

The Annual Report of **The Parish of the Icknield Way Villages**

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of the Icknield Way Villages (the "Parish" of the "PCC")

Charity Commission registered number: 1136222

For the financial year beginning on: 01/01/2024

For the financial year ending on: 31/12/2024

Charity's principal address: The Church Office, Crawley End, Chrishall, Royston, Herts, SG8 8QL

Governing document: The Parochial Church Council Powers Measure (1956) as amended and Church Representation Rules, supported by the Parish Constitution approved on 26th October 2009. The Parish is a Church of England parish within the Diocese of Chelmsford

Objects of the charity: Promoting in the Parish the whole mission of the Church.

Specific investment powers: None.

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TRUSTEES AND GOVERNANCE

Name of trustee	Dates during which the named trustee acted if not for the whole year	Basis of appointment
James Webster – Rector	23 May 2024	By virtue of office
Jon Wayper (Parish Warden – chair)		By virtue of office
Laurence Brett (Treasurer)		By virtue of office
Elaine Knobel-Forbes		Little Chishill DCC
Angela Patrick		Great Chishill DCC
Fiona Dyer		Chrishall DCC
Liz Stott		Strethall DCC
Mel Chandler		Heydon DCC
Edward Tozer		Elmdon DCC
David Wilkinson		Elected Member
Sarah Westerhuis		Hamlet DCC

PCC members' selection method: by virtue of office, or by election, or by appointment, one from each of the seven District Church Councils within the Parish.

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 their local DCC's. A General meeting of the parish is held annually at which all those on the Electoral Rolls across the Parish are encouraged to take part.

PCC members Payments: None of the PCC members is paid any fee or salary by the PCC.

Trading Activities: Any functions or events arranged on behalf of the PCC are organised by volunteers on its behalf. The PCC does not operate any trading company.

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ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Parish was Interregnum in 2024 until the appointment of James Webster on 23 May 2024.

The PCC supervises the activities of the Parish of the Icknield Way Villages. The accounts presented with this report show the financial outcome of the combined activities of the 7 Districts within the Parish for the year ending 31st December 2024. The PCC met 4 times during the year in February, June, September and November and reviewed local district matters, safeguarding and financial matters.

The Districts are responsible for the promotion of the whole mission of the church in their communities, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical, and for the operation and maintenance of the church buildings within those communities. They also support the PCC by arranging to provide financial transfers so that the PCC can fulfil its obligations (via the Icknield Way Parish Trust) to pay its quota to the Diocese, to support the Parish Office and to maintain its presence in the community.

The population of the Parish is approximately 2,300. During 2024 there were 123 (2023 – 139) parishioners on the Church Electoral Rolls.

Church Services; In 2024 we were grateful for the continued support of a huge number of visiting clergy and members of our own PCC to deliver a full range of regular services for the first few months of the year. These included 9am BCP services, 10.45 Family Worship services as well as a number of Evensong services. Service formats also included Café Church.

Study Groups; Youth work developed in the year with the Youth Outreach, One Way Club (in Chrishall School) and Church Mice groups. Special groups for the study of the Bereavement Journey were held and well attended. The introduction of an alternative Saturday gathering in the year has been considered a great success in attracting families into the Church outside of traditional Sunday services.

From the registers; There were 3 weddings, 15 funerals and 1 baptism registered across the Parish in 2024.

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The Parish is fortunate to be able to make use of the parish office and a part-time parish manager. This serves a vital role in providing a contact point for the community, and is funded by the Parish Trust. Additionally through the Parish Trust, the Parish supports the Rector's expenses and provides resources associated with the Sunday services, together with the wider mission of the church in the Parish.

Parish activity has continued all year including:

The Church Alive in the Community.

- Church services on Sundays.
- The self-sustaining Village Web magazine, delivered free to all households in the Parish for 10 months of the year
- Remembrance Day Services.
- Lent Course held in Chrishall Village Hall
- Regular Coffee mornings
- Gospel Choir
- Bereavement Journey course
- Saturday Gathering
- Support of Headway as our Parish Charity.
- Parish Walk
- Christmas Carol tour of Parish Pubs

Activities directly related to our Christian Faith and its development.

- During the year several bible study groups met and maintained Christian teaching.
- Marriage preparation courses.
- Lent Course
- One Way Club at Chrishall Primary school
- Bereavement Journey course.

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Activities designed to appeal to a wider audience of people who might not normally consider attending church, examples of which include:

- Operation of the Parish website.
- Men's group meets monthly in the Red Cow Pub.
- Using Chrishall Village Hall for a monthly service
- Parish Walk
- Range of social events in each District using the Church building as a host location.
- Saturday Gathering

RESERVES POLICY.

The PCC, including its DCC's showed a surplus of income on general funds of £6,332.72 (2023 surplus £13,996.59) during the year. The surplus was carried to reserves.

At the year end there were £100,018.85 (2023 £91,036.13) in general funds across the Parish.

There were also restricted and designated funds available only for the purposes (mainly fabric and repairs) specified by their donors and also endowment funds, which are severely constrained in their use. These endowment funds are mainly held in Trust for the Parish by the Diocese. The total value of all non-general funds totalled £1,214,771.01 (2023 £1,136,049.56).

These funds are held by the major high street banks, the CBF Church of England Investment Funds, building societies. Investments are also held by the Diocese of Chelmsford, by approved investment managers and by the Parish as custodians of the endowment and other funds concerned.

GRANT MAKING POLICY.

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The PCC in its own right has the power to make donations to any person or organisation existing for the advancement of the Christian religion in any part of the world.

SIGNATURE AND DECLARATION

Declaration: We declare, in our capacity of charity trustees, that:

- the trustees have approved the annual report above and
- have authorised us to sign it on their behalf.

Signatures J Webster

L.J.Brett

Full names James Webster

Laurence Brett

Position Rector

Treasurer

29 April 2024

Icknield Way Villages

Accounts 31st December 2024

Icknield Way Villages Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024
Consolidated IWP and DCC accounts

Incoming Resources (page 7)

	Unrestricted General	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	2023
Voluntary Income						
Planned Giving (Gift Aided)	17,646.96	1,290.00			18,936.96	19,151.96
Collections & Plate	17,499.89	196.60			17,696.49	12,843.36
Sundry Donations and appeals	9,103.66	10,823.50			19,927.16	11,857.41
Income Tax recovered	11,628.46				11,628.46	18,354.83
Grants	300.00	9,000.00			9,300.00	14,615.00
Activities for generating funds						
Fetes, Concerts etc	9,849.50	2,110.87			11,960.37	10,735.16
Investment Income						
Dividends and Interest	634.22	10,307.51	206.25	30,685.05	41,833.03	37,895.05
Income from Church Activities						
Income to be redistributed	0.00				0.00	0.00
Fees from Weddings, Funerals etc	5,913.60				5,913.60	3,177.00
Parish Magazine	0.00				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00		6,290.00		6,290.00	0.00
Other Incoming resources						
Other Receipts	1,040.81	50.00				
Total Incoming Resources	73,617.10	33,778.48	6,496.25	30,685.05	143,486.07	128,629.77

Icknield Way Villages Accounts 31st December 2024

Icknield Way Villages Resources Expended (Page 8)

	Unrestricted General	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	2023
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income						330.74
Parish Transfers to Trust						
Fundraising trading Costs	993.05	59.41			1,052.46	385.58
Event Costs						
Church Activities						
Donations	757.00	50.00			807.00	12,090.67
Diocesan Quota	35,818.06				35,818.06	30,170.25
Other Clergy Costs	0.00				0.00	
Church running expenses	9,389.32		0.00	24,232.79	33,622.11	8,155.93
Church maintenance	6,098.60	12,517.25			18,615.85	18,178.47
Insurance	12,900.62	1,620.64			14,521.26	9,645.37
Upkeep of services					0.00	0.00
Upkeep of Churchyard	1,000.00	842.00			1,842.00	2,698.00
Church Office Costs					0.00	0.00
Bank Charges & Interest					0.00	65.91
Miscellaneous	327.73	96.60		5,264.47	5,688.80	8,331.07
Work Completed					0.00	9,035.60
Total	67,284.38	15,185.90	0.00	29,497.26	111,967.54	99,087.59

Icknield Way Villages
Accounts 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted General	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	2023
Total Incoming Resources as above (see page 7)	73,617.10	33,778.48	6,496.25	30,685.05	144,576.88	128,629.77
Less Total Resources Expended as above (see page 8)	67,284.38	15,185.90	0.00	29,497.26	111,967.54	99,087.59
Net Incoming (outgoing) Resources	6,332.72	18,592.58	6,496.25	1,187.79	32,609.34	29,542.18
Transfers between funds	2,650.00	-2,650.00			0.00	
Gains (losses) on revaluation of Fixed Assets	0.00	7,687.23	0.00	16,570.86	24,258.09	15,794.91
Gains (losses) on investment assets	0.00	5,950.87	0.00	-1,099.39	4,851.48	3,176.16
Net movement in Funds	8,982.72	29,580.68	6,496.25	16,659.26	61,718.91	48,513.25
Add Total Funds brought forward at 1 January 2024	91,036.13	440,657.98	9,958.78	716,418.05	1,258,070.94	1,196,067.57
Total Funds carried forward at 31 December 2024	100,018.85	470,238.66	16,455.03	733,077.31	1,319,789.85	1,258,070.94

Icknield Way Villages Accounts 31st December 2024

Icknield Way Villages Balance Sheet

	Unrestricted General	Restricted	Designated	Endowment	Total	2023
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Fixed Assets	0.00	106,252.57				
Investments	0.00	212,942.06		645,689.53		
Total Fixed Assets	0.00	319,194.63	0.00	645,689.53	964,884.16	938,645.10
Current Assets						
Stocks	4,416.44	98,356.08		0.00	102,772.52	
Debtors	1,143.82	0.00		2,767.77	3,911.59	4,082.67
Short Term Deposits	154.26	0.00		0.00	154.26	13,469.26
Cash at Bank & in hand	98,802.37	52,687.96	16,455.03	84,620.01	252,565.37	288,383.78
sub-total	104,516.89	151,044.04	16,455.03	87,387.78	359,403.74	305,935.71
Less: Creditors falling due within 1 year	81.60	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,081.60	10,000.00
Total net Current Assets	104,435.29	146,044.04	16,455.03	87,387.78	354,322.14	295,935.71
Total Fixed & Current Assets less current liabilities	104,435.29	465,238.67	16,455.03	733,077.31	1,319,206.30	1,258,070.54
Less creditors falling due after 1 year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Net Assets	104,435.29	465,238.67	16,455.03	733,077.31	1,319,206.30	1,258,070.94
Funds						
Endowments				734,077.31	734,077.31	716,418.05
Designated			16,455.03		16,455.03	9,958.78
Restricted		464,238.67			464,238.67	440,657.98
Unrestricted	104,435.29				104,435.29	91,036.13
Total Funds	104,435.29	464,238.67	16,455.03	734,077.31	1,319,206.30	1,258,070.94

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of the Icknield Way Villages
(The Icknield Way PCC)
Charity Number 1136222

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees.

I report on the accounts of the The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of the Icknield Way Villages for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are presented as:

- Accounts on pages 7 to 10

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees 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 my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow 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 my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners Statement.

My 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 you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the 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
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: (signed copy held by charity)