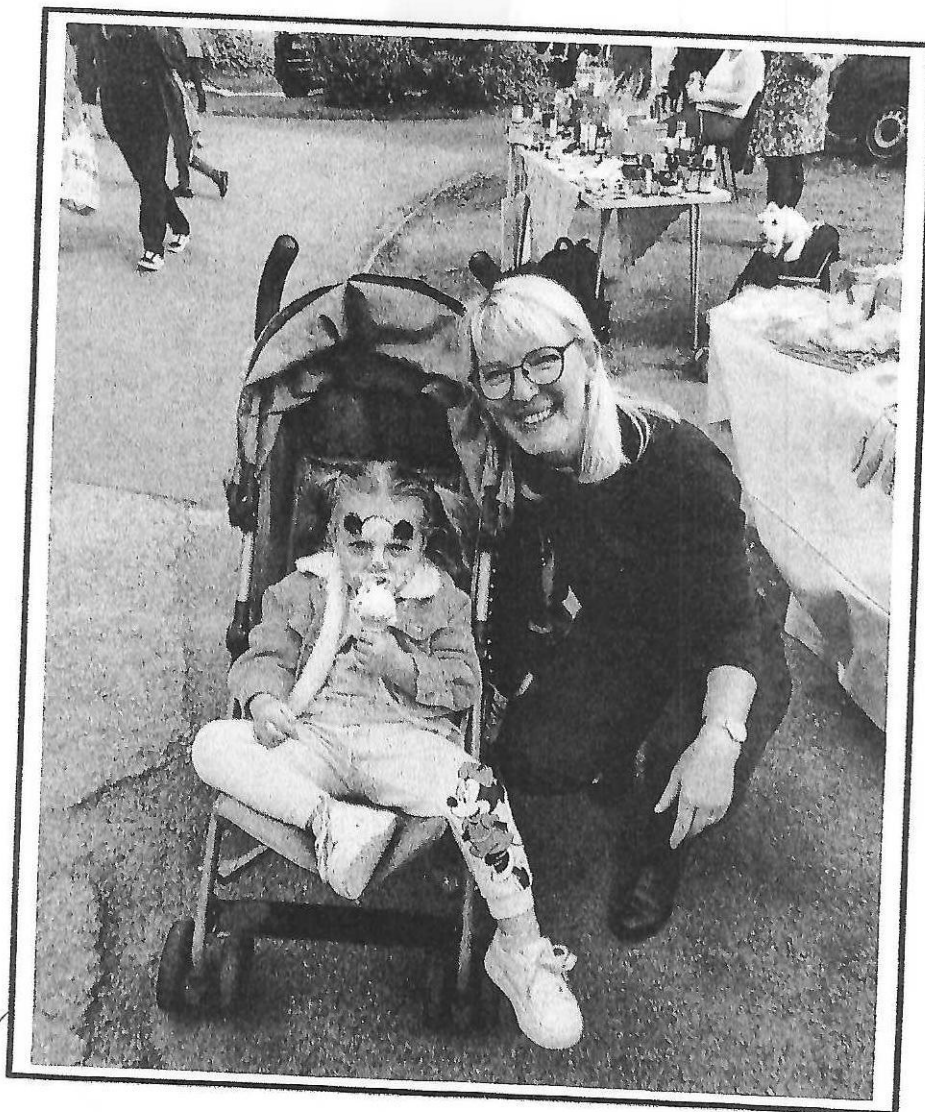


PARISH CHURCH OF BARBOURNE ST STEPHEN

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



The Autumn Fayre 2023

Michelle Walsh - Parish Administrator
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1137099

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PRIEST IN CHARGE

CLERGY REPORT

2023 - what a year it's been! I have to begin by acknowledging the enormous amount of change we have been through together since our last APCM and with all that has happened I find myself returning to the comfort of these words from Ecclesiastes:

*'For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven;.....
.....a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;.....
.....a time to break down, and a time to build up;.....'*

Many of you will recognise these verses but I draw your attention to them because the writer of the passage also understands he has a God he can trust absolutely; a God who 'endures forever' and has 'made everything suitable for its time.' That, I believe is a fitting reflection of the past twelve months here at St. Stephen's - we bid fond farewells to some significant people and we welcomed some new ones. There were some groups that came to a natural end and there are some new things beginning. Along with those changes we've been acutely aware of the cycle of life, death and life.

The Church went into vacancy at the end of June and the process of finding a new priest began. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our Church Wardens Ruth Scotson and Kevin Maltby who managed the process wonderfully whilst also acting as joint Vice Chairs to the PCC. Huge thanks are also extended to Margaret Mandrell, Stephen Malkinson and Ann Waizeneker who covered many services prior to my licensing and installation as your new priest in charge. And what a warm and wonderful celebration that was! My thanks again for making it such a memorable occasion.

It would be impossible to acknowledge everything that has occurred over the past year during this report so my focus will be on a few of our priorities.

Over the summer months we successfully applied for shared funding from the Diocesan Health and Sustainability Fund and jointly employed our Children, Youth and Families Worker Helen who has already made an enormous difference to the three churches she is attached to in the short time she has been with us. Her work at St. Stephen's has been most noticeable with our new worshipping community Sunday Stars which celebrated its first birthday this month. She has also been instrumental in our collaborative work with Claines and Saint George's Church on a number of initiatives such as Path of God (POG) Youth Group which moves around the churches and other one-off outreach events. We maintain our good relationships with Northwick Manor Primary School and Perdiswell Primary Academy Trust and we continue to minister to the students at Bishop Perowne Church of England College through our role as chaplains.

Later in the year we hosted our annual Autumn Fair and were really blessed by the good weather which brought many people into the church and its grounds. Virtually all of you here, helped in some way or other, whether behind the scenes, in practical ways or by supporting on the day. This is one of the hallmarks of St. Stephen's - a body of people that pulls together when there is a job to be done. That sense of community is something we continue to build on through focussed attention to our Health and Sustainability Plan put together last year by the PCC. This work was supported by our Diocesan Mission Accompanier Victoria who will be with us for a few more months helping us to initiate some of the things we'd like to see happen. By worshipping God, sharing hope with new worshipping communities and making new disciples we hope to transform our community by our continued outreach and by making the church building even more accessible.

Hospitality is great witness to our faith and something we excel at here. I couldn't begin to count the many lives that are so touched by the hospitality received here through Open Church, Little Stars, Good Companions, our new Craft and Chatter initiative and of course the faithful team who provide refreshments for us every Sunday after worship. Huge thanks are extended to all who coordinate these sessions and all who

volunteer. None of it would be possible without your time, your care and your commitment. Thanks also to all of you who commit to giving of your resources so generously in other ways. From a financial perspective (and since our payment was reduced under the new ministry share scheme) we were able to pay our share in full and reserve some funds for some much-needed maintenance works.

As I write, there are contractors on site attending to repairs in our bell tower and church building. None of this would be possible without your continued financial support and I thank you again for your generosity. Many of you now contribute through the Parish Giving Scheme and it would be good to see even more of you commit to this more streamlined method of giving if you were able to. As always, our contractors are always under the careful supervision of Adrian Everett who along with Paul Kennett and others maintain and repair our place of worship when small (and not so small!) works are required. Grateful thanks to you both for the long hours you put in.

Looking to the future I return to the place I began. We've been through a lot of change and further change is inevitable. One of the things I'm most looking forward to is working more collaboratively with our neighbours at St. John Baptist and Saint George's Church. This will open up even more opportunities and will herald in a new season for all of us. We are almost ready to begin a new Home Group, work towards our next Eco Award has already begun and the redesigned children's area is in hand now that the North Aisle space is completely flexible.

My thanks to all the various groups, teams, working parties and individuals that do so much to keep the church building and its mission and ministry thriving. It would be impossible to name you all but my very grateful thanks to Nick Dunster, the choir and our musicians. To the bell ringers and brass polishers, to David Anwyl-Hughes and all the altar team. To the flower arrangers the cleaners and the cake makers. To the linen and the light bulb changers, to the readers and the welcomers. To Michelle, our fabulous Parish Administrator who quietly contributes in so many ways. Your skills are many and your presence always a joy. And finally, to all of you, the welcoming, loving hospitable body of Christ here at St. Stephen's.

We have so much to be thankful for because we know we can trust in our God who is faithful and endures; who makes everything suitable for its time. It's a privilege to serve both Him and you.

Rev. Lindsey Coulthard
Priest-in-Charge
April 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE APCM **(YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2023)**

The Accounts show that we managed to make a surplus of £15,061 in respect of the unrestricted (or the general) funds of the Church and excluding the unrealised gain in the year, value of the investments. This was because the PCC did not make a token contribution to the Diocesan Fund for other parishes following the recalculation of the Parish Share in 2020. PCC agreed to transfer £13,000 to the fabric fund towards the costs to be incurred in 2024.

Turning to the Accounts and starting at page 17 which gives details of the items of income and expenditure:

- a) The total money received under planned giving (that is the money paid by standing order or under the Parish Giving Scheme) has risen slightly from the previous year of £63,288 to £71,528. The move to use the Parish Giving Scheme helps to reduce the administration time dealing with the monthly receipts and to automatically recover the gift aid on a monthly basis without having to do the work ourselves.
- b) The grants and donations in the main relate to monies received for specific purposes.
- c) We have also benefitted from the increase in bank interest rates on the funds we hold pending the anticipated building works.

Whilst the accounts appear to show a healthy position, they do not account for potential substantial quotations for works to the buildings to carry out basic repairs, particularly from the Quinquennial review and the PCC is prioritising the works with the funds available.

If you have any questions on the accounts, please ask me or e-mail your question to Richard.hemmings211@btinternet.com

Richard Hemmings

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

It is hard to believe that so much change has occurred during the year and just as we were beginning to settle into our relatively new roles as churchwardens, we learned that there was going to be a time of vacancy. This has been a steep learning curve, with new responsibilities including jointly chairing the PCC meetings and updating the parish profile.

However, the period of vacancy has also provided us all the opportunity to reflect on what we hope to achieve at St Stephen's and the consultation that we carried out with members of the congregation and the wider community has been invaluable and will be referred to regularly in the months ahead. We are also incredibly grateful to Lindsey, Margaret and Stephen who ensured that all services were planned and covered during the vacancy and to Andy who has continued to look after the vicarage.

On a weekly basis it has been lovely to meet worshippers each week and to hear about your news. We have also valued taking our role in the services, whether as readers or Eucharistic assistants. This is a real privilege and also to have the opportunity to support visitors who are not as familiar with the format of our worship, especially at Baptisms, Funerals and at Christmas services.

In between the work there have been many times of fun. A highlight was in helping with the Autumn Fayre in September 2023. How we managed to cause Lidl, the Coop and Sainsbury's to run out of burgers was truly amazing! We are also particularly humbled by the talent and skills of so many of our congregation who make our role easier. In particular we should highlight the work that is so skilfully carried out by Adrian Everett and Paul Kennett and others on the fabric of the building.

Please do have a word if you are aware of things we should be doing but aren't – all advice is gratefully received.

Kevin Maltby and Ruth Scotson

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Worcester Area Deanery Synod has been established for three years. In the year 2023 there were three formal meetings of the Deanery Synod and one gathering of members for the Ascension Day Service (18th May) which was at Hallow. The first meeting was held at the parish church of St Philip and St James in Hallow in March. Area Dean, Revd Diane Cooksey, asked the outgoing Archdeacon, Robert Jones to lead us in worship. Revd Kalantha Brewis the Vicar at Hallow gave an overview of the four churches that make up the West Worcester Beacon Group of churches with Hallow being the largest, but also including Grimley, Holt, and Lower Broadheath. The (then) Lay Chair, Robert Pearce, gave an update on vacancies – particularly the Saltway Team which is to be provided with an extra 50% diocesan post to make it up to a full-time post – and the position of retired, Revd David Sherwin's position to be filled as a 'House for Duty'. Feedback was given from the Diocesan Synod and a copy of that summary later circulated for PCC members and Parish Secretaries. If you as a Parishioner did not get a copy of that and want to in the future, then ask your Deanery Representative or PCC Secretary.

A question from the floor of the Meeting why we did not 'as a Deanery' discuss the 'Living in Love and Faith'. Revd. Diane Cooksey explained that it had not been a matter for Synods except General Synod although people were encouraged to engage with the Living in Love and Faith (LLF) process. She said that there had been extensive advertising of Diocesan LLF Courses and also as a Deanery we too had provided an online course too so that people could discuss the issues. It had not been well attended. About 'Kingdom People' and priorities. Diane Cooksey spoke about the vision for doubling the number of children and young people attending. The intention to fund 'at least' two children/youth workers per Deanery. Regarding 'New Housing Communities' we were told that money may be available for new building development. Mention was made of 'Faith at Work'.

New and returning Synod Members attended the 1st Session of the 2nd Worcester Area Deanery Synod at Broadwas Village Hall in July. The Area Dean reminded the meeting that our Deanery currently has 42 church buildings not including the Cathedral; 12 Benefices; 31 Parishes; 14 stipendiary Clergy; 6 stipendiary Curates; an unknown amount of PTO's (as some live within or without the Deanery...); 2 self-supporting Curates; 13 LLM's (and some in training); 27 ALM's (last year!) of differing vocations.

Synod Representatives were asked to consider what: 1) Joys; 2) Challenges; that we thought our individual Parishes represented. Diane explained that following the retirement of Revd David Sherwin 18 months ago, it had been agreed that the Northwest parishes of Clifton, The Shelsleys and Harpley will be transferred to the Kidderminster and Stourport Deanery where they will form part of what will be a 'Rural Mission Area' with three priests sharing a responsibility for them all. It was hoped that the Rev'd Julia Curtis will be licensed to these parishes in the Autumn.

Sarah Northall spoke on Mainly Music – Anne Potter spoke about 'Forest Church', Lindsey Coulthard told us of a 'Sunday Stars'. Money is available (up to £1000 initially) to 'kickstart' a project from the Kingdom People fund.

Diane declared Sue Rowlands – Lay Chair; Paul Fulbrook – Secretary; Robert Pearce – Treasurer. Diane appointed Revd's Paul Wilcox and Anne Potter to the Deanery Leadership Team.

Prayer cards obtained from The Diocese relating to 'Vision' and 'Growth' were distributed for members to take back to their PCC's.

The final meeting took place on Tuesday 14th November 2023 at St Helen's, Worcester.

Rev'd Dr Rich Johnson gave Synod some information about the restoration of St Helen's Church, including a brief history of St Helen, the mother of Emperor Constantine. The meeting was told about the long-term plan for installing a door in the church directly onto the High Street.

Sue Rowlands, the Lay Chair, gave a brief introduction to herself and said that she would like to be invited to parishes to come and find out more about them. She introduced the three priorities that should be the focus over the next 3 years of this current synod. They are: Praying for one another, Communicating more effectively, Working more Collaboratively where appropriate.

The date of future meetings was given out including the intention to hold the November 2024 one on a Saturday morning saving the need to travel on a dark night and to allow for a more innovative discussion platform.

Paul Fulbrook

CHURCH FABRIC REPORT

Undertaking Fabric Works on our Church, Tower, Hall and Churchyard has a dash of This, That and Whatever-Next type activities. We handle simple repairs/upgrades and servicing of existing equipment, manage contractors and then there are the challenges, like "let us take out the North Aisle Pews and magic them away!" So, things are never dull.

HIGHLIGHTS OF WORKS UNDERTAKEN THIS YEAR:

- Church: Toilet foul drain blockage, serious and costly repair (good start to the year!) – January
- Churchyard: Resurfacing of driveways, parking areas and footpaths – March.
- Hall: Room swap with Sticky Fingers Storeroom and Print Room - April.
- Hall: Print Room, Sticky Fingers Storeroom and Kitchen: new LED Ceiling Lights fitted – April.
- Hall: Underside of Stage: cleared out debris from under Stage filling a 7yd skip – April.
- Hall: Cleaner's Cupboard: water heater replaced - June.
- Church: Nave Pendant Lights uprated with new corn-shaped LED light bulbs doubly light output - June.
- Church: North Aisle: 4 off pews removed from here plus 2 off pews previously remove (electronic organ install) and stored (flat-pack style) under the Hall Stage. Ramp added at front edge of higher pew flooring. - July.
- Churchyard: Bench refurbished (paintwork/wooden slats) – July.
- Hall: Kitchen Extract Fan fitted - September.
- Church: New Convactor Heater MCB installed (to remove old switch with ACM fuse backing) - September
- Church/Tower/Hall: 5-yearly Electrical Installation Condition Report (EICR) was conducted in June with noted failures in three areas. These were later resolved in September.
- Church: Install new Hearing Loop Amplifier and rewire Chancel Lights on to separate power supply (after losing lights when old Hearing Loop Amplifier blew-up) – November.
- Churchyard: Trees, shrubs and bushes cut back to an expected standard removing possible dangerous branches – December.
- Church and Hall: Additional external PIR Lights installed around the buildings – throughout the year.

(Church: Remaining pews removed from north aisle and stored (flat-pack style) under the Hall Stage – Jan'24.)

Annual checks completed on Portable Appliances (PAT test), Gas Boilers, Clock, Bells, Fire & Emergency Equipment – Spring.

Church: General fabric condition was reviewed with our Architect in May to assess the most urgent works required to reduce the risk of serious deterioration of the building that would cause the building's closure and inability to use it. This enabled us to develop a scope of works to cost and expedite asap; this work starts during Spring-2024.

My sincere thanks to Paul Kennett for his support to me during the last years with the many "little jobs" we have undertaken ourselves to improve the quality of the presence, safety and experience for all Church, Tower, Hall and Churchyard users.

Adrian Everett – Fabric Coordinator

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The PCC have adopted and follow the Parish Safeguarding Policy and the Parish Safeguarding Handbook. Our recruitment processes for staff and volunteers are consistent with Diocesan guidance.

Following this safer recruitment guidance and in order to be compliant with it, there are now role descriptions for all church volunteer activities and you are encouraged to read the ones which apply to your particular role/roles. They are to be found in a named folder in The Hartley Brown Room.

The PCC, Andy Todd and Lindsey Coulthard have worked hard to ensure that St Stephen's is safer through regard for policy, safer recruitment and training.

The aim is that all staff and volunteers are safely recruited, have the correct level of DBS and up to date training.

There is now a requirement that clergy, lay ministers and safeguarding officers will also complete training in domestic abuse, following The Church of England's commitment to supporting those who are victims and survivors.

St Stephen's is currently around 94% compliant with Diocesan, guidance on safeguarding. Your commitment to contributing to this in order to make our church safe for all is greatly appreciated.

Carol Amos - Parish Safeguarding Officer

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

We entered the Year 2023 with an Electoral Roll numbering 146.

The Roll was gradually revised during 2023 and we left 2023 with a Roll of 154 people.

It is interesting to note that still more than 52% of members of the Roll live outside the Parish Boundaries!

It is only Electoral Roll members who are eligible to vote for and stand for election to the PCC and other offices within the Parish.

The Roll complies with Data Protection Regulations as they stood at the APCM in 2023 and will be updated to any new Data Protection standards as necessary.

Access to the Electoral Roll is restricted on a "need to know" basis and is controlled by the Roll Officer and the Priest-in-Charge to who any queries should be addressed. The Roll is for Church purposes only.

Paul Kennett – Electoral Roll Officer

SUNDAY STARS REPORT

This month (May) Sunday Stars celebrated its first birthday with coffee, croissants and cake! I can hardly believe it's been a whole year since our new worshipping community first gathered and in that time we have celebrated some big church festivals and looked at stories of Jesus. We have a number of regular families for whom this is 'church' which is exactly the reason for its existence and we're supported by a regular team of talented volunteers whose creative skills enable even the smallest of family members to engage in worship. My grateful thanks to Robyn, Helen, Dot and Stephen whose passion for children and families make this offering possible.

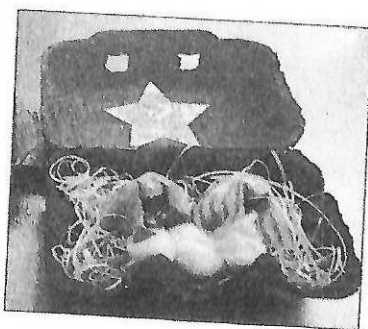
If you've ever wondered what we do and how we do it – you'd be most welcome to come and join us though I should warn you we begin with a rather energetic song called 'Jumping for God' – and yes we do jump, and skip and clap and wave so bring your energy with you! There is always room for more volunteers too so if you have a spare hour or so a month, do please consider joining the team.

Rev. Lindsey.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES REPORT

I started work for St Stephens, St Georges and Claines at the end of September 2023. After a period of induction, I have been getting to know the three churches and some of the local schools.

The church has plans to revamp the children's area within the church. I am providing photocopied age-appropriate resources that follow the lectionary, for the children to engage with during the service or while they visit open church on a Saturday.



Sunday Stars – We have several regular families that appreciate this family focussed 30 minute service. The session is advertised on Facebook and at Little stars on a Thursday. I helped lead the session in December. In advance I created the egg-box nativities for each family, which they helped to finish during the session.

POG (Path of God) The joint churches youth group is attended by around 14 young people, with a team of leaders from each of the churches. POG is a faith-based group, that always has a message wrapped up in a great deal of fun. POG meets each month, around the 3rd Sunday 4:00 – 6:00. The session usually starts with board games as they arrive, then a fun activity to link in with the theme, then the 'talk' which could be presented via a story, a quiz, a game or a discussion, we then break for food and end with high energy games. Much fun is had by the young people and leaders.

Schools



Northwick Manor - Plans were in place for me to go into school at harvest but was cancelled due to illness. In December each child in KS1 was provided with a star to decorate, these along with ones also provided by Little Stars and Sticky fingers were used to decorate the church.

Tudor Grange Primary Academy - Lindsey and Helen visited for their all-school Harvest assembly.

Bishop Perowne – although not in our parish, our primary schools feed into the high school. Both Lindsey and Helen are a part of the chaplain team, which provides assemblies and service for the students.

Air-Cadets – Along with Lindsey I visited a session and joined them selling poppies in November.

Vision – My vision is to see the three churches working together across the whole community, creating accessible ways that children and their families can find a route to their loving God. Not every event will suite every family so we will need a wide provision and this will take volunteers, I would love to see volunteers engaging with this mission from across the churches no matter where the activity is taking place – we are stronger together.

Volunteers – If you would like to volunteer for either Sunday stars or POG, or other one-off events, please contact Helen Laird cypfwr3@gmail.com or speak to Lindsey.

Helen Laird

OPEN CHURCH REPORT

Open Church happens every Thursday and every Saturday from 10:30am – 12:30pm. Our Church doors are open wide, to welcome anyone who would like to come in, to enjoy refreshments and a chat. Some people prefer to sit quietly on their own, in the pews or go to the Lady Chapel, to light a candle and, of course, are welcome to do so.

We have 18 enthusiastic “Sitters” (i.e. welcomers/refreshment servers), with three on duty at each session.

Thursdays are usually very busy, partly due to people staying on after the 10 o’clock Service. The numbers on Saturdays vary, depending on weather, holidays, etc but there are always enough people to provide a welcoming, friendly atmosphere. Conversation topics vary greatly, depending on the mix of people and there is much laughter.

Since the removal of pews in the North Aisle, we have had more room, which has been very welcome. We tried having separate small tables (as in a café), but found that, generally, people wanted to continue sharing one table. With more space we’ve been able to make the table bigger and it’s usually filled.

It’s been lovely to see friendships formed round the table and, as a result of coming to Open Church, some people now attend Church Services.

I am extremely grateful to all our Sitters, who give their time, so happily and willingly, to keep our Church open and welcoming. Many thanks, too, to the cake makers and biscuit providers. “A great team” – as one of our visitors said!

Sue Gething

SUNDAY MORNING REFRESHMENTS REPORT

Serving Sunday tea and coffee in Church after the 10 am service is a lovely way to get to know worshippers better. We are really grateful to our band of dedicated volunteers who have provided a warm drink, biscuits and cheery conversation.

If you might be interested in joining our rota and serving refreshments approximately once every eight weeks, please do have a word or send a message to ruth.scotson@gmail.com.

Ruth Scotson

GOOD COMPANIONS REPORT

Looking Back over 2023. Once again this group has been richly blessed as St Stephen's handymen have been busy so we have gained some extra room in the North aisle for tables and chairs, which will be useful. As we look over the past year, there were 14 indoor meetings plus several trips and an opportunity to go to the theatre together.

Highlights include a trip to Bonnie's café at Wildgoose Rural Training for afternoon tea and cake; a visit to Tewkesbury in a rain storm followed by another rainy afternoon when we were invited to share a sumptuous tea at Alan and Pat's home fortunately indoors.

Theatre visits included Kays Pantomime, Alice in Wonderland; WODS The Sound of Music and then in November we went to WMTC for their revue 'Movin' on Up'.

Charitable giving has been generous as always to Salvation Army, and British Heart Foundation via Banjo Brian.

I would like to clarify how our group works. There is no joining fee or subscription. Everyone is welcome whether one attends St Stephen's or not, this is an inclusive club with a warm heart. There are just two requirements - £2.00 per session as we need to pay for heat and speakers and the second is contact details if you are coming to the theatre or on minibus trips. This is in case any unforeseen things happen and you need to be advised.

Everyone helps each other here but I must thank especially Margaret for making tea and Christmas fruit cake as well as giving us talks; Lynda for ably looking after our accounts, and David for helping and being my memory aid. My grateful thanks too to anyone, who has helped with the refreshments and washing up. This year 2024 we are looking forward to more fun, party and fellowship at Good Companions.

Christine Allen

ST STEPHEN'S VISITORS / PASTORAL CARE GROUP REPORT

The Pastoral group has been running now for just over a year. Our aim is to offer support to the lonely and vulnerable in our community and to take communion once a month to St Stephen's Care Home, The Willows Care Home and Eastbank Court.

Various members of the group visit or telephone individuals on a regular basis to provide company, support and sometimes practical help. This has been well received so far and the intention is to expand this service if required.

We have allocated a team for each monthly visit to the two Care Homes and Eastbank Court. This has established continuity and enabled a relationship to develop, both between individuals within the homes and with the Care Home staff.

In addition to the above, a separate team of five visit Noele Court, the flats for "older people" next to the church. They provide a monthly Afternoon Tea in the lounge, for any residents who would like to attend. It gives those who come, an opportunity to chat to each other and to the visitors from church, while enjoying light refreshments. Lindsey usually comes too and the afternoon ends with a short reflection, hymns and prayers. In December there was a special Christmas Tea and Carol Singers from church joined the festivities. The residents really enjoy these visits and the Manager is very supportive. She encourages new residents to join the "Tea Timers" (the name suggested by a former resident).

Pippa Curtis & Sue Gething

LITTLE STARS REPORT

Our Thursday afternoon group for pre-schoolers and their parents/carers continues to be popular, with a core group who attend most weeks. We were sad to lose quite a few to school in September but the new term saw them replaced with numerous new mums and babies. We again find ourselves with few children over three, which does at times limit scope for craft activities and storytelling, although the adults are generally keen to get involved!

Our parents and carers seem to enjoy the informal approach and the loose structure of craft, singing/story and refreshments, leaving plenty of time for free play and chat. It's been lovely to see new friendships develop especially those bringing younger children and babies.

Towards the end of the year, we welcomed Helen Laird (our new children's and young peoples worker) to Little Stars who has been a hit with everyone, helpers and parent alike.

Many thanks to whole team who make the group possible each week; Rosie, Jean, Margaret & Poppy, and to our newer helpers, Dot and Chris. Your help and support have been amazing, especially whilst transitioning during Andy & Viv's departure in July and being without a priest during the winter months. We are very much looking forward to the new term in 2024 with Lindsey at the helm!

There is always room for more helpers if you would like to volunteer, and it doesn't necessarily need to be every week. In this is something you would be interested in, do get in touch.

Michelle Walsh

BISHOP ALLENBY HALL REPORT

The BA Hall is still busy with high levels of evening activity throughout the year. Chess club, Brownies and Cheerdance continue to hire the hall on a weekly basis. Somers Folk-club and Camera club continue their hire on a fortnightly basis and WI on a monthly basis.

Roger Nall and his Messenger team have now left the hall and no longer use the premises for printing and collating 'The Messenger'. Roger has found new printers at The Blue Roof centre in Perdiswell, which has allowed him to take a step back from printing duties. The new local print is now called 'The Magazine' and no longer associated with the BA hall or St Stephen's.

Sticky Fingers Pre School have had a great year, gaining an Outstanding Ofsted rating and also a 5 Star food hygiene rating. They continue to go from strength to strength and remain one of the most popular pre-schools in the area.

In May, Sunday Stars began using the BA hall on the first Sunday (morning) of each month. The hall's large and open space allows for informal, relaxed worship with the young children and families who attend.

Weekend single bookings and party hire remains steady, however bookings have begun to slow a little. This I have put down to the hall and kitchen feeling a little tired with their being some 'smarter' competition around. The hall would benefit from kitchen refurb, though funding may not currently be available for this, a spruce up/paint job to keep the hall looking fresh and appealing would be beneficial.

Thanks to Claire Thomas for her continued care of the hall and also to Adrian Everett and Paul Kennett for their much-valued hall maintenance.

Michelle Walsh

BELL RINGERS REPORT

We have a band of 10 bell ringers who meet for practice every Thursday evening and ring for the Sunday 10am service as well as for special occasions such as weddings and the Coronation. One new person joined us in the summer and learnt fairly quickly and now also rings on a Sunday morning.

Bell ringers are always willing to help other towers and we often get a request for some of us to help ring for a wedding elsewhere.

Once again we entered the Association's striking competition and this year, we look forward to hosting the event at St Stephen's.

Our bells are popular with ringers - both in sound and ease in ringing. For this reason, we limit the number of visitors to avoid upsetting our neighbours.

On a Sunday morning it is gratifying to be told by members of the congregation how much they enjoy this welcome to church.

We are grateful for the help and encouragement we receive from more experienced ringers and are always happy if anyone visiting the area joins us.

Beryl Thorp
Tower Captain

EASTBANK DRIVE - HOME GROUP REPORT

This has been a tricky year for the group, and due to health problems, personal circumstances and transport difficulties it was accepted that the group had run its course, and so ended at Christmas. It has been a source of joy to have been a member for so long. It is good to know there are other groups going, however.

During the year we mostly studied the weekly Bible readings, as scheduled in the Lectionary. These were preceded by refreshments, social catch-up and prayer support. We also looked at the hymn *Amazing Grace* and its history, which led us at Advent to look at other appropriate hymns and ended with a study of the origins and meaning of the Advent wreath and candles.

We had a summer outing to Tewkesbury Abbey with lunch at a nearby pub, and a final Christmas lunch at The Nightingale.

Joy and Geoff Hill

TUESDAY EVENING - HOME GROUP REPORT

We've continued to meet on Tuesday evenings, in each other's homes and with refreshments to start with. There are usually six or so of us there, as not everyone can come every week. We have worked our way through study books week by week (alternating between Old Testament, New Testament and a Biblical theme) with occasional forays into home-made materials prepared by someone in the group, and it has remained a wonderful opportunity for those in the group to form a strong bond of fellowship, with occasional meals in each other's homes. Most recently we have used the previous Sunday's readings and reflection as the basis for an evening's further study and are very grateful to those who have offered us notes in addition to their reflections. During Advent and Lent we have joined the St Stephen's, Claines and St George's joint meetings.

On reflection, it's been a real blessing to meet together, to study together, to pray together, (and to eat together!), and by the time you read this we'll have started again after Easter. Life being what it is, several members of the group have been through tricky times since we started, but we are blessed and thankful that meeting in a supportive space provides us with opportunity to encourage each other.

Rob Haldsworth

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's, Barbourne

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

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**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Mr R Hemmings
	Mr P Kennett
	Mrs B Thorp
	Mrs M Mandrell
	Mrs C Amos
	Mr N S Wake
	Mrs R J Scotson
	Mrs S Gething
	Mr D Anwyl-Hughes
	Mrs L Niccolls
	Mr K Maltby
	Mr R D Holdsworth
	Mr W C Harwood
	Mrs P Kendall
Principal Office	c/o Mr R Hemmings 25 Whinfield Road Worcester WR3 7HF
Charity Registration Number	1137099
Independent Examiner	M A Skellum FCA Ballards LLP 11c Kingswood Road Hampton Lovett Droitwich Worcestershire WR9 0QH

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The primary objective of the charity is the promotion in the ecclesiastical parish of the whole mission of the church.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales by carrying out its normal activities.

Reference and Administrative Details

Members of the PCC

Members of the PCC, who are also trustees, are either ex officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

Impact of COVID-19

In common with many Churches, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the activities and financial position of St Stephen's has been significant. The necessity either to close the Church buildings, or to restrict the attendance, has substantially reduced the income from lettings, weekly collections and fundraising in particular. This has not affected the Trustees' assessment that the Church remains a going concern, but the longer-term impact of the pandemic remains to be seen.

Structure, governance and management

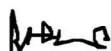
Nature of governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing documents, trusts distilled from the United Reform Church Arts of Parliament (1971 and 1982) and the Scheme of Union (1972).

Day to day management of the charity is carried out by the members of the PCC, all of whom are also trustees.

18 Mar 2024

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr R Hemmings
Trustee

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

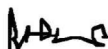
The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

18 Mar 2024

Approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr R Hemmings
Trustee

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of St Stephens PCC Barbourne

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Stephens PCC Barbourne for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of St Stephens PCC Barbourne 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 St Stephens PCC Barbourne's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of St Stephens PCC Barbourne 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 accounting 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.



.....
M A Skellum FCA

Ballards LLP
11c Kingswood Road
Hampton Lovett
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 0QH

18 March 2024

Date:.....

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	106,535	2,488	-	109,023
Charitable activities	3	25,685	-	-	25,685
Other trading activities	4	5,852	-	-	5,852
Investment income	5	1,799	-	43	1,842
Other income		130	-	-	130
Total Income		<u>140,001</u>	<u>2,488</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>142,532</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(414)	-	-	(414)
Charitable activities		<u>(124,526)</u>	<u>(4,754)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(129,280)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(124,940)</u>	<u>(4,754)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(129,694)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>2,082</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>2,206</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		17,143	(2,266)	167	15,044
Gross transfers between funds		<u>(13,457)</u>	<u>13,500</u>	<u>(43)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		3,686	11,234	124	15,044
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,961</u>	<u>74,135</u>	<u>1,661</u>	<u>119,757</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>47,647</u></u>	<u><u>85,369</u></u>	<u><u>1,785</u></u>	<u><u>134,801</u></u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	96,787	18,347	-	115,134
Charitable activities	3	28,398	-	-	28,398
Other trading activities	4	5,649	-	-	5,649
Investment income	5	622	-	49	671
Other income		130	-	-	130
Total Income		<u>131,586</u>	<u>18,347</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>149,982</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		(837)	-	-	(837)
Charitable activities		<u>(123,094)</u>	<u>(10,187)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(133,281)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(123,931)</u>	<u>(10,187)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(134,118)</u>
Gains/losses on investment assets		<u>1,739</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(246)</u>	<u>1,493</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		9,394	8,160	(197)	17,357
Gross transfers between funds		<u>(5,251)</u>	<u>5,300</u>	<u>(49)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		4,143	13,460	(246)	17,357
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>39,818</u>	<u>60,674</u>	<u>1,908</u>	<u>102,400</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>43,961</u></u>	<u><u>74,134</u></u>	<u><u>1,662</u></u>	<u><u>119,757</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.
The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 12.

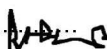
**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**(Registration number: 1137099)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	9	21,562	19,357
Current assets			
Debtors	10	9,856	11,017
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>134,752</u>	<u>123,160</u>
		144,608	134,177
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(31,369)</u>	<u>(33,777)</u>
Net current assets		<u>113,239</u>	<u>100,400</u>
Net assets		<u><u>134,801</u></u>	<u><u>119,757</u></u>
Funds of the charity:			
Endowment funds		1,785	1,661
Restricted funds		85,369	74,135
Unrestricted funds		<u>47,647</u>	<u>43,961</u>
Total funds	12	<u><u>134,801</u></u>	<u><u>119,757</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 5 to 17 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 18 Mar 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr R Hemmings
Trustee



**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a "true and fair" view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a "true and fair" view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 6 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Basis of preparation

St Stephens PCC Barbourne meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	20% on cost

Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	12,248	-	12,248
Gift aid reclaimed	18,751	152	18,903
Grants, including capital grants;			
Government grants	4,008	2,336	6,344
Regular giving and capital donations	71,528	-	71,528
Total for 2023	106,535	2,488	109,023
Total for 2022	96,787	18,347	115,134

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Hall Hire	15,287	15,287
Fees	10,398	10,398
Total for 2023	<u>25,685</u>	<u>25,685</u>
Total for 2022	<u>28,398</u>	<u>28,398</u>

4 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Events income; Other events income	5,852	5,852
Total for 2023	<u>5,852</u>	<u>5,852</u>
Total for 2022	<u>5,649</u>	<u>5,649</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Endowment funds Expendable £	Total funds £
Other income from fixed asset investments	1,799	43	1,842
Total for 2023	<u>1,799</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>1,842</u>
Total for 2022	<u>622</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>671</u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 January 2023	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,800</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,800</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 January 2023	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,800</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,800</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

9 Fixed asset investments

Other investments

	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 January 2023	19,357	19,357
Revaluation	<u>2,205</u>	<u>2,205</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>21,562</u>	<u>21,562</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2023	<u>21,562</u>	<u>21,562</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>19,357</u>	<u>19,357</u>

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

10 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	7,121	8,086
Other debtors	<u>2,735</u>	<u>2,931</u>
	<u>9,856</u>	<u>11,017</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Parish share creditor	14,400	16,000
Other creditors	16,369	17,227
Accruals	<u>600</u>	<u>550</u>
	<u>31,369</u>	<u>33,777</u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

12 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted fund	43,961	140,001	(124,940)	(13,457)	2,082	47,647
Restricted funds						
Restricted fund	74,135	2,488	(4,754)	13,500	-	85,369
Endowment funds						
<i>Expendable</i>						
Endowment fund	1,661	43	-	(43)	124	1,785
	<u>1,661</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43)</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>1,785</u>
Total funds	<u>119,757</u>	<u>142,532</u>	<u>(129,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,206</u>	<u>134,801</u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Other recognised gains/(losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
<i>General</i>						
Unrestricted fund	39,818	134,009	(126,355)	(5,251)	1,740	43,961
Restricted						
Restricted fund	60,674	18,347	(10,187)	5,300	-	74,134
Endowment funds						
<i>Expendable</i>						
Endowment fund	1,908	49	-	(49)	(246)	1,662
	<u>1,908</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(49)</u>	<u>(246)</u>	<u>1,662</u>
Total funds	<u>102,400</u>	<u>152,405</u>	<u>(136,542)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,494</u>	<u>119,757</u>

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds Expendable £	Total funds at 31 December 2023 £
Fixed asset investments	19,778	-	1,785	21,563
Current assets	59,239	85,369	-	144,608
Current liabilities	(31,370)	-	-	(31,370)
Total net assets	<u>47,647</u>	<u>85,369</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>134,801</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds Expendable £	Total funds at 31 December 2022 £
Fixed asset investments	17,696	-	1,661	19,357
Current assets	96,322	37,855	-	134,177
Current liabilities	(33,777)	-	-	(33,777)
Total net assets	<u>80,241</u>	<u>37,855</u>	<u>1,661</u>	<u>119,757</u>

14 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:		
Planned giving	71,528	63,288
Appeals and donations	12,248	13,248
Gift Aid tax reclaimed	18,751	16,674
Gift Aid tax reclaimed	152	203
Grants and donations	4,008	3,577
Grants received	2,336	18,144
Use of hall	15,287	15,371
Fees and supplies	10,398	13,027
Social events	5,852	5,649
Income from listed investments	1,799	622
Income from listed investments	43	49
Commission received	130	130
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income	142,532	149,982
Expenditure on:		
Social event costs	(414)	(837)
Grants payable - missionary societies	(3,500)	(1,176)
Parish Share	(66,470)	(83,424)
Service costs, music and choir	(2,544)	(1,503)
Service costs, music and choir	(203)	(64)
Grants payable - individuals	(331)	(693)
Fees passed to Diocese	(5,508)	(7,548)
Junior support costs	(4,220)	(8,789)
Refugees	-	(641)
Light, heat and power	(15,884)	(10,699)
Insurance	(6,601)	(5,945)
Repairs and maintenance	(16,062)	(5,749)
Printing, postage and stationery	(1,718)	(1,522)
Sundry expenses	(82)	(6)
Cleaning	(1,588)	(1,713)
Accountancy fees	(650)	(571)
Legal and professional fees	(3,919)	(3,238)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure	(129,694)	(134,118)
Gains/losses on investment assets	2,206	1,493
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds	15,044	17,357

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
(continued)**

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Reconciliation of funds		
Total funds brought forward	<u>119,757</u>	<u>102,400</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>134,801</u></u>	<u><u>119,757</u></u>

**The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Stephen's,
Barbourne**

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of St Stephens PCC Barbourne

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Stephens PCC Barbourne for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of St Stephens PCC Barbourne 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 St Stephens PCC Barbourne's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of St Stephens PCC Barbourne 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 accounting 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.



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M A Skellum FCA

Ballards LLP
11c Kingswood Road
Hampton Lovett
Droitwich
Worcestershire
WR9 0QH

18 March 2024

Date:.....