

**ST PAUL'S CHURCH, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Administrative Information

St Paul's Church is situated on Church Hill, Grange-over-Sands LA11 6BD. It is part of the Diocese of Carlisle within the Church of England and part of the Windermere Deanery. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a Registered Charity registered with the Charity Commission, No: 1136108.

PCC members who have served from 1 January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Associate Priest: Revd Jonathan Brewster Moved August 2023

Associate Priest: Revd Annette Miller (from October 2022)

Reader Emeritus: Joyce Leach

Warden: Brian McCann

Deputy Warden: Vacant

Representatives on the Deanery Synod: May 2023 to May 2026

Brian McCann

Mike Hill

Elected Members: Rosemary Hoyle Secretary APCM 2021 to APCM 2024

John Millican Treasurer APCM 2021 to APCM 2024

Colin Milner From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Brian McCann From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Judith Mitchell From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Audrey Gorman From APCM 2022 to APCM 2025

Sue Fleetwood From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024

Susan Jones-Darlington From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024

Margaret Ratcliffe From APCM 2021 to APCM 2024

Penny Ward From APCM 2022 to APCM 2025

Pauline Ramsbottom From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Doug Ratcliffe From APCM 2023 to APCM 2026

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC. The PCC has complied with the duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

Objectives and Activities

Within the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry, St. Paul's Grange-over-Sands PCC has the responsibility of promoting the whole mission of the Church in sharing the love of God pastorally, evangelistically, socially and ecumenically. It also has the responsibility of maintaining fabric, buildings and grounds of St. Paul's Church and the Fell Church.

Church Attendance

There were 110 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll reported to the Annual Meeting held in 2023.

Average Sunday attendance in both churches was 68, after omitting those Sundays where baptisms were held and attendances "spiked". Attendances during the month of October 2022, was 69, compared with 70 in 2022.

In addition to the above figures, Home Communion was distributed, where deemed to be safe to do so, to approximately 10 members of our congregation during the year.

Review of the Year

The PCC met eight times during 2023. There are 15 PCC members, which includes our Associate Priest, Revd Canon Jonathan Brewster, who moved on to become Dean of Carlisle Cathedral in September. We have not had an incumbent designated to the parish for seven years, though there is hope that interviews for a new Team Vicar will take place in the near future. We were very pleased that Revd Annette Miller's Licence was renewed to the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry for a further year.

The Standing Committee met in the alternate months to the PCC, to discuss items delegated by the PCC and prepare the Agenda for future meetings.

Throughout the year, the PCC continued to work towards dissolving the Cartmel Peninsula Team Ministry and forming new benefices, along with the other parishes involved, along with our Archdeacon. The new proposal put forward in 2022 which, going forward from the dissolution of the current Team, would form four new benefices: (1) Cartmel, (2) Grange-over-Sands and Field Broughton with Lindale, (3) Allithwaite and Flookburgh and (4) the three Leven Valley parishes (Finsthwaite, Haverthwaite and Staveley), continues to go through the formal process.

As we await the arrival of a new Team Vicar our annual PCC Away Day has been put on hold until that person has settled into their new role, and we hope to be able to hold this later in 2023.

St Paul's Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on Wednesday, 19 April 2023, when we re-appointed Brian McCann as our Churchwarden. It would be good if we could have two Churchwardens, or a Deputy Churchwarden. However, we are fortunate to have an excellent team of sides-people, who have taken on additional duties to alleviate pressure on the Churchwarden at services and other church events, and many willing volunteers who carry out many tasks to keep our church clean and tidy and running efficiently, and we thank them for their time and willingness to help.

Lay-led services have continued, normally on the third Sunday of the month, with a small group of people from St Paul's leading the worship, and a speaker, utilising both our own congregation and also inviting people from outside the Church, such as Jane Walmsley from Thornleigh Christian Hotel, Anita Peat a Reader from Kendal Parish Church, Revd Annie Grey from Anna Chaplaincy, Ruth Briddock who has previously served as churchwarden in an Anglican church when she worked in Turkey, near to the site of the recent earthquakes; Canon Dr Alison Fleetwood, the Diocesan Healing Adviser, Revd Roy Rutter – dementia-friendly churches, Pam Martin – Eco-Church and Michael Hardie from the Leprosy Mission.

These services have been well received by our congregation and are an excellent way to encourage those leading the service on their own spiritual journey.

St Paul's Church has very strong links with the Church-aided Primary School, with regular visits to the school by volunteers from the Church who run a weekly lunch-time club, and several people who go into school to assist the pupils with their reading. The school visits St Paul's Church to learn about the church and its work, and also hold services at both St Paul's and the Methodist Church in Grange. We have three members of our congregation who are Foundation Governors at the school.

We have two representatives from St Paul's on the committee of Churches Together in the Cartmel Peninsula. This group meets regularly and organises events during the year, involving all the churches in Grange.

St Paul's held its annual Spring Fair and Christmas Fair in 2023, both raising a good amount towards the upkeep of our Church buildings. These are also good social occasions, that welcome the local community into our Church.

The main fabric projects to maintain and enhance the fabric of our two churches were as follows:

- A defibrillator has been installed in St Paul's Church and training in its use will take place early in 2023.
- Works to renovate the hopper windows in St Paul's to enable them to be easily opened.

Further details on fabric can be found in the Fabric Report presented at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting – page 13 of the Annual Report and Accounts 2023 document.

The PCC is trialling the use of a QR code in St Paul's Church for 12 months and will review its success then and also look at the possibility of installing a contactless-giving machine. The PCC is now using online banking, which saves the church a significant amount of money which would otherwise be incurred through bank charges. Our Church Treasurer, John Millican is in regular contact with the Diocesan Finance Officer, Ric Jaques and John Thompson, the Diocesan Stewardship Officer.

We are so grateful to Charles Edmondson, one of our organists, for continuing to organise concerts in St Paul's Church, which normally attract an audience of around 50. These concerts are very well received. Charles continues to play for our services, together with Ian Thompson. Sadly, Ian has now retired as at the end of December 2023 and we wish to publicly acknowledge our thanks to him for all the time and effort he has put in over the past few years. Our Church Choir now has nine members.

As well as our series of concerts in the church, we have also held many other social events throughout the year, including a concert given by the Bay Community Singers, several local walks, regular 'Cake and Cuppa' meetings in Church, monthly craft afternoon sessions, with special thanks to Pip Woon for organising these, and we celebrated our 10th anniversary of the Christmas Tree Festival at St Paul's, which raised £1,575.24 and was shared between St Mary's Hospice (for a cuddle bed, in memory of Sue Wymer) and Bay Search and Rescue.

The sub-committees of the PCC continue to meet regularly throughout the year and work very well by discussing matters which need attention in greater detail and putting forward recommendations to the PCC. The two sub-committees are the Worship sub-committee and the Social sub-committee.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In addition, our Safeguarding officer, Judith Mitchell, has ensured that all safeguarding training is up to date and the DBS certificates are current.

St Paul's Church is signed up to easyfundraising, which started in December 2011 – so far £619.67 has been received.

I, as PCC Secretary, would like to take this opportunity to thank all PCC members for their attendance and contribution at meetings during the year.

Charitable Collections 2023

Barrow Foodbank	£ 40.81
DEC Turkey Syria Earthquake	£ 20.00
Christian Aid	£ 239.88
British Red Cross Libya Morocco Appeal	£ 73.00
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£ 117.00
Children's Society (Christingle)	£ 461.25
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 73.10
WaterAid	£ 405.00

Sub total £1,430.04

Charitable Giving 2023

DEC Turkey Syria Earthquake Appeal	£ 500.00
Christian Aid	£ 130.83
Tear Fund	£ 172.50
Rossall School (School Concert Proceeds)	£ 76.84
Prayers For Children - For Baptism Babies	£ 21.57
Bishop's Harvest Appeal	£ 33.00
British Red Cross Morocco Libya Appeal	£ 60.00
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£ 30.00
Burneside Brass Band	£ 150.00
Leprosy Mission	£ 100.00
Bay Search & Rescue	£ 787.62
St Mary's Hospice Sue Wymer Cuddle Bed Appeal	£ 787.62
<u>Sub total</u>	<u>£ 2,849.98</u>

Secular Collections 2023

None in 2023 Sub total Nil

TOTAL **£ 4,280.02**

Financial Review

General Fund

The total receipts for the year were £66,926.16 and the payments out were £58,659.39 plus charitable giving of £2,849.98, giving an in-year surplus of £8,416.79.

The above expenditure included items listed below. Some items attracted Listed Places of Worship (LPOW) grants whereby VAT is refunded, in which cases the total costs and the net costs after receipt of the LPOW grant are shown. The items are for St Paul's except where stated otherwise :-

- Defibrillator in cabinet and pads - £2,571
- Quinquennial Inspection Fee - £912
- Organ maintenance - £811.20 or £676 net of LPOW grant
- Boiler Service for St Paul's - £549.60 or £458 net of a LPOW grant
- Loudspeaker in the choir area - £361.30
- Fire Alarm - £354.30 or £335.91 net of a LPOW grant. Another LPOW grant will be claimed for this work because some of it was carried out after the latest grant application was made
- Lawnmowers for the Fell Church and for St Paul's, costing £253.99 and £94.98 respectively, total £348.97.
- Front Door Lock - £258.80 or £215.67 net of a LPOW grant.
- Robinsons Electric - Electrical work including lighting repairs - £218 or £198.83 - net of a LPOW grant. Another LPOW grant will be claimed for this work because some of it was carried out after the latest grant application was made.

- Fire Extinguisher service at St Paul's and at the Fell Church - £153.60 or £135 net of a LPOW grant. The grant applies to St Paul's but not to the Fell Church.
- Shelves in choir robing cupboard - £45.04.

Designated Building Fund

£2,100.00 was spent on repairs to leaded lights and hopper sections of windows in St Paul's Church. This was offset by a Listed Places of Worship grant of £350.00 giving a nett cost of £1750.00. This gives a reduction in the fund of £1,750.00.

At the end of 2023, the Church was left with the following balance of funds:

General Fund	£61,499.63
Building	£16,060.47
Total	£77,560.10

The expenditure incurred was in pursuit of the objectives of the Church in providing Christian Ministry in the Parish of St Paul, Grange-over-Sands. A detailed commentary on the figures is given in the Treasurer's Report, and the formal Statement of Assets and Liabilities providing a breakdown of the assets held, and the receipts and payments for the year is appended to this Annual Report.

Reserves Policy

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds, as far as may be possible, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. It is our policy to invest our funds with a CCLA Savings Account. A revised Reserves Policy was adopted by the PCC during 2009. At the meeting held on 11 July 2012, the PCC accepted the Reserves Policy document previously circulated. This called for reserves to be maintained, as far as possible, of:

- 6 months of normal expenditure including routine maintenance and renewals
- the next 12 months Parish Offer
- any identified special building maintenance or renewal items falling due in the next two years.

Do remember to look at the Church website which is an excellent source of information and is very attractive www.grangepcc.co.uk and don't forget that we also have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsGoS>

Approved by the PCC at their meeting on 3 March 2024

**The Parish Church of St Paul,
Grange over Sands**

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Parish Church of St Paul, Grange over Sands , Parochial Church Council.

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 3 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 members of the Parochial Church Council concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matters have come to our attention:

- which give us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act;
 - or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Redhead Accountancy Ltd
Bank House
Griffin Street
Broughton-in Furness
Cumbria
LA20 6HH

S. Turner 03/04/2024
Signed by SHARON TURNER FCA
on behalf of Redhead Accountancy L

Receipts and payments account

General Fund

	Year ended 31 December 2023	Year ended 31 December 2022 *
Receipts	£	£
Stewardship	37,331.43	38,792.78
Collections & Offertory	2,650.07	2,238.10
Tax Refunds	9,436.23	9,777.10
Legacy and Donations	3,498.54	1,945.10
<i>Receipts from Church Activities</i>		
Fees from weddings and funerals	2,196.33	3,178.27
Parish Magazine Sales	902.24	842.30
Printing and Advertising	694.30	960.24
Car Park and Church Lettings	1,525.00	1,820.00
Refreshments	954.79	1,037.13
Flowers	6.47	14.70
Fund Raising Event	7,311.40	6,145.15
Sundry Receipts	720.00	345.00
Interest	2,699.36	521.03
Total Receipts	69,926.16	67,617.50
Payments		
Parish Offer	22,000.00	20,000.00
Parish Payments	0.00	0.00
Deanery Levy	372.50	50.00
Wages	11,891.00	8,446.70
Utilities	4,054.92	3,742.34
Insurance	3,925.12	3,666.42
Clergy Expenses	7.91	1,119.50
Building Maintenance	3,819.28	3,502.51
Services/Altar/Books/Music	4,315.76	1,395.75
Office/Postage/Stationery/Telephone	4,746.23	4,526.83
Refreshments	235.10	101.29
Flowers	383.00	304.25
Fundraising Expenses	1,518.18	532.28
Independent examiner fee	270.00	576.00
Sundry	1,120.39	795.33
Total Payments	58,659.39	48,759.20
Excess receipts of payments	11,266.77	18,858.30
Charitable Giving	-2,849.98	-2,007.94
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	8,416.79	16,850.36
Balance b/f from St Paul's Grange over Sands at 1 March 2019	-	-
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	53,082.84	36,232.48
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	61,499.63	53,082.84

Receipts and payments account – Designated Fund

	Year ended 31 December 2023		Year Ended 31 December 2022	
	Building Fund £		Building Fund £	
Receipts				
LPOW Grant	350.00		1,238.00	
Donations			1,605.00	
Gift Aid			400.00	
	<u>350.00</u>	<u></u>	<u>3,243.00</u>	<u></u>
			-	
Payments				
Albion Glass	2,100.00			
Border Floor			5,571.00	
	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u></u>	<u>5,571.00</u>	<u></u>
Excess of receipts over payments	(1,750.00)		(2328.00)	
Transfers between Funds	-	-		-
Surplus / deficit for the period	<u>(1,750.00)</u>	<u></u>	<u>(2,328.00)</u>	<u></u>
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	17,810.47		20,138.47	
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	<u>16,060.47</u>	<u></u>	<u>17,810.47</u>	<u></u>

Financial Statements for the period ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Asset and Liabilities

As at 31 December 2023

MONETARY ASSETS

	General Fund	Designated Fund Building	CPTM	Holding Account	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
CCLA	51,791.62	16,060.47	-	-	67,852.09
Lloyds	9,708.01	-	-	100.00	9,808.01
	61,499.63	16,060.47	0.00	100.00	77,660.10

As at 31 December 2022

MONETARY ASSETS

	General Fund	Designated Fund Building	CPTM	Holding Account	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
CCLA	38,980.26	16,172.47	-	-	55,152.73
Lloyds	14,102.58	1,638.00	1,779.00	100.00	17,772.31
	53,082.84	17,810.47	1,779.00	100.00	72,772.31

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts & Payments basis.
2. There were no non-monetary assets, liabilities or provisions for donations at 31 December 2023.
3. There is no record of the historical cost of any other non-monetary assets.

St Pauls Church Grange over Sands

Trust Fund Accounts 2023

The accounts set out below report the transactions and assets of the additional non-church funds for which the Rector and Churchwardens have been charged with responsibility.

C of E School Foundation Managers

	2023 £	2022 £
Receipts		
Interest	523.32	156.85
Payments		
Disadvantaged support	806.71	740.00
Excess of receipts over payments	(283.39)	(583.15)
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	12,231.95	12,815.10
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	11,948.56	12,231.95
Represented by:		
Cash at bank		
Nat West A/c 83281266	344.27	237.48
CDBF Ac D 01274	4,731.24	4,731.24
+ CCLA A/c CB3038489	6,873.05	7,263.23
	11,948.56	12,231.95

Bertha Trotter Bequest

	2023 £	2022 £
Receipts		
Interest and bank compensation	880.20	249.93
Donations		
Payments		
	75.00	0.00
	805.20	249.93
Excess of receipts over payments	805.20	249.93
Attributable bank balance at 1 January	19,352.35	19,102.42
Attributable bank balance at 31 December	20,157.55	19,352.35
Represented by:		
Cash at bank		
Nat West A/c 83289569	175.14	100.14
CDBF Ac D 1942	16,767.10	16,031.43
CCLA A/c CB3039786	3,215.31	3,220.78
	20,157.55	19,352.35

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Bank House
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LA20 6HH

S Turner 03/04/2024
Signed by SHARON TURNER FCA
on behalf of Redhead Accountancy L