	12,267
	1,713	-	1,713	16,112	1,108	17,220
Extraordinary Income						
Merger of Parishes	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820
	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820

Extraordinary Income

Extraordinary income relates to the integration of a number of parishes into the charity. The existing Parishes were joined on 1 January 2022 by the churches of All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr. At 1 January 2022 the net funds in each of the parishes were transferred as restricted funds to the combined Ministry Area. These opening funds are then being applied, either in line with individual restrictions from the original donor, or for use in the general expenditure of the specific church, including contributions to the parish share.

The transfers were:

	£
All Saints, Penyfai	187,597
St Crallos, Coychurch	61,524
St Davids, Laleston	72,202
St Iltyds, Newcastle	138,504
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	155,993
	615,820

*The restricted and total income comparative figures have been adjusted to reclassify a VAT refund from money raising events (as part of Charitable Activities income) to grants (as part of Donations, Legacies and Grants) for £22,585.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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2 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Charitable Activities Expenditure						
Support for Ministry including parish share	72,302	85,694	157,996	84,366	81,045	165,411
Ministry Area parish share rebate	(19,229)	-	(19,229)	(12,939)	-	(12,939)
Maintenance of Services	5,130	-	5,130	5,859	-	5,859
General Parish Expenses	74,347	18,016	92,363	75,939	883	76,822
Maintenance of Churches	46,345	12,369	58,714	44,029	3,199	47,228
Maintenance of Property	26,687	33,804	60,491	36,937	152,157	189,094
Mission (Donations)	416	3,000	3,416	2,323	3,000	5,323
Depreciation	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
	208,998	152,883	361,881	239,514	240,284	479,798
Other Expenditure						
Legal and Professional	5,400	-	5,400	10,309	-	10,309

3 MAINTENANCE OF MINISTRY AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

To fund the provision of Ministry, the Ministry pays a "Parish Share" to the Diocese. This Parish Share was split and allocated between each church as agreed within the Area.

The total charge for Parish Share for the Area was £153,873 (2022 - £154,491).

During the year the area received a rebate for the parish share from the diocese of £19,229 (2022 - £12,939).

The total amount outstanding from the area to the diocese at the year end was £Nil (2022 £Nil).

4 MISSION

The Ministry Area recognises that an important part of its Christian Stewardship is to financially support the work of Church Missions, Christian Charities, Social and Emergency appeals. The amounts paid out for mission and charity donations in the year totalled £3,416 (2022 - £5,323).

5 LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL

Amounts included in the accounts due to Independent Examiners, including VAT, for:

Independent Examination	£4,200	(2022 – £3,600)
Accounting	Nil	(2022 – £3,600)

6 CLERICS AND TRUSTEES TRANSACTIONS

The Ministry Area pays the cost of all expenses incurred by the Church in Wales Clerics and Church Wardens in the performance of their Parish duties. The amounts paid to Clerics were £9,252 (2022 - £7,809), including £Nil (2022 - £525) of baptism, funeral and wedding fees and £5,721 (2022 - £4,199) for re-imbursment of water rates, electricity and gas to 3 (2022 – 2) individuals. The amounts paid to vergers totalled £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Other trustees received expenses totalling £Nil (2022 - £Nil) for reimbursement of expenses incurred relating to the general running and administrative costs of the charity.

Other than detailed above, the Area does not pay any remuneration to the Church in Wales Clerics. The clergy team, including the Dean, are remunerated by the Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. No payments were made to other Trustees for remuneration.

Some trustees give anonymously to the charity via the weekly church collections. Specific donations from trustees with conditions attached totalled £Nil (2022 - £1,000 which was included in the restricted fund income for use in the maintenance and renovation of church buildings).

7 WAGES AND SALARIES

During the year the area employed an average of 4 (2022 – 4) part time employees at a total cost of £49,170 (2022 - £42,635). The total cost included £Nil (2022 - £1,862) of employer's national insurance costs and £526 (2022- £326) of employer's contributions to personal pension schemes. The estimated number of equivalent full time employees for the year is 2 (2022 - 2).

A trustee resigned in the previous period to accept a paid role within the Ministry Area, and their costs are included above for 2022 and 2023 as an employee.

No employees earned over £60,000 (2022 - Nil).

8 OTHER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income includes government grants of:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Central government grants	-	-
Other government grants	10,600	37,837

Total grants including the above of £16,842 (2022 - £75,309) were received in the year, of which £15,000 (2022 - £59,584) related to work done on St Teilo's Churchyard and surrounding grounds (2022 Church and surrounding grounds).

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Property</u>	<u>Leasehold Improvements</u>	<u>2023 Total</u>	<u>2022 Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Cost/valuation brought forward	100,001	30,000	130,001	-
Adjustments	-	-	-	100,000
Merger	-	-	-	30,001
Cost carried forward	100,001	30,000	130,001	130,001
Depreciation brought forward	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	-
Depreciation in year	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Depreciation carried forward	-	(6,000)	(6,000)	(3,000)
Net Book Value brought forward	100,001	27,000	127,001	100,000
Net Book Value carried forward	100,001	24,000	124,001	127,001

The land upon which all churches together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The following properties are, however, potentially believed to be held for the benefit of the Ministry Area:

Nolton Rectory and Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of this land and property is currently being determined. It is currently understood that the Ministry Area is not the beneficial owner of the properties and therefore no amounts are included in the accounts in relation to these buildings, although shown in the 2021 accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £638,000. Estimates of the current valuation are significantly lower than this original figure.

Coity Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of the Hall is currently under investigation, but it is currently understood that the Ministry Area is the beneficial owner of the property.

The original cost of this property cannot be fully determined, although shown in the 2021 accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £507,168. Due to the uncertainty surrounding this cost, Coity Church Hall is included in the accounts at valuation for balance sheet purposes of £100,000. The valuation was undertaken in the previous year by Watts & Morgan, Chartered Surveyors in accordance with RICS valuation rules effective as at 31 December 2022 as a freehold property. Watts & Morgan confirm they believe there has been no material change in this value during the current year.

In the prior year, the cost of Coity Church Hall, was classified as unrestricted. Further investigation has not identified the original source of funds for the Hall, and therefore, while continuing to investigate the beneficial ownership of the Hall, the valuation has been reclassified as restricted.

A significant proportion of the value of the Hall is considered to be the land on which the property is based. No depreciation is charged on the land. The useful life of the Hall is considered to be in excess of 20 years. Accordingly no depreciation on the balance of the valuation has been included in the accounts as it is considered immaterial to the overall accounts.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS CONTINUED

Laleston Church Hall

Laleston Church Hall is held by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales as custodian trustee for The Ministry Area under terms of a 999 Year Lease which include covenants that render the Lease valueless to the Ministry Area under the required RICS assumptions as to balance sheet values. The lease is included in the accounts at a nominal of £1.

Leasehold Improvements to the property at an apportioned estimated cost of £30,000 were made in 2021 prior to the merger. These improvements are being depreciated over a 10 year estimated useful life.

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Valuation brought forward	563,677	447,500
Additions	-	116,177
Revaluation	(82,500)	-
Total carried forward	<u>481,177</u>	<u>563,677</u>

Leominster Property was purchased in 2015 for £442,026. In the opinion of the trustees the current valuation of the property is £365,000 (2022 - £447,500). The original source of funds, and therefore the net income, is believed to be restricted for use in Coity and Nolton parishes. This is a change in classification the property, which had previously been believed to be unrestricted, and therefore this property has been reclassified as restricted.

Port Talbot Property was purchased in 2022 and is therefore included at cost which also represents the trustees estimate of market value at the year end. The proceeds used to acquire the property are believed to be restricted – although further clarification is being sort - and therefore this property is classified as restricted. Since the year end the property has been disposed of at a sum similar to the original cost.

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

The long-term investment of the Ministry Area consists of monies that have been donated or bequeathed to the Benefice and/or one of its churches by parishioners and also Stock issued by the Governing Body of the Church of Wales under the Tithe Act. The use to which some of these capital and income items may be put is restricted to the specific terms of the individual Trust Deed.

The majority of this money is under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales in its capacity as the Special Trustee of all the Deeds and is invested by the Representative Body in its Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under its supervision.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Shares No	2022 Market Value £	Fund	Purchase/ Disposals No	Shares No	2023 Market Value £
Held at Representative Body – Common Investment Fund					
<i>Coity, Nolton and Ministry Area</i>					
<i>(All religious purposes investments combined in current year and comparatives amended)</i>					
Religious purpose in general but primarily for the use in Coity and Nolton Parish					
411,477	862,291	- Capital	25,967	437,444	967,845
23,446	49,133	- Accumulated income	(23,446)	-	-
-	5,284	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	-
9,781	20,497	Legacy held for religious purposes in general	-	9,781	21,640
St Iltyds, Church, Newcastle					
4,008	8,399	Maintenance of graveyard	-	4,008	8,868
St Crallo's, Coychurch					
-	-	Maintenance of Church and Churchyard	-	-	-
2,976	6,237	General church purposes Maintenance of Church and Churchyard,	-	2,976	6,584
Maintenance of West Memorial Window					
1,154	2,418	- Capital	-	1,154	2,553
3,501	7,337	- Accumulated income	158	3,659	8,096
	136	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	71
All Saints, Penyfai					
Maintenance of Church Buildings					
15,863	33,242	- Capital	-	15,863	35,097
37,777	79,165	- Accumulated income	2,133	39,910	88,301
-	1,908	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	609
2,373	4,973	Maintenance of Churchyard	-	2,373	5,250
St Davids, Laleston					
Chancel repair fund					
614	1,285	- Capital	-	614	1,358
705	1,477	- Accumulated income	109	814	1,801
	163	- Cash for re-investment			23
	<u>1,083,945</u>	Sub-total			<u>1,148,096</u>
Held at Church					
St Marys, Coity					
18,677		Maintenance of graveyard – COIF Charities Investment Fund			20,393
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr					
55,140		LGT investment fund			59,058
	<u>73,817</u>	Sub Total			<u>79,451</u>
	<u>1,157,762</u>	Totals			<u>1,227,547</u>

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

	Coity/Nolton/ Ministry Area	Newcastle	Coychurch	Penyfai	Laleston	Merthyr Mawr	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January – original	955,882	8,399	16,128	119,288	2,925	55,140	1,157,762
Income retained in portfolio	-	-	270	3,206	89	-	3,565
Revaluation	53,996	469	906	6,763	168	3,918	66,220
	1,009,878	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,227,547
Restricted	554,234	-	8,166	88,910	1,824	59,058	712,192
Restricted - Endowment	434,004	8,868	9,138	40,347	1,358	-	493,715
	988,238	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,205,907
Unrestricted	21,640	-	-	-	-	-	21,640
See Note 14	1,009,878	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,227,547

Movement:

	Brought Forward	Reclass	Adjusted Brought Forward	Income	Transfer to Parish	Revaluation	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted	220,557	448,815	669,372	16,542	(12,977)	39,255	712,192
Restricted - endowment	455,954	11,939	467,893	10,158	(10,158)	25,822	493,715
Total Restricted	676,511	460,754	1,137,265	26,700	(23,135)	65,077	1,205,907
Unrestricted	481,251	(460,754)	20,497	512	(512)	1,143	21,640
Total	1,157,762	-	1,157,762	27,212	(23,647)	66,220	1,227,547

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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12 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors (rent due)	<u>-</u>	<u>9,625</u>

Other debtors were classed as unrestricted, but as they relate to the Leominster property, have now been reclassified as restricted.

13 CREDITORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	4,200	7,561
Other creditors including tax and social security	<u>1,200</u>	<u>838</u>
	<u>5,400</u>	<u>8,399</u>

All accruals and creditors are classed as unrestricted.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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14 RESERVES

The Ministry Area aims to be at least break-even in future years so that its reserves are maintained so that fixed asset investments are only drawn down for major capital expenditure.

	1 Jan 2023 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2023 £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2023 £
Restricted						
Fixed Assets						
Investment Property	116,177	447,500	563,677	-	(82,500)	481,177
Tangible fixed assets - property						
St Davids, Laleston	27,001	-	27,001	-	(3,000)	24,001
Coity Hall	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	100,000
	27,001	100,000	127,001	-	(3,000)	124,001
Investments						
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes	455,954	460,754	916,708	-	51,137	967,845
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:						
St Marys, Coity	18,677	-	18,677	-	1,716	20,393
St Iltyds, Newcastle	8,399	-	8,399	-	469	8,868
St Crillos, Coychurch	16,128	-	16,128	270	906	17,304
All Saints, Penyfai	119,288	-	119,288	3,206	6,763	129,257
St Davids, Laleston	2,925	-	2,925	89	168	3,182
For use in parish						
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	55,140	-	55,140	-	3,918	59,058
Total Investments	676,511	460,754	1,137,265	3,565	65,077	1,205,907
Other debtors/creditors	-	9,625	9,625	-	(9,625)	-
Cash						
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	124,112	-	124,112	-	(40,294)	83,818
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	4,105	-	4,105	-	(806)	3,299
St Crillos, Coychurch	29,924	-	29,924	-	(2,909)	27,015
All Saints, Penyfai	652	-	652	-	952	1,604
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	53,035	-	53,035	-	464	53,499
Other specific purposes within parishes						
St Davids, Laleston	7,008	-	7,008	-	-	7,008
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr				-	1,219	1,219
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	86,392	-	86,392	-	-	86,392
All Saints, Penyfai	28,695	-	28,695	-	(17,665)	11,030
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	3,425	-	3,425	-	(3,425)	-
Total Cash	337,348	-	337,348	-	(62,464)	274,884
Total Restricted	1,157,037	1,017,879	2,174,916	3,565	(92,512)	2,085,969
Unrestricted						
Investment property	447,500	(447,500)	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-	-
Investments	481,251	(460,754)	20,497	-	1,143	21,640
Cash	120,010		120,010	-	(3,818)	116,192
Debtors/creditors	1,226	(9,625)	(8,399)	-	2,999	(5,400)
Total unrestricted	1,149,987	(1,017,879)	132,108	-	324	132,432
Total	2,307,024	-	2,307,024	3,565	(92,188)	2,218,401

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton and St Iltyds are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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The prior year comparatives show:

	1 Jan 2022 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2022 £	Merger £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2022 £
Restricted							
Fixed Assets							
Investment Property	-	-	-	-	116,177	-	116,177
Tangible fixed assets - property							
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	30,001	-	(3,000)	27,001
Investments							
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes – endowment	241,275	212,703	453,978	-	50,000	(48,024)	455,954
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:							
St Marys, Coity	10,676	10,458	21,134	-	-	(2,457)	18,677
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	9,384	-	(985)	8,399
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	19,759	(1,759)	(1,872)	16,128
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	133,051	-	(13,763)	119,288
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	3,251	-	(326)	2,925
For use in parish							
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	113,131	(48,000)	(9,991)	55,140
Total Investments	251,951	223,161	475,112	278,576	241	(77,418)	676,511
Cash							
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	-	(116,177)	(8,254)	124,112
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings							
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	1,259	-	2,846	4,105
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	28,896	-	1,028	29,924
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	6,861	-	(6,209)	652
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	970	-	(970)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	33,228	49,759	(29,952)	53,035
Other specific purposes within parish							
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	17,900	-	(10,892)	7,008
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure							
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	127,862	-	(41,470)	86,392
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	12,867	-	(12,867)	-
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	47,686	-	(18,991)	28,695
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	20,080	-	(20,080)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	9,634	-	(6,209)	3,425
Total Cash	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	307,243	(66,418)	(152,020)	337,348
Total Restricted	572,059	151,596	723,655	615,820	50,000	(232,438)	1,157,037
Unrestricted							
Investment property	-	447,500	447,500	-	-	-	447,500
Tangible fixed assets – property	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Investments	246,275	329,027	575,302	-	(50,000)	(44,051)	481,251
Cash	102,107	-	102,107	-	-	17,903	120,010
Debtors/creditors	(1,140)	-	(1,140)	-	-	2,366	1,226
Total unrestricted	347,242	876,527	1,223,769	-	(50,000)	(23,782)	1,149,987
Total	919,301	1,028,123	1,947,424	615,820	-	(256,220)	2,307,024

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton, St Iltyds and St Teilos are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

Transfers of £50,000 represent use of unrestricted investment funds held by the Representative Body to purchase restricted endowments funds. This is offset by transfer of £9,100 spending from restricted funds resulting in a net transfer in the Statement of Financial Activities of £40,900.

15 FUND TRANSFERS

The Trustees have been investigating the restrictions, including were possible obtaining copies of wills relating to the original donations. This has resulted in the following reclassifications to last years opening position which are shown as transfers during 2023:

	Note	£
Coity Hall	9	100,000
Investment Property	10	447,500
Coity, Nolton and Brackla - fund for religious purposes	11	460,754
Investment Property Rental Debtor	12	9,625
Total reclassifications	14	<u>1,017,879</u>

As detailed in Note 9, the ownership and valuation of Coity Hall is undetermined. The hall has therefore been shown and reclassified as restricted in the current year.

Funding for the Leominster Property - and The Port Talbot property - is believed to have been derived from a number of sources, principally the sales of property in Nolton and Coity which, in turn, it is believed were originally purchased by utilising funds restricted for use in Nolton and Coity. Therefore, the Property has been classified as restricted while further investigations are undertaken.

Further information has been obtained on an investment held for religious purposes and it is now understood that the fund can only be used for the Church to which it is donated. It has therefore been reclassified as restricted.

As the investment property which last years rental debtor related to has been reclassified as restricted, the rental debtor has been reclassified as restricted accordingly.

16 COMMITMENTS

The charity had operating lease commitments of

	2023	2022
	£	£
Due within one year	1,396	3,806
Due between 1 and 5 years	4,886	6,216
	<u>6,282</u>	<u>10,022</u>

The charity made payments under operating leases in the period of £5,413 (2022 - £4,489).

The charity had no capital commitments at the year end (2022 - £Nil).

CHARITY NUMBER 1135927

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR**

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CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity Name	Ministry Area, Penybont Ar Ogwr
Registered Charity Number	1135927
Principal Address	St Marys Church Hall Merthyr Mawr Road North Nolton Bridgend CF31 3NH
Contact Details	01656 667690

Charity Trustees

Rev M Broadway (appointed 25 June 2024)
Rev M Thorne (resigned 31 March 2024)
Rev R Pitman (appointed 1 September 2023)
Rev D Lloyd (retired 31 August 2023)

G Coles
P Coulson
S Davidson
A Dix

H Harrison (appointed 3 February 2023)
P Williams (appointed 3 February 2023)
S Buckley (appointed 30 April 2023)
H Markwell (appointed 30 April 2023)
S Jones (appointed 8 May 2023)
V Turner (appointed 8 May 2023)
J Morgan (appointed 1 January 2024)
L Davies (appointed 1 June 2024)
J Lewis (appointed 30 June 2024)
A Buckley (appointed 30 June 2024)

P Craven (resigned 16 May 2023)
C Judd (resigned 16 May 2023)
I Hibble (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 16 May 2023)
A Dowlman (resigned 30 September 2023)
J Dowlman (resigned 3 February 2023, co-opted 6 April 2023 and re-appointed formally 20 June 2023, resigned 31 October 2023)
H Evans (resigned 3 February 2023 re-appointed 30 April 2023, resigned 30 April 2024)
M David (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 31 May 2024)
R Gauci (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 30 June 2024)
P Smith (resigned 30 June 2024)
I Hartley – Brown (resigned 5 September 2024)

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the Charity for the year ending 31 December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are achieved by promoting throughout the Ministry Area the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – within our parish. This includes the following:

- Conducting regular Christian worship including the Holy Eucharist, marriages, funerals and baptisms;
- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of the churches, churchyards and associated buildings for which we are responsible;
- The maintenance of Christian burial places;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scripture;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the churches and the wider community;
- Pastoral care and visiting the sick & dying;
- Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
- Supporting the work of other charities.

In preparing this report, the Ministry Area Council have considered the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In each decision made, we have sought to weigh up the benefit and/or detriment both for those who join us for public worship within our congregations and those resident in our communities. The Ministry Area Council believes that the Church's activities detailed above are the main activities undertaken to meet the charity's public benefit objectives and to achieve its overall aim of promoting the Ministry Area and whole mission of the church.

The Ministry Area measures its success based on the level of activities – both religious and social – that it undertakes throughout the year. The Trustees believe that 2023 was a successful year, with a number of activities being undertaken both internally and joining with the community, for example local schools. The Area is seeking to expand on this in future periods.

Monies are raised by freewill offertory, fundraising activities and specific appeals. These are used to support the work and administration of the churches and wider mission. Both the Ministry Area, and its constituent local churches, continue to actively increase attendance and develop mission work in the community. Many of those involved in the main functions of the churches are volunteers.

The Ministry Area is grateful to all of those who freely give of their time on a voluntary basis. The majority of functions performed within the Area, including serving on the Area Council, are performed on a voluntary basis. These include various administrative functions, but also keeping the Church in a clean and serviceable state including limited maintenance, helping at services and organising events both religious and social around the service calendar. Without the significant numbers of individuals from each church giving their time the activities of the Area would be severely restricted.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)**Achievements and Performance**

It is disappointing that there isn't very much to report that is different from the prior year. Unfortunately, the situation in the Church in Wales (if not across the whole of the Church in the UK) hasn't changed and we are still facing a decline in both church attendance and in vocations to the priesthood. Furthermore, many priests are retiring early including our previous MA Leader who retired in March 2024. The Clergy within the MA were wonderful in the acceptance of the management situation, although it would have been preferable if there were three priests, associate priests and a curate, as in past, but sadly those days are well and truly gone. Local retired Clergy continued to offer support and cover throughout 2023 wherever needed and the Licensed Lay Ministers assisted in keeping everything ticking over on the alternate weeks so that there was always a service in every Church every Sunday. A Cleric joined the team in August 23 which eased the dire Clergy situation, and unusually, the MA was able to advertise the post of MA Leader whilst the current MA Leader was still in post which allowed her to be involved in the process of writing the profile. The successful candidate Reverend Mark Broadway took up his post in 2024.

Unfortunately the year saw a loss of significant members of our congregations. We miss them all and the contribution they made to the life of the MA.

Finances have dominated the year, or, it would be more correct to say, lack of finances has dominated the year. The MA is truly fortunate to have such a gifted finance officer without her thriftiness and clarity of thought, the financial position would be hopeless. There is also a wonderful team of Local Treasurers serving all the Churches working in close liaison with the finance team. Although since the pandemic our congregations have maintained their new "normal" levels of attendance, the MA receives far, far less in offering each week than the £11.55 per person which the Diocese estimate would cover the Parish Share. Throughout the year the income received has not been enough to cover the increased costs including the increased general cost of living and utility charges which are crippling us. There is a need for urgent reconsideration of giving and generosity for future long-term survival.

The Churches within the Ministry Area have been proactive in Mission which is reflected in the individual church's statement of mission and there is plenty of evidence that the congregations are playing their part in realising those statements to try and grow in God's Kingdom. In brief these are:

- St Mary's Coity had a year of further consolidation. A strong congregation with regular church choir grew over the year with weekly Sunday Club held to bring the next generation into the Church community. Coity continued to support the local Foodbank throughout the year
- St Mary's Nolton saw a slow but noticeable recovery of worshippers coupled with increased numbers of Baptisms and Weddings. A variety of mission events were held or hosted throughout the year which included school study visits, attendance by the local community at special annual events. Nolton church continued to support the local Foodbank
- Both Coity and Nolton churches are the focus for many larger community events such as weddings, funerals, baptisms and other occasional services
- St Mary's Brackla continued to flourish and build firm relationships within and outside the Church. Events were held to become more visible in the wider community, Open the Book was a regular weekly feature in school assemblies and Messy Coffee Mornings were introduced for inter-generational links. Success was the result of vision, commitment and fellowship of Brackla members and working with the Diocesan Mission Enablers
- All Saints, Pen-y-Fai, are very proactive in working with the Community to strength and grow. Events that continued throughout the year include Open the Book initiative at local primary school, Warm Welcome lunches, working in close association with Communities and Schools to support the community and charities alike. Friendships with non-church attenders are strengthening and the locals are "owning" their church

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

- St Crallo's is disadvantaged in Mission works as there is no running water, or toilet facilities. St Crallo's therefore opted for a gentle approach with members offering their homes for afternoon teas and other fundraising events which were very successful. Other events St Crallo's hosted included the local primary school Easter and Harvest services. Community lessons and carol services, annual Nativity and Christingle service. All events held in the vision of increasing growth
- St Illtyd's have had a challenging year uniting the different traditions in the Churches in the Ministry Area. However with continued prayer and commitment from the congregation at St Illtyd's changes were embraced and the future outlook is to move forward in faith, hope love to further God's kingdom
- St David's have been busy in proactively ensuring everyone has a warm welcome at St David's church. There has been some growth in attendees at Baptisms and Weddings becoming regular church members and work for the Fellowship within the Ministry Area and to grow in Faith continues
- St Teilo's benefited from a more consistent delivery of Sunday Services which resulted in no change in congregation numbers attending service. Fundraising events were held almost every month and were open to the wider public. Whilst the events were financially rewarding and allowed St Teilo's to make contributions to a number of charities, the true success was in bringing large numbers, old and new friends, to church. St Teilo's is exceptionally proactive and successful at holding events.

The last year has seen a marked increase in many community schools using the churches for services and for educational sessions which is resulting in strong and lasting friendships. Forest Church has continued to meet throughout the year with numbers increasing. Every meeting had its profound moments of sharing experiences and appreciation of God's Creation.

Overall the Ministry Area in 2023 has had successes in trying to grow God's Kingdom which are down to the vision, commitment, time given, skills of those holding roles within the MAC and parishioners alike. The MA continues to grow in fellowship with each other and there has been good improvement in creating a team spirit in helping and supporting each other.

The Ministry Area experienced mixed fortune in 2023, but it still needs to look to God for its direction and purpose. We look forward to seeing our congregations and the whole of the Ministry Area grow in faith, fellowship and number, and we look forward to seeing your ministries go from strength to strength.

Financial Review

During 2023 there has been good progress in implementing a central accounting function with ongoing progress. A central bank account has been opened and slowly each of the individual church bank accounts have been transferred to allow the sharing of resources, while still enabling the individual churches to identify and monitor their own elements via the accounting system. This has impacted on the local Churches Treasurers, but ultimately as day to day processes are consolidated, their time will be freed to apply their skills to the key financial issues facing the church.

2023 has been a challenging year for finance both with declining attendance of congregations and decline in giving whereby the contribution needed to cover basic Church running costs was not met.

As work of combining the original parish records, and investigation of certain assets is continuing further information is coming to light which has so far resulted in the reclassification of investments from unrestricted to restricted. There is ongoing research to clarify the position of various assets, particularly properties, and the original source of funds particularly some of the older restricted funds. This work is not yet complete and the notes to the accounts explain some of the outstanding areas. This may lead to adjustments to the accounts when the investigations are complete in future years.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

The day-to-day finances are administered by the MAC, the Finance Officer and local Church Treasurers as agreed and directed by the MAC. As the MAC developed it became clear that for efficient governance there was a need for a Finance and Policy sub-committees to be set up. These have been formed in 2023.

During the year the charity had a total income from activities and assets of £291,373. This sum was split between restricted income of £77,794 and unrestricted income of £213,579. The majority of the restricted income relates to investment income from restricted funds such as investments and investment property.

In the year, the charity had total expenses of £367,281. Of the expenditure £214,398 was unrestricted and £152,883 was restricted. There were no major repair works carried out in 2023. The recurring spend was approximately £367,281 against potentially recurring income of £291,373 – a significant deficit of £75,908. This is compounded by a loss on property valuation of £82,500, partially offset by gain on investments of £66,220. The shortfall has been made up by utilising cash reserves.

The major recurring expense in the year is the parish share paid to the Diocese. This totalled approximately £157,000 in the year. Of the total expenditure, some items such as parish share were met by utilising the cash reserves brought forward in individual churches when the churches were merged with into the Ministry Area. It is intended to continue using these reserves of the individual churches to pay the parish share and other parish related expenses in future years.

The majority of the investments are held in shares in the Common Investment Fund administered by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The value of the shares in the Fund fluctuates with time. The Representative Body follows the Church of Wales ethical guidance on ethical investments prohibiting investments for example in armaments, predatory lending activities, gambling and alcohol and seeks to promote good levels of environmental, social governance responsibility. The investments are held to provide some income to the parishes and to provide funds where necessary for, in particular, capital projects in line with the original donations. The Ministry Area can utilise the funds as necessary subject to restrictions, particularly on capital projects, but does not want to draw down on the investments except in necessity as once spent they cannot be easily replaced!

The net assets of the charity at the year end totalled £2,218,041. However, the majority of these assets are restricted, with only unrestricted net assets of £132,432. Within this there are £116,192 of unrestricted cash. While there is also some funds brought forward in individual churches which are classed as restricted but can be used be fund specific church costs such as parish share, it can be seen that the Area needs to generate significant unrestricted income each year to cover its on-going costs and avoid drawing down on cash reserves.

Reserves Policy

Although the charity has £2,218,401 of total funds, a large proportion are restricted and also tied up in investments. At the year end the charity therefore held only £116,192 in cash which was freely available to meet on-going expenses, – approximately 4 months of available reserves. While there is on-going income, the charity intends to develop plans to hold sufficient cash reserves at any point in time to cover at least 6 months of recurring expenditure.

The charity is therefore seeking to improve its position as summarised below.

Plans For Future Periods

The Trustees recognise the need to improve the charity's on-going cash position.

The charity has recently put the Port Talbot property up for resale as the property has not generated significant income. However, the Trustees are aware that this may not improve the unrestricted cash position of the charity as the original funds used to purchase the property may entail restrictions and further investigation is on-going.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

The Trustees recognise the difficulties of raising funds in a general atmosphere of declining Church attendance throughout the country, together with a reduced number of available clergy to celebrate services. The Charity is developing plans to set up key targets for the future including average number of persons attending services, and average giving per member of congregation.

The Trustees are also however seeking to:

- improve giving, particularly regular giving which will also assist with gift aid reclaims. The Trustees recognise that declining church attendance over a number of years has reduced incoming funds and they are seeking to address this both by seeking to increase attendance, and also by encouraging the congregation to contribute more per individual where their personal resources allow together with more fundraising events
- reduce expenditure. A review of expenditure is being undertaken to centralise expenditure where appropriate particularly to determine whether any savings can be achieved from central contracts.
- cutting costs and eliminating substantial amount of waste and needless spends
- work with the province to improve the return on investment
- a Finance Working Group has been set up to lead and advise on complex matters
- a Hall Management Working Team has been established to optimise the return from church halls
- Chasing down money that is owed to the MA through unclaimed gift aid and unpaid invoices.

Priority is to be given to: Addressing the pastoral issues that have caused decline ensuring that the situation does not deteriorate further; Developing a Growth & Revitalisation Strategy, so that we can go forwards towards growing our membership; Building a culture of generosity and hope, so that our members feel confident and hopeful in our joint vision, and so feel inclined to give generously.

We are asking our members to get involved in some keyways as we face this situation together:

First, to pray. The church is fundamentally a spiritual society, and its material decline follows its spiritual decline. We are encouraging our members to come to church early, and leave late, so that they have more time to pray. We are encouraging them to develop a pattern of praying every morning and every evening, bringing their requests to God with thankfulness.

Second, to serve. We are encouraging everyone who can to join a team or a rota. That may look like hosting a group or putting oneself forward to train to lead services. We would love everyone to offer up some time each week to spreading the gospel.

Finally, to give. We are encouraging our members to ask the Lord to show you how much they each should be giving to his church. It is the norm for Christians to offer 10% of their regular income to support gospel work. Some people are called to give more, some people are not able to give this much – but decisions around giving should begin with prayer and be motivated by thankfulness.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Ministry Area is a charity registered with the Charities Commission. The Area is an amalgamation of local churches as part of the Diocese of Llandaff, part of the Anglican Province of the Church in Wales set up under the Welsh Churches Act 1914. The Churches are governed in accordance with the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

On 1 January 2022, the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla were combined with the neighbouring parishes of All Saints, Penyfai, St Crailos, Coychurch, St Davids, Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr to form a new Ministry Area under the charity registration of the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds the land and property of the Church in Wales. They are an exempt charity set up under section 13(2) of the Welsh Churches Act. They act on behalf of the province in paying stipends and administering various aspects of central administration such as central investments.

The Ministry Area Council acts as both Parish Church Council and charity Trustees for the entire Ministry Area. It is not a body Corporate, so its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The Ministry Area Council is responsible for ensuring that reviews of all major risks are conducted and that wherever possible systems have been established to mitigate risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the churches, graveyards and church halls. The Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient resources, including financial resources to achieve the Area's objectives.

The Ministry Area has identified safeguarding as a risk and has therefore adopted the Church in Wales safeguarding policy and has undertaken a number of training sessions.

Apart from The Ministry Area Leader, Lay Chair and Clergy, Trustees are appointed on a voluntary basis to the Ministry Area Committee (MAC) with no time deadline set. Lay Chair is a selected position and has a term of service being 3 years. Clergy serve on the Committee while they are post.

The Trustees are appointed annually at the Annual Vestry Meeting or co-opted depending on their individual expertise.

The Ministry Area Council will be reviewing the training, including safeguarding training, facilities given to Trustees over the coming months to ensure that all members have sufficient support to fulfil their responsibilities.

The Trustees have appointed various sub-committees to handle different aspects of the charity administration. A finance sub-committee advises on finance matters, including the level of salary and remuneration for staff which is benchmarked externally for similar roles with minimum of the living wage being used.

The day-to-day management of the Area is undertaken by the Clergy Team led by Rev Maggie Thorne. The day-to-day administration is assisted by a Treasurer, who is employed by the Area and is not a Trustee, together with a number of salaried staff

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

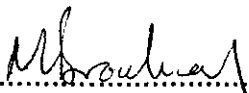
STATEMENT OF MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act requires the Council to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which comply with the regulations made under the Act.

The Council is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and contain entries showing from day to day all monies received, and monies expended by the charity and the matters in respect of which those transactions took place and also contain a record of the assets and liabilities of the charity. The law also sets out the responsibilities for the preparation and content of the Annual Report.

The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and ensuring their proper application under charity law and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above


.....

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Rev M Broadway

15/10/2024
.....

Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 12 to 28.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts, and it is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

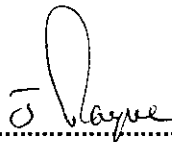
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA (CONTINUED)

The Ministry Area was set up via a combination of the existing Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla with the inclusion of a number of parishes of the Church in Wales in the local area. In doing so there are a number of historical financial records that needed clarifying and some of these are in the process of being investigated further. These include:

- the title and valuation of various properties to clarify the ownership and amounts to be included in the accounts as detailed in the fixed asset notes to the accounts
- exact restrictions on a number of restricted funds within the Ministry Area as summarised in the reserves note to the accounts.

Except as noted above 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.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER



.....
JE Payne ACA
ICAEW
Graham Paul Limited
Court House, Court Rd
Bridgend, CF31 1BE

Date: 15/10/24

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

		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES	1						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations, legacies and grants		128,445	17,169	145,614	130,771	86,301	217,072
Charitable activities		81,153	4,197	85,350	64,952	5,337	70,289
Investments		2,268	56,428	58,696	49,156	1,766	50,922
Other income		1,713	-	1,713	16,112	1,108	17,220
Total income		213,579	77,794	291,373	260,991	94,512	355,503
RESOURCES EXPENDED	2						
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		(208,998)	(152,883)	(361,881)	(239,514)	(240,284)	(479,798)
Other expenditure		(5,400)	-	(5,400)	(10,309)	-	(10,309)
Total expenditure		(214,398)	(152,883)	(367,281)	(249,823)	(240,284)	(490,107)
Net income before investment gains/(losses)		(819)	(75,089)	(75,908)	11,168	(145,772)	(134,604)
Net gains/(losses) on investments:							
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of investments	11	1,143	65,077	66,220	(53,056)	(77,419)	(130,475)
Loss on revaluation of investment property	10	-	(82,500)	(82,500)	-	-	-
Investment income re-invested	11	-	3,565	3,565	9,006	-	9,006
(Losses) on disposal of investments		-	-	-	-	(147)	(147)
Net (expense)/income before extraordinary items		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	(223,338)	(256,220)
Extraordinary income	1	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820
NET INCOME AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	392,482	359,600
Funds brought forward		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Transfer between funds	15	(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-	(40,900)	40,900	-
Funds carried forward		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024

*The restricted and total income comparative figures have been adjusted to reclassify a VAT refund from Charitable Activities income to Donations, Legacies and Grants for £22,585.

Included within restricted income is £10,788 (2022 - £8,526) arising from endowment investments.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Note	Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible fixed assets	9	-	124,001	124,001	100,000	27,001	127,001
Investment Properties	10	-	481,177	481,177	447,500	116,177	563,677
Investments	11	21,640	1,205,907	1,227,547	481,251	676,511	1,157,762
Total fixed assets		21,640	1,811,085	1,832,725	1,028,751	819,689	1,821,440
Current assets							
Cash at bank and in hand		116,192	274,884	391,076	120,010	337,348	457,358
Debtors	12	-	-	-	9,625	-	9,625
		116,192	274,884	391,076	129,635	337,348	466,983
Creditors:							
amounts falling due							
within one year:	13	(5,400)	-	(5,400)	(8,399)	-	(8,399)
Net Current Assets		110,792	274,884	385,676	121,236	337,348	458,580
Net assets		132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Brought forward		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Transfers		(1,017,879)	1,017,879	-	(40,900)	40,900	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		324	(88,947)	(88,623)	(32,882)	392,482	359,600
Carried Forward	14	132,432	2,085,969	2,218,401	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024
Restricted Funds are split between							
Endowment			493,715			455,954	
Other			1,592,254			701,353	
			<u>2,085,969</u>			<u>1,157,037</u>	

These financial statements were approved by the Ministry Area Council on 15/01/24

Signed on their behalf by


Trustee – Rev M Broadway

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**Basis of preparation**

The accounts are prepared under the historic cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments to fair value in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'

As a charity, the church is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) within the meaning of FRS102.

The accounts presentation is in line with the requirements of the Annual Financial Return to Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. Some of these differ from the format and disclosure requirements of the SORP (FRS102) because, in the opinion of the PCC, the format adopted best represents the activities of the church.

The Ministry Area is a multi-church parish which comprised, at the beginning of 2022, the three churches of St Marys, Coity, Nolton and Brackla. On 1st January 2022, five additional churches – All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos, Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St llyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr, were also added to the charity which was renamed the Ministry Area.

The key accounting estimates used in the preparation of the accounts are:

- the estimated useful life of fixed assets
- recoverability of debts.

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that the charity will be able to continue its operations for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and the trustees confirm that no material uncertainties relating to this position exist.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

Accruals accounting

All income is credited gross on the date on which it is received, or when it becomes due and can be reasonably estimated. All expenditure is fully accrued based on the date that the liability has arisen.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular specific purpose. Endowment funds are investments where capital is maintained, and income can be used in the parishes for the purposes specified by the original donors.

Investment Properties

Investment properties are originally included in the financial statements at cost including incidental costs such as professional fees. Investment properties are then revalued periodically to market value with gains and losses credited or charged to a revaluation reserve, classified as restricted or unrestricted according to the original nature of the funds used to acquire the property.

Church Land and Buildings

The land upon which all together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The Ministry Area pays for all maintenance expenses of the church halls, along with the maintenance of individual churches within the Area. Significant improvements for any buildings which are not consecrated, such as church halls, are capitalised as part of fixed assets. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates, in order to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is provided on:

- equipment at the annual rate of 15% and 25% reducing balance in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.
- leasehold improvements over 10 years from the date of the improvements completed.

Investment assets

Fixed asset investments in The Representative Body of the Church in Wales Common Investment Fund or other Charity Investment Vehicles are valued initially at original purchase cost and subsequently at their market value at the year end with any gains or losses going through the SOFA.

Amounts held at recognised UK banks are classified as cash at bank and in hand.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors are recognised and measured at cost with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash

Cash consists of monies held in Banks by each of the Churches together with the Area plus, cash in hand at each of the individual churches plus funds held by the Representative Body in bank account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

INCOME

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it's more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The following specifies the policies applied and the main types of income that are included within the particular categories of incoming resources:

Collection

The Ministry Area received its main income from the Direct Giving of its Parishioners and there are three main categories of this direct income:

- Gift Aided envelope which is remitted either by the use of a specially designed red envelope at a Church Service offertory collection, by direct payment to the Benefice Covenant Secretary or credited direct by bank transfer by Direct Giving .
- Casual Gift Aided contributions which are enclosed in the newly designed envelopes, which are signed and handed in at a Church Service offertory collection.
- Cash - offertory collections at a Church Service.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met on a performance basis.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when the receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations, gifts and legacies

Gift aid receivable is included in income where there is a valid declaration from the donor and is recognised when the claim is successfully received. Any Gift Aid amount recovered is considered to be part of the original donation and as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Income from interest and dividends

The benefice has two main sources of investment income and is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount received can be measured reliably:

- Surplus cash resources are invested in Bank Deposits
- Trust Fund capital is invested in the Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. This is an income producing account with a Capital growth potential. The Benefice Churches involved received a quarterly income payment from the Representative Body.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustee's annual report.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of VAT which is not recoverable as the organisation is not VAT registered.

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. The charity has creditors which are measured at the amounts due in settlement.

TAX

The charity is exempt from corporation tax.

SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS

The majority of income and expenditure is based on cash movements through the bank account. There are therefore limited judgements made in the overall accounts. These judgements include:

- estimates of the value of investment property
- an estimate of the useful life of tangible fixed assets
- estimates of expenditure incurred, but not yet billed at the time of the accounts
- recoverability of debts, including debts from rental of assets and gift aid.

A key judgement area is ensuring restricted funds are correctly identified and that the allocation of expenditure to individual restricted funds is in accordance with the terms of that specific fund. The Trustees are continuing to investigate brought forward funds to determine the details of all restrictions as identified in individual notes to the accounts.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Donations, Legacies and Grants						
Planned Giving	80,471	-	80,471	83,420	325	83,745
Loose Collections	19,598	-	19,598	12,043	-	12,043
Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	18,440	-	18,440	18,457	-	18,457
Donations	8,694	1,469	10,163	16,031	1,051	17,082
Legacies	-	100	100	-	118	118
Grants	1,242	15,600	16,842	820	84,807	85,627
	128,445	17,169	145,614	130,771	86,301	217,072
Charitable Activities						
Fees - Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings	8,185	4,197	12,382	13,781	5,337	19,118
- Hall hire	60,278	-	60,278	45,714	-	45,714
- Money Raising Events	12,690	-	12,690	5,457	-	5,457
	81,153	4,197	85,350	64,952	5,337	70,289
Income From Investments						
Investment Property Income	-	28,876	28,876	40,169	-	40,169
Fixed Asset Investment Income	512	23,135	23,647	8,329	327	8,656
Deposit Account Interest	1,756	4,417	6,173	658	1,439	2,097
	2,268	56,428	58,696	49,156	1,766	50,922
Other Income						
Other Incoming Resources	1,713	-	1,713	3,845	1,108	4,953
Covid related grant from Diocese	-	-	-	12,267	-	12,267
	1,713	-	1,713	16,112	1,108	17,220
Extraordinary Income						
Merger of Parishes	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820
	-	-	-	-	615,820	615,820

Extraordinary Income

Extraordinary income relates to the integration of a number of parishes into the charity. The existing Parishes were joined on 1 January 2022 by the churches of All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr. At 1 January 2022 the net funds in each of the parishes were transferred as restricted funds to the combined Ministry Area. These opening funds are then being applied, either in line with individual restrictions from the original donor, or for use in the general expenditure of the specific church, including contributions to the parish share.

The transfers were:

	£
All Saints, Penyfai	187,597
St Crallos, Coychurch	61,524
St Davids, Laleston	72,202
St Iltyds, Newcastle	138,504
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	155,993
	615,820

*The restricted and total income comparative figures have been adjusted to reclassify a VAT refund from money raising events (as part of Charitable Activities income) to grants (as part of Donations, Legacies and Grants) for £22,585.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

2 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £
Charitable Activities Expenditure						
Support for Ministry including parish share	72,302	85,694	157,996	84,366	81,045	165,411
Ministry Area parish share rebate	(19,229)	-	(19,229)	(12,939)	-	(12,939)
Maintenance of Services	5,130	-	5,130	5,859	-	5,859
General Parish Expenses	74,347	18,016	92,363	75,939	883	76,822
Maintenance of Churches	46,345	12,369	58,714	44,029	3,199	47,228
Maintenance of Property	26,687	33,804	60,491	36,937	152,157	189,094
Mission (Donations)	416	3,000	3,416	2,323	3,000	5,323
Depreciation	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000
	208,998	152,883	361,881	239,514	240,284	479,798
Other Expenditure						
Legal and Professional	5,400	-	5,400	10,309	-	10,309

3 MAINTENANCE OF MINISTRY AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

To fund the provision of Ministry, the Ministry pays a "Parish Share" to the Diocese. This Parish Share was split and allocated between each church as agreed within the Area.

The total charge for Parish Share for the Area was £153,873 (2022 - £154,491).

During the year the area received a rebate for the parish share from the diocese of £19,229 (2022 - £12,939).

The total amount outstanding from the area to the diocese at the year end was £Nil (2022 £Nil).

4 MISSION

The Ministry Area recognises that an important part of its Christian Stewardship is to financially support the work of Church Missions, Christian Charities, Social and Emergency appeals. The amounts paid out for mission and charity donations in the year totalled £3,416 (2022 - £5,323).

5 LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL

Amounts included in the accounts due to Independent Examiners, including VAT, for:

Independent Examination	£4,200	(2022 - £3,600)
Accounting	Nil	(2022 - £3,600)

6 CLERICS AND TRUSTEES TRANSACTIONS

The Ministry Area pays the cost of all expenses incurred by the Church in Wales Clerics and Church Wardens in the performance of their Parish duties. The amounts paid to Clerics were £9,252 (2022 - £7,809), including £Nil (2022 - £525) of baptism, funeral and wedding fees and £5,721 (2022 - £4,199) for re-imbursement of water rates, electricity and gas to 3 (2022 - 2) individuals. The amounts paid to vergers totalled £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Other trustees received expenses totalling £Nil (2022 - £Nil) for reimbursement of expenses incurred relating to the general running and administrative costs of the charity.

Other than detailed above, the Area does not pay any remuneration to the Church in Wales Clerics. The clergy team, including the Dean, are remunerated by the Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. No payments were made to other Trustees for remuneration.

Some trustees give anonymously to the charity via the weekly church collections. Specific donations from trustees with conditions attached totalled £Nil (2022 - £1,000 which was included in the restricted fund income for use in the maintenance and renovation of church buildings).

7 WAGES AND SALARIES

During the year the area employed an average of 4 (2022 - 4) part time employees at a total cost of £49,170 (2022 - £42,635). The total cost included £Nil (2022 - £1,862) of employer's national insurance costs and £526 (2022- £326) of employer's contributions to personal pension schemes. The estimated number of equivalent full time employees for the year is 2 (2022 - 2).

A trustee resigned in the previous period to accept a paid role within the Ministry Area, and their costs are included above for 2022 and 2023 as an employee.

No employees earned over £60,000 (2022 - Nil).

8 OTHER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income includes government grants of:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Central government grants	-	-
Other government grants	10,600	37,837

Total grants including the above of £16,842 (2022 - £75,309) were received in the year, of which £15,000 (2022 - £59,584) related to work done on St Teilo's Churchyard and surrounding grounds (2022 Church and surrounding grounds).

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Property</u>	<u>Leasehold Improvements</u>	<u>2023 Total</u>	<u>2022 Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Cost/valuation brought forward	100,001	30,000	130,001	-
Adjustments	-	-	-	100,000
Merger	-	-	-	30,001
Cost carried forward	100,001	30,000	130,001	130,001
Depreciation brought forward	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	-
Depreciation in year	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Depreciation carried forward	-	(6,000)	(6,000)	(3,000)
Net Book Value brought forward	100,001	27,000	127,001	100,000
Net Book Value carried forward	100,001	24,000	124,001	127,001

The land upon which all churches together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The following properties are, however, potentially believed to be held for the benefit of the Ministry Area:

Nolton Rectory and Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of this land and property is currently being determined. It is currently understood that the Ministry Area is not the beneficial owner of the properties and therefore no amounts are included in the accounts in relation to these buildings, although shown in the 2021 accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £638,000. Estimates of the current valuation are significantly lower than this original figure.

Coity Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of the Hall is currently under investigation, but it is currently understood that the Ministry Area is the beneficial owner of the property.

The original cost of this property cannot be fully determined, although shown in the 2021 accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £507,168. Due to the uncertainty surrounding this cost, Coity Church Hall is included in the accounts at valuation for balance sheet purposes of £100,000. The valuation was undertaken in the previous year by Watts & Morgan, Chartered Surveyors in accordance with RICS valuation rules effective as at 31 December 2022 as a freehold property. Watts & Morgan confirm they believe there has been no material change in this value during the current year.

In the prior year, the cost of Coity Church Hall, was classified as unrestricted. Further investigation has not identified the original source of funds for the Hall, and therefore, while continuing to investigate the beneficial ownership of the Hall, the valuation has been reclassified as restricted.

A significant proportion of the value of the Hall is considered to be the land on which the property is based. No depreciation is charged on the land. The useful life of the Hall is considered to be in excess of 20 years. Accordingly no depreciation on the balance of the valuation has been included in the accounts as it is considered immaterial to the overall accounts.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS CONTINUED

Laleston Church Hall

Laleston Church Hall is held by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales as custodian trustee for The Ministry Area under terms of a 999 Year Lease which include covenants that render the Lease valueless to the Ministry Area under the required RICS assumptions as to balance sheet values. The lease is included in the accounts at a nominal of £1.

Leasehold Improvements to the property at an apportioned estimated cost of £30,000 were made in 2021 prior to the merger. These improvements are being depreciated over a 10 year estimated useful life.

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Valuation brought forward	563,677	447,500
Additions	-	116,177
Revaluation	(82,500)	-
Total carried forward	<u>481,177</u>	<u>563,677</u>

Leominster Property was purchased in 2015 for £442,026. In the opinion of the trustees the current valuation of the property is £365,000 (2022 - £447,500). The original source of funds, and therefore the net income, is believed to be restricted for use in Coity and Nolton parishes. This is a change in classification the property, which had previously been believed to be unrestricted, and therefore this property has been reclassified as restricted.

Port Talbot Property was purchased in 2022 and is therefore included at cost which also represents the trustees estimate of market value at the year end. The proceeds used to acquire the property are believed to be restricted – although further clarification is being sort - and therefore this property is classified as restricted. Since the year end the property has been disposed of at a sum similar to the original cost.

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

The long-term investment of the Ministry Area consists of monies that have been donated or bequeathed to the Benefice and/or one of its churches by parishioners and also Stock issued by the Governing Body of the Church of Wales under the Tithe Act. The use to which some of these capital and income items may be put is restricted to the specific terms of the individual Trust Deed.

The majority of this money is under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales in its capacity as the Special Trustee of all the Deeds and is invested by the Representative Body in its Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under its supervision.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Shares No	2022 Market Value £	Fund	Purchase/ Disposals No	Shares No	2023 Market Value £
Held at Representative Body – Common Investment Fund					
<i>Coity, Nolton and Ministry Area</i>					
<i>(All religious purposes investments combined in current year and comparatives amended)</i>					
Religious purpose in general but primarily for the use in Coity and Nolton Parish					
411,477	862,291	- Capital	25,967	437,444	967,845
23,446	49,133	- Accumulated income	(23,446)	-	-
-	5,284	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	-
9,781	20,497	Legacy held for religious purposes in general	-	9,781	21,640
St Iltyds, Church, Newcastle					
4,008	8,399	Maintenance of graveyard	-	4,008	8,868
St Crallo's, Coychurch					
-	-	Maintenance of Church and Churchyard	-	-	-
2,976	6,237	General church purposes Maintenance of Church and Churchyard,	-	2,976	6,584
Maintenance of West Memorial Window					
1,154	2,418	- Capital	-	1,154	2,553
3,501	7,337	- Accumulated income	158	3,659	8,096
	136	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	71
All Saints, Penyfai					
Maintenance of Church Buildings					
15,863	33,242	- Capital	-	15,863	35,097
37,777	79,165	- Accumulated income	2,133	39,910	88,301
-	1,908	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	609
2,373	4,973	Maintenance of Churchyard	-	2,373	5,250
St Davids, Laleston					
Chancel repair fund					
614	1,285	- Capital	-	614	1,358
705	1,477	- Accumulated income	109	814	1,801
	163	- Cash for re-investment			23
	<u>1,083,945</u>	Sub-total			<u>1,148,096</u>
Held at Church					
St Marys, Coity					
18,677		Maintenance of graveyard – COIF Charities Investment Fund			20,393
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr					
55,140		LGT investment fund			59,058
	<u>73,817</u>	Sub Total			<u>79,451</u>
	<u>1,157,762</u>	Totals			<u>1,227,547</u>

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

	Coity/Nolton/ Ministry Area	Newcastle	Coychurch	Penyfai	Laleston	Merthyr Mawr	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 January – original	955,882	8,399	16,128	119,288	2,925	55,140	1,157,762
Income retained in portfolio	-	-	270	3,206	89	-	3,565
Revaluation	53,996	469	906	6,763	168	3,918	66,220
	1,009,878	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,227,547
Restricted	554,234	-	8,166	88,910	1,824	59,058	712,192
Restricted - Endowment	434,004	8,868	9,138	40,347	1,358	-	493,715
	988,238	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,205,907
Unrestricted	21,640	-	-	-	-	-	21,640
See Note 14	1,009,878	8,868	17,304	129,257	3,182	59,058	1,227,547

Movement:

	Brought Forward	Reclass	Adjusted Brought Forward	Income	Transfer to Parish	Revaluation	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted	220,557	448,815	669,372	16,542	(12,977)	39,255	712,192
Restricted - endowment	455,954	11,939	467,893	10,158	(10,158)	25,822	493,715
Total Restricted	676,511	460,754	1,137,265	26,700	(23,135)	65,077	1,205,907
Unrestricted	481,251	(460,754)	20,497	512	(512)	1,143	21,640
Total	1,157,762	-	1,157,762	27,212	(23,647)	66,220	1,227,547

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

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12 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors (rent due)	<u> -</u>	<u>9,625</u>

Other debtors were classed as unrestricted, but as they relate to the Leominster property, have now been reclassified as restricted.

13 CREDITORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals	4,200	7,561
Other creditors including tax and social security	<u>1,200</u>	<u>838</u>
	<u>5,400</u>	<u>8,399</u>

All accruals and creditors are classed as unrestricted.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

14 RESERVES

The Ministry Area aims to be at least break-even in future years so that its reserves are maintained so that fixed asset investments are only drawn down for major capital expenditure.

	1 Jan 2023 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2023 £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2023 £
Restricted						
Fixed Assets						
Investment Property	116,177	447,500	563,677	-	(82,500)	481,177
Tangible fixed assets - property						
St Davids, Laleston	27,001	-	27,001	-	(3,000)	24,001
Coity Hall	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	100,000
	27,001	100,000	127,001	-	(3,000)	124,001
Investments						
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes	455,954	460,754	916,708	-	51,137	967,845
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:						
St Marys, Coity	18,677	-	18,677	-	1,716	20,393
St Iltyds, Newcastle	8,399	-	8,399	-	469	8,868
St Crillos, Coychurch	16,128	-	16,128	270	906	17,304
All Saints, Penyfai	119,288	-	119,288	3,206	6,763	129,257
St Davids, Laleston	2,925	-	2,925	89	168	3,182
For use in parish						
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	55,140	-	55,140	-	3,918	59,058
Total Investments	676,511	460,754	1,137,265	3,565	65,077	1,205,907
Other debtors/creditors	-	9,625	9,625	-	(9,625)	-
Cash						
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	124,112	-	124,112	-	(40,294)	83,818
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	4,105	-	4,105	-	(806)	3,299
St Crillos, Coychurch	29,924	-	29,924	-	(2,909)	27,015
All Saints, Penyfai	652	-	652	-	952	1,604
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	53,035	-	53,035	-	464	53,499
Other specific purposes within parishes						
St Davids, Laleston	7,008	-	7,008	-	-	7,008
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr				-	1,219	1,219
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure						
St Iltyds, Newcastle	86,392	-	86,392	-	-	86,392
All Saints, Penyfai	28,695	-	28,695	-	(17,665)	11,030
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	3,425	-	3,425	-	(3,425)	-
Total Cash	337,348	-	337,348	-	(62,464)	274,884
Total Restricted	1,157,037	1,017,879	2,174,916	3,565	(92,512)	2,085,969
Unrestricted						
Investment property	447,500	(447,500)	-	-	-	-
Tangible fixed assets	100,000	(100,000)	-	-	-	-
Investments	481,251	(460,754)	20,497	-	1,143	21,640
Cash	120,010		120,010	-	(3,818)	116,192
Debtors/creditors	1,226	(9,625)	(8,399)	-	2,999	(5,400)
Total unrestricted	1,149,987	(1,017,879)	132,108	-	324	132,432
Total	2,307,024	-	2,307,024	3,565	(92,188)	2,218,401

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton and St Iltyds are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2023

The prior year comparatives show:

	1 Jan 2022 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2022 £	Merger £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2022 £
Restricted							
Fixed Assets							
Investment Property	-	-	-	-	116,177	-	116,177
Tangible fixed assets - property							
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	30,001	-	(3,000)	27,001
Investments							
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes – endowment	241,275	212,703	453,978	-	50,000	(48,024)	455,954
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:							
St Marys, Coity	10,676	10,458	21,134	-	-	(2,457)	18,677
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	9,384	-	(985)	8,399
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	19,759	(1,759)	(1,872)	16,128
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	133,051	-	(13,763)	119,288
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	3,251	-	(326)	2,925
For use in parish							
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	113,131	(48,000)	(9,991)	55,140
Total Investments	251,951	223,161	475,112	278,576	241	(77,418)	676,511
Cash							
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	-	(116,177)	(8,254)	124,112
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings							
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	1,259	-	2,846	4,105
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	28,896	-	1,028	29,924
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	6,861	-	(6,209)	652
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	970	-	(970)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	33,228	49,759	(29,952)	53,035
Other specific purposes within parish							
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	17,900	-	(10,892)	7,008
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure							
St Iltyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	127,862	-	(41,470)	86,392
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	12,867	-	(12,867)	-
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	47,686	-	(18,991)	28,695
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	20,080	-	(20,080)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	9,634	-	(6,209)	3,425
Total Cash	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	307,243	(66,418)	(152,020)	337,348
Total Restricted	572,059	151,596	723,655	615,820	50,000	(232,438)	1,157,037
Unrestricted							
Investment property	-	447,500	447,500	-	-	-	447,500
Tangible fixed assets – property	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Investments	246,275	329,027	575,302	-	(50,000)	(44,051)	481,251
Cash	102,107	-	102,107	-	-	17,903	120,010
Debtors/creditors	(1,140)	-	(1,140)	-	-	2,366	1,226
Total unrestricted	347,242	876,527	1,223,769	-	(50,000)	(23,782)	1,149,987
Total	919,301	1,028,123	1,947,424	615,820	-	(256,220)	2,307,024

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton, St Iltyds and St Teilos are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

Transfers of £50,000 represent use of unrestricted investment funds held by the Representative Body to purchase restricted endowments funds. This is offset by transfer of £9,100 spending from restricted funds resulting in a net transfer in the Statement of Financial Activities of £40,900.

15 FUND TRANSFERS

The Trustees have been investigating the restrictions, including were possible obtaining copies of wills relating to the original donations. This has resulted in the following reclassifications to last years opening position which are shown as transfers during 2023:

	Note	£
Coity Hall	9	100,000
Investment Property	10	447,500
Coity, Nolton and Brackla - fund for religious purposes	11	460,754
Investment Property Rental Debtor	12	9,625
Total reclassifications	14	<u>1,017,879</u>

As detailed in Note 9, the ownership and valuation of Coity Hall is undetermined. The hall has therefore been shown and reclassified as restricted in the current year.

Funding for the Leominster Property - and The Port Talbot property - is believed to have been derived from a number of sources, principally the sales of property in Nolton and Coity which, in turn, it is believed were originally purchased by utilising funds restricted for use in Nolton and Coity. Therefore, the Property has been classified as restricted while further investigations are undertaken.

Further information has been obtained on an investment held for religious purposes and it is now understood that the fund can only be used for the Church to which it is donated. It has therefore been reclassified as restricted.

As the investment property which last years rental debtor related to has been reclassified as restricted, the rental debtor has been reclassified as restricted accordingly.

16 COMMITMENTS

The charity had operating lease commitments of

	2023	2022
	£	£
Due within one year	1,396	3,806
Due between 1 and 5 years	4,886	6,216
	<u>6,282</u>	<u>10,022</u>

The charity made payments under operating leases in the period of £5,413 (2022 - £4,489).

The charity had no capital commitments at the year end (2022 - £Nil).

Accounts

CHARITY NUMBER 1135927

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
FOR
MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR**

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MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

CHARITY INFORMATION

Charity Name	Ministry Area, Penybont Ar Ogwr
Registered Charity Number	1135927
Principal Address	St Marys Church Hall Merthyr Mawr Road North Nolton Bridgend CF31 3NH
Contact Details	01656 667690

Charity Trustees

Rev M Thorne
Rev C Robinson (resigned 6 September 2022)
Rev R Pitman (appointed 1 September 2023)

G Coles
P Coulson
S Davidson
A Dowlman
A Dix
I Hartley – Brown
P Smith

M David (appointed 3 February 2022)
R Gauci (appointed 3 February 2022)
H Harrison (appointed 3 February 2022)
P Williams (appointed 3 February 2022)
S Buckley (appointed 30 April 2023)
H Evans (resigned 3 February 2022 re-appointed 30 April 2023)
S Jones (appointed 8 May 2023)
V Turner (appointed 8 May 2023)
J Dowlman (resigned 3 February 2022, co-opted 6 April 2022 and re-appointed formally 20 June 2023)

F Custerson (resigned 3 February 2022)
G Daniel (resigned 3 February 2022)
R Dowlman (resigned 3 February 2022)
A Elward (resigned 3 February 2022)
A Frew (resigned 3 February 2022)
C Merkins (resigned 3 February 2022)
N Omidvar (resigned 3 February 2022)
Dr S Rogers (resigned 3 February 2022)
M Short (resigned 3 February 2022)
A Williams (resigned 3 February 2022)
S Arnott (resigned 1 March 2022)

J Fenney (appointed 3 February 2022, resigned 30 April 2022)
G Carter (appointed 3 February 2022, resigned 6 December 2022)
P Craven (appointed 3 February 2022, resigned 16 May 2023)
I Hibble (appointed 3 February 2023, resigned 16 May 2023)
C Judd (resigned 16 May 23)

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the Charity for the year ending 31 December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the Charity are achieved by promoting throughout the Ministry Area the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical – within our parish. This includes the following:

- Conducting regular Christian worship including the Holy Eucharist, marriages, funerals and baptisms;
- The provision and maintenance of the fabric of the churches, churchyards and associated buildings for which we are responsible;
- The maintenance of Christian burial places;
- Promoting the study of Christian teaching, practices and Scripture;
- The provision of means and encouragement to promote fellowship within the membership of the churches and the wider community;
- Pastoral care and visiting the sick & dying;
- Fostering ecumenical links between differing Christian denominations;
- Supporting the work of other charities.

In preparing this report, the Ministry Area Council have considered the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In each decision made, we have sought to weigh up the benefit and/or detriment both for those who join us for public worship within our congregations and those resident in our communities. The Ministry Area Council believes that Church's activities detailed above are the main activities undertaken to meet the charity's public benefit objectives and to achieve its overall aim of promoting the Ministry Area and whole mission of the church.

The Ministry Area measures its success based on the level of activities – both religious and social – that it undertakes throughout the year. The Trustees believe that 2022 was a successful year, with a number of activities being undertaken both internally and joining with the community, for example local schools. The Area is seeking to expand on this in future periods.

Monies are raised by freewill offertory, fundraising activities and specific appeals. These are used to support the work and administration of the churches and wider mission. Both the Ministry Area, and its constituent local churches, continue to actively increase attendance and develop mission work in the community. Many of those involved in the main functions of the churches are volunteers.

The Ministry Area is grateful to all of those who freely give of their time on a voluntary basis. The majority of functions performed within the Area, including serving on the Area Council, are performed on a voluntary basis. These include various administrative functions, but also keeping the Church in a clean and serviceable state including limited maintenance, helping at services and organising events both religious and social around the service calendar. Without the significant numbers of individuals from each church giving their time the activities of the Area would be severely restricted.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)**Achievements and Performance**

It seems unbelievable that we've had over a year of being a Ministry Area and much water has flowed under the bridge since we were brought formally into being. Our mixed feelings regarding the new order of things have more or less been accepted and handled in as best a way as has seemed appropriate and those on the MAC remain open to being asked any questions that may still need answering.

Looking back at the report for last year, the new Ministry Area structure was mentioned. For any of you who are still in any doubt, at the September 2010 meeting of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales concluded that she 'cannot go on doing the same things in the same way; some things need to change and we are open to – and indeed encourage – that possibility'. This led to the former Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harris being asked to lead a review group with the aim of gathering and assimilating information about the state of the Church, then provide independent advice on how the Church might reshape itself to be more effective in the 21st Century. The old saying, 'If you always do what you've always done, then you'll always get what you've always got.' Unfortunately, this has meant decline in both church attendance and in vocations to the priesthood. We have to keep reminding ourselves of this if we ever catch ourselves being nostalgic. No one would have thought that we would be finding ourselves in our current predicament of having no curate, no assistant priest, no colleague in the West End and the rector having to manage our 8 churches in the only way possible and it has been a matter of facing the inevitable, only doing what has had to be done and trying to be as positive as possible. The subsequent reduction in services is not at all ideal. To add to the complication, the huge rise in the cost of fuel has meant that the churches have had to cut their cloth to fit. The recent wonderful news that a new member of clergy has joined the ministry in particular, is going to be a great help.

In spite of so many difficulties, there are green shoots to note and a sense of unity across the MA developing. The cost of living crisis has brought us together to support the local Food Bank and we thank all of you who have given generously to help families who are truly in need in this way. The Warm Spaces initiative has been embraced by All Saints, Penyfai, and around 30 people have enjoyed the warmth, hospitality and renewed fellowship the local volunteers are offering. Furthermore, by not heating all of the churches all of the time, local congregations have taken the initiative and organised their own preferred ways of having lay-led services. Merthyr Mawr continues in its ministry to visitors, helped enormously by the addition of a kitchenette at the back of the church. The frustration of not having a toilet in the church continues and we have to hope that a creative solution to the problem will emerge which the Diocesan Advisory Committee will approve without question. Forest Church, although not huge in number, has been attracting people from around the MA now and friendships are being made as we enjoy and appreciate the glories of God's Creation all around us in this especially attractive part of the country. Our MA eco lead has been working with churches to bring them to bronze eco church status.

St Mary's, Brackla, have been helped in their mission by the diocesan mission enablers. One result has been a very successful Christmas Experience which was enthusiastically embraced by the school and parents. Following this, the school launched their own Lent Experience and have also enjoyed the Easter Experience. Open The Book has resumed in the school and this, coupled with a refreshed school Eucharist has been welcomed and enjoyed. By offering simple vignettes of Bible stories, the children learn and retain the gospel message and it's extremely affirming for the team to know that such small measures can have a profound and lasting effect. Penyfai has its own OTB group which ministers to a school in Aberkenfig. It perhaps should go without saying that we need more volunteers!

After all the catch-up baptisms and weddings of last year, things are a little calmer this year, but none-the-less are in reasonably good shape. Very sadly, over the year, we've lost significant members from several congregations who will be keenly missed and leave gaping holes in our communities. Practically, this means that all of us need to reimagine what we can do to help regarding the mission of our individual churches. It would be all too easy to just sit back and think how beautiful our own church is and what a shame that so few people attend. We really do have to remember that no church should be a museum piece and without a clear identity and missional focus, that's what they'll become. The trustees are very glad that the local committees are taking on more responsibility in realising the Diocesan vision and hope that as a Ministry Area, we can all support each other in whatever ways we can.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

We are immensely grateful for all the extra help from the Diocesan office and retired clergy and of course to our Lay Ministers. Thanks as well must be given to the outgoing PPC's from the individual churches from 2021 for all their patience, understanding and hard work. Even for those who aren't part of the MAC, thank you for serving this Ministry Area by giving of your time, skills and considerable experience and of course, thank you to those others, not here today, who have served so faithfully over the years.

We look forward to seeing our congregations and the whole of the Ministry Area grow in faith, fellowship and number, and we look forward to seeing your ministries go from strength to strength.

Financial Review

The finances of the Ministry Area have slowly been centralised over the course of the year. A central accounting function has been implemented, combined with individual church Treasurers who control, account for and report on their church's finance using a central accounting package designed for churches. A central bank account has been opened and slowly each of the individual church bank accounts have been transferred to allow the sharing of resources, while still enabling the individual churches to identify and monitor their own elements via the accounting system.

As work of combining the original parish records has been undertaken during the year, investigations have been undertaken to clarify the position of various assets, particularly properties, and the original source of funds particularly some of the older restricted funds. This work is not yet complete and the notes to the accounts explain some of the outstanding areas. This may lead to adjustments to the accounts when the investigations are complete in future years.

The day-to-day finances are administered by the MAC, MA Treasurer and local Church Treasurers as agreed and directed by the MAC. As the MAC developed it became clear that for efficient governance there was a need for a Finance and Policy sub-committees to be set up. These have been formed in 2023.

During the year the charity had a total income from activities of £355,503 plus extra-ordinary income of £615,820. The extraordinary income relates to the net assets of the individual parishes that combined into the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla to become the Ministry Area as at the 1 January 2022. This extra-ordinary income is restricted for the use of the individual churches for which it first arose. This is one-off adjustment and will not re-occur. The £355,503 is split between restricted income of £94,512 and unrestricted income of £260,991. The majority of the restricted income relates to one-off grants to repair the fabric of individual churches. Therefore, the unrestricted income which forms the benchmark for future income for the Ministry Area to be measured against is £260,991.

In the year, the charity had total expenses of £490,017. Of the expenditure £249,843 was unrestricted and £240,864 was restricted. Within the restricted spend was one off expenditure of approximately £135,000 relating to major repairs of various churches. Excluding these one-off items the recurring spend was approximately £355,000 against potentially recurring income of £260,000 – a significant deficit. This shortfall has been made up by utilising brought forward cash reserves.

The major recurring expense in the year is the parish share paid to the Diocese. This totalled approximately £150,000 in the year before the one-off rebate. Of this amount approximately £84,000 was classed as restricted as it applied to the newly combined parishes and therefore some of the specific brought forward reserves of each of the individual churches. It is intended to continue using these reserves of the individual churches to pay the parish share and other parish related expenses in future years.

The charity suffered a loss on its overall investments of £130,475. The majority of the investments are held in shares in the Common Investment Fund administered by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The value of the shares in the Fund fluctuate with time. The Representative Body follows the Church of Wales ethical guidance on ethical investments prohibiting investments for example in armaments, predatory lending activities, gambling and alcohol and seeks to promote good levels of environmental, social governance responsibility. The investments are held to provide some income to the parishes and to provide funds where necessary for in particular capital projects in line with the original donations.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

The net assets of the charity at the year end totalled £2,307,204. However, of these assets are restricted - £1,157,307. Within the unrestricted assets £447,500 relates to investment property, £100,000 relate to Church Halls and £481,251 is held in investments leaving approximately only £120,000 in unrestricted cash. While there is also approximately £138,000 of cash in funds restricted for use in the general running of some specific churches, the Trustees recognise that there is a potential on-going issue in ensuring that sufficient incoming resources are obtained to the cover expenditure in order to minimise the requirement to realise investments.

Reserves Policy

Although the charity has £2,307,204 of total funds, a large proportion are restricted and also tied up in investments. At the year end the charity therefore held approximately only £120,000 in cash which was freely available to meet on-going expenses, together with £84,000 available for specific churches compared to ongoing recurring costs of around £300,000 excluding large maintenance projects – approximately 4 months of available reserves. While there is on-going income, the charity intends to develop plans to hold sufficient cash reserves at any point in time to cover at least 6 months of recurring expenditure.

The charity is therefore seeking to improve its position as summarised below.

Plans For Future Periods

The Trustees recognise the need to improve the charity's on-going cash position.

The charity has recently put the Port Talbot property up for resale as the property has not generated significant income. However, the Trustees are aware that this may not improve the unrestricted cash position of the charity as the original funds used to purchase the property may entail restrictions and further investigation is on-going.

The Trustees recognise the difficulties of raising funds in a general atmosphere of declining Church attendance throughout the country, together with reduced number of available clergy to celebrate services. The Charity is developing plans to set up key targets for the future including average number of persons attending services, and average giving per member of congregation.

The Trustees are also however seeking to:

- improve giving, particularly regular giving which will also assist with gift aid reclaims. The Trustees recognise that declining church attendance over a number of years has reduced incoming funds and they are seeking to address this both by seeking to increase attendance, and also by encouraging the congregation to contribute more per individual where their personal resources together with more fundraising events
- reduce expenditure. A review of expenditure is being undertaken to centralise expenditure where appropriate particularly to determine whether any savings can be achieved from canal contracts.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Ministry Area is a charity registered with the Charities Commission. The Area is an amalgamation of local churches as part of the Diocese of Llandaff, part of the Anglican Province of the Church in Wales set up under the Welsh Churches Act 1914. The Churches are governed in accordance with the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

On 1 January 2022, the Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla were combined with the neighbouring parishes of All, Saints, Penyfai, St Crailos, Coychurch, St Davids, Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr to form a new Ministry Area under the charity registration of the Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds the land and property of the Church in Wales. They are an exempt charity set up under section 13(2) of the Welsh Churches Act. They act on behalf of the province in paying stipends and administering various aspects of central administration such as central investments.

The Ministry Area Council acts as both Parish Church Council and charity Trustees for the entire Ministry Area. It is not a body Corporate, so its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales.

The Ministry Area Council is responsible for ensuring that reviews of all major risks are conducted and that wherever possible systems have been established to mitigate risks. The risks facing the charity include the state of repair of the churches, graveyards and church halls. The Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient resources, including financial resources to achieve the Area's objectives.

The Ministry Area has identified safeguarding as a risk and has therefore adopted the Church in Wales safeguarding policy and has undertaken a number of training sessions.

Apart from The Ministry Area Leader, Lay Chair and Clergy, Trustees appointed on a voluntary basis to the Ministry Area Committee (MAC) with no time deadline set. Lay Chair is a selected position and has a term of service being 3 years.

The Trustees are appointed annually at the Annual Vestry Meeting or co-opted depending in their individual expertise.

The Ministry Area Council will be reviewing the training, including safeguarding training, facilities given to Trustees over the coming months to ensure that all members have sufficient support to fulfil their responsibilities.

The Trustees have appointed various sub-committees to handle different aspects of the charity administration. A finance sub-committee advises on finance matters, including the level of salary and remuneration for staff which is benchmarked externally for similar roles with minimum of the living wage being used.

The day-to-day management of the Area is undertaken by the Clergy Team led by Rev Maggie Thorne. The day-to-day administration is assisted by a Treasurer, who is employed by the Area and is not a Trustee, together with a number of salaried staff

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

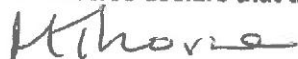
STATEMENT OF MINISTRY AREA COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act requires the Council to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which comply with the regulations made under the Act.

The Council is responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and contain entries showing from day to day all monies received, and monies expended by the charity and the matters in respect of which those transactions took place and also contain a record of the assets and liabilities of the charity. The law also sets out the responsibilities for the preparation and content of the Annual Report.

The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and ensuring their proper application under charity law and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above



Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Date

24/10/23

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 11 to 27.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts, and it is my responsibility to:

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, including extraordinary income, your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

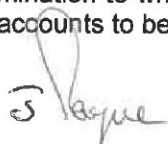
Accounts 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENYBONT AR OGWR MINISTRY AREA (continued)

The Ministry Area was set up via a combination of the existing Parish of Nolton, Coity and Brackla with the inclusion of a number of parishes of the Church in Wales in the local area. In doing so there are a number of historical financial records that needed clarifying and some of these are in the process of being investigated further. These include:

- the title and valuation of various properties to clarify the ownership and amounts to be included in the accounts as detailed in the fixed asset notes to the accounts.
- exact restrictions on a number of restricted funds within the Ministry Area as summarised in the reserves note to the accounts.

Except as noted above 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.



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Date: 24/10/2023

JE Payne ACA
ICAEW
Graham Paul Limited
Court House
Court Rd
Bridgend
CF31 1BE

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

		2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		(adjusted)	(adjusted)		(adjusted)	(adjusted)	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES	Note 1						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations, legacies and grants		130,771	63,716	194,487	48,421	-	48,421
Charitable activities		64,952	27,922	92,874	30,824	-	30,824
Investments		49,156	1,766	50,922	47,175	-	47,175
Other income		16,112	1,108	17,220	9,281	-	9,281
Total income		260,991	94,512	355,503	135,701	-	135,701
RESOURCES EXPENDED	2						
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities		(239,514)	(240,284)	(479,798)	(139,336)	(2,060)	(141,396)
Other expenditure		(10,309)	-	(10,309)	(3,061)	(750)	(3,811)
Total expenditure		(249,823)	(240,284)	(490,107)	(142,397)	(2,810)	(145,207)
Net income before investment gains/(losses)		11,168	(145,772)	(134,604)	(6,696)	(2,810)	(9,506)
Net gains/(losses) on investments:							
(Losses)/gains on revaluation of investments	11	(53,056)	(77,419)	(130,475)	90,426	53,834	144,260
Investment income re-invested		9,006	-	9,006	-	16,209	16,209
(Losses) on disposal of investments		-	(147)	(147)	-	-	-
Net (expense)/income before extraordinary items		(32,882)	(223,338)	(256,220)	83,730	67,233	150,963
Extraordinary income	1	-	615,820	615,820	-	-	-
NET INCOME AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(32,882)	392,482	359,600	83,730	67,233	150,963
Funds brought forward		1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424	1,100,039	696,422	1,796,461
Transfer between funds		(40,900)	40,900	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Funds carried forward		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022

		2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	Note	£	£	£	(adjusted) £	(adjusted) £	(adjusted) £
Fixed Assets							
Investment Properties	10	447,500	116,177	563,677	447,500	-	447,500
Tangible fixed assets	8	100,000	27,001	127,001	100,000	-	100,000
Investments	11	481,251	676,511	1,157,762	575,302	475,112	1,050,414
Total fixed assets		1,028,751	819,689	1,821,440	1,122,802	475,112	1,597,914
Current assets							
Cash at bank and in hand		120,010	337,348	457,358	102,107	248,543	350,650
Debtors	12	9,625	-	9,625	-	-	-
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year:	13	(8,399)	-	(8,399)	(1,140)	-	(1,140)
Net Current Assets		121,236	337,348	458,580	100,967	248,543	349,510
Net assets		1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Brought forward		1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424	1,100,039	696,432	1,796,471
Transfers (Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(40,900)	40,900	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Carried Forward	14	1,149,987	1,157,037	2,307,024	1,223,769	723,655	1,947,424
Restricted Funds are split between							
Endowment			455,954			453,978	
Other			701,353			269,677	
			<u>1,157,037</u>			<u>723,655</u>	

These financial statements were approved by the
Ministry Area Council on

24/10/23

Signed on their behalf by

H. Hone

Statement of Cashflows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net cash generated from operations *	8,916	(153,639)	(144,723)	24,705	(42,810)	(18,105)
Investing activities						
Cash derived from merger	-	307,243	307,243	-	-	-
Dividends received	8,329	327	8,656	8,675	-	8,675
Interest received	658	1,439	2,097	-	-	-
Investment Property additions	-	(116,177)	(116,177)	-	-	-
Proceeds on disposal of investments	-	49,612	49,612	-	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities	8,987	242,444	251,431	8,675	-	8,675
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	17,903	88,805	106,708	33,380	(42,810)	(9,430)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	102,107	248,543	350,650	68,727	291,353	360,080
Cash equivalent at end of year	120,010	337,348	457,358	102,107	248,543	350,650
Net income before investment gains/(loss)	11,168	(145,772)	(134,604)	(6,696)	(2,810)	(9,506)
Transfers	9,101	(9,101)	-	40,000	(40,000)	-
Depreciation	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Investment income	(8,987)	(1,766)	(10,753)	(8,675)	-	(8,675)
Movement on debtors/creditors	(2,366)	-	(2,366)	76	-	76
*Net cash generated from operations	8,916	(153,639)	(144,723)	24,705	(42,810)	(18,105)

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historic cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments to fair value in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'

As a charity, the church is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) within the meaning of FRS102.

The accounts presentation is in line with the requirements of the Annual Financial Return to Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. Some of these differ from the format and disclosure requirements of the SORP (FRS102) because, in the opinion of the PCC, the format adopted best represents the activities of the church.

The Ministry Area is a multi-church parish which comprised, at the beginning of 2022, the three churches of St Marys, Coity, Nolton and Brackla. On 1st January 2022, five additional churches – All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos, Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr, were also added to the charity which was renamed the Ministry Area.

The key accounting estimates used in the preparation of the accounts are:

- the estimated useful life of fixed assets
- recoverability of debts.

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that the charity will be able to continue its operations for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts and the trustees confirm that no material uncertainties relating to this position exist.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

Accruals accounting

All income is credited gross on the date on which it is received, or when it becomes due and can be reasonably estimated. All expenditure is fully accrued based on the date that the liability has arisen.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular specific purpose. Endowment funds are investments where capital is maintained, and income can be used in the parishes for the purposes specified by the original donors.

Investment Properties

Investment properties are originally included in the financial statements at cost including incidental costs such as professional fees. Investment properties are then revalued periodically to market value with gains and losses credited or charged to a revaluation reserve, classified as restricted or unrestricted according to the original nature of the funds used to acquire the property.

Church Land and Buildings

The land upon which all together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The Ministry Area pays for all maintenance expenses of the church halls, along with the maintenance of individual churches within the Area. Significant improvements for any buildings which are not consecrated, such as church halls, are capitalised as part of fixed assets. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes original purchase price plus any costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as and where intended.

Depreciation is provided at rates, in order to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is provided on:

- equipment at the annual rate of 15% and 25% reducing balance in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.
- leasehold improvements over 10 years from the date of the improvements completed.

Investment assets

Fixed asset investments in The Representative Body of the Church in Wales Common Investment Fund or other Charity Investment Vehicles are valued initially at original purchase cost and subsequently at their market value at the year end with any gains or losses going through the SOFA.

Amounts held at recognised UK banks are classified as cash at bank and in hand.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors are recognised and measured at cost with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

Cash

Cash consists of monies held in Banks by each of the Churches together with the Area plus, cash in hand at each of the individual churches plus funds held by the Representative Body in bank account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

INCOME

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it's more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The following specifies the policies applied and the main types of income that are included within the particular categories of incoming resources:

Collection

The Ministry Area received its main income from the Direct Giving of its Parishioners and there are three main categories of this direct income:

- Gift Aided envelope which is remitted either by the use of a specially designed red envelope at a Church Service offertory collection, by direct payment to the Benefice Covenant Secretary or credited direct by bank transfer to the Benefice Covenant Bank Account.
- Casual Gift Aided contributions which are enclosed in the newly designed envelopes, which are signed and handed in at a Church Service offertory collection.
- Cash - offertory collections at a Church Service.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the general income recognition criteria are met on a performance basis.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when the receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations, gifts and legacies

Gift aid receivable is included in income where there is a valid declaration from the donor and is recognised when the claim is successfully received. Any Gift Aid amount recovered is considered to be part of the original donation and as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Income from interest and dividends

The benefice has two main sources of investment income and is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount received can be measured reliably:

- Surplus cash resources are invested in Bank Deposits
- Trust Fund capital is invested in the Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. This is an income producing account with a Capital growth potential. The Benefice Churches involved received a quarterly income payment from the Representative Body.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustee's annual report.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis inclusive of VAT which is not recoverable as the organisation is not VAT registered.

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. The charity has creditors which are measured at the amounts due in settlement.

TAX

The charity is exempt from corporation tax.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Accounts 2022

1 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Donations and Legacies						
Planned Giving	83,420	325	83,745	32,687	-	32,687
Loose Collections	12,043	-	12,043	5,830	-	5,830
Tax Refunds (Gift Aid)	18,457	-	18,457	3,075	-	3,075
Donations	16,031	1,051	17,082	6,829	-	6,829
Legacies		118	118	-	-	-
Grants	820	62,222	63,042	-	-	-
	130,771	63,716	194,487	48,421	-	48,421
Charitable Activities						
Fees - Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings	13,781	5,337	19,118	5,729	-	5,729
- Hall hire	45,714	-	45,714	25,095	-	25,095
- Money Raising Events	5,457	22,585	28,042	-	-	-
	64,952	27,922	92,874	30,824	-	30,824
Income From Investments						
Investment Property Income	40,169	-	40,169	38,500	-	38,500
Fixed Asset Investment Income	8,329	327	8,656	8,675	-	8,675
Deposit Account Interest	658	1,439	2,097	-	-	-
	49,156	1,766	50,922	47,175	-	47,175
Other Income						
Other Incoming Resources	3,845	1,108	4,953	2,998	-	2,988
Covid related grant from Diocese	12,267	-	12,267	-	-	-
Covid related Government Grant	-	-	-	6,283	-	6,283
	16,112	1,108	17,220	9,271	-	9,271
Extraordinary Income						
Merger of Parishes	-	615,820	615,820	-	-	-
	-	615,820	615,820	-	-	-

Extraordinary Income

Extraordinary income relates to the integration of a number of parishes into the charity. The existing Parishes were joined on 1 January 2022 by the churches of All Saints Penyfai, St Crallos Coychurch, St Davids Laleston, St Iltyds Newcastle and St Teilos Merthyr Mawr. At 1 January 2022 the net funds in each of the parishes were transferred as restricted funds to the combined Ministry Area. These opening funds are then being applied, either in line with individual restrictions from the original donor, or for use in the general expenditure of the specific church, including contributions to the parish share.

The transfers were:

	£
All Saints, Penyfai	187,597
St Crallos, Coychurch	61,524
St Davids, Laleston	72,202
St Iltyds, Newcastle	138,504
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	155,993
	615,820

2 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Charitable Activities Expenditure						
Support for Ministry including parish share	84,366	81,045	165,411	89,698	-	89,698
Ministry Area parish share rebate	(12,939)	-	(12,939)	(40,319)	-	(40,319)
Maintenance of Services	5,859	-	5,859	-	2,060	2,060
General Parish Expenses	75,939	883	76,822	39,142	-	39,142
Maintenance of Churches	44,029	3,199	47,228	20,897	-	20,897
Maintenance of Property	36,937	152,157	189,094	29,918	-	29,918
Mission (Donations)	2,323	3,000	5,323	-	-	-
Depreciation	3,000	-	3,000	-	-	-
	239,514	240,284	479,798	139,336	2,060	141,396
Other Expenditure						
Legal and Professional	10,309	-	10,309	3,061	750	3,811

3 MAINTENANCE OF MINISTRY AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

To fund the provision of Ministry, the Ministry pays a "Parish Share" to the Diocese. This Parish Share was split and allocated between each church as agreed within the Area.

The total charge for Parish Share for the Area was £154,491 (2021 - £84,944).

During the year the area received a rebate for the parish share from the diocese of £12,939 (2021 - £40,319).

The total amount outstanding from the area to the diocese at the year end was £Nil (2021 Nil).

4 MISSION

The Ministry Area recognises that an important part of its Christian Stewardship is to financially support the work of Church Missions, Christian Charities, Social and Emergency appeals. The amounts paid out for mission and charity donations in the year totalled £5,323.

5 LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL

Amounts included in the accounts due to Independent Examiners, including VAT, for:

Independent Examination	£3,600	(2021 – £3,061)
Accounting	£3,600	(2021 – £Nil).

6 CLERICS AND TRUSTEES TRANSACTIONS

The Ministry Area pays the cost of all expenses incurred by the Church in Wales Clerics and Church Wardens in the performance of their Parish duties. The amounts paid to Clerics were £7,809 (2021 - £4,704), including £525 of baptism, funeral and wedding fees and £508 for re-imbursement of water rates, electricity and gas to 5 individuals. Comparative figures are not available. No amounts were paid to vergers in the period. The amounts paid to vergers totalled £Nil (2021 - Nil).

Other trustees received expenses totalling £Nil (2021 - £Nil) for reimbursement of expenses incurred relating to the general running and administrative costs of the charity.

Other than detailed above, the Area does not pay any remuneration to the Church in Wales Clerics. The clergy team, including the Dean, are remunerated by the Llandaff Diocesan Board of Finance. No payments were made to other Trustees for remuneration.

Some trustees give anonymously to the charity via the weekly church collections. Specific donations from trustees with conditions attached totalled £1,000 (2021 - £Nil) which are included in the restricted fund income for use in the maintenance and renovation of church buildings.

7 WAGES AND SALARIES

During the year the area employed 4 (2021 – 3) part time employees at a total cost of £42,635 (2021- £28,270). The total cost included £1,862 of employer's national insurance costs and £326 of employer's contributions to personal pension schemes. The is estimated equivalent 2 full time employees (2021 - 2).

A trustee resigned in the period to accept a paid role within the Ministry Area, and their costs are included above.

No employees earned over £60,000 (2021 - Nil).

8 OTHER INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income includes government grants of:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Central government grants	-	6,283
Other government grants	37,837	-

Total grants including the above of £88,312 (2021 - £6,283) were received in the year, of which £59,584 (2021 - £Nil) related to work done on St Teilos Church and surrounding grounds.

9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Property</u>	<u>Leasehold Improvements</u>	<u>2022 Total</u>	<u>2021 Total</u>
	£	£	£	£
Cost Brought Forward				-
Adjustments	100,000	-	100,000	100,000
Adjusted cost brought forward	100,000	-	100,000	100,000
Merger	1	30,000	30,001	-
Depreciation in year	-	(3,000)	(3,000)	-
Total	100,001	27,000	127,001	100,000

The land upon which all together with the contents of the churches, most of the Area church halls and the parsonages, are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. As these, nor their contents, are vested in the Ministry Area they do not appear in the accounts of the Ministry Area.

The following properties are however potentially believed to be held for the benefit of the Ministry Area:

Nolton Rectory and Church Hall

The beneficial ownership of this land and property is currently being determined. It is currently understood that the parish is not the beneficial owner of the properties and therefore no amounts are included in the accounts in relation to these buildings, although shown in the prior year accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £638,000. Estimates of the current valuation are significantly lower than this original cost.

Coity Church Hall

The original cost of this property cannot be fully determined, although shown in the prior year accounts - in the notes to, but not the Statement of Financial Affairs, at a cost of £507,168. Due to the uncertainty surrounding these cost amounts Coity Church Hall is included in the accounts at valuation for balance sheet purposes at £100,000. The valuation was undertaken by Watts & Morgan, Chartered Surveyors in accordance with RICS valuation rules effective as at 31 December 2022 as a freehold property.

Laleston Church Hall

Laleston Church Hall is held by the Representative Body of the Church in Wales as custodian trustee for The Ministry Area under terms of a 999 Year Lease which include covenants that render the Lease valueless to the Ministry Area under the required RICS assumptions as to balance sheet values.

Leasehold Improvements to the property at an apportioned estimated cost of £30,000 were made prior to the merger.

10 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Brought Forward	-	-
Adjustments	447,500	447,500
Adjusted cost brought forward	<u>447,500</u>	<u>447,500</u>
Additions	116,177	-
Total	<u>553,677</u>	<u>447,500</u>

Leominster Property was purchased in 2015 for £442,026. In the opinion of the trustees the current valuation of the property is £447,500. The Ministry Area is currently in the process of agreeing a new lease with the current tenants of the property and after completion of these negotiations a revised revaluation will be obtained.

Port Talbot Property was purchased during the year and is therefore included at cost which also represents the trustees estimate of market value at the year end. The proceeds used to acquire the property are believed to be restricted – although further clarification is being sort and therefore this property is classified as restricted.

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

The long-term investment of the Ministry Area consists of monies that have been donated or bequeathed to the Benefice and/or one of its churches by parishioners and also Stock issued by the Governing Body of the Church of Wales under the Tithe Act. The use to which some of these capital and income items may be put is restricted to the specific terms of the individual Trust Deed.

The majority of this money is under the control of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales in its capacity as the Special Trustee of all the Deeds and is invested by the Representative Body in its Common Investment Fund, which is a Managed Fund under its supervision.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

Shares No	2021 Market Value £	Fund	Merger No	Value At Transfer £	Purchase/ Disposals No	Shares No	2022 Market Value £
Held at Representative Body – Common Investment Fund							
Ministry Area Religious purpose in general but primarily for the use in Coity and Nolton Parish							
387,800	907,956	- Capital	-	-	23,677	411,477	862,291
11,472	26,859	- Accumulated income	-	-	11,974	23,446	49,133
-	71,565	- Cash for re-investment	-	-	-	-	5,284
9,781	22,900	Legacy held for religious purposes	-	-	-	9,781	20,497
St Iltyds, Church, Newcastle							
		Maintenance of graveyard	4,008	9,384	-	4,008	8,399
St Crallo's, Coychurch							
		Maintenance of Graveyard	106	248	(106)	-	-
		Maintenance of Memorial Tablets	100	234	(100)	-	-
		Maintenance of Church and Churchyard	545	1,276	(545)	-	-
		General church purposes Maintenance of Church and Churchyard,	2,976	6,967	-	2,976	6,237
		Maintenance of West Memorial Window					
		- Capital	1,154	2,702	-	1,154	2,418
		- Accumulated income	3,501	8,196	-	3,501	7,337
		- Cash for re-investment	-	136	-	-	136
All Saints, Penyfai							
		Maintenance of Church Buildings					
		- Capital	15,863	37,140	-	15,863	33,242
		- Accumulated income	37,777	88,447	-	37,777	79,165
		- Cash for re-investment	-	1,908	-	-	1,908
		Maintenance of Churchyard	2,373	5,556	-	2,373	4,973
St Davids, Laleston							
		Chancel repair fund					
		- Capital	614	1,437	-	614	1,285
		- Accumulated income	705	1,651	-	705	1,477
		- Cash for re-investment		163	-	-	163
1,029,280		Sub-total		165,445			1,083,945
Held at Church							
		St Marys, Coity					
21,134		Maintenance of graveyard – COIF Charities Investment Fund		-			18,677
		St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr		113,131			55,140
		LGT investment fund					
21,134		Sub Total		113,131			73,817
1,050,414		Totals		278,576			1,157,762

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

11 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (continued)

	Ministry Area	Coity	Newcastle	Coychurch	Penyfai	Laleston	Merthyr Mawr	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
At 1 January – original	487,550	10,676	-	-	-	-	-	498,226
Prior year adjustments								
- Reclassification	71,565	-	-	-	-	-	-	71,565
- Revaluation	470,165	10,458	-	-	-	-	-	480,623
At 1 January – as adjusted	1,029,280	21,134	-	-	-	-	-	1,050,414
Merger	-	-	9,384	19,759	133,051	3,251	113,131	278,576
Income retained in portfolio	9,006	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,006
Disposals	-	-	-	(1,759)	-	-	-	(1,759)
Revaluation	(101,081)	(2,457)	(985)	(1,872)	(13,763)	(326)	(9,991)	(130,475)
Capital transfer to Parish	-	-	-	-	-	-	(48,000)	(48,000)
	937,205	18,677	8,399	16,128	119,288	2,925	55,140	1,157,712
Restricted See Note 14	-	18,677	8,399	16,128	119,288	2,925	55,140	220,546
Restricted Endowment	455,954	-	-	-	-	-	-	455,954
Unrestricted See Note 14	481,251	-	-	-	-	-	-	481,251
	937,205	18,677	8,399	16,128	119,288	2,925	55,140	1,157,712

Movement:

	Brought Forward	Reclass	Reval	Adjusted Brought Forward	Merger	Income	Transfer to Parish	Use of funds	Sales	Reval	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Restricted	251,951	(241,575)	10,758	21,134	278,576	-	(48,000)	-	(1,759)	(29,394)	220,546
Restricted - endowment	-	241,575	212,403	453,978				50,000	-	(48,024)	455,954
Total Restricted	251,951	-	223,161	475,112	278,576		(48,000)		(1,759)	(77,418)	676,122
Unrestricted	246,275	71,565	257,462	575,302	-	9,006	-	(50,000)	-	(53,057)	481,251
Total	498,226	71,565	480,623	1,050,414	278,576	9,096	(48,000)	-	(1,759)	(130,475)	1,157,712

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

12 DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors (rent due)	<u>9,625</u>	<u>-</u>

Other debtors are classed as unrestricted.

13 CREDITORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals	7,561	1,140
Other creditors including tax and social security	838	-
	<u>8,399</u>	<u>1,140</u>

Other creditors are classed as unrestricted.

MINISTRY AREA PENYBONT AR OGWR

Accounts 2022

14 RESERVES

The Ministry Area aims to be at least break-even in future years so that its reserves are maintained so that fixed asset investments are only drawn down for major capital expenditure.

	1 Jan 2022 £	Adjust £	Adjusted 1 Jan 2022 £	Merger £	Additions/ (Disposals) £	Net Income /(Expenditure) £	31 Dec 2022 £
Restricted							
Fixed Assets							
Investment Property	-	-	-	-	116,177	-	116,177
Tangible fixed assets - property St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	30,001	-	(3,000)	27,001
Investments							
Religious Purposes for Coity and Nolton parishes - endowment	241,275	212,703	453,978	-	50,000	(48,024)	455,954
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings:							
St Marys, Coity	10,676	10,458	21,134	-	-	(2,457)	18,677
St llyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	9,384	-	(985)	8,399
St Crallos, Coychurch	-	-	-	19,759	(1,759)	(1,872)	16,128
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	133,051	-	(13,763)	119,288
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	3,251	-	(326)	2,925
For use in parish							
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	113,131	(48,000)	(9,991)	55,140
Total Investments	251,951	223,161	475,112	278,576	241	(77,418)	676,511
Cash							
Brackla, Coity and Nolton parishes	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	-	(116,177)	(8,254)	124,112
Maintenance of churchyard and buildings							
St llyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	1,259	-	2,846	4,105
St Crallos, Newcastle	-	-	-	28,896	-	1,028	29,924
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	6,861	-	(6,209)	652
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	970	-	(970)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	33,228	49,759	(29,952)	53,035
Other specific purposes within parish							
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	17,900	-	(10,892)	7,008
Transfer of opening balances for use on parish expenditure							
St llyds, Newcastle	-	-	-	127,862	-	(41,470)	86,392
St Crallos, Newcastle	-	-	-	12,867	-	(12,867)	-
All Saints, Penyfai	-	-	-	47,686	-	(18,991)	28,695
St Davids, Laleston	-	-	-	20,080	-	(20,080)	-
St Teilos, Merthyr Mawr	-	-	-	9,634	-	(6,209)	3,425
Total Cash	320,108	(71,565)	248,543	307,243	(66,418)	(152,020)	337,348
Total Restricted	572,059	151,596	723,655	615,820	50,000	(232,438)	1,157,037
Unrestricted							
Investment property	-	447,500	447,500	-	-	-	447,500
Tangible fixed assets - property	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Investments	246,275	329,027	575,302	-	(50,000)	(44,051)	481,251
Cash	102,107	-	102,107	-	-	17,903	120,010
Debtors/creditors	(1,140)	-	(1,140)	-	-	2,366	1,226
Total unrestricted	347,242	876,527	1,223,769	-	(50,000)	(23,782)	1,149,987
Total	919,301	1,028,123	1,947,424	615,820	-	(256,220)	2,307,024

The restrictions regarding the investment property and cash held in Brackla, Coity, Nolton and St Teilos are under investigation to determine their exact nature from the original source of the funding.

Transfers of £50,000 represent use of unrestricted investment funds held by the Representative Body to purchase restricted endowments funds. This is offset by transfer of £9,100 spending from restricted funds resulting in a net transfer in the Statement of Financial Activities of £40,900.

15 PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS

Adjustments have been made to the comparative figures for the year ended 31 December 2021. These adjustments have been included to account for:

- fixed asset properties and investment properties not included in the opening balance sheet - although disclosed in the notes to the accounts;
- fixed asset investments originally shown at cost, adjusted to market value;
- the original accounts included a receipts and payments account rather than a Statement of Financial Activities prepared on an accruals basis as now required due to the size of the charity in the current year. Therefore, net costs incurred but not paid at the year-end have been included in the comparatives to reconcile the financial position at the year-end;
- reclassification between restricted and unrestricted funds to clarify position.

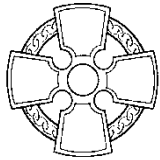
Statement of Financial Position

	Original	Reclassification	Property	Investment Market Value	Adjusted
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	100,000	-	100,000
Investment Properties	-	-	447,500	-	447,500
Investments	498,226	71,565	-	480,623	1,050,414
Cash	422,215	(71,565)	-	-	350,650
Creditors due within one year	(1,140)	-	-	-	(1,140)
	919,301	-	547,500	480,623	1,947,424
<i>Funds</i>					
Restricted	572,059	(71,565)	-	223,161	723,655
Unrestricted	347,242	71,565	547,500	257,462	1,223,769
	919,301	-	547,500	480,623	1,947,424

Statement of Financial Activities

	Original	Parish Share Rebate	Investment Income	Accruals	Revaluation in year	Adjusted
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income	192,229	(40,319)	(16,209)	-	-	135,701
Expenditure	(185,459)	40,319	-	(67)	-	(145,207)
	6,770	-	(16,209)	(67)	-	(9,506)
Investment Income	-	-	16,209	-	-	16,209
Gains on revaluation of investments	-	-	-	-	144,260	144,260
	6,770	-	-	(67)	144,260	150,963

Accounts



THE CHURCH IN WALES
YR EGLWYS YNG NGHYMRU

Annual Vestry Report

For year ended
31st December 2021



PARISH OF
COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA

Parish Mission Prayer

***Father, pour out your Spirit
Upon the people of this parish,
and grant us
a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power,
a new faithfulness to your word,
and a new consecration
to your service,
that your love
may grow among us
and your kingdom come;
through Jesus Christ,
our Lord. Amen.***

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PCC Report and Financial Statements for the year ended December 31st 2021

Introduction

The last 2 years as a Parish, as for everybody has been anything but normal .

The AVM in 2020 was not held until November when it had been agreed by the Bench of Bishops of Church in Wales could be held as online meetings. The 2021 AVM has been delayed due to Independent Examiner not completing the Financial Report. The new PCC and Officers will be elected to serve until the end of 2021 when the Parish will become part of the new Ministry Area. Meetings continued to be held online throughout the year.

Electoral Roll renewal planned for 2020 has been delayed until 2022 , (next renewal will be in 2027) when members will be enrolled on the new Ministry Area Electoral roll . Ministry Area Transition team will continue to plan the migration to the new Ministry Area at the beginning of 2022. There has already been a great deal of cooperation across the Parishes to develop the Ministry Area team and I'm sure we all look forward to Building God's Kingdom together in the Ministry area of Penybont ar Ogwr

Annual Vestry Report by the Vicar

As you'll appreciate, there's little to report since our last AVM. Tonight's report instead serves as an end statement of where we're at as we bring the parish system to a close in **this** parish and look forward to a new way of being Church with excitement, sadness and trepidation in equal measure.

The September 2010 meeting of the Governing Body of the Church in Wales concluded that she 'cannot go on doing the same things in the same way; some things need to change and we are open to – and indeed encourage – that possibility". Following this, the former Bishop of Oxford, Richard Harris was asked to lead a review group with the aim of gathering and assimilating information about the state of the Church, then provide independent advice on how the Church might reshape itself to be more effective in the 21st Century.

I've said it many times, but I'll say it again, 'If you always do what you've always done, then you'll always get what you've always got.' Unfortunately, this has meant decline in both church attendance and in vocations to the priesthood.

11 years later, Covid has not been kind to the Church either, and although congregations are gradually returning to our churches, there are many who remain fearful of venturing out. Sadly, many of the elderly haven't wanted to engage in online services either, resulting in what seems to be radical pruning. If you've ever had to do that, it's a very scary business.

We once had a healthy rubber tree at home. After not properly looking after it - it **was** watered, but maybe too much or too little - we decided to cut it back to the base and get rid of all the straggly bits and dying, rotting leaves and see what would happen. Being non-gardeners, we then put it outside where we promptly forgot all about it. But nature has a way of surviving. Months later we came upon the pot again and were delighted to see that new, glossy leaves were emerging. We nurtured it a bit better after that and it just kept on growing. Today it barely fits in our dining room and could actually do with another pruning session.

I say this to encourage us not to fall into the trap which is functional atheism. We say we believe in God who is Almighty, but actually, if we doubt that the Church will survive her time of pruning, then we're really saying that God is not almighty at all. In the words of the hymn, 'Ponder anew what the Almighty can do!'

Many of the plans made for re-engaging our schools and developing our social action have had to be shelved, postponed or re-thought over the last 18 months, but in spite of that, new green shoots are appearing. It's early days, but Forest Church is becoming a viable, although different way of worshipping, and nearly all the churches in the new Ministry Area are being represented. Nolton is especially enjoying a tidal wave of baptisms, although it remains to be seen how those connections made might be developed. Similarly, weddings don't seem to be going out of fashion, so we need to discern together what can be done to keep people involved when they approach us. How we can actually look outwards is still going to be challenging as the pandemic continues. I'm hoping that the PCC will devolve to successful local committees where each church takes more responsibility in realising the Diocesan vision and learns how to do this in unique ways. Perhaps that will mean Coity putting all its efforts and support into the Sunday Club, Nolton embracing what a town centre church of the 21st century looks like, Brackla finding new ways to make **its** mark on our school and local community. Let's all think out of the box, be bold and try new things, whilst at the same time treasuring our traditional services and making them gleam like the jewels we all know them to be for new congregations.

Personally, I'm more excited by the move to Ministry Areas than I am either saddened or terrified, but I've had my moments. Being a Vocations Adviser for the Diocese puts me in a privileged and happy position to see just a little way into the future. Maybe there aren't so many people being called to ordained ministry, but some are, so this would suggest that there **will** be a church for those who God has called to minister in beyond next year.

So the end has come but I hope that you'll all continue to be as involved as you always have been. Thank you for serving this Parish by giving of your time, skills and considerable experience and thank you to those others, not here this evening, who have served so faithfully over the years. I look forward to seeing our congregations and the whole of the new Ministry Area grow in faith, fellowship and number, and I look forward to seeing **your** ministries go from strength to strength.

Annual Vestry Meeting 2020 Minutes

Annual Vestry Meeting 2021

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 10th May 2021 at 1930 online by Zoom Video conferencing

Apologies: John Dixon, Mari Dixon, , Barrie Williams, Gloria Williams, Rev Ceri Holloway

The meeting was opened with prayer and Introduction by Vicar , Rev Maggie Thorne

1. Apologies received were read by Secretary
2. Rev Maggie Thorne was in the Chair and warmly welcomed everyone to the AVM 2021 reminding those present that we will be moving from the current Parish system to Ministry Areas by the end of this year ,Any concerns should be addressed to Vicar or the local church representatives on the Ministry Area Transition team , Gaynor Coles (Brackla) , Andrew Dix (Nolton) and Stuart Davidson (Coity). It is expected that local church committees would be formed before the end of the year.
3. Minutes of previous Annual Vestry Meeting as published in Annual report were received by the AVM and accepted as a true record
4. The Annual Report had been issued in preparation for the AVM before lockdown, and this meeting was considering that report which was for Jan-Dec 2019. Thanks to those who had submitted reports on Parish groups and activities. Rev Maggie Thorne read the Annual Vestry report as published. It is with regret that Huw Jones will be withdrawing from public ministry. A gift has been presented to Huw on behalf of the Parish.

Rev Canon Tim Jones , Diocesan Director of Ministry and Discipleship, will be taking an active part in Parish Ministry when his diocesan duties allow.

5. The Annual Financial report and accounts had been prepared by treasurer Sandra Arnott and audited by Richard Knoyle as Independent Examiner. Thanks to Sandra for all her work on accounts over the year

The annual accounts were accepted as presented .

6. Gaynor Coles was appointed Rector's Warden
7. Andrew Dix was elected People's Warden
8. Fred Custerson was appointed Sub Warden at Coity
9. Nader Omidvar was elected Sub Warden at Coity
10. Ian Hartley-Brown was elected Sub Warden at Nolton
11. Rebecca Dowlman was appointed Sub Warden at Nolton
12. There were vacancies for elected and appointed Subwarden at Brackla
13. There was no ballot for PCC members as there were only 15 nominations , all were declared elected:
Philippa Coulson, Gareth Daniel, Stuart Davidson, Janice Dowlman, Ann Elward, Alexis Frew, Ian Hibble, Christine Judd, Chris Merkins, Ann Parfitt, Dr Susy Rogers, Malcolm Short, Paul Smith, Aeron John Williams, Allan Dowlman

14. All Sidespersons currently appointed were re-appointed
15. Richard Knoyle ACA FCCA , had taken on the role of Independent Examiner of Accounts from Alwyn Thomas. Meeting agreed to request re-appointment of of Richard Knoyle as Independent Examiner
16. AOB –.

New PCC members agreed to appointment of Stuart Davidson as PCC Secretary and Sandra Arnott as Treasurer

Dr Susy Rogers congratulated Nolton on receiving Bronze Eco-Church Award

The meeting was declared Closed at 20:15 with the Grace.

Achievements and Activities

Fabric Committee – 2020

Rolling Programme

Completed on the schedules were the annual service contracts for both Churches and halls as follows: Fire alarms, fire extinguishers, gas boilers, gas cooker together with certificates, lightning conductor tests with certificates, grass cutting, portable electrical testing, emergency lighting testing, empty cess pit Coity hall, Coity clock servicing, organ servicing, graveyard Safety inspection Coity and Nolton.

Remedial work

Coity Church

Cleaned out gutters. Boiler control replaced. Fractured Concrete on RSJ repaired. Replaced Flag pole pulley, Organ light replaced, Moss control tarmac paths, Organ repaired, Tower pointing samples taken, Repaired/replaced broken or missing slates on rear shed. repaired fallen gutters and sealed joints on Nave roof gutters. Hire of Tower. Replaced rotten fascia with UPVC on Meter Shed

Nolton Church

Outstanding due to COVID-19. Slipped Slate Nave roof, painting boarding around Boiler Flues (Faculty requirement), clean out the guttering. All this high level work completed. Replaced Vestry carpet, Purchase of new battery powered lawn mower, Church yard yew tree report and maintenance works. New curtains for West door. Organ loft roof ridge tiles replaced.

Coity Hall.

Replace luminaire, Repair and redecorate Kitchen, entrance Porch, Cloakroom and Toilets. Two new children's toilets. Repoint external Stonework. Redecorate Main hall. Fence Repaired. Gutters cleaned out.

Nolton Hall

Two new replacement Fire doors. Two floodlights replaced. luminaire replaced

F.G.Custerson

Chairman and External Decoration.

Fred Custerson Chairman

Finance Report 2021

The Income and Expenditure as at 31/12/2021 was down by £2584 compared to 31/12/2020.

Overall the main areas where there was a significant reduction in income was in income received from giving and HMRC gift aid refund. However the loss was greatly offset by the increase in One-off donations, Hall rental and Parish Share refunds. I think Allie and Fred should be thanked for all the hard work they put in to rental of the halls at Nolton and Coity to generate income for the benefit of the Benefice.

During 2021 apart from fixed monthly expenditure costs we were able to carry out numerous repair and maintenance works at Nolton and Coity Churches, Halls and Graveyards. Rising inflation costs remain and we are still coming through the Covid 19 situation.

Taking all factors into account for the year 2021 we came out in credit by approx. £8500.

The purchase of a property at 4 Nolton Place, Bridgend was withdrawn because of legalities. The purchase of the property at 12 Villiers Street, Port Talbot is almost at completion and the vendor has been assured

of a shorthold tenancy on completion which will then yield rental income . The RB are to approach the selling Estate agents Payton Jewell Caines at Port Talbot to act as letting Agents .

Income arising on legacies held in the RB has been paid into the General fund or reinvested in compliance with the terms and conditions of those legacies

Sandra Arnott Treasurer

Description of the Parish

The Parish is part of the Town of Bridgend, together with its adjoining areas of Wildmill, Litchard, the Village of Coity and Brackla. It is part of the Deanery of Bridgend, which is within the Diocese of Llandaff and the Province of the Church in Wales. The Parish is a Registered Charity – 1135927.

The Parish together with the neighbouring parish of Coychurch forms a Benefice which is a member of the Area Ministry team of Bridgend, which is developing shared resources in the area.

Following the Diocesan Conference the plans to move to Ministry Areas were revived and plans started to create the Bridgend Ministry Area comprising the Parishes of Coity, Nolton & Brackla, Coychurch, Newcastle, Laleston with Merthyr Mawr and Penyfai. Rev Maggie Thorne was appointed as Ministry Area Leader and a transition team to complete the move to Ministry Area by the end of 2021 has been put in place.

Dedication of Churches

The Parish Church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin and is situated in the Village of Coity.

The daughter Church is also dedicated to St. Mary and is situated very close to the Town Centre in the area of the Town known as Nolton.

The third Church, also dedicated to St. Mary, is situated within the Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School, on the Brackla Estate.

Objectives

The Church in Wales is a Province within the Anglican Communion and as such has the task of advancing the Christian Religion, through worldwide Mission. The Parochial Church Council is required to ensure that the life and work of the churches within their Parish is fulfilled both locally and further afield.

The PCC is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are set out and regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales. This is amended from time to time to keep pace with changing times. It is set up under Section 3(1) of the Welsh Churches Acts of 1914. Elections to serve on the Parochial Church Council take place at the Annual Vestry Meeting.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds lands and property, which includes the churches of Coity and Nolton, their contents and churchyards. It also acts on behalf of the Province for paying stipends to full time clergy.

The PCC is responsible for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, all expenditure, the care and maintenance of church fabric and churchyards and also for acting on any matter referred to in the Constitution. The Council is the normal channel of communication between parishioners and the Bishop of the Diocese.

With regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the advancement of religion, we try to enable people in our communities to live out their faith as part of our parish through: worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge, faith and trust in Jesus; providing pastoral care for the people of the parish; and engaging in missionary and outreach work. To facilitate this work we consider it vital that we maintain the fabric of our three churches and two church halls.

There is also a greater emphasis in managing and protecting the Environment which the Parish has been actively engaged in building eco-friendly policies.

Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Maggie Thorne, The Rectory, Merthyr Mawr Road North, Bridgend CF31 3NH
Ministerial Team	From Feb 2020 Revd Chris Robinson - Associate Priest From 1/6/2020 Revd Ceri Holloway -Deacon Readers – Dr J Dixon, Mr H Jones, Mrs C Judd, Mr P Craven
Independent Examiner	Richard Knoyle ACA FCCA , Chartered Accountant, BTP Bridgend Ltd, 1 Heol-Mostyn, Village Farm Ind. Est., Pyle CF33 6BJ (Assisted by John & Glenys O’Leary, c/o the Parish Office)
Bankers	H.S.B.C. Bank Plc, 13 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
Professional Advisers	Davies Sutton Architects: Penhevad Studios, Penhevad Street, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF11 7LU

Members of the Parochial Church Council for 2020/2021

Clergy:	Rev Maggie Thorne , Associate Priest Rev Chris Robinson, Deacon Rev Ceri Holloway (from June 2020)
Ex Officio:	Gaynor Coles, Fred Custerson, Andrew Dix, Rebecca Dowlman, Hollie Evans, Nader Omidvar, ,Ian Hartley-Brown,
Elected:	Philippa Coulson, Gareth Daniel, Stuart Davidson, Janice Dowlman, Ann Elward, Alexis Frew, Ian Hibble, Christine Judd, Chris Merkins, Ann Parfitt, Dr Susy Rogers, Mal Short, Paul Smith, Aeron Williams, Allan Dowlman
Co-opted:	Sandra Arnott
PCC Secretary	Stuart Davidson
Churchwardens	Gaynor Coles (Rector’s Warden) Andrew Dix (People’s Warden)
Sub Wardens	Fred Custerson, Nader Omidvar (Coity), Rebecca Dowlman, Ian Hartley-Brown (Nolton) vacant (Brackla)
Parish Treasurer	Sandra Arnott
Safeguarding Officer	Paul Smith
Health & Safety Officers	Fred Custerson (Coity), Paul Smith (Nolton Church)

Organisation of Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council is at present organised into sub committees, which carry out the duties and business assigned to it by the parent body. All the deliberations and recommendations of the Sub Committees are brought back to the PCC for ratification and/or authorisation. Membership of the sub committees is decided at the first full meeting of the PCC after the Annual Vestry Meeting, each year. From February 2020 it was not possible to hold meetings face to face. Meetings were held online using Zoom Video conferencing when the technology was accepted and approved. Due to the delay in holding

AVM the PCC was not re-elected until November 2020. There were 6 full meetings of the PCC held during 2020 and 6 meetings of Standing Committee.

Finance Sub Committee

The Committee prepares budgets for the forthcoming year and keeps a watching brief on all income and expenditure throughout the year. It also prepares budgetary advice on specific items referred to it by the PCC. The Parish Treasurer presents a written financial report to the PCC at each meeting.

Fabric Sub Committee

The Committee normally meets prior to each PCC meeting. Its business, like all sub committees, is minute and presented for approval by the parent body. It is authorised to spend up to £1000 on urgent items, without further approval by the PCC. The Committee has a pro-active concern for the fabric of the churches, churchyards, church halls, boundary walls and houses of the assistant clergy. It also considers in detail and prepares budgets for items referred to it by the PCC. Under the guidance of its chairman it also ensures a prompt response to all recommendations resulting from Quinquennial Inspections.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll had been due for renewal in 2020 before the Annual Vestry Meeting. Forms had been distributed and some returned but due to restrictions in place the Church in Wales directed that renewal of the Electoral roll should be postponed with a plan to renew towards the end of 2021 to prepare for the new Ministry Area.

Parish Sunday Services

The regular Sunday schedule of services was in place until restrictions were implemented during March 2020. Initially churches were closed, then for a period reopened for private prayer. Limited Services were restarted for a period after a risk assessment, with limited numbers of recorded participants and special procedures for Eucharist, and no music. A programme of online services throughout the week was developed with additional services at Festival times – (e.g. Christmas)

Benefice Online services:

Sunday	9.00 Sunday Zoom Eucharist
	10.30 Sunday Zoom Worship
	7.00pm Zoom Evensong
Every weekday	8am Morning Prayer
	7pm Evening Prayer

Financial Report

Auditor's report and financial report is available as a separate document

PARISH OF COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
RECEIPTS				
Planned Direct Giving				
Gift Aid - Nolton	13,610	-	13,610	13,673
Gift Aid - Coity	14,318	-	14,318	15,227
Gift Aid -Brackla	2,880	-	2,880	2,200
Gift Aid - Other	20	-	20	920
Direct Giving	3,780	-	3,780	3,770
Planned Giving - Nolton (SDGAS)	756	-	756	1,514
Planned Giving - Coity (SDGAS)	724	-	724	1,582
Planned Giving - Brackla (SDGAS)	380	-	380	39
Other Offerings & Collections	2,050	-	2,050	359
One Off Gift Aid	6,829	-	6,829	994
Total Planned Direct Giving	45,346	-	45,346	40,278
Indirect Giving				
Gift Aid Tax Refunds	3,075	-	3,075	18,600
Gifts and Legacies	-	-	-	1,000
Investment Income	8,675	16,209	24,884	8,995
Churchyard Accounts	108	-	108	-
Special Collections	348	-	348	-
Wedding Fees	1,828	-	1,828	1,573
Funeral Fees	3,901	-	3,901	1,309
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme Grant	6,283	-	6,283	5,677
Events	-	-	-	1,117
Parish Share Refunds	40,319	-	40,319	41,576
Miscellaneous Refunds	-	-	-	1,181
Miscellaneous Receipts	2,512	-	2,512	715
Vergering Duties	30	-	30	90
Total Indirect Direct Giving	67,079	16,209	83,288	81,833
Parish Organisations				
Mothers' Union	-	-	-	2,573
Total Parish Organisations	-	-	-	2,573
Rents and Hire Income				
Leominster	38,500	-	38,500	36,094
Coity Hall	9,319	-	9,319	6,751
Nolton Hall	11,726	-	11,726	5,957
Nolton Car Park	4,050	-	4,050	3,743
Total Rents and Hire Income	63,595	-	63,595	52,545
TOTAL RECEIPTS	176,020	16,209	192,229	177,229

PARISH OF COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
PAYMENTS				
Parish Payments				
Parish Share	84,944	-	84,944	85,533
Fee Share	-	-	-	86
Parochial Expenses for Clerics	4,754	-	4,754	3,996
Total Parish Payments	89,698	-	89,698	89,615
Maintenance of Buildings & Churchyard Payments				
Rates	2,729	-	2,729	2,724
Heating, Lighting, Cleaning & Water	9,477	-	9,477	11,773
Insurance	6,291	-	6,291	6,122
Repairs & Renewals	24,266	-	24,266	13,589
Churchyard maintenance	5,652	-	5,652	2,840
Choir, Junior Church, Organs & Organists	2,401	-	2,401	1,367
Total Maintenance of Buildings & Churchyard Payments	50,815	-	50,815	38,415
Administration payments				
Printing & Stationery	1,789	-	1,789	1,800
Office Running Costs	1,976	-	1,976	2,374
Cleaning Materials	2,593	-	2,593	4,247
Vestry/Liturgy Costs	-	-	-	6
Alter Requisites	-	-	-	662
Costs of Fundraising	-	-	-	100
Charitable Donations	-	-	-	2,910
Wages & Salaries	28,270	-	28,270	30,974
Bank charges	-	-	-	64
Professional Training & Fees	3,061	0	3,061	4,854
Legal Fees	-	750	750	717
Mission Payments	-	0	-	171
Miscellaneous payments	4,448	-	4,448	5,722
Total Administration Payments	42,136	750	42,886	54,601
Parish Organisation Payments				
Coity Bell Ringers	-	-	-	1,317
Mothers' Union	-	2,037	2,037	990
Ladies Fellowship	-	23	23	150
Tuesday Fellowship	-	-	-	270
Coity Flower Club	-	-	-	388
Total Parish Organisation Payments	-	2,060	2,060	3,115
TOTAL PAYMENTS	182,649	2,810	185,459	185,746
Net of Receipts	(6,630)	13,399	6,769	(8,517)
Transfers between funds	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
Cash funds brought forward	68,737	346,709	415,446	423,964
Cash funds this period end	102,107	320,108	422,215	415,447

PARISH OF COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
Cash Funds				
Cash at bank	102,107	248,543	350,650	358,020
The Roland & Ann Davis Fund - Accumulated Income Shares		71,565	71,565	55,366
Cash in hand	-		-	2,061
Total Cash Funds	102,107	320,108	422,215	415,447
Other monetary assets				
Investments Note 2	246,275	251,951	498,226	498,226
Total monetary assets	246,275	251,951	498,226	498,226
Liabilities				
Accruals	1,140	0	1,140	1,075

Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Unrestricted Funds £	
	Cost	Estimated Current Value
Note 1		
Church Hall Nolton	638,000	1,200,000
Church Hall Coity	507,678	947,281
Leominster 12-16 High Street	447,500	447,500
	1,593,178	2,594,781

Note 2 Other monetary assets - investments

	Unrestricted Cost £	Restricted Cost £	Market Value £
Miss Evelyn Mary Price - Jones	5,000		22,901
The Roland & Ann Davis Fund	241,275	241,275	907,956
Glyn Cule Jenkins Trust		10,676	21,104
	246,275	251,951	951,961

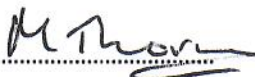
Note 1

The Leominster property is held on trust by the Church in Wales on behalf of the Parish.

The Church Hall Nolton is owned directly by the Church in Wales. It would be Church practice to make the funds of any sale available to the Parish.

The exact legal ownership of the Church Hall Coity is uncertain. The Parish is of the understanding that it is the beneficial legal owner.

M Thorne



Trustee

24th July 2022

14/8/22

Dated:

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH OF COITY,
NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

Independent examiner's report to the members of Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla Parochial Church Council

I report to the members on my examination of the accounts of the Parish of Coity, Nolton & Brackla Parochial Church Council (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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



R.I. KNOYLE

ACA

Baker Knoyle Chartered Accountants

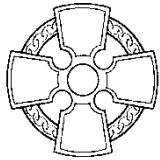
Orbit Business Centre

Merthyr Tydfil

CF48 1DL

Date: 5/8/22

Accounts



THE CHURCH IN WALES
YR EGLWYS YNG NGHYMRU

Annual Vestry Report

For year ended
31st December 2020



PARISH OF
COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA

Parish Mission Prayer

***Father, pour out your Spirit
Upon the people of this parish,
and grant us
a new vision of your glory,
a new experience of your power,
a new faithfulness to your word,
and a new consecration
to your service,
that your love
may grow among us
and your kingdom come;
through Jesus Christ,
our Lord. Amen.***

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PCC Report and Financial Statements for the year ended December 31st 2020

Introduction

We started 2020 with hope and anticipation to grow God's Kingdom but the Covid pandemic changed all our plans. We were due to renew the Electoral Roll before the AVM which was to be held in March but due to lockdown restrictions both had to be cancelled along with church services and other activities. We have had to adapt to different ways of doing things and Rev Maggie quickly set up a weekly newsletter delivered by email to most and printed out for those unable to receive email so that we could keep in touch. Online services were trialled, developed and grew with the hard work of parishioners helping to set up, organise, and give technical assistance. Over the year the regular Sunday and mid-week services were developed online as well as business and social meetings. These have expanded to include the whole benefice together as well as participants from much further away. We have had brief periods when Church services could be held with limited numbers, and following strict control procedures with no singing but after celebrating Christmas the Churches were forced to close again for safety reasons. If ever we need a reminder that our Church is the people, not the Buildings, then joining together in online services from our own homes in fellowship firmly established this. The AVM was eventually held online in November and the Electoral Roll renewal has been postponed until late 2021.

We had celebrated the licensing of Rev Chris Robinson as an Associate Priest in the Benefice before lockdown and his services have been greatly appreciated. Rev Mark Broadway moved on to his new curacy in Porthcawl in July. Unfortunately we were not able to give him the send-off all his hard work during the period without an Incumbent deserved but we are sure Rev Mark knows how much he was valued and our prayers go with him in his new position. Rev Ceri Holloway joined the Benefice as Deacon in June and is already doing good work in the Parish and beyond.

Our Treasurer, Mel Oglesbee, had told us he would be resigning from the position at the AVM so that he could support his wife, Rev Glenda, in her next posting. However due to lockdown it was difficult to transfer to the new treasurer and Mel continued to manage the finances so well throughout a really difficult year. The handover has now been completed and Sandra Arnott has taken on the Treasurer duties. We are extremely grateful to Mel for the hard work he has done over the last few years and especially during this year and our prayers are with him and Glenda as they take up their work in Pencoed.

One area we have developed is in the Eco-friendly development within and around the Parish. Initially with upcycling workshops but progressing to a wider concern for our environment and protecting God's World and this will continue to grow as we develop our Butterfly Garden at Nolton and other environmental projects.

We have lost many family and friends during the last year and not been able to be with those we love. Although technology has helped relieve some of the difficulties it is a relief that there is light on the horizon and we can now hope and pray that we will be able to meet, worship and work together before too long as we carry out God's work to Grow His Kingdom and build and develop our place in the new Ministry Area.

2020 Annual Vestry Report by the Vicar

Due to the pandemic and church closures immediately prior to our scheduled AVM last year, by November it was permissible to hold such meetings via Zoom, so long as most in the Parish were able to access the meeting, should they wish to. We still have to hold our AVM for this year by the

End of March, hence the short time since the last.

At this time the Ministry Team comprises the Revd. Maggie Thorne (Vicar), the Revd. Chris Robinson (Associate Priest), the Revd. Ceri Holloway (Assistant Curate), and Chris Judd, Huw Jones and Peter Craven our licensed lay ministers across the Benefice. In February 2021 we welcomed The Revd. Canon Tim Jones to our parish. He was licensed to the Diocese as Director of Ministry and Discipleship and CMD Officer on 24th February, replacing Richard Lowndes, but will be taking an active role in the Benefice too. I thank the Team hugely for their support and their ministries, as I am certain all the congregations we serve do too. I am also grateful to our churchwardens, Andrew Dix and Gaynor Coles, and to the whole of the PCC for their on going commitment and hard work, made even more difficult as we all cope with the too-ing and fro-ing the lockdowns bring, and worshipping in less than ideal circumstances when in church. I'd like to particularly thank all those who print and distribute the newsletter to those who do not have computers every week, those who act as door stewards in the churches, ensuring that everyone is kept as safe as they possibly can be and Fred Custerson for ensuring that our buildings are well maintained. Since our last AVM in November, we managed to celebrate Christmas in our churches, and although it was marvelous to be in church, with no singing, it did make for an unusual celebration and not one that we'd like to have to have again. Our carol service had to be moved online as did our Nativity/Christingle service which we combined for ease and which worked better than we'd expected. We also managed to celebrate the Epiphany on 3rd January, before making the decision to close the churches again. Although the Welsh Government did not force this upon us, this is what was recommended:

"Whilst places of worship can, by law, remain open for worship, funerals and weddings, Welsh Government is strongly advising that 'those who are responsible for places of worship would consider whether there are alternative ways of holding worship services'."

The Bench of Bishops commented thus:

"The Bench of Bishops does not, at this time, require the suspension of in person worship but alternatives to in-person worship should be pursued where possible."

At the beginning of January, Covid cases in Bridgend were frighteningly high and safety in our churches couldn't be guaranteed. It is hoped that we will be able to worship in our churches again in March and at Easter, although there are many additional rules that we will have to follow.

Sadly, there have been many, many funerals over the year, and especially since December. Some have been held in our churches, although the majority have been in the Crematorium. Some weddings have gone ahead, but mainly without live music and again, no singing. We've managed to make them celebratory, none the less. Those services that were postponed last year have been rescheduled for this or next, and as others are being requested, the summer months will be exceptionally busy. Unfortunately it hasn't been possible to conduct baptisms during the pandemic. I have now been your lockdown vicar for longer than not. It's a very weird thought, but it means that all that was promised in autumn 2019 regarding schools ministry, pastoral care and social action, has largely been suspended. The Open The Book and REInspired teams are currently working at transferring our sessions for online access via the Teams platform. Going forward, this will inevitably reduce our contact time in school, but it has the bonus of being a marvelous opportunity to offer our sessions to all the primary schools in the area with only minimal extra

work.

As it isn't permissible to make pastoral visits at this time, all communication has to be done either by 'phone, email, newsletter, Zoom calls or Facebook. We have all learnt much about IT and are truly thankful that we have held plenty of help from the Diocese as well as from members of the congregation and we have been able to adapt.

Although we form a new PCC this evening, the transitional Core Team for the Ministry Area is now fully formed and we're aiming towards having charitable status at the beginning of January, 2022. That will mean the dissolution of the parish system as we know it. Each of the churches in our Benefice is represented on the Core Team and I envisage that after the Core Team become trustees for the MA that individual churches or parishes will form local committees. Having a representative on the Core Team will ensure that channels of communication move freely.

You will already be aware of the Diocesan Vision, but I'll remind you here that it is 3-fold and encourages every member of the Church in Wales to tell a joyful story, build our capacity for good, and extend the Kingdom. As well as forming the Core Team, there is also a Bank of Treasurers for the Ministry Area, comprising the treasurers from each parish. As there is a myriad of financial issues to address in order to achieve successful merging, the Bank leaves the Core Team free to attend to the strategy which will best effect the Vision.

Although it is early days for the Ministry Area, we are working our way through the legalities and aiming to establish good practices of governance. This has to be done prior to setting objectives concerning our mission, although the parishes as they are currently will be continuing with their various plans as best they are able through these difficult times of sporadic, protracted lockdowns and prohibitions. Even at this early stage it is clear that we will be working together closely on our ministry to schools and the climate crisis.

For your information, the two teams comprise the following members:

MA Transitional Core Team

The Revd. Maggie Thorne (MA Leader) - Vicar of CNB and C

Andrew Dix (Lay Chair) - Churchwarden CNB

Penny Williams (Vice Chair) - Licensed Lay Minister, representing Pen y fai

Sandra Arnott (Treasurer) - CNB Treasurer/Church Warden Coychurch

Stuart Davidson (Secretary) - CNB Secretary, representing Coity

The Revd. Chris Robinson - Associate Priest, CNB and C

The Revd. Ceri Holloway - Curate, CNB and C

The Revd. Anthony Beer - Priest-in-charge, Laleston with Merthyr Mawr and Pen y fai

Fr David Lloyd - Vicar, Newcastle

Gaynor Coles - Rector's Warden, CNB, representing Brackla

Menna David - representing Laleston

Jan Fenney - representing Merthyr Mawr

Rachel Gauci - representing Coychurch

George Carter - representing Newcastle

Philippa Coulson (Eco Leader) - representing Nolton

The Bank of Treasurers

Sandra Arnott (Treasurer to the MA) - CNB

Susan Martin - Coychurch

Nicola Cross - Newcastle

Paul Fenney - Merthyr Mawr

Adrian Kendall - Pen y fai

Carys Brown - Laleston

Jan Dowlman (Book Keeper to the MA)

I finish, as I always do at every AVM, by offering one of my favourite scripture verses as words that offer both a thanksgiving and a challenge:

'Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. AMEN!'

Annual Vestry Meeting 2020 Minutes

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 9th November 2020 at 1930 online by Zoom
Video conferencing

Apologies: John Dixon, Mari Dixon, Mal Short, Liz Short, Barrie Williams, Gloria Williams

The meeting was opened with prayer and Introduction by Vicar, Rev Maggie Thorne

1. Apologies received were read by Secretary
2. Rev Maggie Thorne was in the Chair and warmly welcomed everyone to the AVM 2020 her first as Incumbent of the Benefice
3. Minutes of previous Annual Vestry Meeting as published in Annual report were received by the AVM and accepted as a true record
4. The Annual Report had been issued in preparation for the AVM before lockdown, and this meeting was considering that report which was for Jan-Dec 2019. Thanks to those who had submitted reports on Parish groups and activities. The Mission report was accepted by the meeting
5. Thanks to Mel Oglesbee for preparing the Annual Financial report and accounts and to the Independent Examiner, Richard Knoyle
The annual accounts were accepted as presented .
6. Gaynor Coles was appointed Rector's Warden
7. Andrew Dix was elected People's Warden
8. Fred Custerson was appointed Sub Warden at Coity
9. Nader Omidvar was elected Sub Warden at Coity
10. Ian Hartley-Brown was elected Sub Warden at Nolton
11. Rebecca Dowlman was appointed Sub Warden at Nolton
12. Hollie Evans was appointed Sub warden at Brackla
13. There is a vacancy for elected Subwarden at Brackla
14. There was no ballot for PCC members as there were only 14 nominations, all were declared elected:
Philippa Coulson, Gareth Daniel, Stuart Davidson, Janice Dowlman, Ann Elward, Alexis Frew, Ian Hibble, Christine Judd, Chris Merkins, Ann Parfitt, Dr Susy Rogers, Malcolm Short, Paul Smith, Aeron John Williams
15. All Sidespersons currently appointed were re-appointed
16. Richard Knoyle ACA FCCA, had taken on the role of Independent Examiner of Accounts from Alwyn Thomas. Meeting agreed to request re-appointment of Richard Knoyle as Independent Examiner
17. AOB – Electoral roll renewal in 2020 has been held on instruction of RB and is expected to be renewed in 2022 after Ministry Area revisions.
New PCC members agreed to appointment of Stuart Davidson as PCC Secretary and Sandra Arnott as Treasurer

The meeting was declared Closed at 20:52 with the Grace.

Achievements and Activities

Ministry Area Report

In January 2022 our new Ministry Area will become reality. At that time we will join in unity with our near neighbours Coychurch and Penyfai, Laleston Merthyr Mawr and Newcastle. A working title of Greater Bridgend Ministry Area has been suggested although this is open for discussion. Bishop June appointed Rev Maggie to be the team leader for our area and so preparations to embrace this new, exciting initiative are now well underway. Rev Maggie, with help and support from our own clergy and the clergy from our partner Parishes, has been working hard at formulating the necessary team of lay people to join with the clergy to move forward with the development. (The team is known as the Ministry Area Transition Team or MATT for short.) We in NBC are well represented by Stuart, Philippa, Gaynor, Sandra Arnott, and Andrew. Each of these folks, with colleagues from the partner churches, fulfils a different role within the group and have already begun meetings with colleagues to discuss the way forward. For example, Sandra has chaired a meeting of the Bank of Treasures from around the group while Andrew has joined the Bishop's College of Lay Chairs. Our PCC has passed a resolution confirming the transfer of assets and liabilities from the parish to the new ministry area at the appropriate time. This being a legal requirement allowing us to proceed. Exciting times indeed. Any one of our MATT members will be happy to talk to you about the plan or try to answer any questions you may have.

Andrew Dix, Lay Chair, Greater Bridgend Ministry Area.

Coity Sunday Club

Coity Sunday Club have not been able to meet since early 2020 but a weekly Sunday Club Newsletter with themed activities and letters is distributed so that we can all keep in touch and continue to learn God's love until we can meet together again. Attendance at Coity Sunday Club remains very positive with sixteen children regularly attending most Sundays at 9:30am in Coity Church Hall. Club members age range is from birth to around thirteen years of age, along with parents, carers and helpers. We are most grateful to the adults that help each Sunday with various craft activities. We always welcome new children and families that move into Coity village and the Parc Derwen, Coity, development. Currently, we have a growing number of children age one to nine and parents attending, some of whom have not been regular church attenders.

This year Sunday Club lessons have followed themes such as the life of Moses, animals in the Bible and Life in the time of Jesus as well as focusing on the main Christian festivals throughout the year. Sunday Club starts with prayers followed by activities based on a Biblical theme. Most Sundays, the children spend part of the session in the church service. Children are given the opportunity to show the congregation what they have created and talk about what they have learnt in Sunday Club when they join the congregation for Communion. The children also assist with the collection during the service.

The year 2020 started well and continued its normal state until February when a new virus called Covid-19 had a dramatic effect on the general running of the UK which included the Church and the Sunday Club. Government sanctions to control the virus saw the Church closed to normal services and the Sunday Club along with it. The Sunday Club realised at the start of the restrictions that it could not wait a few weeks for the Sunday Club to reopen in the Church Hall so put into place a plan to send each family the complete

Sunday Club lesson and activity in PDF format as an email attachment. The first Sunday Club lesson via email was sent out for Sunday 14th February 2020 and will continue in this format until restrictions are lifted. The Sunday Club email lesson begins with prayers before the lesson activity starts. The lesson, which always includes effective images to guide the children, considers the Bible story and reflects on the point in everyday life today. To reinforce the story, the children are given a craft activity, colouring, wordsearch and a Bible reading to complete with their family.

The Sunday Club lesson is currently emailed directly to twenty-seven families each week with a total of 1,242 emails having been delivered directly this year. Alongside the direct emails the Parish Vicar now emails a copy of the Sunday Club lesson to everyone on the Benefice email register each week.

The Sunday Club lesson is also supported by the Archdeacon John Lewis VA Church in Wales Primary School where the Headteacher makes the lesson available to all parents of school learners via the Welsh Government HWB website for AJL Primary School.

Readers of this article within the Parish who would wish to receive an email copy of the Sunday Club lesson can email coitycsc@yahoo.com to request a form to register their intent.

The usual Christmas Party and all other usual activities that have involved children and families gathering together have been missed this year, but we look forward to the time when these activities will be resumed.

Sunday club lessons are currently planned termly and delivered on a rota basis. There are vacancies for anyone who is interested in joining the team. No previous experience or qualifications are required just a love of children. Salary is immeasurable and really rewarding as you will be helping to sow the seeds of God's love and at the same time help secure the future of the church for generations.

Susan Hawthorne on behalf of The Coity Sunday Club Team.

Coity Church Choir

Post-Christmas services continued as normal during the first few weeks of 2020 and but just as we were entering the season of Lent and the choir was preparing for special Easter services the Covid 19 pandemic took hold and the countrywide lockdown began. All church services were suspended and although, for a short time, services resumed under strict distancing rules, no live music was allowed. We look forward to the time when normal services will be resumed and we will joyfully raise our voices in praise once again'

Mari Dixon

Nolton Church Choir

The choir sang anthems on two occasions in February and March.

The spread of the Covid~19 pandemic from the end of March meant that choir practices and Sunday morning Sung Eucharists were suspended. This situation continued until the end of the year.

John Davies

Coity Church Bellringers

Members: The membership now comprises 8 Adults who are all members of the Llandaff and Monmouth association of Church Bell Ringers. Unfortunately only 5 are available for service ringing. 4 new ringers are in training.

We ring for Morning and Evening services also for Weddings depending on Ringer availability.

Ringings Trips: None - due to the COVID-19.

Easter Day 3 Bells were chimed and some Sunday services we have rung 3 bells for 15 minutes.

Weddings: We have rung for 3 weddings at Coity. Restricted ringing. Only 3 Bells for 15 minutes, rung after the service.

Hand Bell: The Hand Bell Team practiced only in January & February.

Visiting Ringers: Association Practice at Coity only 4 ringers turned up.

Quarter Peals: None

Social Events: Meeting in the Church hall to discuss ringing during the pandemic.

No AGM, Nibbles night, New Year's ringing.

Thank You: To the Ringers for their loyal support at Practice, Weddings and Church services throughout the year. Philip for his Vice Captain and Treasurer duties to Philippa our Tower Secretary.

If anyone would like to ring please contact me on 01656 659741 or in Church.

Fred Custerson Tower Captain

Tuesday Fellowship

Like all organisations our programme for 2020 was severely curtailed due to the Covid 19 pandemic. However we were able to enjoy three meetings before the countrywide Lockdown.

In January Mr. Laurie Pavelin gave us an insight into the work of the RNLI, its organisation and the role of its brave volunteers. We were able to make a small donation in appreciation of the wonderful work of this rescue service.

At this meeting we mourned the loss of one of our most faithful members. Mrs Margaret Miller had been an enthusiastic supporter of Fellowship over many years.

In February Mrs Glenda Oglesbee (now the Reverend Glenda Oglesbee) gave an interesting talk about the life of an ordinand and shared her experiences during her pathway to Ordination.

In March we held our annual Lenten service which was led by Reverend Maggie Thorne. This was followed by fellowship and Simnel cake in the church hall.

We pray that in due course Fellowship will resume its normal pattern. In the meantime I would like to thank all who support our activities.

John Dixon

Mothers' Union

We are one of twelve branches in Bridgend Deanery of the 11 Deaneries in the Diocese of Llandaff Mothers' Union (MU) belonging to a worldwide MU organisation with the same Vision, Mission and Values.

Vision: Our vision is of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships. This is not a vague hope, but a goal we actively pursue by praying, campaigning and enabling.

Mission: We aim to show our Christian Faith by the transformation of communities worldwide. We can do this through supporting strong relationships within the family and promoting reconciliation at all levels.

Values: There are more than four million members of Mothers' Union today in 84 countries around the world. Each member subscribing to the same values:

- We are firmly rooted in voluntary ethos centred on mutual respect and collaboration.
- Our governance, leadership and programmes are driven by and undertaken through members within their own communities worldwide.

The members of our Branch of the Mothers' Union are dedicated in upholding the MU aims and objectives:

- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children;
- to maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service;
- to promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children;
- to help those whose family life has met with adversity;
- To promote and support married life.

At our AGM (Tuesday 18 February 2020), we all stood for a minute's silence in respect for the Late Margaret Miller (our devoted Hon. Treasurer) who died a few days before. It was right and fitting also that we should give our heartfelt appreciation on her retirement, of Mary Phillips, Branch Leader 2009-2019, for her 10 years' dedicated Service with gifts and basket of flowers from members in gratitude. Appointments were unanimously agreed for our incoming Branch Leader, Dr Susy Rogers, Hon. Treasurer Jan Dowlman and Hon. Secretary Joan Thomas. Difficulties with current bank accounts took a lot of effort to resolve.

Two hugely significant steps are to be recognised for survival namely:

- Opening a New Bank Account with The NatWest Bank
- Retrieving Payment of outdated cheque (19.12.2019) at closure of HSBC Account

The Branch Leader, Dr SR, kept in touch with all fifteen CwN MU Branch members throughout the UK-wide Lockdown with personal phone calls, emails and COVID-19 Safe "doorstep" visits, to share and exchange ideas for planning CwN MU activities. In the coming months, times were difficult for everyone as all face-to-face gatherings had been suspended.

In mid-July Dr SR and Ruth Weeks (Branch Leader Coychurch MU) visited Reverend Ceri Holloway, our new incumbent Curate, taking a "Welcome Hamper", full of goodies generously donated by our respective MU members, together with a beautiful basket of summer flowers arranged by CwN MU member Mair Cripps. Our Vicar, Reverend Maggie Thorne, suggested that an OPEN AIR Garden Gathering might be possible in September; The Branch Leader, Dr SR together with the Secretariat, (JT and JD) and the Hon. Treas.(JR) put their heads together to organise a Grand Prize Draw which was completed and raised £1000 at the Gathering on Sept15th.

Plans were made to hold CwN MU Virtual Meetings, since some CwN MU Branch members were already participating in Benefice ZOOM services on Sundays and during the week.

CwN MU launched its first Zoom meeting on Wednesday 30 September bringing together five participants. Two months later, after six weekly Zoom gatherings the number of participants doubled, helping one another to master the "magical" technology. Those members who do not have internet connections, are still able to join in, by bringing together "phone buddies" whereby those who are linked phone a "buddy" to listen-in to an event. Members have received their "In Touch" Magazines and MU Prayer Diaries from Dr SR driving around to fulfil "door-step" deliveries. This again was a good way to support one another during the "lockdown" months.

Our Branch leader, Dr SR was much encouraged by participating in four MU Webinars hosted by MSH relating to Fundraising for realizing a potential CwN MU Project relating to Health and Well-being through "Creativity"

. We then realized that CwN MU were in a position to tell a "Joyful Story" which began emerging from Tragedy. Bridgend witnesses deeply tragic loss of life. During the two years (2007-2009), 25 teens and young adults between the ages of 15 and 28, killed themselves in the Welsh county borough of Bridgend, almost all by hanging, in an epidemic that became global news. CwN MU members all realize that suicide is a tragedy for all concerned and has both social and economic impacts. CwN MU members being very troubled about

the need to find ways of helping those with suicidal tendencies on the verge of /already self-harming and also those youngsters with seriously critical eating disorders, Although the Diocesan MU has preferred charities a unanimous decision resulted in a request to the Llandaff Diocesan MU, for the allocation of the sum of £1000 to The Princess of Wales, Ty Llidiard Unit serving the needs of an “All Wales” Strategy in helping very vulnerable children and young adolescents with depression and mental health issues mostly relating to suicidal tendencies, self-harming and critical eating disorders. The rationale of our request encompassed the view the £1,000 raised by our Grand Prize Draw be placed in an Emergency Fund for the sum to be re-allocated to Ty Llidiard Unit in recognition, of the aims and objectives to support Families and Children in desperate need of help in life-threatening situations. We are still awaiting in prayerful expectation for a positive reply.

A second successful Prize Draw, the CwN MU Christmas Prize Draw raised another £1,000

In “Normal Times, Pre-Pandemic” CwN MU holds two meetings a month.

- Our *Corporate Communion Service* @ St. Mary Nolton, 10:00 am., followed by fellowship in the Hall, on the 2nd Thursday of the Month.
- A *Social Gathering* in the Dunraven Room of Nolton Hall at 2.00 pm. held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, when we have a speaker or some other items of interest, e.g. quiz, cream tea, Harvest tea, carols and readings.

We have adapted to these difficult times by using the “miracles” of technology. Since the first of our Zoom on 30 September 2020, Branch Leader, Dr SR has rolled out 12 further weekly CwN MU Zoom accompanied by PowerPoint slide Presentations with approximately 23 slides/presentation. At the same time we are heartily grateful to Reverend Maggie Thorne for celebrating three Virtual Spiritual Communion on the 2nd Thursday each month. We are mindful that as the COVID-19 Vaccines become available for more of us, the closer we shall be able to enjoy a “New Normal”. Plans are on the horizon in 2021 to visit Worcester Cathedral by the invite of The Worcester Diocesan MU. At the same time we are hoping to host CwN MU Gatherings with Guest Speakers who are keen to join us.

The Bridgend MU Deanery normally holds special services during the year, the *Deanery Festival* (always held in May) and *Advent Service* in early December. However, sadly these annual events were cancelled this year due to COVID-19 Lockdown circumstances. Tragically one of our members lost her husband due to COVID-19 in October.

In our prayers, we hope that the year ahead will bring many blessings to us as a group, welcoming new members interested in joining us as we now have a very healthy Bank Balance. Penny Bear, is looking forward to participate in the celebration of receiving The MU Book of Pilgrimage purchased by our Chaplain, Reverend Sandra Birdsall, during Llandaff Clergy School Pilgrimage to The Cathedral of St. Iago del Compostella (May 2019) symbolising the hope-filled journey of The Diocese toward its Centenary, this year 2020. Our CwN MU Calendar of Events 2021-2022 promises to be both *Steadfast in the Faith* and inspirational.

Steadfast in the Faith and Active in Service

Dr. Susy Rogers Branch Leader Coity with Nolton MU (edited by SDD)

Coity Church Flower Club

Due to covid restrictions, Coity Flower Club has had very limited meetings and activities for the year ending 2020.

We did manage to meet for January and February. On the first Tuesday in January, Amanda treated us to a very interesting session on candlemaking. She showed us how to make them using a variety of fragrances

etc and we were able to purchase them afterwards. In February, a Spring Practice was held when the ladies based their arrangements on Spring using appropriate flowers. This, unfortunately was to be the last meeting of the year as little did we know what was to come. Covid 19. We were unable to meet in March for our daytime annual meal. We thereon, had to cancel all meetings for the rest of the year and indeed up to the printing of this Report.

We have been unable to decorate Coity church with flowers and I placed some silk flowers on the altar where they will remain until further notice.

Sadly two of our members have passed away during this time - Margaret Miller and Anne Hodges. I'm sure we will all miss them both very much.

At this time there is no directive when the flower club will be able to meet again.

Hopefully the ladies are busy practising at home and I'm sure we will be able to meet again in the near future.

Anne Thomas (Chairperson)

Eco Church

2020 started well, promising a future of building on the previous success of the Eco Repair Workshop. Little did we know what was to come; How to prepare; and how long it would last!

In contrast The Climate Crisis – Where we know what's coming; We know how to prepare; and We know how long we've got to change its process- being informed with this revealed its continuing importance.

It would be fair to say that, as a whole, society have found being outdoors more, using their cars less, consuming more of what's needed rather than wanted and looking out for the needs of others has helped their well-being and made us resilient to the pressures of this pandemic.

So we, as an Eco Parish, rose to the challenge to continue spreading the message and staying close yet apart.

The Eco Repair workshop saw no delay and continued through Zoom just like most other things did.

At this point members would like to give big thankyou's to our Eco Repairers – firstly, an enthusiastic member of the parish who became involved with the Repair workshop just before lockdown, did so in such good time, as his IT and problem solving skills have been invaluable to parish administration and to congregation members also to John Gibbs who continues to give advice and support with his DIY expertise. Thanks to Doc Susy Rogers for holding the Zoom fort for meetings and encouraging membership and of course to Rev Maggie for her big heart and encouragement to keep it strong. I will also continue to lend my repair services and advice for anything textile when physical contact is allowed again.

Topics covered through lockdown include Repairing (of course), The Eco Church Award, joining forces with local surfers and environment group Friends of the Earth, litter picking, understanding policy and governance relating to the environment, Save The Amazon Rainforest Campaign, Divestment in Fossil Fuel Companies, Responsible consumerism, Veganism or a diet that supports the environment and general discussions regarding love for our earth.

Members are growing outside the parish too, with church members from Cardiff and vale of Glamorgan as well as international from Austria and even Brazil. The Eco spirit continues also into the Greater Bridgend Ministry Area by being selected onto the core team as Eco Church Coordinator.

Meetings take place on Zoom every first Saturday of the month at 2pm. Details are in the regular newsletter and also emailed to members. Please contact Philippa Coulson – findphilly@yahoo.co.uk or call 07553 928088 for further information or Zoom join details.

Philippa Coulson and members Rev Maggie, Pauline, John, Susy and Maggie D

Report on Conferences

Report from Ian Hibble – Parish Lay Representative to Llandaff Diocesan Conference

It has been my privilege and honour to be the Parish's elected diocesan conference lay representative this past year. In late Summer 2020 Diocesan Conference representatives were asked by the Diocese to engage with the parish on issues relating to the development of Ministry Areas and I subsequently sought contributions from both the PCC and the Parish via an article in the weekly parish newsletter; a massive thanks for everyone who got in touch and provided their thoughts. In general, the feedback from our parish was supportive of the move toward creating Ministry Areas in order to realise the advantages of sharing resources, ideas, volunteering and mission-focussed activities across the Greater Bridgend area although there was a feeling that parish identity/history should not be lost and that parishioners should not be left behind as the Ministry Area is developed; practical implications of merging different parish resources was also raised. This information was taken back to the Diocesan Conference for presentation and discussion at Diocesan Conference workshops.

The conference itself was totally online via Zoom and was split over the evening of Thursday 24 September 2020 and the morning of Saturday 26 September 2020. The session on 24 Sept was a more business-focused evening with reports from the Diocesan Board of Finance and the Diocesan Standing committee, plus some diocesan elections. Conference on 26 Sept included workshops in breakout groups on stories of encouragement and hope from lockdown and facilitated discussions in our Ministry Areas groupings to discuss opportunities presented by Ministry Areas. There were also presentations identifying what others, across the diocese and the wider Church in Wales, had learnt from their Ministry Area formation journeys. There was also a principal presentation from the Diocesan Secretary on 'Meeting the Challenge'; bringing the diocesan vision to life in our communities via working together in Ministry Areas. Overall people liked the conference being online (over 100 attended), providing more opportunity to contribute. It was great to hear the joyful stories of how the diocese had responded during this pandemic crisis. Specifically, on the development of Ministry Areas, as the conference was focused on accelerating the development of Ministry Areas, some felt that it was happening too fast. However, there was a more general sense of enthusiasm and encouragement for Ministry Areas, some excited to get started, others already somewhat along the journey. Overall feedback was about clarifying the process and road map for the next steps with lots of representatives outlining a need for greater communication and an opportunity to share best practice.

Following Diocesan Conference itself, it was disappointing to note that Diocesan Conference representatives were not invited to the local Ministry Area Roadshow that took place in November 2020. The whole PCC was initially invited and then attendance significantly reduced to key lay PCC officers and our clergy team in order to be more efficient. I found this especially hard to understand given the encouragement to conference representatives to be fully involved in the development of their Ministry Areas, as outlined at the diocesan conference. My hope and prayer is that future engagement, whether linked to Ministry Areas, or other areas of mission development, should be based on building relationships, involving stakeholders, valuing and respecting people and capitalising on the huge range of skills and talents available across our community. I remain extremely supportive of increasing our collaborative ministry both here in Bridgend and to the wider world and view the development of the Ministry Area as an opportunity to deliver a wider vision of mission and evangelism. This, I am sure, will support the vision to tell a joyful story, build our capacity for good and grow the Kingdom of God. Thank you again for all the support I have received as your Parish Diocesan Conference lay representative.

Ian Hibble – Diocesan Conference Lay representative for the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla

Events Committee

Following a very successful Autumn Fair and Christmas Tree Festival the committee reconvened in January 2020 to draw up a programme of events for the period up to September 2020 and possibly beyond. The programme included a Shrove Tuesday party which was very successfully held in Coity Hall. Following events should have included a V E day party with Bridgend Ukulele group, a car treasure hunt, a quiz night and a wine tasting evening. Notably, the committee started planning in detail the first of the series of six concerts to be held in St. Marys Nolton during the year. Sadly the group was unable to meet again and all plans were put on hold as the Coronavirus pandemic took hold across the country.

During the early part of the pandemic members were asked to make suggestions as to how the committee could possibly serve our Church community and so the notion of Zoom fun and fellowship emerged. Several participants were able to get to grips with the wonders of technology for the very first time. We owe a big thank you to Phil Ryder for his enthusiastic help and support, given to so many of the group. The group seems set to continue into the New Year.

Andrew Dix, on behalf of the Events Committee.

Fabric Committee – 2020

Rolling Programme

Completed on the schedules were the annual service contracts for both Churches and halls as follows: Fire alarms, fire extinguishers, gas boilers, water heaters, cookers together with certificates, lightning conductor tests with certificates, grass cutting, portable electrical testing, emergency lighting testing, empty cess pit Coity hall, Coity clock servicing, organ servicing, graveyard Safety inspection Coity and Nolton, Coity Hall outside painting completed.

Remedial work

Coity Church

Clean out gutters. Clock and Sanctus bell RSJ bonded to lightning conductor. Repairs to vandalised Vestry door. Porch door painted down pipe unblocked. Faulty Boiler repaired.

Nolton Church

Outstanding due to COVID-19. Slipped Slate Nave roof, painting boarding around Boiler Flues (Faculty requirement), clean out the guttering. All this high level work to be completed in 2021.

Coity Hall.

Vent box covers to stop mice entry. Repair to emergency lights. Gutters and drains cleared out. New doorbell fitted. Repair to the toilet.

Nolton Hall

Door entry system installed. Replacement door lock. Repairs to the Boiler. CCTV system installed. Replacement floodlights. Internal and External Decoration.

Fred Custerson Chairman

And that's not all...

In addition to the formal activities listed above the parish is engaged in a full range of pastoral ministries (including teams for Home Communion, Visiting and Befriending Teams, hospital visiting), discussion and study groups at Lent and other times of the year, preparation for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation and Marriage, etc. Most of these activities have had to be suspended or undertaken at a distance either online or by phone. A number of small restricted wedding have taken place but other have been postponed until the situation improves.

Our links with links with the Primary Schools in the parish and with the secondary schools, have been reduced due to restrictions but efforts are being made to continue these initiatives.

Ecumenically we have involvement in projects in Bridgend such as Foodbank, and the Wallich charity for the homeless. As members of the Bridgend Churches Together we share in joint acts of witness and discussions about matters of mutual concern, and also fund raise, with other churches, for Christian Aid. We participate each year in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Description of the Parish

The Parish is part of the Town of Bridgend, together with its adjoining areas of Wildmill, Litchard, the Village of Coity and Brackla. It is part of the Deanery of Bridgend, which is within the Diocese of Llandaff and the Province of the Church in Wales. The Parish is a Registered Charity – 1135927.

The Parish together with the neighbouring parish of Coychurch forms a Benefice which is a member of the Area Ministry team of Bridgend, which is developing shared resources in the area.

Following the Diocesan Conference the plans to move to Ministry Areas were revived and plans started to create the Bridgend Ministry Area comprising the Parishes of Coity, Nolton & Brackla, Coychurch, Newcastle, Laleston with Merthyr Mawr and Penyfai. Rev Maggie Thorne was appointed as Ministry Area Leader and a transition team to complete the move to Ministry Area by the end of 2021 has been put in place.

Dedication of Churches

The Parish Church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin and is situated in the Village of Coity.

The daughter Church is also dedicated to St. Mary and is situated very close to the Town Centre in the area of the Town known as Nolton.

The third Church, also dedicated to St. Mary, is situated within the Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary School, on the Brackla Estate.

Objectives

The Church in Wales is a Province within the Anglican Communion and as such has the task of advancing the Christian Religion, through worldwide Mission. The Parochial Church Council is required to ensure that the life and work of the churches within their Parish is fulfilled both locally and further afield.

The PCC is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are set out and regulated by the Constitution of the Church in Wales. This is amended from time to time to keep pace with changing times. It is set up under Section 3(1) of the Welsh Churches Acts of 1914. Elections to serve on the Parochial Church Council take place at the Annual Vestry Meeting.

The Representative Body of the Church in Wales holds lands and property, which includes the churches of Coity and Nolton, their contents and churchyards. It also acts on behalf of the Province for paying stipends to full time clergy.

The PCC is responsible for promoting the mission of the Church, the parochial budget, all expenditure, the care and maintenance of church fabric and churchyards and also for acting on any matter referred to in the Constitution. The Council is the normal channel of communication between parishioners and the Bishop of the Diocese.

With regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the advancement of religion, we try to enable people in our communities to live out their faith as part of our parish through: worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge, faith and trust in Jesus; providing pastoral care for the people of the parish; and engaging in missionary and outreach work. To facilitate this work we consider it vital that we maintain the fabric of our three churches and two church halls.

There is also a greater emphasis in managing and protecting the Environment which the Parish has been actively engaged in building eco-friendly policies.

Administrative Information

Incumbent:	Revd Maggie Thorne, The Rectory, Merthyr Mawr Road North, Bridgend CF31 3NH
Ministerial Team	From Feb 2020 Revd Chris Robinson - Associate Priest Until July 2020 Revd Mark Broadway - Assistant Curate; From 1/6/2020 Revd Ceri Holloway -Deacon Readers – Dr J Dixon, Mr H Jones, Mrs C Judd, Mr P Craven
Independent Examiner	Richard Knoyle ACA FCCA , Chartered Accountant, BTP Bridgend Ltd, 1 Heol-Mostyn, Village Farm Ind. Est., Pyle CF33 6BJ (Assisted by John & Glenys O’Leary, c/o the Parish Office)
Bankers	H.S.B.C. Bank Plc, 13 Dunraven Place, Bridgend
Professional Advisers	Davies Sutton Architects: Penhevad Studios, Penhevad Street, Cardiff, South Glamorgan CF11 7LU

Members of the Parochial Church Council for 2020/2021

Clergy:	Rev Maggie Thorne ,Asst. Curate Revd Mark Broadway (until July 2020), Associate Priest Rev Chris Robinson, Deacon Rev Ceri Holloway (from June 2020)
Ex Officio:	Gaynor Coles, Fred Custerson, Andrew Dix, Rebecca Dowlman, Hollie Evans, Nader Omidvar, ,Ian Hartley-Brown,
Elected:	Philippa Coulson, Gareth Daniel, Stuart Davidson, Janice Dowlman, Ann Elward, Alexis Frew, Ian Hibble, Christine Judd, Chris Merkins, Ann Parfitt, Dr Susy Rogers, Mal Short, Paul Smith, Aeron Williams,
Co-opted:	Allan Dowlman, Sandra Arnott
PCC Secretary	Stuart Davidson
Churchwardens	Gaynor Coles (Rector’s Warden) Andrew Dix (People’s Warden)
Sub Wardens	Fred Custerson, Nader Omidvar (Coity), Rebecca Dowlman, Ian Hartley-Brown (Nolton) Hollie Evans, vacant (Brackla)
Parish Treasurer	Sandra Arnott
Safeguarding Officer	Paul Smith
Health & Safety Officers	Fred Custerson (Coity), Paul Smith (Nolton Church)

Organisation of Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council is at present organised into sub committees, which carry out the duties and business assigned to it by the parent body. All the deliberations and recommendations of the Sub Committees are brought back to the PCC for ratification and/or authorisation. Membership of the sub committees is decided at the first full meeting of the PCC after the Annual Vestry Meeting, each year.

From February 2020 it was not possible to hold meetings face to face. Meetings were held online using Zoom Video conferencing when the technology was accepted and approved. Due to the delay in holding AVM the PCC was not re-elected until November 2020. There were 6 full meetings of the PCC held during 2020 and 6 meetings of Standing Committee.

Finance Sub Committee

The Committee prepares budgets for the forthcoming year and keeps a watching brief on all income and expenditure throughout the year. It also prepares budgetary advice on specific items referred to it by the PCC. The Parish Treasurer presents a written financial report to the PCC at each meeting.

Fabric Sub Committee

The Committee normally meets prior to each PCC meeting. Its business, like all sub committees, is minute and presented for approval by the parent body. It is authorised to spend up to £1000 on urgent items, without further approval by the PCC. The Committee has a pro-active concern for the fabric of the churches, churchyards, church halls, boundary walls and houses of the assistant clergy. It also considers in detail and prepares budgets for items referred to it by the PCC. Under the guidance of its chairman it also ensures a prompt response to all recommendations resulting from Quinquennial Inspections.

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll had been due for renewal in 2020 before the Annual Vestry Meeting. Forms had been distributed and some returned but due to restrictions in place the Church in Wales directed that renewal of the Electoral roll should be postponed with a plan to renew towards the end of 2021 to prepare for the new Ministry Area.

Parish Sunday Services

The regular Sunday schedule of services was in place until restrictions were implemented during March 2020. Initially churches were closed, then for a period reopened for private prayer. Limited Services were restarted for a period after a risk assessment, with limited numbers of recorded participants and special procedures for Eucharist, and no music. A programme of online services throughout the week was developed with additional services at Festival times – (e.g. Christmas)

Benefice Online services:

Sunday	9.00 Sunday Zoom Eucharist
	10.30 Sunday Zoom Worship
	7.00pm Zoom Evensong
Every weekday	8am Morning Prayer
	7pm Evening Prayer

Financial Report

Auditor's report and financial report will be added here when available

Approved by the PCC on 2021 and signed on its behalf by the Revd. Maggie Thorne

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of the Parish of Coity, Nolton & Brackla Parochial Church Council

I report to the church's members on my examination of the accounts of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the church's members you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

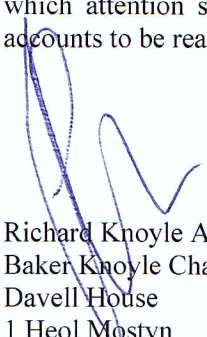
I report in respect of my examination of the church's accounts.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Richard Knoyle ACA FCCA
Baker Knoyle Chartered Accountants
Davell House
1 Heol Mostyn
Village Farm Industrial Estate
Pyle
Bridgend
CF33 6BJ

Date.....28/4/21.....

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2020 £	Totals 2019 £
RECEIPTS				
Planned Direct Giving				
Gift Aid - Nolton	13,673	-	13,673	14,690
Gift Aid - Coity	15,227	-	15,227	18,244
Gift Aid -Brackla	2,200	-	2,200	2,617
Gift Aid - Other	920	-	920	411
Direct Giving	3,770	-	3,770	4,071
Planned Giving - Nolton (SDGAS)	1,514	-	1,514	5,055
Planned Giving - Coity (SDGAS)	1,582	-	1,582	2,946
Planned Giving - Brackla (SDGAS)	39	-	39	614
Other Offerings & Collections	359	-	359	5,149
One Off Gift Aid	994	-	994	643
Total Planned Direct Giving	40,278	-	40,278	54,440
Indirect Giving				
Gift Aid Tax Refunds	18,600	-	18,600	6,360
Gifts and Legacies		1,000	1,000	5,000
Investment Income	8,995		8,995	12,378
		-	-	86
Parish Magazine income		-	-	6
Special Collections		-	-	709
Wedding Fees	1,573	-	1,573	5,533
Funeral Fees	1,309	-	1,309	2,369
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme Grant	5,677	-	5,677	-
Events	1,117	-	1,117	2,232
Other Fund Raising		-	-	200
Parish Share Refunds	41,576	-	41,576	19,330
Miscellaneous Refunds	1,181	-	1,181	679
Note 2	715	-	715	353
Miscellaneous Receipts		-	-	16,780
Vergering Duties	90	-	90	210
Total Indirect Direct Giving	80,833	1,000	81,833	72,225
Parish Organisations				
Coity Bell Ringers	-	-	-	445
Mothers' Union	-	2,573	2,573	611
Ladies Fellowship	-	-	-	140
Tuesday Fellowship	-	-	-	357
Coity Flower Club	-	-	-	1,799
Total Parish Organisations	-	2,573	2,573	3,352
Rents and Hire Income				
Leominster	36,094	-	36,094	38,500
Coity Hall	6,751	-	6,751	10,337
Nolton Hall	5,957	-	5,957	26,307
Nolton Car Park	3,743	-	3,743	5,768
Total Rents and Hire Income	52,545	-	52,545	80,912
TOTAL RECEIPTS	173,656	3,573	177,229	210,929

PARISH OF COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Account

for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2020 £	Totals 2019 £
PAYMENTS				
Parish Payments				
Parish Share	85,533	-	85,533	84,434
Fee Share	86	-	86	2,260
Parochial Expenses for Clerics	3,996	-	3,996	3,699
Total Parish Payments	89,615	-	89,615	90,393
Maintenance of Buildings & Churchyard Payments				
Rates	2,724	-	2,724	2,677
Heating, Lighting, Cleaning & Water	11,773	-	11,773	14,711
Insurance	6,122	-	6,122	5,979
Repairs & Renewals	12,589	1,000	13,589	7,634
Churchyard Repairs	2,840	-	2,840	16,112
Choir, Junior Church, Organs & Organists	1,367	-	1,367	5,951
Total Maintenance of Buildings & Churchyard Payments	37,415	1,000	38,415	53,064
Administration payments				
Printing & Stationery	1,800	-	1,800	3,195
Office Running Costs	2,374	-	2,374	2,320
Cleaning Materials	4,247	-	4,247	4,330
Vestry/Liturgy Costs	6	-	6	340
Alter Requisites	662	-	662	904
Brackla Church	-	-	-	1,608
Costs of Fundraising	100	-	100	100
Charitable Donations	2,910	-	2,910	8,202
Wages & Salaries	30,974	-	30,974	38,020
Bank charges	64	-	64	-
Professional Training & Fees	4,854	-	4,854	2,171
Visiting Clergy & Reader expenses	-	-	-	61
Legal Fees	717	-	717	6,405
Mission Payments	171	-	171	162
Miscellaneous payments	5,722	-	5,722	3,791
Total Administration Payments	54,601	-	54,601	71,609
Parish Organisation Payments				
Coity Bell Ringers	-	1,317	1,317	357
Mothers' Union	-	990	990	590
Ladies Fellowship	-	150	150	150
Tuesday Fellowship	-	270	270	182
Coity Flower Club	-	388	388	1,669
Total Parish Organisation Payments	-	3,115	3,115	2,948
TOTAL PAYMENTS	181,631	4,115	185,746	218,014
Net of Receipts	(7,976)	(542)	(8,518)	(7,085)
Transfers between funds	50,220	(50,220)	-	-
Cash funds brought forward	26,493	342,105	368,598	375,683
Cash funds this period end	68,737	291,343	360,080	368,598

PARISH OF COITY, NOLTON & BRACKLA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2020 £	Totals 2019 £
Cash Funds				
Cash at bank	68,737	289,282	358,019	365,995
Cash in hand		2,061	2,061	2,603
Total Cash Funds	68,737	291,343	360,080	368,598
Other monetary assets				
Investments Note 2	279,634	273,958	553,592	553,592
Total monetary assets	279,634	273,958	553,592	553,592
Liabilities				
Accruals	1,075.00	-	1,075.00	1,020.00

Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Unrestricted Funds £	
Note 1	Cost	Current Value
Church Hall Nolton	638,000	1,200,000
Church Hall Coity	507,678	947,281
Leominster 12-16 High Street	447,500	447,500
	1,593,178	2,594,781

Note 2
Other monetary assets - investments

	Unrestricted Cost £	Restricted Cost £	Market Value £
Miss Evelyn Mary Price - Jones		5,000	20,711
The Roland & Ann Davis Fund	241,275	241,275	825,000
Glyn Cule Jenkins Trust	10,676		18,509
The Roland & Ann Davis Accum Fund	27,683	27,683	63,388
	279,634	273,958	927,608

Note 1

The Leominster property is held on trust by the Church in Wales on behalf of the Parish.

The Church Hall Nolton is owned directly by the Church in Wales. It would be Church practice to make the funds of any sale available to the Parish.

The exact legal ownership of the Church Hall Coity is uncertain. The Parish is of the understanding that it is the beneficial legal owner.

Maggie Thorne

Trustee -

28th April 2021

Dated:

Notes Relating to the Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2020.

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

Minor discrepancies in totals arise from the rounding up or down of figures to whole pounds.

1. Accounting policies

- a) The statement has been prepared paying due regard to the requirements of the Charity Commissioners and the Church in Wales accounting regulations. The receipts and payments basis of accounting has been adopted.
- b) **Freehold property.** The church buildings, their contents and churchyards are vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. Consequently, none of these form part of the assets of the parish
 - I. A property at Leominster was valued at £447,500.
 - II. Coity Church Hall was inspected on behalf of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group On the 11th September 2020 and is stated at their recommended valuation of £947,281 for the building and £22,985 for the contents.
 - III. Nolton Church Hall was inspected on behalf of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group On the 11th September 2020 and is stated at their recommended valuation of £1,200,000 for the building and £50,000 for the contents
 - IV. No provision has been made for depreciation of the Church halls and Leominster. Addition and replacements to the Church Halls contents are generally charged to funds as current expenditure.
 - V. See note 2 at bottom of last page.
- c) **Office equipment.** All equipment has been charged in full to expenditure in the year of purchase.
- d) **Restricted Funds.** Restricted Funds represent:
 - i) Income from trusts or endowments that may be used only on the objects provided for in the terms of the trust or bequest.
 - ii) Donations or Grants received for a specific object or invited by the Parochial Church Council for a specific object: The fund may then be used in relation to the specific object for which they have been given. Any balance must be carried forward as a balance on the fund.
- e) **Designated Funds.** Designated funds represent funds made available by the Parochial Church Council out of general funds for the specific purpose designated when the fund is established.

2. Restricted funds income includes:

Advent 3 collection this was waived by the Rector.
Gifts and legacies specifying a particular use.
Tax refunds on gifts specifying a particular use.
Special collections e.g., Christian Aid and other charities

3. Gifts and legacies

Legacy of £1,000.00 was left by the late Victor Salmon. This money has been allocated to purchase an item for Coity Church with consultation with Victoria Salmon.

4. Investment income is broken down as follows

Legacy interest	£ 8676.83
Bank Interest	£ 11.00
Leominster rent	£36,094.00
This includes Closing down the Ingram Account	

5. Special Collections

Collections were taken for money given to charities during the year totalling £2910.00

6. Fund raising

This year basically the only Charitable Giving was the paying out of the Christmas Tree Festival money as the Covid19 pandemic put a stop to all activities for everyone so the parish was unable to put anything on to enable our raising funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
7. Miscellaneous receipts:		

	£	£
Funeral Fees	1,309.00	
Wedding Fees	1,573.00	

8. Repairs / Renewals expenditure:

These are carried out and paid for as required. This year the total expenditure was

	£
Nolton Church	1,971.00
Coity Church	3,918.00
Nolton Hall	5,347.00
Coity Hall	1,885.00
Nolton Organ	220.00

The work undertaken at Nolton Church was the pre-Quinquennial inspection electrical testing & boiler repairs. Nolton Hall the security door entry system. In Coity Hall there were boiler issues and also in Coity Church the Clock service came up for renewal but that covers us for 3 years of servicing free

9. Refunds.

This is the amount we receive for prompt payment of Parish Share £4221.72 plus £20,313.98. The latter was a refund given by the DBF because of the Covid19 and the Churches being forced to close, and the subsequent lack of income. The money was refunded on 3 occasions and from this we gave Coychurch 17.5% as their congregation is 17.5% of the combined total.

10. Non-Recurring Major Items of expenditure

There were no Projects undertaken this year

11. Parish expenses of Clerics

This year the clerics expenses totalled	£
Phones	494
Mileage	903
Miscellaneous	1,061
Utilities	1538

12. Expenditure – Choirs, Organists, Junior Church

	£
Choirs & Music	588
Organists	400
Junior Church	58

This includes cost involved with Junior Church, servicing of the organs and other cost, copyrights licences.

13. Charitable Disbursements

£

£

2910

The giving has been severely curtailed during the year due to the Covid19 outbreak the main one was the presentation of the Christmas Tree Festival Cheque

14. Restricted (Endowment) Funds

The Glyn Cule Jenkins Trust – investment through COIF Charity Funds-allows the parish to use the annual income in maintaining the graveyard at St. Mary, Coity.

15. Restricted (income) Funds

(a) The Rebecca, Elizabeth and Catherine Thomas Trust, this fund is restricted and Invested through the COIF Charity Funds, Interest of £47 was received and credited to the account

(b) i) The Roland and Ann Davies Trust invested through: The Representative Body of the Church in Wales General Funds Nolton. This fund is restricted the original value of the shares invested were £241,276.00. The interest from the shares is used to purchase extra shares that are accrued.

ii) The Roland and Ann Davies Trust invested through: The Representative Body of the Church in Wales General Funds Coity. This fund shows the (NAV) of the shares from which we receive money into our general fund. £241,276.00 was received and used according to the terms of the legacy.

(c) The Betty Mavis Ingram Fund invested through CCLA COIF Charities Fund. This fund was closed under the instruction of the PCC to, fund work carries out at Nolton.

(d) The John and Barbara Ladbroke Fund through CCLA COIF Charities Deposit Fund. This fund is restricted and Invested through the COIF Charity Funds,

(e) Miss Evelyn Mary Price-Jones Legacy invested through: The Representative Body of the Church in Wales General Funds. This Fund allows the parish to use the annual income to maintain the graveyard.

(f) The Parish of Coity, Nolton & Brackla Charities Deposit Fund invested through CCLA. This fund is restricted and Invested through the COIF Charity Funds, Interest of £110 was received and credited to the account.

All the above legacies accrue extra value if the shares increase in value or decrease if the value drops. The funds are shown original value when purchased for the purpose of the accounts.

16. Grant Aid.

There were no grants for any projects undertaken but we had £7677 from the Government for Furlough Scheme Grant towards the staff pay during the time that they were off during the shutdown, but we made the pay up to their normal pay for their contractual hours as a good will and practice employer.

Approved by the PCC on 26th April 2021

and signed on its behalf by the Revd. Maggie Thorne