

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL UPPINGHAM

England & Wales · Charity number 1138063

Details

Other names ST PETER AND ST PAUL UPPINGHAM PCC

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-09-16

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 26 Stockerston Crescent
Uppingham
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 9UB

Phone 07512 218987

Website www.uppinghamchurch.co.uk

Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: Religious activities, maintenance of Uppingham Church and charitable activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£131,366	£117,565	-	-
2023-12-31	£123,385	£118,401	-	-
2022-12-31	£102,119	£107,289	-	-
2021-12-31	£116,700	£118,757	-	-
2020-12-31	£90,026	£109,284	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anna Katharine Wilkinson		2025-05-28
Janet Anne Wardle		2014-04-28
Olivia Louise Linnel		2025-05-28
PATRICIA COLE		
Philip Andrew Warner		2025-05-28
RICHARD ADRIAN COLE		
Susan Yvonne Cripps		2025-05-28

Accounts



 The Diocese of
Peterborough

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2024

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2024

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of 15 May 2024.

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

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Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2023 until the date of the approval of this report are shown in the Appendix (page 10).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

Safeguarding

I took over as the benefice safeguarding advisor in January 2025. Our church has continued to adopt the diocesan safeguarding policy, 'Promoting a Safer Church'. I will be looking to ensure that this continues to be updated along with other related policies. I am working closely with the diocesan team to ensure that we are up to date with these policies and updated information on safeguarding as this becomes available from the national safeguarding team.

We have just encouraged members of the church to complete the diocese safeguarding audit.

The policy is kept at the back of the church along with contact numbers for those with safeguarding roles and a list of useful numbers for a variety of agencies and support groups.

Everyone on the PCC and in a position of leadership has completed a DBS check and the appropriate safeguarding training. This is renewed every three years and there are a number coming up for renewal in the near future. There are new requirements for our bellringers and this is being addressed.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda at every PCC meeting. I have attended my first PCC meetings in Belton and Uppingham in the last month (April). We are going to review all policies going forward and ensure that we have everything in place taking on recent updates and a particular focus on safer recruitment.

I am pleased to report that there have been no safeguarding incidents in the last year.

If you have any concerns about a child or vulnerable adult, do not hesitate to contact myself, Nicky Jervis (deputy safeguarding advisor) or Richard Cole as churchwarden (while we are in the interregnum). Emails can be sent to uppinghamsafeguarding@gmail.com. If you need to contact the diocese safeguarding team the address is safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

If there is anything else you would like to suggest in relation to safeguarding for both children and vulnerable adults, please do not hesitate to speak to me or contact me.

Liz Sargeant
Benefice Safeguarding Officer
uppinghamsafeguarding@gmail.com
07798 925976

Stewardship and Giving

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with Gift Aid tax refunds resulted in £14,811 (£16,633 in 2023) being received. We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are three different ways in which we give:

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (£39,536 in 2024 compared to £33,968 in 2023)

Thank you to all those who use the scheme and make regular contributions. Can I encourage anyone on the scheme who has not indicated that they are happy to see their donation increase in line with inflation (it's an option on the website) to consider whether it you are able to do so. Alternatively, if you haven't increased the amount you donate for a year or two, please consider whether you are able to increase now.

CASH COLLECTIONS SCHEME (£6,347 in 2024 compared to £7,201 in 2023)

These are cash donations made at services and left by visitors in the wall safe. It decreased in 2024.

WHITE ENVELOPE & ONE-OFF DONATIONS (£18,562 in 2024 compared to £29,521 in 2023)

The use of the white envelopes has fallen off sharply, possibly because it is now easier to reclaim the tax on cash collections. Again, we are grateful for a very substantial one-off donation made to the Church in March 2024.

DONA DONATIONS (£1,266.50 in 2024 compared to £2,230 in 2023)

The donation terminal offers a handy way to make occasional additional donations to the church. Please if applicable register for Gift Aid the first time you use the reader.

Despite the generosity of our regular givers, the finances of the parish are still under considerable pressure. The rise in the cost of living has impacted the Church's regular bills and the ability of our congregation members to make donations.

We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations. Should those cease we would have a big problem. Please do all you can to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Nick Clarke
Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED AND ARE APPROXIMATE
Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Social and Fundraising

We have held a number of very successful events during the year as follows:

Concert for our High Sheriff's charity held in Lyddington with Andy Harris (trumpet), Fergus Black (piano) and Caroline Sharpe (Soprano).

Festival of Song Weekend

Lent Lunch

Church Bookings

Corby Male Voice Choir

Church Choir events: Successful Victorian Lunchtime concert

Many exciting events to come and details to follow, including an Eco Nativity Exhibition involving the whole community.

Part of the Uppingham Feast week and Christmas in Uppingham.

We still desperately need people who are willing to take an idea and lead it, with the support of a willing team of helpers.

During the winter months, our beautiful church costs £1000 a month to heat and light. This works out at £250 a week! We must generate more income and fundraising is an excellent way of achieving this.

We are currently running at a £10,000 a year deficit.

We look forward to hearing from you.

[Jenny Harris and Pat Cole.](#)

The Coffee Rota

We currently have 16 volunteers serving coffee after the 10.45 service each Sunday. They do a splendid job and the Church is very grateful. Churchgoers are provided with a great opportunity to meet new members of the congregation, catch up with the gossip or simply enjoy the company of others. Being an Eco Church we serve Fairtrade coffee and tea and also provide Fruit Juice and Biscuits. If anyone would like to volunteer please contact Claire.

Electoral Roll

There are currently 66 members on our Church Electoral Roll.

Sadly, we have lost a number of loyal and dedicated members over the last year and some of our congregation have moved away to be nearer to family. However, we have recently gained new members.

This is an important year for the revision of the Electoral Roll and Anna Wilkinson has kindly taken over as the Electoral Roll Officer.

Please note that all church members need to fill in a form, either taken from the back of church, or completed electronically, and return to Richard Cold or Anna Wilkison, or put into the wall safe at the back of church.

As a member of the Electoral Roll, you are eligible to be elected on to the PCC, if a vacancy occurs.

[Jenny Harris](#)
[Electoral Roll Officer.](#)

Come Rejoice

Currently led by Pam & Olivia with the help of many volunteers.

Christmas nativity and Christingle were additional services held and again VERY well received.

Come rejoice services happen every 4th Sunday of the month

These are still well received and often have congregation of around 30

Good Friday was a huge success for the come rejoice team with around 40 people filling the church to make Easter Garden, Foot washing, Cross building and Bread and Wine (Ribena) tasting.

Come rejoice remains on a Sunday with no intention to move forward to the 3rd Saturday again. Perhaps when a new rector begins this can be something to consider.

SOCIAL MEDIA – We share come rejoice updates on social media but also any event coming up. Please continue to send posters that need to be shared with up-and-coming events to uppinghamparishfamiliesworker@gmail.com

Eco Church

Unfortunately we had to stop collecting candles for Ukraine. This was because the transport that was taking the candles was no longer available. It's disappointing, as we were able to send quite a number of used candles to help with heating and cooking fuel.

The planters in front of the church have brought many positive comments from the community. We will continue our planting of them over the changing seasons.

The certificates showing the eight toilets that we have sponsored and now hung on the doors to the toilets in the church hall. This too has been positively acknowledged. It shows we are not just a church that meets on Sundays, but are involved in global outreach.

We have now submitted our Gold Award application. Needless to say, it has involved a great deal of work from many people, I would like to extend my appreciation to Richard for his help and support in getting me all the information need for our 360° Energy Carbon Footprint report. As part of our application, we will have a water butt taking waste water from the shed roof, we now have planting of native species of bulbs and flowers in the lower area of the churchyard, and in spring we will be sowing wildflower seeds in some protected areas. This will all add to the beautiful colour and diversity of our churchyard in spring and throughout the seasons. Once again, it's hoped the congregation will take part in No Mow May to help with the decline in pollinator habitat.

In May we are meeting to plan a fundraising event in November of nativity scenes. This too will be outreach to the schools and community. As you will see in our application as an Eco Church we need to be embedded in all we do.

If you would like to see are the application for our award, together with our carbon footprint and land management report for the future please see me. There is also a link to carbon footprint.

<https://360carbon.org/en-gb/footprint?id=fbligsko8lo>

Christobel Price

Choir Report

During the course of 2024 the choir have been able to celebrate in music several significant events. Not least was Canon Rachel's final Eucharist with us, at the start of November; and the following month we were invited to join the singers of St Mary's, Nottingham, at the Installation of James Saunders as Vicar there. This meant the loss of two highly supportive families in a very short time. Nevertheless, we continue our strong musical tradition, enabling a rich tapestry of worship week-by-week to support the priests, particularly Fr Peter and Canon John, celebrating the Sunday Eucharists with us during our interregnum.

At the end of June, we were invited by St Peter's, Brooke, to sing a celebratory Evensong marking their Patronal Festival, followed by a splendid strawberry tea; and we have been invited again this year! In August, we led a service of Thanksgiving and Renewal of Vows as part of the Wedding Gala. In October, we hosted a weekend visit by composer and choral animateur Geoff Weaver. Geoff led a highly memorable Come & Sing Messiah, with four Wardle family soloists joining tenor Andrew Kennedy, and Wardle senior accompanying; then on the Sunday afternoon he conducted our Choral Evensong.

Our Advent, Christmas and Epiphany candlelit services have also been well received, as well as our monthly Choral Evensongs. The demands of Holy Week 2025 were also managed with considerable success, particularly the Robert White setting at Tenebrae. Special thanks are due to our loyal troupe of visiting singers who boost our numbers and enjoy the excitement of these special services.

Recruitment to the choir, of male singers, has been steady this year, but the soprano line is in need of some greater strength of numbers. We have been running a publicity campaign and are praying we might gain some new singers – who do not necessarily need to come reading music fluently – during this year.

Looking forward, we have the opportunity to lead the weekend services at Ripon Cathedral, at the end of August. Peter Clements will be at the organ for the majority of the services, with Oliver accompanying us for our first Evensong, on Friday 29 August. We shall be singing a Mozart Mass setting, as a 'dry run' for Ripon Cathedral Eucharist on 31st, at our service this Ascension Day evening.

John Wardle
Director of Music & Organist, Uppingham PC

Church Hall

It is hoped that the users of the hall find that it is a pleasant and airy facility without being too costly to hire. Although the hall is not large, it seems to meet the regular needs of several organisations. After the annual meeting of May 2024, it was decided to raise the hire fee per hour for the use of the hall to £10. This was a result of the financial statement for the hall being disappointing, considering the number of bookings that had taken place. The hall had been £7.50 per hour for over eleven years, and with the cost of fuel going up, a realistic price increase was necessary.

I would like to thank Mr Nick Kennedy who cleans the hall regularly, cleans the carpet annually, and during the summer of 2024 removed all the protective wires off the outside windows to clean them. Unfortunately, from time to time we do have youngsters who will climb on the hall roof using the refuse bins as steps. Thank you to Robert Cliff Ltd also, for helping with emergency plumbing problems, as well as servicing the water boiler and heating system each year. Thank you to those who continue to take an interest in the hall, who check that it is locked, observe any problems, and generally walk along the path at different times to see that things are in order.

The following groups used the hall regularly in 2024

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- The Labour Party
- Women's Singing Circle
- Churches Together in Uppingham – Lent Course
- Mellors and Kirk, Nottingham – Valuations
- Uppingham Mothers' Union
- Uppingham Evening WI
- The Parish Church – Canon Rachel Watts (up to December 2024) Lent lunches of 2024 and with colleagues - events for children including Biblical Meal
- The Parish Church – events throughout the year
- Uppingham Parish Church choir
- Parsnips Youth Theatre
- Uppingham Choral Society
- Uppingham Community College – training young people in catering for examinations since September 2024
- Rutland Musical Theatre

Other groups and organisations used the hall or its equipment at other times:

- Uppingham and District Twinning Association
- Private children's parties and family parties, private prayer meetings, Christening parties
- Private musical rehearsals
- Private theatre rehearsals

- Parishioners – Posy making for Mothering Sunday of 2024
- Edward Dorman – funeral refreshments
- Uppingham Ladies Choir of 2024
- Uppingham Bellringers – Area events Slimming World

- Various musical events and choirs, for rehearsals, and use of chairs

The income from these lettings and donations can be seen in the church accounts.

Hilary Dawe
Church Hall Bookings

Deanery Synod

Meetings are attended by clergy in the Deanery and lay representatives. Coordinated by the Rural Dean, the Revd. Canon Jane Baxter, meetings provide the opportunity to find out what is happening in the diocese and deanery and to share views. Meetings are 3 monthly. Following COVID we have continued the pattern of Zoom meetings in the winter and face to face in the summer. Each time there is an interesting speaker and opportunity to find out what is going on in the deanery. This is particularly important as several benefices are in interregnum I have enjoyed meeting and worshipping with people across our Rutland churches. Due to other commitments, I cannot always attend. I hope that someone will join me to represent our church at these meetings..

Jill Cannings
Deanery Synod Representative

House Group

The Bible Study Group meets each Tuesday, apart from the 2nd Tuesday in the month, in Chestnut Close, Uppingham. Each session begins at 10a.m. and ends about 11.30a.m.

The Group have recently completed a study of the 2nd Book of Samuel in the Old Testament and recently begun a study of Ecclesiastes.

Reverend John Portlock

Mothers' Union

Welcome to the start of this MU year – 2025 a year of joy and hope.

We especially welcome our new members and those from the Ketton MU who have supported us at our meetings and celebrations.

It has been wonderful to meet together at different venues every month and enjoy fellowship together, as well as welcoming our guest speakers. We have learnt so much on a wide range of subjects, particularly the talk & photos of Nick and Richard's walk to Santiago de Compostella bringing back to several members our visit there also some 14 years ago! - although the walking was a little too far for us to join in! But we did enjoy beautiful weather and many sites of interest and Churches for prayer and reflection. Not least of all the amazing Cathedral where we joined with many pilgrims who had made that gruelling journey. Now at their pilgrimage end - sharing their faith at the tomb of St. James.

We also had an inspiring talk from Cathy (Dyson) about her witness and work at Stocken Prison. We too appreciate the association which our President Helen Lynett has encouraged us in our mission to local prisons, i.e. in sending cards for Easter and Christmas and also giving gifts/chocolates to prisoners. I am sure this awareness has benefitted us as well as the contact with inmates. In mentioning Helen we give thanks for all her work – for Forum meetings, quiet mornings, her visits around the Deanery and so much more.

I would also like to thank and congratulate all those members on our committee who on behalf of us all work enthusiastically and are an encouragement to us all. Sue for our finances and fund-raising, Val, Joy, Claire & Margaret for cakes! And food! And all the extra jobs they are asked to do! Particularly I would like to thank HILARY who is in and behind all the work we do. She is a tireless, wonderful ambassador for MU and our Lord. Thank you again Hilary – we couldn't do anything without you. I am sure this is echoed around this room today from us all. And last but not least Jill, our Past President who encourages and supports us all. Thank you-Jill.

To close I would just like to say THANK YOU to everyone for all that you do – and remind you again about the power of prayer – in March the World Day of Prayer – in September the Wave of Prayer –both now timed as part of the regular church prayer meetings on a Friday morning at 9.30 a.m.

A quick resume of our year together and a challenge for 2025 – where is your faith journey taking you this year?

Moya (& John)

Bell Ringers

2024 was quite a busy year for Rutland bellringers generally as it was the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.

The Rutland Branch of PDGCBR set a challenge to ring a Quarter Peal in every Rutland tower during 2024. Uppingham achieved their celebratory Quarter Peal on February 29th.

Recruitment of new people to learn to ring church bells is an ongoing challenge and we actively promote and advertise for new ringers. However, we are still very much dependent on ringers from other parishes to help with Sunday service ringing. This is reciprocal and Uppingham ringers assist others when we can and share practice sessions.

On Saturday mornings the Uppingham bells are in use for the training of new learners, with the bells completely silenced to the outside world. This has been a particularly successful venture, teaching individuals from across the local area in small groups in a safe environment with recognised teachers. Once a basic level of competence has been achieved the new ringers join in with normal practices.

In January we hosted an 'Association of Ringing Teachers' (ART) training course, a pathway for experienced ringers to become accredited ringing teachers. We have four local ringers on track to achieve this recognition, including Ted Phillips from Uppingham who is also our 'steeple keeper'. They all, plus a mentor, regularly help with the teaching of new ringers from the surrounding local parishes.

During 2024 we were requested to ring the bells at 4 funeral or thanksgiving services, and two weddings. For one of those weddings, we rang the bells at a pre-arranged time with the ceremony having taken place at The Falcon Hotel. We also rang on June 6th, commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

Our annual cake and plant stall on Uppingham Market Place was held in May, raising funds for the Uppingham Church Bell Fund.

Practice nights are Thursday's 7.30pm -9pm.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Little Fishes

Average number – 15 children 10 parents. Ran by – Olivia Linnell with volunteer support. Every Monday 9.30-10.30

We are getting regulars and little fishes and continue to have people help with tea and coffee.

We continue to ask for volunteers to help welcome people and make tea and coffee. Parents are responsible for their under 5's so asking them to make coffee at the same time could be tricky.

It has been suggested to ask for a small fee. To begin with we would like to have a voluntary donations pot as not all people are able to make a set payment every week.

We are seeing more children join in some of our other activities such as come rejoice and Good Friday events. Children are finding enjoyment in church and parents are using the children's play area even when little fishes is not on.

Olivia Linnell

Churches Together

The representatives from the various churches in Uppingham have met regularly during the past year and we have been pleased to be joined by the Baptist Church in Oakham whose reps contribute significantly to our discussions and activities. They also provide a monthly lunch at the Town Hall on the first Sunday of each month at 1pm called "The Gathering". It is arranged as a means of outreach to the community. Everyone is welcome for a delicious hot meal.

Children's Activities (Kids Clubs) are held during all school holidays with days planned for May half-term and the summer holidays this year. These have been discussed as being nonprofit and funded by the churches together to enable all families the chance to participate.

Harvest Festival at the Methodist church in September 2024 and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at the Parish Church (which included the annual Methodist Covenant Service) in January 2025 were well supported.

Holy Week and Easter services took place recently

Due to illness and other unavoidable absences, we were unable to arrange joint Advent and Lent Courses this time but the date for a United Harvest Festival Service has been agreed as 28th September 2025 at the Methodist Church.

Other activities will be arranged later in the year – A light festival being one of them held at the town hall on 31st October.

Churches together will be looking for a new chairperson at the end of the year as Peter is due to step down.

It has been discussed that this is a perfect time to look at what our aims are as churches together and what we hope to achieve.

We still need more church volunteers trained in first aid especially over the summertime events.

Olivia Linnell

Uppingham C of E Primary School

The school has had a good year and has been making significant progress.

Monitored full year annual performance has shown great improvement in 2024 compared with 2023. There is a myriad of indicators that have to be measured now with the accompanying acronyms but, by way of example, the school's performance in EYFS Early Learning Goals, Year 1 Phonics and Key stage 1 & 2 Reading, Writing & Maths is well ahead of the national averages. What makes this all the more impressive is that the school looks after a higher than average proportion of pupils with special educational needs.

Pupil numbers have continued to fall and of last term were around 123. The projection for next year currently is just 121. This is well below the operational capacity of the school and is going to have implications for funding. The school is currently operating within budget but this is proving ever more challenging and, as it is linked to pupil numbers, it will possibly lead to the need to make tough choices in the future.

We lost a few governors at the start of the academic year but have managed to replace most of these with three excellent new volunteers. We now have two foundation governors and ideally would like three and hopefully we will be able to achieve this in the next few months.

The system of reporting at Governors meetings had been updated with a new Leadership report system being implemented in Spring 2025 that has been well received.

Safeguarding and pastoral care continues to be an incredibly important aspect of the schools operations and this has been constantly reviewed throughout the year and, with Rachel's departure and Uppingham being in Interregnum, Common worship assemblies are being conducted by volunteers so that the spiritual ethos of the school is continually nurtured.

Philip Warner, Foundation Governor.

Appendix

PCC Members 2024 to present time

Clergy

Deanery Synod

Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com	1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL
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Diocesan Synod

Vacant

Co-opted Safeguarding Officer

Liz Sargeant	07798 925976	uppinghamsafeguarding@gmail.com
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Reader

Christobel Price	07939 444227	bisbrooke@live.co.uk
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Musical Director

John Wardle	01572 829923	john.wardle@btinternet.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
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Churchwardens

Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
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Deputy Churchwarden

Geoffrey Welband	07753 422816	jeffrey.welband@gmail.com
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Elected Lay Representatives

Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
Philip Warner	07786 337393	pwarnergae@gmail.com	
Olivia Linnell	07912 988725	uppinghamparishfamiliesworker@gmail.com	
Anna Wilkinson		annawilkinson89@outlook.com	
PCC Vacant postion for 2025			

Co-opted Treasurer

Jonathan Gibbs

Secretary Ex-Officio

Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com	14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ
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St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

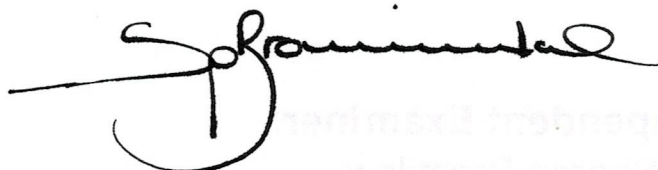
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: **2 April** 2025

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2024 (£)	Total 2023 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		49,813	0	0	0	49,813	51,220
Collections at Services		5,061	0	0	0	5,061	4,236
Other Voluntary Income	5c	11,170	20,259	307	0	31,736	24,063
Gift Aid Recovered		14,811	0	0	0	14,811	16,633
		80,855	20,259	307	0	101,421	96,151
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	6,509	0	345	0	6,855	5,308
Income from Investments	5e	236	9,710	0	1,478	11,424	9,469
Church Activities	5f	6,812	4,854	0	0	11,665	12,458
Total Receipts		94,412	34,823	652	1,478	131,366	123,385
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		65,842	0	0	0	65,842	71,065
Worship		6,169	0	0	0	6,169	6,325
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	7,213	2,250	24	0	9,487	4,790
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	16,106	10,647	0	0	26,752	26,929
Administration		7,474	766	11	0	8,251	9,012
Fundraising		1,038	0	26	0	1,064	280
Total Payments		103,842	13,663	61	0	117,565	118,401
Excess of receipts over payments		(9,429)	21,160	591	1,478	13,800	4,984
Transfers between funds		6,465	(6,465)	0	0	0	0
		(2,964)	14,695	591	1,478	13,800	4,984
Cash at bank at 1st January		21,678	117,374	5,188	27,846	172,087	167,102
Cash at bank a 31st December		18,714	132,069	5,779	29,325	185,887	172,087

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2024 (£)	Total 2023 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		14,035	38,327	5,779	0	58,142	47,239
Deposit Fund		4,678	93,742	0	29,325	127,745	124,847
		18,714	132,069	5,779	29,325	185,887	172,087
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		1,882	0	0	0	1,882	1,438
Land rental		0	873	0	0	873	0
		1,882	873	0	0	2,755	1,438
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	139,406	139,406	136,298
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		0	0	0	343,406	343,406	340,298
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		1,904	0	0	0	1,904	1,040
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,904	0	0	0	1,904	1,040

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
- Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	3,379	5,144	2,620	0	5,902
Church Fabric	26,831	24,991	8,732	0	43,090
Organ Fund	22,951	1,160	0	0	24,111
St Thomas Charity	4,552	347	2,311	0	2,588
Mission & Ministry Legacy	59,662	3,181	0	(6,465)	56,378
	117,374	34,823	13,663	(6,465)	132,069
Designated					
Bell Fund	5,188	652	61	0	5,779
	5,188	652	61	0	5,779

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2024 (£)	Total 2023(£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	14,697	14,697	14,373
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	571	571	559
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,520	1,520	1,487
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	21,146	21,146	20,678
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	2,253	2,253	2,203
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	50,269	50,269	49,144
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	48,951	48,951	47,855
	0	0	0	139,406	139,406	136,298
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	7,263	20,259	307	0	27,830	20,197
Wall Safe	2,206	0	0	0	2,206	2,940
Grants	1,700	0	0	0	1,700	925
	11,170	20,259	307	0	31,736	24,063
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	5,523	0	345	0	5,868	4,305
Concerts	986	0	0	0	986	1,003
	6,509	0	345	0	6,855	5,308
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,787	0	0	3,787	3,730
Deposit Account Interest	236	4,956	0	1,478	6,670	3,899
Land Rental	0	967	0	0	967	1,840
	236	9,710	0	1,478	11,424	9,469
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees (includes organ, choir)	4,882	1,160	0	0	6,042	8,625
Charity Fund Raising Events	1,930	0	0	0	1,930	1,451
Church Hall Lettings	0	3,694	0	0	3,694	2,381
	6,812	4,854	0	0	11,665	12,458
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Xmas lunches	1,259	0	0	0	1,259	1,208
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	20
Christian Aid Appeal	172	0	0	0	172	0
Remembrance Sunday	503	0	0	0	503	151
Tear Fund	480	0	0	0	480	0
Turkish Earthquake	0	0	0	0	0	140
Local Charities and Causes	0	2,250	0	0	2,250	1,794
	2,434	2,250	0	0	4,684	3,314
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	11,026	95	0	0	11,121	9,180
Insurance	4,455	629	0	0	5,083	4,960
Maintenance	625	8,175	0	0	8,800	10,844
Organ repairs	0	309	0	0	309	474
Cleaning	0	1,440	0	0	1,440	1,470
	16,106	10,647	0	0	26,752	26,929

Accounts



Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2023

 The Diocese of
Peterborough

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2023

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of 15 May 2024.

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

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Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2023 until the date of the approval of this report are shown in the Appendix (page 10).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

Safeguarding

Last summer, Professor Alexis Jay was commissioned to report on how the Church of England should structure its safeguarding systems. Her report, which was published last month, was critical of Safeguarding in the Church of England and accused it of falling below the standards of secular organisations. She recommended a complete change of safeguarding culture, with responsibility shifted away from individual dioceses to two new charities that are independent of church authorities and under a legally binding collaborative framework. The Church of England is currently developing its response to this.

On a more local level, there have been changes to the safeguarding team in Peterborough diocese. Beth Miller is working freelance as a temporary Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor until the current vacancy has been filled. There is a generic email and phone number that can be used to contact the diocesan safeguarding team and you will find this on our posters and policy at the back of church.

As a church, we have continued to try and meet our safeguarding requirements.

In the last year, the PCC has reviewed the procedure for dealing with safeguarding allegation concerns; approved the use of social media; reviewed our data retention to ensure all records comply with GDPR and are retained in accordance with Church of England guidance; and reviewed our activities involving children or vulnerable adults.

Policy:

The PCC again agreed to adopt the House of Bishops, 'Promoting a Safer Church' as its own safeguarding policy. This was reviewed by the PCC 08/04/24. We keep a copy at the back of church along with relevant contact details. There is also a link to this on our website.

We are largely compliant with the policy, but still need to do some work around safer recruitment when appointing volunteers to roles working with children or vulnerable adults. This will involve formation of job descriptions and risk assessments, and ensuring DBS checks are completed before someone takes up a role.

Incidents:

There have been three safeguarding incidents this year. The first was in March and involved a call from a local school regarding a pupil that one of the clergy was involved with. This was dealt with by Nicky Jervis, deputy safeguarding officer.

The second was in October when a child attending one of the craft activities disclosed something of concern to a helper. This was discussed by myself with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and the local authority and their advice followed.

More recently we have had an issue with a vulnerable young person coming into church after choir practice. Children's services were alerted and an informal care plan has been agreed with Rachel and John, should a similar situation occur.

In the last year, I have also been involved in completing DBS checks for other parishes who were without a safeguarding officer, one of which needed to be taken further with the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor.

Training:

Everyone on the PCC and involved in activities with children and vulnerable adults has completed safeguarding training. This needs renewing every three years. One person involved in leading / helping at Come Rejoice still needs to complete safeguarding training.

The churchwarden and those leading activities involving children or vulnerable adults are expected to complete additional leadership training. This is a more recent requirement; the relevant people have been made aware and have taken steps to book onto this.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and the safeguarding training is very good for raising our awareness and openness to picking up on potential issues. The more people who have completed the training, the safer our community will be. I have attached the link below:

[Safeguarding Training Modules - Diocese of Peterborough \(peterborough-diocese.org.uk\)](https://peterborough-diocese.org.uk/safeguarding-training-modules)

There is also some face to face training at North Luffenham Church on 15th July at 7pm, led by Rev James Saunders, which anyone is welcome to attend.

For anyone interested in spotting the signs of modern day slavery, the Clewer Initiative is a Church of England initiative that offers training to raise awareness of how to spot it and what to do if you suspect it. Follow the link below for more information:

[The Clewer Initiative | The Clewer Initiative](#)

Our aim remains to raise the profile of safeguarding within the church and build a culture that takes it seriously, so that all may feel safe.

ACTIONS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD:

Role descriptions need completing for those involved in leading Come Rejoice.

Risk assessment needs completing for Come Rejoice.

One person newly involved in leading Come Rejoice needs to complete safeguarding training.

Church warden and Tower Captain are to complete leadership training.

Finally:

I will be stepping down from my role as safeguarding officer at the end of this year. If anyone is interested in taking on the role, please do come and talk to me about it.

Sue Saunders
Safeguarding Officer.

Stewardship & Giving

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with Gift Aid tax refunds resulted in around £89,850 being received.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are three different ways in which we give:

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (£33,968 in 2023 compared to £39,172 in 2022)

The reduction is due to the decline in the numbers of regular donations as members of the congregation pass away. Can I encourage anyone on the scheme who has not indicated that they are happy to see their donation increase in line with inflation (it's an option on the website) to consider whether it you are able to do so. Alternatively, if you haven't increased the amount you donate for a year or two, please consider whether you are able to increase now.

CASH COLLECTIONS SCHEME (£7,201 in 2023 compared to £7,082 in 2022)

These are cash donations made at services and left by visitors in the wall safe and has the figure remained almost static over the last two years.

WHITE ENVELOPE & ONE-OFF DONATIONS

(£29,521 in 2023 compared with £17,927 in 2022)

It was a better year for contributions made in white envelopes and in one-off gift aided donations. Again, we are grateful for a very substantial one-off donation made to the Church in March 2023.

DONA DONATIONS (£2,230 in 2023 compared with £2,037 in 2022)

The donation terminal offers a handy way for regular members of the congregation to make occasional additional donations to the church. Please (if applicable) register for Gift Aid the first time you use the reader.

Despite the generosity of our regular givers, the finances of the parish are still under considerable pressure. The rise in the cost of living has impacted the Church's regular bills and the ability of our congregation members to make donations.

We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations. Should those cease we would have a big problem. Please do all you can to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Nick Clarke
Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED AND ARE APPROXIMATE
Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Electoral Roll

There are currently 54 members on our Church Electoral Roll.

Sadly, we have lost a number of loyal and dedicated members over the last year and some of our congregation have moved away to be nearer to family.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, please take a form from the back of the church and either pop the completed form in the Wall Safe or please give it to me.

Jenny Harris
Electoral Roll Officer.

Social and Fundraising

Firstly, our thanks and appreciation to all those who have helped in any way to support our fundraising activities. We have held a number of very successful events during the year as follows:

Lunchtime Recitals and concerts by Andy Harris and Fergus Black

Grand Christmas Prize Draw organised by Sue and the late Ian Cripps raising over £1000

Church Bookings including shared profits with the Gilbert and Sullivan Players from Stamford and the Rutland Musical Theatre Society.

The Patronal Pledge

Church Choir events including Captain Noah and Joseph and his Amazing Dreamcoat. Both performances involving children from our Church School. Additional funding raised by Vivian Anthony using his time and hard work to source and apply for areas of funding available.

Many exciting events to come and details to follow.

We still desperately need people who are willing to take an idea and lead it, with the support of a willing team of helpers.

Do you have a talent for sourcing funding which could be applied for and used to maintain and enhance our beautiful church?

During the winter months, our church costs £1000 a month to heat and light. This works out at £250 a week! We must generate more income. Fundraising and applying for grants are excellent ways of achieving this.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Jenny Harris and Pat Cole.

Choir Report

The year 2023 marked the 400th anniversary of the deaths of English composers William Byrd and Thomas Weelkes, as well as the coronation of our new King and Queen, events which we have been able to celebrate in music during choral services during the past year. Our Advent, Christmas and Epiphany candlelit services were also well received, and our monthly Choral Evensong continues to attract a significantly growing congregation. We participated in the RSCM Cathedral Festival last October.

Opportunities arose last year to visit neighbouring churches to sing Evensong: at Barrowden, on the Feast of John Baptist; and at Harringworth, on the festival of Christ the King. An exciting opportunity to collaborate with the children of the CofE Primary School resulted in a performance of *Captain Noah*, at Michaelmas, and its sequel, a splendid account of *Joseph*, in church just recently, choreographed by Jenny Harris and accompanied on the piano by Andrew Forbes. Both concerts were attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland, Dr Sarah Furness, who also invited us to host the Princess of Wales Community Carol Service for Rutland on the Eve of Advent last year.

A further highlight, last summer, was the opportunity to sing the weekend services at Sherborne Abbey: Evensong on Saturday 22 July and Eucharist and Evensong the following day; with Peter Clements at the organ. It was a musically and socially rewarding weekend, and we were made very welcome.

Early in 2024 we held an Open Evening rehearsal and get-together, a worthwhile exercise we should like to repeat in due course. And in February, we contributed six items of Tudor music as illustrations to a lecture by James Saunders, *Curious singing & playing of organs*, to raise further funds for the Patronal Pledge.

Thanks, as always, to choir members for their unswerving loyalty and commitment, and a special mention to those visitors who regularly join us to sing at Evensongs and other significant services. New singers will always be welcome, of any age, and in any and all of the voice parts; and we look forward to our continuing musical ministry together during the coming year.

John Wardle
Director of Music & Organist, Uppingham PC

Church Hall

It is hoped that the users of the hall find that it is a pleasant and airy facility without being too costly to hire. Although the hall is not very big, it seems to meet the regular needs of several organisations. Having required a new instantaneous water heater at the beginning of February 2022 it was necessary to have an actual new heating boiler in July 2023, and this was purchased and installed by Robert Cliff Ltd, who also conduct the servicing of the equipment. Lidbetter and Hicks conducted their 5 yearly checks of the electrical equipment in October 2023. Firefighting equipment is checked annually.

I would like to thank Mr Nick Kennedy, who cleans the hall regularly and cleans the carpet annually, and those who continue to take an interest in the hall, who check that it is locked, observe any problems, and generally walk along the path at different times to see that things are in order at the hall.

The following groups used the hall regularly in 2023.

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- The Labour Party
- Women's Singing Circle
- Churches Together in Uppingham – Lent Course
- Mellors and Kirk, Nottingham – Valuations
- Uppingham Mothers' Union
- Uppingham Evening WI
- The Parish Church – Canon Rachel Watts and colleagues - events for children including Biblical Meal, and Late-Night Shopping
- The Parish Church – events throughout the year including the Coronation Lunch in May
- Uppingham Parish Church choir
- Parsnips Youth Theatre
- Other groups and organisations used the hall or its equipment at other times:
 - Uppingham in Bloom – Mosaic making for Uppingham.
 - Uppingham and District Twinning Association
 - Wisteria House – use of chairs for events

- Private children's parties and family parties
- Private musical rehearsals
- Parishioners – Posy making for Mothering Sunday
- Edward Dorman – funeral refreshments
- Uppingham Ladies Choir
- Uppingham Bellringers – Area events
- Various musical events and choirs, for rehearsal, and use of chairs
- RATS Theatre
- Uppingham Rainbows
- Uppingham PCC

The income from these lettings and donations can be seen in the church accounts.

[Hilary Dawe](#)
[Church Hall Bookings](#)

Deanery Synod

Meetings are attended by clergy in the Deanery and lay representatives. Coordinated by the Rural Dean, the Revd. Canon Jane Baxter, meetings provide the opportunity to find out what is happening in the diocese and deanery and to share views. Sue Cross has taken over the role of lay chair. Meetings are 3 monthly. Following COVID we have continued the pattern of Zoom meetings in the winter and face to face in the summer. Meetings have included presentations by Andrew Roberts Diocesan Secretary. It was interesting to hear how diocesan business is carried out and particularly the process of selecting and installing our new Bishop. Emily Elliot spoke about the work of the DAC and enabled us to understand the process of seeking church improvements. We had a fascinating talk about our local dog regiment based in North Luffenham, and the work of the International Criminal Court based in the Hague. I have enjoyed meeting and worshipping with people across our Rutland churches. Due to other commitments, I cannot always attend. I hope that someone will join me to represent our church at these meetings.

[Jill Cannings](#)
[Deanery Synod Representative](#)

Uppingham C of E Primary School

The school has had an intense year. On the 21st & 22nd June we had our Ofsted inspection. The result of the inspection was overwhelmingly positive with the school being ranked Good. The inspectors referenced the high standards of leadership and remarked on the nurturing and caring environment that the pupils enjoyed. This really is an outstanding achievement and the staff have done a superb job.

The school is recording some good results in phonics, but SATS results for Key stage 1 and Key stage 2 are below where we would like them. Undoubtedly the negative effects of lockdowns are still showing themselves to have had a fundamental impact on the children's education.

Pupil numbers remain a challenge having fallen from 136 to 128 as of March this year. This is a significant problem in Rutland with demographic changes seeing Primary schools in general struggling to maintain numbers. In the case of Uppingham CofE Primary School this creates additional pressures with funding especially as there are a higher-than-average proportion of SEND pupils who need additional support to meet their needs. The nurture room instigated in 2023 has made substantial progress in addressing many of these issues.

The school has ensured that the pupils enjoy extra-curricular enrichment programmes and has a strong community presence. Its use of social media to engage the community has been held up as an exemplar of good practice in the Trust. Many events have been organised including Football tournaments, a visit to the Houses of Parliament, participating in the Princess of Wales Carol Concert and very recently, on the 11th March, pupils from Year 6 attended the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey. This was a most important event and was attended by the Queen, Prince of Wales, Princess Royal and the Duke & Duchess of Edinburgh. Our school representatives even featured in the national TV coverage!

Governor meetings continue to be well attended and most recently we underwent a full Self-evaluation audit to focus on what is being done well and what areas we could concentrate on to promote further improvement. The result of the audit was that the school had recovered well from the stresses of the pandemic and was a positive place to be.

Philip Warner

**On behalf of the C. of E. Primary School
Governing Body**

Church Property Register

Introduction

The Church Property Register is a requirement of Section 4 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 and relates principally to the fabric of the church, church buildings, the churchyard, furnishings and property (including plate etc.).

This report incorporates the inventory, the terrier of all lands appertaining to the church and the logbook of all alterations, repairs and additions to the church, its lands and property. It is required annually and relates to any events occurring during the reporting period which the churchwardens consider likely to assist the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in discharging its functions in relation to the church and its articles.

A log book noting all alterations, additions and repairs to the church and the location of documents relating to such works is held and maintained by the wardens.

The reporting period is 1st January 2023 – 31st December 2024.

Structural undertakings

None were undertaken during the reporting period.

Extraordinary surveys

The Quinquennial Inspection was completed in May 2019.

The next Quinquennial Inspection is scheduled to take place in June 2024 and will be carried out by Hestia Architects Ltd based in Oxford following the retirement of our previous architect, John Barker, who had served our church well over many years. We are grateful for his advice and guidance and thankful for his recommendation of Hestia to carry on his work.

The fabric of the church continues to be in relatively good condition for a building the age of ours due in no small part to John Barker's work for us.

As reported previously, due to the restrictions that Covid placed upon us few recommendations were implemented but, further to the review carried out with our architect to identify / prioritise key areas, SC Builders Ltd have quoted the work required to address all the category A items. This has been reviewed by the PCC - taking account of the costs and funds available this has been held on file and will be updated when the new Quinquennial report is received.

In compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety)

Order 2005, which was effective from 1st October 2006, risk assessments were carried out by the buildings committee at that time using the procedure laid out in Guide 6 (small and medium places of assembly) and visitor and user safety guides updated accordingly – these are reviewed at least annually by the church warden and others.

Routine surveys

The church warden and others carry out audits of the church, parish hall and their environs making recommendations to the PCC and update visitor and user safety guides as necessary.

Health & Safety Audit

An annual health and safety audit is normally carried out prior to each annual meeting. A full audit is completed prior to the AGM and approved by the PCC.

An annual access audit is also carried out at the same time. Light levels are an issue within the church building and initial investigations have begun and will be reported on at the next AGM.

Our insurers also carry out their own periodic inspections assisted by the wardens; none was carried out during this reporting period.

No accidents, incidents or near misses occurred in either the church or the hall.

Rutland County Council has responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard and its boundary walls including for the inspection and maintenance of trees – we are grateful to the County Council and their contractors for their work.

Future

All legal requirements and appropriate guidance will be followed to ensure that we comply and continue to improve access to our church.

Subject to funding availability and appropriate faculty approval work it is planned that we will begin work on the category A items identified in the new Quinquennial inspection.

Terrier of church lands

Peter Lane carried out a thorough audit of parish lands; his report dated 6th May 2003 remains an accurate record and our primary reference document. For information Scott Murray continue to act on our behalf managing land rentals from local farmers.

Inventory

The church has a fine collection of silver, brass, art works and furniture which is maintained in good condition by all those who so kindly give their time to their cleaning.

The inventory is reported separately and presented at the AGM for acceptance and signature by the Rector.

New acquisitions and disposals during the reporting period

Disposals: None

Acquisitions: We are grateful to Ravi Thakram for the generous donation of a new set of Stations of the Cross in memory of his late wife

Richard Cole,
Churchwarden

Mothers' Union

This is my final report as Branch Leader; from January 2024 the leadership has passed to Moyra Bassill, with Hilary Dawe remaining as Secretary, and Sue Dixon, Claire Dixon, Margaret Dickinson and Joy Sworn also happy to continue on the committee. I am very grateful to them and to former members for all their hard work over the last year, and to their willingness to continue.

Membership has dropped a little, as we lose members through death and incapacity. We mourn the passing of Dorine Warren, who died in November, also of Margaret Jennings and Daphne Thomas earlier in the year. They were greatly involved in MU activities earlier in their lives. Sadly, we 'lost' Debbie as she moved to become Vicar of Irchester with Stanton Cross; other members have resigned through age and poor health. We are sad to lose them, but as they were no longer active members, our ability to function as a lively, positive group is in no way impaired. We started the year with 42 members and we are now at 34. It is important to remember that not all members are active for varied reasons; however we do need to encourage new members, so keep working at it!

- Fundraising continued with our annual Market Stall and coffee mornings. New ideas always welcome!
- Branch meetings. Attendance has been down a little this year; it would be good to see a few more on a Tuesday, though of course MU meetings cannot always have priority.

Elaine Woodhead volunteered to organise the Eucharistic Assistant team which is now up and running; I am very grateful to her for taking this on, and to Valerie Bowron for joining the team.

I would like to thank all members for their support in running the Branch; everyone is very willing to make a contribution, whether taking part in our services, serving refreshments or volunteering to run the Market stall.

Janet Wardle

Bell Ringers

Currently we have five ringers who are resident in Uppingham. Two who started learning to ring in February 2023 achieved their goal to *"Ring for the King"*. We continue to be supported by ringers from the surrounding area for Sunday service ringing, special occasions and celebrations as necessary. Trying to recruit new people to learn to ring church bells is an ongoing activity. We continue to use Saturday mornings as a training session for new trainees, with the bells completely silenced.

May 6th 2023 was Coronation Day of King Charles III. On Thursday 4th May we rang a Quarter Peal, dedicated to King Charles, in celebration of the event. On the morning of Coronation Day a team of 8 ringers again rang in celebration, before we all rushed home to watch the events of the day on television.

We were requested to ring the bells at 6 funerals in 2023 and one wedding and one wedding blessing.

We continue to hold an annual cake and plant stall on Uppingham Market Place, in May, raising funds for the Uppingham Church Bell Fund. It is this fund that pays for the maintenance and upkeep of the bells and bell chamber and the regular inspections.

The bells and framework are inspected bi-annually by Taylors of Loughborough. The last inspection was in April of 2023 and I'm pleased to be able to report that all was in good repair. Our local 'steeplekeeper' and Rutland branch steward, Ted Philips, inspects them at periodic intervals to ensure all is well in the belfry. Practice nights are Thursdays 7.30pm-9pm.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Appendix

PCC Members 2023 to present time

Clergy

Canon Rachel Watts	01572 829956	rectorofuppingham@gmail.com	45 Lime Tree Ave Uppingham LE15 9SS
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Deanery Synod

Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com	1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL
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Diocesan Synod

Vacant

Co-opted Representatives

Christobel Price

Harry Watts

Musical Director

John Wardle	01572 829923	john.wardle@btinternet.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
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Churchwardens

Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
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Deputy Churchwardens

Anne Touchin (Resigned Dec 23)	01572 820534	anniedt@john-lewis.com	The Little Crooked House, 4, Hopes Yard, Uppingham LE15 9QQ
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Elected Lay Representatives

Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
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Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
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The late Ian Cripps

Roy Farmer	01572 869573	roy.farmer@virgin.net	7 Elizabeth Way, Uppingham, LE15 9PQ
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Claire Dixon	01572 821474	clairedixon45@gmail.com	9a Cedar Close, Uppingham LE15 9PT
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Sue Saunders	01572 829934	saunderssue13@gmail.com	
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Co-opted Treasurer

Russ Garley	01572 869164	russgarley@aol.com	44 Firs Ave, Uppingham LE15 9RE
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Secretary Ex-Officio

Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com	14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ
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Lay Reader

The late Anthony Morse

**St. Peter & St. Paul Uppingham
The Parish of Uppingham-with-Ayston**

Accounts for Year End 31 December 2023

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Rachel Watts
The New Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham

Churchwardens:

Richard Cole
26 Stockerston Crescent
Uppingham

Treasurer:

Mr Russ Garley
44 Firs Avenue
Uppingham

Bank:

HSBC
Oakham

Independent Examiner:

Chris Sworn
5 Main Street
Preston

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

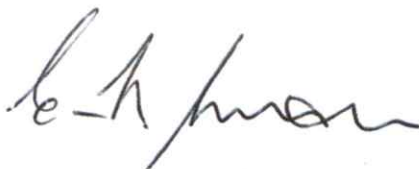
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 10 April 2024

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		51,220	0	0	0	51,220	49,812
Collections at Services		4,236	0	0	0	4,236	3,597
Other Voluntary Income	5c	19,597	4,275	191	0	24,063	14,427
Gift Aid Recovered		16,633	0	0	0	16,633	13,877
		91,686	4,275	191	0	96,151	81,713
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	4,994	0	313	0	5,308	2,602
Income from Investments	5e	138	8,466	0	865	9,469	7,426
Church Activities	5f	8,056	3,941	460	0	12,458	10,378
Total Receipts		104,874	16,682	964	865	123,385	102,119
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		71,065	0	0	0	71,065	70,931
Worship		6,325	0	0	0	6,325	6,153
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	2,996	1,794	0	0	4,790	3,191
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	13,838	12,483	608	0	26,929	16,285
Administration		8,138	873	0	0	9,012	10,388
Fundraising		240	0	40	0	280	340
Total Payments		102,603	15,150	648	0	118,401	107,289
Excess of receipts over payments		2,271	1,532	317	865	4,984	(5,171)
Transfers between funds		3,692	(3,692)	0	0	0	0
		5,963	(2,160)	317	865	4,984	(5,171)
Cash at bank at 1st January		15,715	119,534	4,871	26,982	167,102	172,273
Cash at bank a 31st December		21,678	117,374	5,188	27,846	172,087	167,102

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		17,235	24,816	5,188	0	47,239	43,113
Deposit Fund		4,443	92,558	0	27,846	124,847	123,989
		21,678	117,374	5,188	27,846	172,087	167,102
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		1,438	0	0	0	1,438	709
Land rental		0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,438	0	0	0	1,438	709
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	136,298	136,298	124,650
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		0	0	0	340,298	340,298	328,650
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		0	0	0	0	1,040	1,154
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	1,040	1,154

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
- Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	5,249	3,753	5,623	0	3,379
Church Fabric	26,248	8,251	7,669	0	26,831
Organ Fund	21,391	1,560	0	0	22,951
St Thomas Charity	5,192	1,219	1,858	0	4,552
Mission & Ministry Legacy	61,453	1,900	0	(3,692)	59,662
	119,534	16,682	15,150	(3,692)	117,374
Designated					
Bell Fund	4,871	964	648	0	5,188
	4,871	964	648	0	5,188

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2023 (£)	Total 2022 (£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	14,373	14,373	13,163
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	559	559	512
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,487	1,487	1,361
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	20,678	20,678	18,938
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	2,203	2,203	2,017
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC [Charity of Richard Pakeman]	0	0	0	49,144	49,144	44,918
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	47,855	47,855	43,740
	0	0	0	136,298.40	136,298	124,650
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	15,732	4,275	191	0	20,197	11,856
Wall Safe	2,940	0	0	0	2,940	2,570
Grants	925	0	0	0	925	0
	19,597	4,275	191	0	24,063	14,427
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	3,992	0	313	0	4,305	1,841
Concerts	1,003	0	0	0	1,003	761
	4,994	0	313	0	5,308	2,602
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,391	0	0	3,391	3,712
Deposit Account Interest	138	3,235	0	865	4,238	1,604
Land Rental	0	1,840	0	0	1,840	2,110
	138	8,466	0	865	9,469	7,426
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees	6,605	1,560	460	0	8,625	6,426
Charity Fund Raising Events	1,451	0	0	0	1,451	1,147
Church Hall Lettings	0	2,381	0	0	2,381	2,805
	8,056	3,941	460	0	12,458	10,378
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Xmas lunches	1,208	0	0	0	1,208	1,583
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	20
Christian Aid Appeal	0	0	0	0	0	150
British Legion Poppy Appeal	151	0	0	0	151	227
Turkish Earthquake	140	0	0	0	140	0
Local Charities and Causes	0	1,794	0	0	1,794	450
	1,520	1,794	0	0	3,314	2,430
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	9,098	82	0	0	9,180	5,648
Insurance	4,336	625	0	0	4,960	4,412
Maintenance	404	9,833	608	0	10,844	4,539
Organ repairs	0	474	0	0	474	277
Cleaning	0	1,470	0	0	1,470	1,410
	13,838	12,483	608	0	26,929	16,285

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman: _____ Date:

Rev Canon Rachel Watts

Treasurer: _____ Date:

Mr Russ Garley ACMA

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 10 April 2024

Accounts

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2022



Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2022

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of 26 April 2023.

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

Reports received

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Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2022 until the date of the approval of this report are shown at Appendix 1 (page 11).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

Eco Church

We have now completed the requirements for our Bronze Award, which I have applied for.

We achieved this through our management of:

Worship – hymns, prayers, teaching on caring for God's creation, use of digital communications for newsletter, service sheets etc

Buildings – although we are unable to change much here, the use of low energy and LED lighting has helped both in the church buildings and vicarage. We have also begun using Eco friendly cleaning products and toilet/kitchen paper. The use of recycling bins, printing paper double sided, use of recyclable paper cups etc and changing to sustainable floral oasis.

Land –plants and water to encourage wildlife, monitor mowing with RCC, maintaining land to encourage and support wildlife. Working with UIB and Rutland Natural History Society.

Community & Global – use of Fairtrade goods, encouraging annual walk to Launde, working with wildlife organisations, taking part in community projects such as litter picking, UIB, encouraging walking/cycling/car sharing where possible. Reducing food waste.

Lifestyle – looking at own carbon footprints, shopping locally, car usage, Eco Group, communal Christmas & Easter card scheme, single use packaging.

Christobel Price

Safeguarding

Our church has again adopted the diocesan safeguarding policy, 'Promoting a Safer Church'. This is updated by me annually, and was reviewed and agreed by the PCC in November. A copy of our policy is kept at the back of the church, along with contact numbers for those with safeguarding roles and a list of useful contact numbers for a variety of agencies / support groups. This information can also be found on the parish website.

Everyone on the PCC and in a position of leadership has completed a DBS check and the appropriate safeguarding training. This is renewed every three years

Safeguarding is a standing agenda at every PCC meeting.

In May we looked at our use of social media to ensure we were following diocesan guidelines. This will be reviewed annually. Our parish website has a clear link to our safeguarding policy on its front page and who to contact. We also reviewed our activities involving children or vulnerable adults and there are risk assessments and role descriptions in place.

In November we reviewed our procedure for dealing with safeguarding allegations or concerns, and the management of known offenders. We also looked at the safe storage of safeguarding records. All safeguarding records must comply with GDPR and the Church of England guidance.

I am pleased to report there have been no safeguarding incidents this year.

There is a new Diocesan Safeguarding Officer in post now, Carole Fitzsimons. Contact the diocese via the following email address: safeguarding@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child or adult, do not hesitate to contact one of the clergy, myself or Nicky Jervis (deputy safeguarding officer).

Sue Saunders,
Benefice Safeguarding Advisor
Email: uppinghamsafegurading@gmail.com

Stewardship & Giving

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with Gift Aid tax refunds resulted in around £70,700 being received compared to £97,854 in 2021 and £73,489 in 2020.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are three different ways in which we give:

PARISH GIVING SCHEME (£39,172 in 2022 compared to £39,485 in 2021)

The small reduction is due to the decline in the numbers of regular donations as members of the congregation pass away. Can I encourage anyone on the scheme who has not indicated that they are happy to see their donation increase in line with inflation (it's an option on the website) to consider whether it you are able to do so. Alternatively, if you haven't increased the amount

you donate for a year or two, please consider whether you are able to increase now.

CASH COLLECTIONS SCHEME (£7,082 in 2022 compared to £6,271 in 2021)

These are cash donations made at services and left by visitors in the wall safe. The increase is mainly due to the 2021 figure being affected by a slow return to church after Covid.

WHITE ENVELOPE & ONE-OFF DONATIONS (£17,927 in 2022 compared to £25,664 in 2021)

The use of white envelopes has diminished markedly over the last 18 months. Occasional visitors contribute a small fraction of the total. Again, we are grateful for a very substantial one-off donation made to the Church in March 2022.

DONA DONATIONS (£2,037 in 2022)

The donation terminal by the North door became operational just three weeks before Christmas 2021. So, the 2022 figure gives us a baseline going forward.

The terminal offers a handy way for regular members of the congregation to occasional additional donations to the church. Please (if applicable) register for Gift Aid the first time you use the reader.

Despite the generosity of our regular givers, our financial income from giving and Gift Aid has decreased in the year under review.

In addition, we are all aware of costs of living increases, particularly in fuel, which will continue to be a drain on our income and reserves.

We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations. Should those cease we would have a big problem. Please do all you can to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Nick Clarke
Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED AND ARE APPROXIMATE

Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Electoral Roll

There are currently 57 members on our Church Electoral Roll.

Sadly, we have lost a number of loyal and dedicated members over the last year and some of our congregation have moved away to be nearer to family.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, please take a form from the back of the church and either pop the completed form in the Wall Safe or please give it to me.

Jenny Harris
Electoral Roll Officer.

Church Hall Report

It is hoped that the users of the hall find that it is a pleasant and airy facility without being too costly to hire. Although the hall is not very big, it seems to meet the needs of quite a number of organisations. At the beginning of February 2022 it was necessary to have a new instantaneous hot water boiler which was installed by Robert Cliff Ltd.

I would like to thank Mr Nick Kennedy who cleans the hall regularly, and those who continue to take an interest in the hall, who check that it is locked, observe any problems, and generally walk along the path at different times to see that things are in order at the hall.

The following groups used the hall regularly in 2022.

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- The Labour Party
- Women's Singing Circle
- Churches Together in Uppingham – Lent Course and occasional planning meetings
- Mellors and Kirk – Valuations
- Uppingham Mothers' Union
- Uppingham Evening WI
- The Parish Church – Canon Rachel Watts and colleagues - events for children
- The Parish Church Social and Fundraising committee – events throughout the year
- Parsnips Youth Theatre
- Rutland First Youth Group

Other groups and organisations used the hall or its equipment at other times:

- Uppingham in Bloom – Mosaic making for Uppingham
- A children's play group
- Uppingham and District Twinning Association
- Wisteria House – use of chairs for events
- Private children's parties and family parties
- Parishioners – Posy making for Mothering Sunday
- The Parish Church – Remembrance collection
- Edward Dorman – funeral refreshments
- Uppingham Ladies Choir
- Uppingham Bellringers – Area event to gather interest in bell ringing (Autumn 2022)

Various musical events and choirs, for rehearsal, and use of chairs

The income from these lettings and donations can be seen in the church accounts.

Hilary Dawe
Church Hall bookings

Choir

The death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth was marked with significant changes to the planned repertoire during September. And, at the time of writing, we are actively planning the choir's contribution to the Sunday service celebrating the coronation of our new King and Queen in May 2023.

In June 2022 the Platinum Jubilee events included our participation in the celebratory music organised on Tod's Piece. Another special engagement was at the Fire Station in November when we led the singing at Jill's celebration as their Chaplain. Our Advent, Christmas and Epiphany candlelit services were once again well received, and monthly Choral Evensong continues to attract a significant congregation.

This Palm Sunday evening, together with invited singers and soloists, we performed *The Passion of Christ*, an oratorio by Arthur Somervell, in aid of church funds. Somervell, an Uppinghamian, went on to study at King's College, Cambridge, and in Berlin, before joining the teaching staff of the RCM in 1894. His oratorio, composed in 1914, rivalled Stainer's (of 1887) in popularity

at one time, but has since been languishing in unjustified obscurity. We were fortunate to secure the services of Andrew Kennedy, narrator, and of Chris Ouvry-Johns as bass soloist. Then we sang the service of Tenebrae on Good Friday evening, attracting a healthy number of singers and congregation, so that this year we sang around the font, the ringing chamber for the first time being too small to accommodate us all.

We have sung the occasional Evensong at Belton this year, and at several significant funerals in our parish. We participated in the RSCM Cathedral Festival in October, the Advent Carol Service at Rothwell, and Epiphany Evensong at Holy Cross, Byfield. And we fulfilled two other exciting commitments: last August, we sang BCP Choral Communion at the Royal Naval College Chapel in Greenwich, setting off by coach at 7am on one of the hottest days of the summer, and repairing to the Old Brewery for lunch together. Then on New Year's Day, we were invited to lead Eucharist and Evensong in Peterborough Cathedral: special thanks to Rachel and family who organised our convivial lunch that day! This coming summer we have accepted an invitation to sing the weekend services at Sherborne Abbey – Evensong on Saturday 22 July and Eucharist and Evensong the following day.

Thanks to all our members for their loyalty and commitment, and a special mention to those visitors who regularly join us to sing at Evensongs and other significant services. New singers will always be welcome, of any age, and in any and all of the voice parts; and we look forward to our continuing musical ministry together during the coming year.

John Wardle
Director of Music & Organist

Bell Ringers

During the year we were requested to ring the Uppingham bells after three wedding and six funeral services. We held our annual fundraising Cake and Plant stall on the Market Place in May. In September we were the hosts for the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers summer festival. This included an 8-bell striking competition and tea was provided for 60 visitors.

The most significant ringing of the year was our participation in the national ringing of bells for Queen Elizabeth II. On 6th February the bells were rung to mark the 70th anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the throne. This was a prelude to the celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee in June. Over the weekend of 2nd – 5th June bells were rung in all of Rutland's 34 towers. The Uppingham bells rang in celebration on the evening of Thursday 2nd, timed to coincide with the lighting of the beacon on Tod's Piece. The bells rang again in celebration prior to the Sunday service on 5th June.

On 9th September came the announcement of the death of Her Majesty. At 12noon the Tenor bell was tolled, double muffled. At 1300 a team rang all bells fully muffled marking the passing of our Monarch.

The Proclamation of King Charles III was on Sunday 11th and open bells were rung in acknowledgement of the new king. The fully muffled bells were rung again on the morning of the state funeral of the late Queen.

With the prospect of a Coronation in 2023 a concerted effort to recruit new ringers was made and we have gained three new trainee ringers.

We have the facility to silence the bells for learners, by immobilizing the clapper. This allows for new ringers to learn at their own pace without disturbing local residents and shoppers. For this reason, Uppingham has been used as a training centre for new ringers from nearby villages, with the aim they will be ready to 'Ring for the King'.

The bells and framework are inspected bi-annually by Taylors of Loughborough. Our local 'steeplekeeper' and Rutland branch steward, Ted Philips, inspects them at periodic intervals to ensure all is well in the belfry. Practice nights are Thursday's 7.30pm -9pm.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Mothers' Union

Membership

remains steady at around 42 members, some of whom are very active, others who sadly are no longer fit enough to take an active role. We are always ready to welcome new members, including men!

We have enrolled two new members: Elaine Woodhead and Hui-yen Bloodworth; we have said farewell to Dorothy Wright, who passed sadly away somewhat unexpectedly and more recently to Margaret Jennings and Daphne Thomas. We give thanks for all those who have gone before and served our Branch with commitment and love.

The Committee

The committee remains the same as last year. Our latest recruit, Sue Dixon, is poised to become our new Treasurer but has delayed the takeover by going on a world cruise! Joy Sworn has kindly agreed to continue until April, to fill the gap. I would like to thank all the members of the committee most sincerely for all their support and hard work over the year; everyone contributes and has a special role to fulfil.

Fundraising

Fundraising has been more difficult over the last few years but members continue to give generously and we have been able to maintain our contributions to MU Diocesan funds and particularly to AFIA (away from it all) holidays. We have a special interest in these as the Fund is currently administered by two of our Branch members.

Branch meetings

We have maintained a full programme this year and are very grateful to all those who have given their time to come and speak to us. A special highlight was the visit of Honor Harris who during her visit baked two roulades which we sampled afterwards!

We are very fortunate to have Rachel and Debbie (both members) who are willing to lead our monthly Eucharist service; not all branches are so fortunate. We are in the process of training some members to act as Eucharistic assistants at our meetings, to assist the clergy in the various tasks. This is quite an exacting job and needs some practice to remember everything; we are very grateful to those who have come forward. We remember with love and gratitude those who have gone before, including Shirley Harris and Margaret Jennings.

I would like to thank all members for their support in running the Branch; everyone is very willing to make a contribution, whether taking part in our services, serving refreshments or volunteering to run the Market stall.

Janet Wardle

Social and Fundraising

We have held a number of very successful events during the year as follows:

- Sale of Bric a Brac organised by Nicky and Stewart Jervis, with Coffee and Cake served in Church by the team.
- Lunchtime Recitals by Andy Harris and Fergus Black
- Grand Christmas Prize Draw organised by Sue and Ian Cripps raising over £1,000
- Church Bookings
- Richard's 'Give up a weekly cup of coffee/tea/etc...'
- Church Choir events

Many exciting events to come and details to follow.

We still desperately need people who are willing to take an idea and lead it, with the support of a willing team of helpers.

During the winter months, our beautiful church costs £1000 a month to heat and light. This works out at £250 a week! We must generate more income and fundraising is an excellent way of achieving this.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Jenny Harris
Social and Outreach Committee

Children's Families & Youth Work

Uppingham

Youth space and twice monthly intergenerational family services, CMC with 3 young leaders, independent student advocate at Uppingham school, Mothers Union

Whissendine

Collective worship, school days at church, Fishes baby and toddler group, monthly intergenerational service. Before lockdown we were going weekly into Catmose College, exploring faith with a group of young people. We are working towards starting this again soon.

Ketton

Weekly youth group, possible confirmation group coming up and some assemblies in the primary school

Cottesmore

Church in the woods, soul food, part of the team for a new intergenerational café church service starting in February

Carlby

I help with their Jam club, aimed at children and young people

Rutland Water Benefice

I have helped with community church and admission to communion sessions and will be helping at the holiday club in the easter holidays.

Great Casterton

I have been along to Café church and helped at open the book. I also help to support the weekly youth group.

Welland Fosse Benefice – I

I helped at community church when this was running

College

I am now in my final year (year 3) and for my dissertation, I am looking at outdoor worship with young people, spiritual growth, and creation care.

Focus spot

Youth Space in Uppingham is a community youth group, which was started in the church hall by me and another member of the church. The young people in Uppingham were getting bad press on social media about them hanging around in parks and their anti-social behaviour. Residents and parents in Uppingham started asking about a youth group as there wasn't one

running. We realised to make it sustainable we would need to work with other organisations. I had already been doing detached youth work in Uppingham and Oakham with the council youth workers and had built a relationship with them, so I was able to secure one of their youth workers for the first few months of the project to help get it going.

The lack of volunteers was a problem, to begin with, but in order to receive help from other organisations we needed to show there was a need for a youth group and it was being needs led by young people, so after much prayer, we held the first session. From that first session and feedback from the young people, we have continued to grow the youth group, being led by their needs. Local businesses have also donated funds in the beginning when we had no funding, to cover food, games and crafts. The youth group is now supported by Rutland first, they have helped with DBS checks, and first aid training, and have been amazing at applying for funding. To date, we have secured £3000 from the Uppingham town council, £10,000 from the lottery and £3000 from Rutland first. I knew going forward long term I needed to step back a bit from the project, so now we had some funding we started to look for a paid person who could run the youth club for a few hours a week. The youth group now employs a youth worker for 4 hours a week. The next step was to build a stronger relationship with UCC. After emailing the pastoral care team and going in to meet them and chat with them about coming to school to offer a safe space to hang out, on a lunchtime, we now have started to go in once a month with the possibility of that changing to every other week.

It has been a very exciting project and I have learnt a lot. It took a lot of my time, to begin with, to get things going but I really felt God calling me to be part of it and to be a presence in the community. Being part of a community project has opened the door to UCC, which I couldn't open before. Although it has been hard to step back and hand it over to someone else, I know that was God's plan. Everybody involved knows I am a Christian and the church supports my time there in the group. I have met so many new people and young people and built relationships and had chats about faith. I have had a couple of young people come up to me to talk about faith when I have been at the school. The next step that I have started to talk to the school about, is being there to offer space to any Christian young people or young people exploring faith.

Big dream!

As you all know, I love animals, being outdoors, trying to grow vegetables and experiencing God out in His creation. I feel that God wants me to use my farming experience and the things above to help people to connect with Him in different ways. Growing up I really struggled with reading and writing, generally fitting in at school, and sitting still in church! God reached me through ways I could feel Him and see Him for myself so that at the right time, the rest could follow. By not having to concentrate or read anything allowed me the freedom just to be myself, let my guard down, to be open to God. I would love to prayerfully think how this could look in Rutland in the future. My dream would be to be working across the churches and supporting services and groups but to also have a space that could be used to host deanery faith-based youth events, family groups or sessions with young people who are struggling, a place to reach out into the community to people who don't know God yet. A place with room to grow vegetables, eat together, build dens, chat around a campfire, read our bibles and pray together. Somewhere that helps to engage all our senses to experience God. I know that may all sound very Mills and Boons but I just wanted to share! *'Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen' Heb 11:1*

Nat Stiles

Deanery Synod

Meetings are attended by clergy in the Deanery and lay representatives. Coordinated by the Rural Dean, the Revd. Canon Jane Baxter, meetings provide the opportunity to find out what is happening in the diocese and deanery and to share views. After 14 years in the role John Tomalin retired from the role of lay chair and Sue Cross has taken over. Meetings are 3 monthly. Following COVID we have continued the pattern of Zoom meetings in the winter and face to face in the summer. Meetings have included an excellent presentation by Paul Adams on church giving. Geoff Thompson talked about his role as High Sheriff, and we were able to set up his attendance in all benefices during his year. Other topics have included the Leprosy mission, Fair trade and a talk by Steve Benoy. Due to other commitments I cannot always attend. I hope that someone will join me to represent our church at these meetings.

Uppingham C of E Primary School

The school continues to move forward and return to normal after the difficulties posed with the Covid Pandemic. Two years of lockdowns clearly has had an impact on our pupils at what is such an important time for their education.

Uppingham Primary school is lucky to have a very committed teaching and support team who are working well to respond to the challenges that have been presented. A school development plan is in place and improvement is being shown with each passing term. Pupil enrichment programs and pastoral care is given a high priority. The children have taken part in choir performances in Uppingham at the Christmas fair, participated in visits to Flag Fen and Wing Farm, put on music performances in school for the nativity and as well as a Ukelele and recorder concert. March 23rd saw an open morning to celebrate the school's 60th Birthday.

Currently there are 136 pupils which is below the intended capacity of the school and there are a significant proportion who have special educational needs. These children are being given a high level of support but this coupled with the smaller overall numbers does create challenges with the level of funding that is available as compared to what is required. Although there are no teaching vacancies at the moment the staff are fully utilised giving the children the educational support that they need.

The governing body has recruited new members and regular governor meetings are well attended. With the ending of restrictions caused by Covid, access to the school is now possible and governor monitoring sessions are taking place more regularly. There is still a vacancy for one more foundation governor and volunteers are most welcome.

Church Property Register

For year ended 31st December 2022

Introduction

The Church Property Register is a requirement of Section 4 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 and relates principally to the fabric of the church, church buildings, the churchyard, furnishings and property (including plate etc.).

This report incorporates the inventory, the terrier of all lands appertaining to the church

and the logbook of all alterations, repairs and additions to the church, its lands and property. It is required annually and relates to any events occurring during the reporting period which the churchwardens consider likely to assist the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in discharging its functions in relation to the church and its articles.

A log book noting all alterations, additions and repairs to the church and the location of documents relating to such works is held and maintained by the wardens.

The reporting period is 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2022.

Structural undertakings

None were undertaken during the reporting period.

Extraordinary surveys

The Quinquennial Inspection was completed in May 2019.

The fabric of the church continues to be in relatively good condition for a building the age of ours, we are fortunate to have the guidance of our architect John Barker who knows our church well.

We should be mindful that John Barker intends to retire during Q1 2024. He has recommended a company to take on the work from him; the PCC needs to consider this and make a timely decision for the continued experienced guidance that we require to ensure we care well for the church building.

Due to the restrictions that Covid placed upon us few recommendations were implemented but, further to the review carried out with our architect to identify / prioritise key areas, SC Builders Ltd have quoted the work required to address all the category A items. This needs to be reviewed and agreed by the PCC taking account of costs and, where appropriate, faculty authorization from the DAC.

In compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which was effective from 1st October 2006, risk assessments were carried out by the buildings committee at that time using the procedure laid out in Guide 6 (small and medium places of assembly) and visitor and user safety guides updated accordingly – these are reviewed at least annually by the church warden and others.

Routine surveys

The church warden and others carry out audits of the church, church hall and their environs making recommendations to the PCC and update visitor and user safety guides as necessary.

Health & Safety Audit

An annual health and safety audit is normally carried out prior to each annual meeting. A full audit is completed prior to the AGM and approved by the PCC.

An annual access audit is also carried out at the same time, light levels are an issue within the church building and initial investigations have begun and will be reported on at the next AGM.

Our insurers also carry out their own periodic inspections assisted by the wardens; none was carried out by during this reporting period.

No accidents, incidents or near misses occurred in either the church or the hall.

Rutland County Council has responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard and its boundary walls including for the inspection and maintenance of trees – we are grateful to the County Council and their contractors for their work.

Future

All legal requirements and appropriate guidance will be followed to ensure that we comply and continue to improve access to our church.

Subject to funding availability and appropriate faculty approval work it is planned that we will begin work on the category A items required from the 2019 Quinquennial inspection.

Terrier of church lands

Peter Lane carried out a thorough audit of parish lands; his report dated 6th May 2003 remains an accurate record and our primary reference document. For information Scott Murray continue to act on our behalf managing land rentals from local farmers.

Inventory

The church has a fine collection of silver, brass, art works and furniture which is maintained in good condition by all those who so kindly give their time to their cleaning.

The inventory is reported separately and presented at the AGM for acceptance and signature by the Rector.

New acquisitions and disposals during the reporting period

Disposals

None

Acquisitions

We are grateful to Ravi Thakram for the generous donation of a new set of Stations of the Cross in memory of his late wife

Richard Cole,
Churchwarden

Curate's Report

As the adventure of curacy has continued for me, this past year has been a time of building further on my experience of ministry in this benefice and preparing for what God has in store for me and my family in the future. My thanks to Canon Rachel, the churchwardens and congregations with whom I continue to share and enjoy the challenges and experiences of ministry. As we said goodbye to Bishop Donald as he retired, it is good always to look forward in faith for all that is to come.

May grace and peace be yours in abundance as we give Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! (1 Peter)

Churches Together

Together with our friends in the Methodist and Congregational churches, we meet regularly to plan and deliver activities which reach out across our community and join in with the traditions of our town. This year the chair of this passed from Canon Rachel to Rev Bekkie Wright of the Methodist church. I am sure if anyone is interested in joining this group, they would be most welcome to lend their ideas and support.

In the past year we have enjoyed a number of events including :

Kids Days offered in the holidays for primary age children with film and activities;

Feast Day event in the town; Lent Group and Easter Vigil; Pudding Party for Christian Aid.

Our Harvest Festival was shared in a joint service at Belton where we enjoyed a picnic lunch together and donations were received for the Foodbank.

Pilgrimage to Launde Abbey with prayers along the way and an outdoor service at Launde with

tea. The Queen's Jubilee and her death also brought us together in prayer and worship together. From November, we shared in the Christmas in Uppingham event; Advent Day of Reflection and Covenant Service in January.

Our joining together enables us to experience the coming together in Christ of different approaches and activities, of different issues and to join together in prayer, praise and outreach as we share in a desire to bring the good news of Christ to the people of our town.

SS Peter & Paul

At our PCC Away Day in September 2022 we identified Prayer, Pastoral Care and Communication as three of the areas we seek to address. Each of these brings their own challenges and yet offers opportunity for improving our links with our community and the possibility of sharing in more good work. In addition to this, I was tasked to offer a service of Celebration of Baptism for all those families in particular who have come to baptism in the last 5 years. I look forward to this taking place at the end of April.

As well as the activities of our church – services, homegroups, prayer group, home visits, life

events etc, it is in being able to respond to those in need of all different kinds that has become more apparent as we have emerged from Covid and as I have become more used to living in this place. From young families to the elderly or bereaved, to those dealing with drug or debt issues, to those exploring the nature of faith for themselves, or questioning their relationship with God or with others, there is always a variety of issues and needs around us to which we are called to respond. Part of the responsibility is of the church to show 'love in action' and this often goes on behind the scenes of our parish life.

Further afield from Uppingham, I have been involved in joining Prison Fellowship and joining the Sycamore Tree (Restorative Justice) course provision. I have also recently joined the diocesan link group with Seoul diocese.

As Canon Rachel prepares for her sabbatical (May to July 2023) may you join me in praying for her – that her time may be one of refreshment and renewal and that she returns to us fired up for further ministry adventures. I thank you for your support during this time and look forward to sharing with you over these coming months.

Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds

Appendix 1

PCC Members 2022

Clergy		
Canon Rachel Watts	01572 829956	rectorofuppingham@gmail.com
The Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds	01572 822906	curateofuppingham@gmail.com
45 Lime Tree Ave Uppingham LE15 9SS 18 Siskin Road, Uppingham, Rutland, LE15 9UL		
Deanery Synod		
Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com
1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL		
Diocesan Synod		
Vacant		
Musical Director		
John Wardle	01572 829923	john.wardle@btinternet.com
5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ		
Churchwardens		
Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com
Jeffrey Whelband (resigned)	07753 422816	jeffrey.whelband@gmail.com
26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB Sutton Lodge Farm, Dingley Lane, Sutton Bassett LE16 8HL		
Deputy Churchwardens		
Anne Touchin	01572 820534	anniedt@john-lewis.com
The Little Crooked House, 4, Hopes Yard, Uppingham LE15 9QQ		
Elected Lay Representatives		
Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com
Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com
Ian Cripps	01572 850800	iandcripps@gmail.com
Roy Farmer	01572 869573	roy.farmer@virgin.net
Claire Dixon	01572 821474	clairedixon45@gmail.com
Nat Stiles		uppinghamyouthandchildren@gmail.com
Sue Saunders	01572 829934	saunderssue13@gmail.com
5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ 26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB 4 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ 7 Elizabeth Way, Uppingham, LE15 9PQ 9a Cedar Close, Uppingham LE15 9PT		
Co-opted Representatives		
Christobel Price		
Harry Watts		
Co-opted Treasurer		
Russ Garley	01572 869164	russgarley@aol.com
44 Firs Ave, Uppingham LE15 9RE		
Secretary E-Officio		
Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com
14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ		
Lay Reader		
Anthony Morse		amorse@gmail.com
Station Road, Uppingham		

**St. Peter & St. Paul Uppingham
The Parish of Uppingham-with-Ayston**

Accounts for Year End 31 December 2022

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Rachel Watts
The New Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham

Churchwardens:

Richard Cole
26 Stockerston Crescent
Uppingham

Treasurer:

Mr Russ Garley
44 Firs Avenue
Uppingham

Bank:

HSBC
Oakham

Independent Examiner:

Chris Sworn
5 Main Street
Preston

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

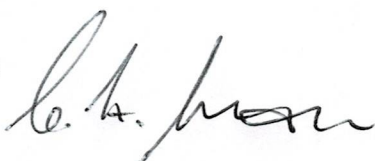
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 21 April 2023

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2022 (£)	Total 2021 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		49,812	0	0	0	49,812	53,555
Collections at Services		3,597	0	0	0	3,597	1,853
Other Voluntary Income	5c	14,330	11	86	0	14,427	25,664
Gift Aid Recovered		13,877	0	0	0	13,877	16,783
		81,616	11	86	0	81,713	97,854
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	2,320	0	283	0	2,602	3,597
Income from Investments	5e	56	7,020	0	350	7,426	5,505
Church Activities	5f	5,973	4,405	0	0	10,378	9,744
Total Receipts		89,965	11,435	368.74	350	102,119	116,700
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		70,931	0	0	0	70,931	70,431
Worship		6,153	0	0	0	6,153	5,120
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	3,341	(150)	0	0	3,191	6,446
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	9,620	6,665	0	0	16,285	12,795
Administration		9,850	233	306	0	10,388	23,682
Fundraising		340	0	0	0	340	283
Total Payments		100,235	6,748	306	0	107,289	118,757
Excess of receipts over payments		(10,270)	4,686	63	350	(5,171)	(2,058)
Transfers between funds		527	(527)	0	0	0	0
		(9,743)	4,159	63	350	(5,171)	(2,058)
Cash at bank at 1st January		25,459	115,374	4,809	26,631	172,273	174,331
Cash at bank a 31st December		15,715	119,534	4,871	26,982	167,102	172,273

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2022 (£)	Total 2021 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		11,410	26,831	4,871	0	43,113	49,881
Deposit Fund		4,305	92,703	0	26,982	123,989	122,392
		15,715	119,534	4,871	26,982	167,102	172,273
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		709	0	0	0	709	791
Land rental		0	0	0	0	0	270
		709	0	0	0	709	1,061
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	124,650	124,650	141,215
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		0	0	0	328,650	328,650	345,215
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		1,154	0	0	0	1,154	574
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,154	0	0	0	1,154	574

Notes

- The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
- Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
- The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	4,688	4,134	3,573	0	5,249
Church Fabric	26,105	3,408	3,265	0	26,248
Organ Fund	19,791	1,600	0	0	21,391
St Thomas Charity	3,614	1,488	(90)	0	5,192
Mission & Ministry Legacy	61,176	804	0	(527)	61,453
	115,374	11,435	6,748	(527)	119,534
Designated					
Bell Fund	4,809	369	306	0	4,871
	4,809	369	306	0	4,871

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2022 (£)	Total 2021(£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands (Charity of Richard Pateman)	0	0	0	13,163	13,163	14,895
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	512	512	579
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,361	1,361	1,541
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	18,938	18,938	21,430
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	2,017	2,017	2,283
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC (Charity of Richard Pakeman)	0	0	0	44,918	44,918	50,911
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	43,740	43,740	49,576
	0	0	0	124,650	124,650	141,215
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	11,760	11	86	0	11,856	19,946
Wall Safe	2,570	0	0	0	2,570	2,744
Choir Robes	0	0	0	0	0	2,974
	14,330	11	86	0	14,427	25,664
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	1,559	0	283	0	1,841	2,642
Concerts	761	0	0	0	761	215
Magazine	0	0	0	0	0	740
	2,320	0	283	0	2,602	3,597
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,712	0	0	3,712	3,597
Deposit Account Interest	56	1,198	0	350	1,604	68
Land Rental	0	2,110	0	0	2,110	1,840
	56	7,020	0	350	7,426	5,505
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees (includes organ, choir)	4,826	1,600	0	0	6,426	6,452
Charity Fund Raising Events	1,147	0	0	0	1,147	1,636
Church Hall Lettings	0	2,805	0	0	2,805	1,656
	5,973	4,405	0	0	10,378	9,744
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Xmas lunches	1,583	0	0	0	1,583	298
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	20
Christian Aid Appeal	150	0	0	0	150	560
British Legion Poppy Appeal	227	0	0	0	227	256
Caldecott Tower	0	0	0	0	0	100
Local Charities and Causes	0	450	0	0	450	1,100
	1,980	450	0	0	2,430	2,334
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	5,601	47	0	0	5,648	4,050
Insurance	3,825	586	0	0	4,412	4,249
Maintenance	194	4,345	0	0	4,539	2,473
Organ repairs	0	277	0	0	277	504
Cleaning	0	1,410	0	0	1,410	1,520
	9,620	6,665	0	0	16,285	12,795

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman: _____ Date:

Rev Canon Rachel Watts

Treasurer: _____ Date:

Mr Russ Garley ACMA

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

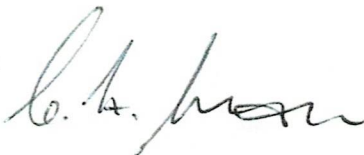
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 21 April 2023

Accounts

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2021



Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2021

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of x May 2022.

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

Reports received

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Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2017 until the date of the approval of this report are shown at Appendix 1 (page 11).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

Energy Footprint & Net Carbon Zero

The Church of England is committed to an environmental programme to achieve a target of net zero carbon emissions by 2030; this was adopted by the General [Synod in a motion](#) passed in February 2020.

The Church has carried out a comprehensive national audit to establish our starting point so that action plans can be put in place to achieve the objective.

Christobel Price will be working with the Rector and PCC on this project.

On our behalf she submitted our "Energy Footprint" audit to the Diocese to calculate our carbon footprint. On completion, our church was given two energy efficiency ratings based on building size and attendance.

Our carbon emissions for year ended 2021 (calculated on church attendance per M2) were:

- CO₂ emissions 21.1 tonnes (the equivalent of 21 London buses)
- Energy rating E
- Net CO₂ places us in 60-70% percentile, ie with the majority of the Church of England at present

Average CO₂ emission per **person** is **8 tonnes** per year - to limit global warming to 2°C, the average level of CO₂ emission per capita on our planet must not exceed **2.1 tonnes by 2050**.

The Church of England has set itself stretching targets and the implementation of low energy lighting, efficient heating systems, solar energy etc will be challenging and require creative actions, significant funding and changes to planning approval.

However, there are many actions that all members of the church community can already start to adopt eg LED lighting, rain water capture, encouraging wildlife, recycling etc.

We must make a start.

Richard Cole
Deputy Churchwarden

Safeguarding

Uppingham church is committed to observing good safeguarding practice in order to provide a safe environment for people to thrive. As a church we have adopted the diocesan safeguarding policy, 'Promoting a Safer Church'. This is updated by me, and reviewed and agreed annually by the PCC.

A copy of our policy is kept at the back of the church, along with contact numbers for those with safeguarding roles and a list of useful contact numbers for a variety of agencies / support groups. This information can also be found on the parish website.

The PCC has agreed a list of activities that we run involving children or vulnerable adults and this will be reviewed in the next few months. I am working to ensure that anyone involved in running any of these activities has completed a DBS check and the relevant training required by the Church of England.

All members of the PCC are required to have a DBS check (renewable every three years) and to have completed the appropriate safeguarding training. We are not yet 100% compliant with this and I will be pursuing this over the next few months. I have alerted those whose DBS checks are up for renewal and those that still need to complete the training.

We recently hosted a safeguarding training event in the church which was also opened up to our neighbouring parishes. There was a good attendance and I am grateful to everyone that attended.

The training is available to anyone in the church. The more people who are aware and vigilant, the safer our community will be. Everyone involved in any church related activities with children or vulnerable adults is required to complete this training. Please talk to me if you would like to discuss this further. The training can be found via the following link: <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>

If you have any safeguarding concerns about a child or adult, do not hesitate to contact one of the clergy, myself or Nicky Jervis (deputy safeguarding officer).

Alternatively, you can contact the diocesan safeguarding advisors Christine Lamb christine.lamb@peterborough-diocese.org.uk or Angie Barber angie.barber@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

Thank you to everyone for their support with helping to make our church a safe place for everyone to feel a part of.

Sue Saunders,
Benefice Safeguarding Advisor
Email: saunderssue13@gmail.com

Stewardship & Giving

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with Gift Aid tax refunds resulted in around £97,854 being received compared to £73,489 in 2020. That represents an increase of approximately 33%.

Our parishioners gave generously through 2021, which included a number of kind individual donations possibly prompted by the lack of opportunities to come to church in 2020 due to Covid.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are three different ways in which we can give:

PETERBOROUGH SCHEME / PARISH GIVING SCHEME (£54,474 in 2020 to 53,555 in 2021)

We are nearly complete in transferring everyone from the old standing order "Peterborough Scheme" to the new Direct Debit "Parish Giving Scheme". Only 3 donors remain on the old scheme, most of these being parishioners with whom we have lost contact. The diocese delayed closing the scheme due to Covid and so we have continued to receive this income this year. However, the scheme was closed on March 31st 2022.

CASH COLLECTIONS / WHITE ENVELOPE SCHEME (£2,025 in 2020 to £ 1,853 in 2021)

This has been declining steadily over the last few years. Almost all regular donors have moved onto the Parish Giving Scheme. Most envelopes are from occasional visitors and the rise is due to the church being open much more in 2021.

LARGE AND ONE-OFF DONATIONS (£21,812 in 2020 rose to £25,664 in 2021)

Our parishioners continue to be very generous and give occasional or sometimes annual one-off donations. Across the year there were a number of significant one-off donations.

In the last two weeks of the accounting period, our new Dona machine was operating for

the first time. It recorded donations of £95.00 primarily over Christmas. The machine has come into its own since the turn of the year and in the first quarter received donations of £398.00. The Gift Aid on the donations will be claimed in the financial year 2022-23.

I would like to take this opportunity, on everyone's behalf, to thank Geoff Thompson for all the work he has done for the Church as Gift Aid Secretary since 2018. He made the handover to me very easy and I am trying to follow in his 'bank manager footsteps'!

Thanks to the generosity of our regular givers, our financial income from giving and Gift Aid has increased in the year under review. If this level of giving is maintained it should help us slowly restore our finances, now that church is fully open again.

However, we are all aware of costs of living increases, particularly in fuel, which will impact us when the heating goes on in the winter.

We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations. Should those cease we would have a big problem. Please do all you can to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Nick Clarke

Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED AND ARE APPROXIMATE

Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Electoral Roll

Currently there are 65 members. The roll changes throughout the year as new members join the congregation, residents relocate and members are no longer able to attend due to infirmity. We also lose members who have gone before us to be with our risen Lord.

Jenny Harris

Church Property Register

Introduction

The Church Property Register is a requirement of Section 4 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 and relates principally to the fabric of the church, church buildings, the churchyard, furnishings and property (including plate etc.).

This report incorporates the inventory, the terrier of all lands appertaining to the church and the logbook of all alterations, repairs and additions to the church, its lands and property. It is required annually and relates to any events occurring during the reporting period which the churchwardens consider likely to assist the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in discharging its functions in relation to the church and its articles.

A log book noting all alterations, additions and repairs to the church and the location of documents relating to such works is held and maintained by the wardens.

The reporting period is 1st January 2021 – 31st December 2021 but in preparing the report it is sensible to reflect that the restrictions of the Covid pandemic mean that some previous audits were last completed in year ending Dec 2019.

Structural undertakings

None were undertaken during the reporting period.

Extraordinary surveys

The Quinquennial Inspection was completed in May 2019.

The fabric of the church continues to be in relatively good condition for a building the age of ours, we are fortunate to have the guidance of our architect John Barker who knows our church well.

Due to Covid few recommendations could be implemented but a review has been carried out with our architect to identify / prioritise key areas to action specifically the category A items to be agreed by the PCC considering costs and appropriate faculty or authorization from the Diocese.

In compliance with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which was effective from 1st October 2006, risk assessments were carried out by the buildings committee at that time using the procedure laid out in Guide 6 (small and medium places of assembly) and visitor and user safety guides updated accordingly

– these are reviewed at least annually by the church wardens and others.

Routine surveys

The church wardens and others carry out audits of the church, church hall and their environs making recommendations to the PCC and update visitor and user safety guides as necessary.

Health & Safety Audit

An annual health and safety audit is normally carried out prior to each annual meeting. An interim audit was carried out once Covid easing allowed and a full audit completed prior to the AGM and approved by the PCC.

An annual access audit is also carried out at the same time, light levels are an issue within the church building and initial investigations have begun and will be reported on at the next AGM.

Our insurers also carry out their own periodic inspections assisted by the wardens; none was carried out by during this reporting period.

No accidents, incidents or near misses occurred in either the church or the hall.

Rutland County Council has responsibility for the maintenance of the churchyard and its boundary walls including for the inspection and maintenance of trees. During 2021 they carried out work in the lower churchyard pollarding trees and clearing ivy – we are grateful to the County Council and their contractors for their work.

Future

All legal requirements and appropriate guidance will be followed to ensure that we comply and continue to improve access to our church.

Subject to funding availability and appropriate faculty approval work envisaged in 2022 relates to that work required from the 2019 Quinquennial inspection.

Terrier of church lands

Peter Lane carried out a thorough audit of parish lands; his report dated 6th May 2003 remains an accurate record and our primary reference document. For information Scott Murray act on our behalf managing land rentals from local farmers.

Inventory

The church is blessed by a fine collection of silver, brass, art works and furniture which is maintained in good condition by all those who

so kindly give their time to their cleaning.

The inventory is reported separately and presented at the AGM acceptance and signature by the Rector.

New acquisitions and disposals during the reporting period

Disposals None

Acquisitions None

Richard Cole
Deputy Churchwarden

Bell Ringers

Again, the year started with restrictions on activity due to the coronavirus pandemic and it was late Summer before ringing could recommence.

But before the end of the year the bells had rung out for two weddings and four funeral services. On two occasions visiting teams came to Uppingham to enjoy ringing our bells.

We managed a full team of 8 to ring on Remembrance Sunday in November, for the town's late night shopping event at the beginning of December and again for the carol service.

On 7th October a band comprising local ringers from Rutland and surrounding area came to ring a peal. This is an amazing feat that only the best ringers achieve, as it takes around three hours of continuous ringing to complete. Each sequence is never repeated and all is performed from memory.

We have at Uppingham, a bell simulator, which makes us an ideal venue for teaching bellringing to new learners. It facilitates ringing with the sound via a computer and only heard from inside the church. No sound is heard by the public outside. On Saturday mornings during November, December, and January, we had eight learners from Gretton and two from Ayston learning "the ropes". We plan to hold further recruitment events and hope we will eventually have a full home band.

Practice nights are Thursday's 7.30pm -9pm.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Choir

This report covers a two-year period, during which church music has faced an unprecedented challenge.

I am immensely grateful to our singers, and it is pleasing to note how the range of repertoire and the technical standards of singing have been maintained. The choir made a bold decision to embrace weekly lateral flow testing to build our collective confidence, and during the earlier severe phases of Covid we remained infection-free. The latest phase of Covid, this year, has caught several of our members infected in the community, happily not with severe outcomes, and the policy of weekly testing and judicious absence from choir has ensured we have not spread it amongst ourselves.

The opening-up of services has been successfully managed, with incremental steps building confidence, although one final step, the common cup, is still awaited. Our Christmas, Epiphany and Candlemas candlelit services were well received; once again we used the screen to display suitable pictures accompanying the readings at the Christmas and Epiphany services. Monthly Choral Evensong has begun to attract a significant congregation, once again, and some interesting additions to the repertoire have featured. We were delighted to be able to offer the service of Tenebrae once again, after an absence of two years, on Good Friday evening.

It has been lovely to sing the occasional Evensong at Belton this year. We have received two other exciting invitations to sing services outside the bounds of our parish – in August, a BCP Choral Communion at the Royal Naval College Chapel in Greenwich, and on New Year's Day 2023, Eucharist and Evensong in our home Cathedral of Peterborough. The support of the PCC in accepting these invitations has been welcome.

Congratulations to Vivian Anthony who, on 1 May 2022, completed 76 years of choristership since his boyhood days in the diocese of Llandaff, and was presented with the RSCM Loyal Service medallion and ribbon. Thanks to all our members for their energy, loyalty, and willingness to go the extra mile in pursuit of musical excellence. New singers will always be welcome, of any age, and in any and all of the voice parts; and we look forward to our continuing musical ministry together during the coming year.

John Wardle
Director of Music & Organist

Church Hall Report

The first lockdown that started on 23 March 2020 meant a sudden stoppage to all activities in the church hall, and it was not until the end of October 2020 that a few bookings started again.

The break in the use of the hall over the summer of 2020 enabled some jobs to be done, which included the installation of the paper towel holders, and hand sanitising equipment, the fireproofing of the curtains, and the washing of the carpet. Thank you to Ian and Sue Cripps for installing the towel holders and hand sanitising stand, and for their work and vigilance in ensuring the children's gate is safe and secure, as this is most important where young children are concerned.

During 2021 more activities opened up, although it was not possible to retain a successful children's play group which had been running for four years up to the pandemic. This was due to the lack of space for the many little children to be socially distanced from each other. It has therefore been a pleasure to see other children enjoying themselves at private birthday parties, and amazing to see how their families can lay out the room imaginatively. Over the last few months it has been a pleasure to liaise with those who are running Rutland First CIC, a youth group for older children and teenagers, where marvellous work is being done with young people after their school day.

The use of the hall is now back to where it was before the pandemic, and I would like to thank Mr Nick Kennedy who cleans the hall regularly, and those who continue to take an interest in the hall. It is very much appreciated.

The income from lettings and donations can be seen in the church accounts.

Hilary Dawe
Church Hall bookings

Mothers' Union

Membership.

Our membership remains steady at around 42 members, some of whom are very active, others who sadly are no longer fit enough to take an active role.

We have enrolled four new members: Sue Dixon, Georgina Glaze, Anne Brooke and Elizabeth Sargeant and welcomed Valerie Bowron who has transferred from Ashby de la Zouche. We mourn the loss of four longstanding and faithful members: Margaret Demaine, Pat Taylor, Stephanie Pattinson and Shirley Harris.

Fundraising.

Despite the limitations imposed by Covid, we were able to distribute over £500 to MU concerns; we were effective in fundraising for only six months of the year. We are always looking for new ways to raise money and would welcome any ideas – it doesn't need to be large sum at any one event.

The committee.

The committee remains the same this year, with the addition of Claire Dixon, who has taken on the role of Membership Secretary. We are about to welcome Sue Dixon who will be our 'treasurer in training', ready to take over from Joy at the end of the year. I would like to thank all the members of the committee most sincerely for all their support and hard work over the year; everyone contributes and has a special role to fulfil.

Branch meetings

We were able to resume our monthly Eucharist from April 2022, and held our first meeting on a beautiful August afternoon at the home of Joy and Chris Sworn, celebrating Mary Sumner Day with a cream tea! At first, some members were apprehensive about going out in public, but confidence has gradually returned and most members are happy to join in.

I would like to thank all members for their support in running the Branch; everyone is very willing to 'do their bit', whether taking part in our services, serving refreshments etc. We are particularly blessed at present to have Rachel and Debbie to lead our Eucharists. I hope 2022 is a more stable year and that our programme can take place uninterrupted!

Janet Wardle

Social and Outreach

Thank you to you all for supporting our events over the past year, even though we have had to postpone many events due to the pandemic.

Our usual Soup lunch and Pancake tea had to be put on hold and unfortunately we had to cancel a pantomime in January this year, which was to be staged by the Rutland Arts Theatre Company. This was due to cast going down with Covid.d.

In Summer of 2021, Nicky and Stewart Jervis organised a team of helpers to raise funds for our Church at the Social Sundays in the Market Place. Nat and the young people also ran children's activities and we raised over £800 which was a tremendous amount. During those Sundays we were able to hold a Fashion Sale which raised in excess of £200. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we were not able to hold a Fashion Show but hope to do so in the following months ahead as this had proved a very good fundraiser.

In Autumn 2021, Andy Harris and Fergus Black gave a short concert in church which raised over £140 and they are pleased to be able to put on another short lunchtime concert on June 1st and details will be circulated.

Huge thanks go to Sue and Ian Cripps who once again dedicated so much of their time in gathering wonderful prizes from the town's businesses and selling raffle tickets at many events for our annual Grand Prize Draw. This raised in excess of £1000. A superb result. Thank you Sue and Ian for your splendid effort to raise much needed funds for our beautiful church.

In April of this year, members from our Church Choir entertained at Alec and Caroline Crombie's 50th Wedding Anniversary and were given a donation of £100 for Church funds. It was a privilege and pleasure and the afternoon was enjoyed by all.

We desperately need offers from our congregation to lead just one fundraising project. This does not have to be a big undertaking. All small or large projects would be welcome. You would have a willing and hard working committee behind you. Please do think about it as we shall need lots of fundraising ideas and people to lead them, in the years ahead.

Jenny Harris
Social and Outreach Committee

Children's Families & Youth Work

I have been working with Rutland council Youth Workers and the community to start a community youth group for young people in Uppingham. This is a group which has been started from scratch and has been steadily growing. It is held in the church hall every Monday from 3.15 pm for ages 11-16 years. It has proved the need for provision for young people in Uppingham, some weeks we have seen nearly 30 young people coming along. I went along to a town council meeting last month with a young person to ask for funding, this was successful. The extra funds will be going towards developing the community youth group further.

Our Come Rejoice service on a Saturday afternoon and a Sunday are continuing to go well. We have been able to make contact with new families. It is one of the highlights of my month to all join together for communion on the Sunday. Seeing the children and young people engaging with the service, and each other and really starting to feel at home in church.

We have held a number of activity days as Churches Together. Which has seen an increase in children taking part. Our next activity days will be in the summer.

I am now coming to the end of the second year of my apprenticeship and studying for my degree. Each year of my apprenticeship changes how my time is divided between my time at Uppingham and Whissendine and the Rutland Deanery.

Nat Stiles

Deanery Synod

For many years our faithful representatives on Deanery Synod have been Shirley Harris and Margaret Jennings. I took over from Margaret, and for a couple of meetings it was a joy to give Shirley a lift to meetings. They are held every 2-3 months. As a result of COVID winter meetings were held on Zoom and in the better weather we met at different churches around the deanery. This pattern will continue. Meetings are attended by clergy in the Deanery and lay representatives. Coordinated by the Rural Dean, the Revd. Canon Jane Baxter and chaired by John Tomalin meetings provide the opportunity to find out what is happening in the diocese and deanery and to share views. We had an interesting and well structured meeting talking about the impact of COVID on our services. There were many challenges for all, but evidence of flexibility and innovation. Speakers during the year have included the Dean of the Cathedral, and Peter Botherton, environmental officer. I hope that someone will join me to represent our church at these meetings.

Uppingham C of E Primary School

Our school has had a very difficult couple of years, with Covid causing havoc to staff and children. From September to Christmas 2021 there wasn't a single day when all staff were in. Add to that the ban on non-staff adults coming in, plus operating in 'bubbles' it has been very challenging for everyone.

We have a number of children in the lower age group who have significant special needs, requiring 1:1 supervision. This is expensive, and consequently budgets are under great pressure. All schools are finding there is a real problem getting supply or temporary teaching staff, and even lunchtime supervisors (anyone interested?), so the pressure on all members of the school community is great. Close to the school is a Women's Refuge, and we receive children at short notice from all parts of the country, often making good use of donated quality second-hand uniforms.

However, our fantastic staff are rising to the challenge and working hard to help children catch up with what they've missed due to THE virus. This includes hoping to develop the outside areas too, so those with little access to outdoor space have more opportunities. The school is seeking funding for this so is hoping for matched funding from the Town Council. Add musical possibilities with 'Rock School' and themed days we see everyone developing new skills.

We need another Foundation Governor, three is the minimum. Olivia Linnel did an amazing job and has decided the time has come to focus on other matters, so thank you Olivia. Would you like to find out more? We have also added two teachers from Uppingham School to our governing body.

Please keep the staff, children and the Trust in your prayers.

Liz Clarke
Chair of Governors

Curate

This year has been full of so many ministerial experiences for which I am most thankful - most especially to Canon Rachel who continues to be my guide through this curacy.

I arrived in June 2020 with my family and it has been good for us all to settle down to life here in Uppingham. Everyone has been very welcoming and encouraging. The pandemic has been a backdrop to all that has taken place during my curacy, yet has also led to further experience. In September 2020, I was deaconed at the cathedral with only one guest, in June 2021, I was priested and happy for my 6 family guests to be there also. It was a great joy to then experience my first celebration of the Eucharist with all our church family at a benefice service for the Patronal festival. It is good to train with SS Peter and Paul in mind and all that those two great pillars of the church received in terms of forgiveness and grace.

In prayer and worship we gather in church, online or in groups to share in our faith. Leading in worship, preaching and serving in all the different services and through the church's year brings all kinds of opportunities, experience and reflection. It has been good to experience something of the breadth of Anglicanism in our benefice as well as the opportunity to connect with people from the congregation and community in many and varied ways. Something I love about the Church of England – we are all included whether we like it or not! Across the wider ministry team we have an abundance of experience and talent and it has been good to be involved in all manner of services and projects, including...

- Mission groups and Housegroups meeting and growing together
- PCC - Awayday
- Review of services and activities ; of our church electoral roll and data systems and methods of giving; our outreach into the community around us and the upkeep of our building. Church responsibilities and officers.
- Churches Together – working with our friends in the Methodist and Congregational church. The Covenant service and joint Harvest, Advent and Lent groups shared, supporting Foodbank and Christian Aid and Kids Days run in the holidays.
- Life Events: Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms – each one unique.
- Care Homes , Home Communions and

Pastoral Care with my particular interest in Dementia care and in meeting people where they are at.

- Training programme provided by the diocese which has included looking at rural churches, working with Children & Youth, self evaluation and team building, meeting and reflecting with other Curates and colleagues about all matters of ministry and benefitting from times of retreat.
- As well as being here in Uppingham our benefice includes the church in Belton, and we enjoy other services and events there too.
- Deanery Synod (Rutland Deanery)and Diocesan Synod (Peterborough Diocese)
- Mother's Union;Wednesday Prayer Group; Choral Evensong
- Being involved in the committee of StJohn & StAnne Almshouses in Uppingham & Oakham both as part of the Governing body and meeting residents.
- Involved in the Bereavement Help Point now offered twice monthly in the Falcon Hotel in cooperation with hospice charities.
- Collective Worship in schools and hosting church visits for pupils
- Christingle and Nativity services, Kids Days in the holidays and our Come Rejoice activity services. Social Sundays and late night shopping event at Christmas.

The life of a curate is never dull and no two days are the same – as we have moved on from the time of the pandemic, I know we can look forward to all that the coming year brings in terms of growing the Kingdom of God in this place.

it is truly a privilege to serve amongst you in this ministry and I look forward to the continuing adventure.

Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds



Debbie's first Communion service 29th June 21

Appendix 1

PCC Members 2021-22

Clergy		
Canon Rachel Watts	01572 829956	rectorofuppingham@gmail.com
The Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds	01572 822906	curateofuppingham@gmail.com
45 Lime Tree Ave Uppingham LE15 9SS 18 Siskin Road, Uppingham, Rutland, LE15 9UL		
Deanery Synod		
Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com
1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL		
Diocesan Synod		
Vacant		
Musical Director		
John Wardle	01572 829923	johnwardle@btinternet.com
5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ		
Churchwardens		
Jeffrey Whelband	07753 422816	jeffrey.whelband@gmail.com
Sutton Lodge Farm, Dingley Lane, Sutton Bassett LE16 8HL		
Deputy Churchwardens		
Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com
Anne Touchin	01572 820534	anniedt@john-lewis.com
Nigel Stephens	07876 760977	n.stephens476@btinternet.com
26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB The Little Crooked House, 4, Hopes Yard, Uppingham LE15 9QQ 5, Southwell Way, Uppingham LE15 9EZ		
Elected Lay Representatives		
Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com
Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com
Ian Cripps	01572 850800	iandcripps@gmail.com
Roy Farmer	01572 869573	roy.farmer@virgin.net
Nick Clarke	07779 780030	bevingdon@gmail.com
Claire Dixon	01572 821474	clairedixon45@gmail.com
5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ 26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB 4 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ 7 Elizabeth Way, Uppingham, LE15 9PQ 1H Spring Back Way, Uppingham LE15 9TT 9a Cedar Close, Uppingham LE15 9PT		
Co-opted Treasurer		
Russ Garley	01572 869164	russgarley@aol.com
44 Firs Ave, Uppingham LE15 9RE		
Secretary E-Officio		
Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com
14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ		

St. Peter & St. Paul Uppingham
The Parish of Uppingham-with-Ayston

Accounts for Year End 31 December 2021

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Rachel Watts
The New Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham

Churchwardens:

Jeff Whelband
Dingley Lane
Sutton Basset

Vacant

Treasurer:

Mr Russ Garley
44 Firs Avenue
Uppingham

Bank:

HSBC
Oakham

Independent Examiner:

Chris Sworn
5 Main Street
Preston

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter 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 section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 3 May 2022

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2021 (£)	Total 2020 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		53,555	0	0	0	53,555	54,474
Collections at Services		1,853	0	0	0	1,853	2,025
Other Voluntary Income	5c	23,507	2,011	146	0	25,664	2,131
Gift Aid Recovered		16,783	0	0	0	16,783	14,859
		95,698	2,011	146	0	97,854	73,489
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	3,597	0	0	0	3,597	1,438
Income from Investments	5e	4	5,487	0	14	5,505	5,663
Church Activities	5f	4,858	4,246	640	0	9,744	9,435
Total Receipts		104,157	11,743	786	14	116,700	90,026
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		70,431	0	0	0	70,431	70,177
Worship		5,120	0	0	0	5,120	4,374
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	5,246	1,100	100	0	6,446	5,508
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	8,067	4,292	436	0	12,795	15,534
Administration		23,658	17	6	0	23,682	13,671
Governance and Stewardship		0	0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising		283	0	0	0	283	20
Total Payments		112,806	5,409	542	0	118,757	109,284
Excess of receipts over payments		(8,649)	6,334	244	14	(2,058)	(19,257)
Transfers between funds		15,000	(15,000)	0	0	0	0
		6,351	(8,666)	244	14	(2,058)	(19,257)
Cash at bank a 1st January		19,108	124,041	4,565	26,618	174,331	193,588
Cash at bank a 31st December		25,459	115,374	4,809	26,631	172,273	174,331

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2021 (£)	Total 2020 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		21,210	25,979	2,692	0	49,881	40,800
Deposit Fund		4,249	89,395	2,117	26,631	122,392	133,530
		25,459	115,374	4,809	26,631	172,273	174,331
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		791	0	0	0	791	545
Land rental		0	270	0	0	270	270
		791	270	0	0	1,061	815
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	141,215	141,215	123,579
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		0	0	0	345,215	345,215	327,579
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		574	0	0	0	574	483
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		574	0	0	0	574	483

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. **Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
3. Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
4. The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	19,289	2,918	2,518	(15,000)	4,688
Church Fabric	22,694	5,202	1,791	0	26,105
Organ Fund	17,416	2,375	0	0	19,791
St Thomas Charity	3,498	1,216	1,100	0	3,614
Mission & Ministry Legacy	61,144	32	0	0	61,176
	124,041	11,743	5,409	(15,000)	115,374
Designated					
Bell Fund	4,565	786	542	0	4,809
	4,565	786	542	0	4,809

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2021 (£)	Total 2020 (£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	14,895	14,895	13,045
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	579	579	507
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,541	1,541	1,349
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	21,430	21,430	18,768
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	2,283	2,283	1,999
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC [Charity of Richard Pakeman]	0	0	0	50,911	50,911	44,539
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	49,576	49,576	43,372
	0	0	0	141,215	141,215	123,579
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	17,789	2,011	146	0	19,946	790
Wall Safe	2,744	0	0	0	2,744	1,342
Choir Robes	2,974	0	0	0	2,974	0
	23,507	2,011	146	0	25,664	2,131
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	2,642	0	0	0	2,642	595
Concerts	215	0	0	0	215	348
Magazine	740	0	0	0	740	495
	3,597	0	0	0	3,597	1,438
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,597	0	0	3,597	3,489
Deposit Account Interest	4	49	0	14	68	604
Land Rental	0	1,840	0	0	1,840	1,570
	4	5,487	0	14	5,505	5,663
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees (includes organ, choir)	3,222	2,590	640	0	6,452	7,397
Charity Fund Raising Events	1,636	0	0	0	1,636	250
Church Hall Lettings	0	1,656	0	0	1,656	1,789
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4,858	4,246	640	0	9,744	9,435
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Xmas lunches	298	0	0	0	298	0
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	0
Christian Aid Appeal	560	0	0	0	560	20
British Legion Poppy Appeal	256	0	0	0	256	0
Caldecott Tower	0	0	0	100	100	0
Local Charities and Causes	0	1,100	0	0	1,100	158
	1,134	1,100	0	100	2,334	178
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	4,020	30	0	0	4,050	6,080
Insurance	3,695	554	0	0	4,249	4,194
Maintenance	242	1,794	436	0	2,473	1,830
Organ repairs	0	504	0	0	504	480
Cleaning	110	1,410	0	0	1,520	2,950
	8,067	4,292	436	0	12,795	15,534

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman: _____ Date:

Rev Canon Rachel Watts

Treasurer: _____ Date:

Mr Russ Garley ACMA

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

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Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

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Independent examiner's statement

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 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 3 May 2022

Accounts

Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul Uppingham
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Annual reports for the year ending 31st December 2020



Parish Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, Rutland

Annual report of the Parochial Church Council

Year ended 31st December 2020

Introduction

The reports below are submitted for approval and information at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held in the Church on the evening of Wednesday 26 May 2021.Σ

So that all members of our Church are able to share in our vision for the growth of the Church within the community, our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Inventory are available from the Rector.

Reports received

• Safeguarding	3
• Stewardship & Giving schemes	3
• Stewardship & Giving schemes	4
• Church Hall	4
• Children Family & Youth work	4
• Bell Ringing	4
• Churches Together	5
• Uppingham C of E Primary School	5
• Electoral Roll	6
• Server's Report	6
• Appendix 1	7

Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter & St Paul, Uppingham, is located in the Market Place LE15 9TJ. It is part of the Diocese of Peterborough within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is: The Rectory, 43 Lime Tree Avenue, Uppingham LE15 9SS.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity currently registered with the Charities Commission.

Parochial Church Council

Members of the PCC who served from 1st January 2017 until the date of the approval of this report are shown at Appendix 1 (page 11).

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.

Objectives

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent Revd Canon Rachel Watts in promoting the mission statement of the Church and conducting the business of the Church relating to financial affairs and the maintenance of the Church buildings and possessions.

Vision statement

Serving God through love in action in Uppingham.

March 2020 - May 2021

From March 2020 our activities had to cease or move online, due to the pandemic.

Lunch Club, Coffee after Church and Social activities all had to stop.

We were so fortunate to be able to have excellent online services due to Nick's superb talent, time and effort in making the videos.

This allowed the Choir to record either at home, or when possible in the nave of the Church in order to provide music for the online services, including some splendid Evensong music.

Our Mothers' Union was also able to record some special online services.

We look forward to the time when we can start meeting again with some form of normality but are thankful for all that we have been able to achieve during lockdown.

Safeguarding

As a church we are seeking to promote a safe culture with the aims of preventing abuse from occurring, protecting those at risk of being abused and responding well to those that have been abused. It is at the heart of Christian faith and everyone's responsibility. In this last year, the Church of England's past failure to take child sexual abuse seriously was highlighted by the recent reports from the Independent Enquiry into Child Sexual Abuse. The church of England has taken on board the recommendations from this enquiry and made significant changes to its practices. For further information, I would strongly recommend you read the report for yourself which can be found via the following link:

<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/news/inquirys-anglican-church-investigation-leads-church-reform-and-new-law>

It is for this reason that training and DBS checks have become necessary for those in positions of authority or working with children and/or vulnerable adults. Over the last year the training has had to be online but I am pleased to report that most people have now completed the basic awareness course.

There have been no recorded safeguarding incidents over the last year. Please stay vigilant and remember if you do need to report a safeguarding concern, there is clear guidance on how to do this at the back

of church. You can also contact me on the following email address: saunderssue13@gmail.com

Sue Saunders

Benefice Safeguarding Advisor

Stewardship & Giving schemes

The various methods of parishioners and visitors giving to our church, coupled with gift-aid tax refunds resulted in around £74,415 being received in 2020, compared with £76,535 in 2019, a drop of 3%. The largest cause of the drop, not surprisingly, being the need to close the church due to the impact of coronavirus. Our parishioners gave generously through 2020 and since the end of the year there have been a number of generous one-off donations that will appear in next year's figures.

We are very grateful to everyone who gives to support their church. There are four different ways in which we can give:

PETERBOROUGH SCHEME / PARISH GIVING SCHEME
£43,835 in 2019 risen to £48,450 in 2020)

We are nearly complete in transferring everyone from the old standing order "Peterborough Scheme" to the new Direct Debit "Parish Giving Scheme". Only 9 donors remain on the old scheme, most of these being parishioners with whom we have lost contact. The diocese delayed closing the scheme due to coronavirus and so we have continued to receive this income this year.

At the beginning of 2019 we had 58 donors and because some of these represent couples or households this related to about 70 parishioners. Now, two years later, we have 55 donors representing around 67 parishioners. This continues to be a really healthy position and donations increased by almost 12% between 2019 and 2020.

Exactly half of donors on the new Parish Giving System (23 of 46) have agreed to index-linking. This helps us keep income matching the inevitable increases in costs.

WHITE ENVELOPE SCHEME (£2060 in 2019 fell to just £870 in 2020)

This has been declining steadily over the last few years. Almost all regular donors have moved onto the Parish Giving Scheme. Most envelopes are from occasional visitors but the dramatic fall is mainly due to closure of the church.

LARGE AND ONE-OFF DONATIONS (£21,675 in 2019 to £21,690 in 2020)

Our parishioners continue to be very generous and give occasional or sometimes annual one-off donations. There are also a good number of one-off donations received in early 2021 which are not in these figures.

CASH-COLLECTIONS (£8960 in 2019, fell to £3410 in 2020)

This is money received from collections in services and donations given in the boxes at the back of church. This is the largest negative impact and is directly attributable to the closure of the building.

So, overall our donations have been impacted significantly by coronavirus but thanks to the generosity of our regular givers, the impact has been much less severe than would otherwise have been the case. If this level of giving is maintained it should help us restore our finances now that church is again open. We remain very dependent on the large and one-off donations and should those cease we would have a bigger problem, so we should continue to encourage regular giving and legacies in wills to help us maintain a healthy church in the longer term.

Geoff Thompson
Stewardship Secretary

NOTE THAT ALL AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN ROUNDED, ARE APPROXIMATE, AND INCLUDE GIFT-AID TAX RELIEF CLAIMED FROM HMRC

Most giving is for the General Fund which helps the church allocate funds to the greatest need, but some donors allocate their money to specific funds such as Fabric or Organ Fund.

Church Hall

During the first lockdown of 2020 the church hall carpet was cleaned. The curtains were cleaned and had fire proofing applied to them. Paper towel holders and paper towels have also been introduced into the cloakrooms, together with hygiene notices. An automatic hand sanitiser has been placed in the entrance hall. Thanks must go to Ian and Sue Cripps for making the ledge in the entrance hall on which to place the hand sanitiser. It is greatly appreciated. The heating system and hot water boiler have also been serviced by Robert Cliff Limited in January 2021.

Hilary Dawe
Church Hall Bookings

Children, family & youth work

Unfortunately, due to Covid we haven't been able to go into schools to deliver collective worship and other support. But we have stayed in close contact with school and have been recording weekly collective worships, that have then been shown in school. It was also a great way to reach out to families in their homes, during the periods of lockdown. We are really excited to be able to go back into school in June to deliver a programme with the children. We are waiting to hear back which classes we will be working with.

Rooted has continued to meet either on zoom, or in person when we have been allowed. We have been following an Alpha course together, along with other resources. We are very excited to be doing a sponsored bike ride in May to raise funds for Christian Aid and Rooted. We have also had a new young person join us this year. For some sessions we invite younger siblings to join us and are thinking about starting a group for the younger ones.

I continue to go out with the Rutland Council youth workers. We are in Uppingham on a Thursday afternoon. This has been a great way for me to not only learn from the Council youth workers but to build links and also meet young people in Uppingham.

I have been keeping in touch with families I had made contact before Covid, via a fortnightly newsletter. Hopefully it won't be long now before we are able to get back into schools on a more regular basis.

Nat Stiles
Children & Youth worker

Bell Ringing

The year 2020 was difficult for everyone nationwide, with coronavirus pandemic regulations in place. For most of the year no ringing was possible. The restrictions were relaxed during the summer months, but bell ringing was still only permitted for Sunday services only, if ringers could maintain a 2 metre distance, plus there being adequate ventilation in the ringing room. So, the distance between the ropes was measured and we concluded that, in Uppingham, we could only ring on four alternate bells.

We achieved ringing for Sunday services on just thirteen occasions. We also rang on the four alternate bells in commemoration of VJ Day on 15th August and for one wedding and one funeral in the same month.

When pandemic restrictions were re-imposed the only ringing permitted was tolling on one single bell for special reasons. We did this on Remembrance Sunday in November and for one funeral in December.

With the death of HRH Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, we tolled again. On Friday 9th April on the announcement of the event, and at midday on Saturday 10th in accordance with a period of national mourning. The tenor bell was tolled again for thirty minutes prior to funeral on April 17th.

When it is possible to return to ringing again on a more normal basis we hope to hold events to promote bell ringing and hopefully recruit.

Sue Webster
Tower Captain

Churches Together

We have enjoyed great fellowship and inspiring times together over the last year. The work of the CTU has proved to be significant in our community outreach programs and has gone some way in our understanding of each other's worship experiences, and individual traditions. This can only be good for all our churches. It is our prayer and hope that we together can make a real difference in the life of Uppingham and Belton.

We have shared much in the last year, from joint worship during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2019 to singing our Christmas Carols in December, Lent discussion groups, a garden party at the Vicarage, a pilgrimage to Launde Abbey, a stall at the Flower and Produce Show, a Holiday and Craft Club for youngsters and the valuable work done through Café Church – so much was accomplished during 2019 and, along with our 'triumphs' we also recognize we can do more for together.

It would be right to express our sincere gratitude to the members of the CTU and Belton Forum. We meet regularly, every other month, to pray, discuss and plan our work in the community. We believe it to be a worthwhile effort and are privileged to serve all our churches and our communities in the best ways we can. 2020 promises to be an exciting time of new adventures in the faith.

Sadly, of course, 2020 practically disappeared from our calendars. Due to the restrictions in place to cope with the coronavirus pandemic, so much of what we planned had to be cancelled. But it was encouraging to hear of online/zoom/email/Church at home worship. I know that we regularly prayed for each other, and remembered each other in Christian love and grace. 2021 holds a promise that we can worship together later in the year. Perhaps we can arrange a united service of thanksgiving. We met on the zoom platform on March 18th and plan a further meeting on May 6th also on zoom.

We would ask for your prayers as we 'seek and serve' among you. Nothing will be truly done without them in our mission to Uppingham, Belton and beyond.

Prayers and blessings to you.

Pastor Trevor Wilson
Secretary CTU and Belton

Uppingham CofE Primary School

Two years of school life condensed into a paragraph is a challenge, particularly given the year we have had. This time last year I wrote "Our school is trying to work out how to re-open safely after a long period on lockdown. I was in school the day it closed.

Everyone was anxious but the Head, Julia Exton, led an assembly all about being FANTASTIC. Since then many teachers and assistants have been just that, in school every day working with children who cannot be kept at home, providing packed lunches for children who are at home and extra food for families who are struggling with loss of income. This is what makes me very proud of our school. It's not just about education results but about pastoral care."

Little did we know that time and again the school had to close for the majority of children, while those of key workers stayed in small 'bubbles' in school.

The challenge for the staff was immense, trying to teach in a very different way from that to which they were most familiar. We are part of Rutland Learning Trust, a supportive and encouraging body of schools which work together to share skills and experience, provide IT support and ensure Heads never feel isolated or alone. The Trust ensured that while schools did choose different ways to approach the Covid Year, everyone had support. We are now back in school, working with de-socialised children and a huge range of educational experience from home schooling.

We have had the challenge of lower pupil numbers this year, reducing income significantly, while costs remain largely static, and we are not alone since many schools in Rutland are well under capacity. Classes had to be restructured but we can turn this into a strength and use it to develop the curriculum in different ways. This will continue into next year with a different structure.

Canon Rachel, with Revd Debbie, our Curate, run collective worship regularly helped by Youth Worker Nat Stiles.

Liz Clarke
Chair of Governors

Electoral Roll

Currently there are 65 members. The roll changes throughout the year as new members join the congregation, residents relocate and members are no longer able to attend due to infirmity. We also lose members who have gone before us to be with our risen Lord.

Jenny Harris
Parish Administrator

Server's Report

Due to Covid we have had limited time to serve at the High Altar.

I would like to thank Harry for his continuing dedication to working beside me on the Sundays we have been able to hold services in Church. I look forward to retraining the serving team once we come fully out of lockdown and can increase our team again.

Nicky Jervis
Lead Server

Appendix 1

PCC Members 2019-20

Clergy			
Canon Rachel Watts	01572 829956	rectorofuppingham@gmail.com	45 Lime Tree Ave Uppingham LE15 9SS
The Revd Debbie Smith-Wilds	01572 822906	curateofuppingham@gmail.com	18 Siskin Road, Uppingham, Rutland, LE15 9UL
Ex Officio			
Rev Dr Roy Seden	01572 822244	rseden@gmail.com	60 Leicester Road, Uppingham, LE15 9SD
Jill Cannings	01572 821870	jillcannings2@gmail.com	1 Ayston Road, Uppingham LE15 9RL
Deanery Synod			
Shirley Harris	01572 822428	potatoes.unlimited@btinternet.com	49 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UA
Margaret Jennings	01572 823509 (XD)		35 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UA
Diocesan Synod			
Vacant			
Musical Director			
John Wardle	01572 829923	johnwardle@btinternet.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Churchwardens			
Nick Clarke	01572 829885	bevingdon@gmail.com	1H Spring Back Way, Uppingham LE15 9TT
Deputy Churchwardens			
Richard Cole	01572 821190	r.cole583@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
Jeffrey Whelband	07753 422816	jeffrey.whelband@gmail.com	Sutton Lodge Farm, Dingley Lane, Sutton Bassett LE16 8 HL
Elected Lay Representatives			
Janet Wardle	01572 829923	janetwardle97@gmail.com	5 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Pat Cole	01572 821190	p.cole155@btinternet.com	26 Stockerston Crescent Uppingham LE15 9UB
Bobby Chamberlain	01572 821885	bobbychamberlain12@gmail.com	12 The Beeches Uppingham LE15 9PG
Ian Cripps	01572 850800	iandcripps@gmail.com	4 Elizabeth Way Uppingham LE15 9PQ
Geoff Thompson	01572 821560	geoff169@gmail.com	48 Leicester Road, Uppingham LE15 9SD
Roy Farmer	01572 869573	roy.farmer@virgin.net	7 Elizabeth Way, Uppingham, LE15 9PQ
Co-opted			
Russ Garley	01572 869164	russgarley@aol.com	44 Firs Ave, Uppingham LE15 9RE
Nat Stiles	07740 486982		40 Green Lane, Ashley, Near Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 8HD
Secretary			
Jenny Harris	01572 822223	uppinghamchurchoffice@gmail.com	14 Chestnut Close Uppingham LE15 9TQ
Number of Members 19 (incl clergy), 11 elected members (incl wardens)			

**St. Peter & St. Paul Uppingham
The Parish of Uppingham-with-Ayston**

Accounts for Year End 31 December 2020

Incumbent:

Reverend Canon Rachel Watts
The New Rectory
45 Lime Tree Avenue
Uppingham

Churchwardens:

Nick Clarke
1H Springback Way
Uppingham

Vacant

Treasurer:

Mr Russ Garley
44 Firs Avenue
Uppingham

Bank:

HSBC
Oakham

Independent Examiner:

Chris Sworn
5 Main Street
Preston

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

The report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 2 to 5, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ('The Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and examiner

The church's trustees, the PCC, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required and that an independent examination is needed. It is my 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 under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of an independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church 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 the church's trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter 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 section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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:



Date: 5 May 2021

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

Receipts and Payments Account

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
Receipts							
Voluntary Receipts							
Planned Giving		54,474	0	0	0	54,474	52,844
Collections at Services		2,025	0	0	0	2,025	5,300
Other Voluntary Income	5c	1,717	236	179	0	2,131	4,188
Gift Aid Recovered		14,859	0	0	0	14,859	14,838
		73,075	236	179	0	73,489	77,171
Activities for Generating Funds	5d	1,438	0	0	0	1,438	8,861
Income from Investments	5e	79	5,469	3	113	5,663	7,522
Church Activities	5f	3,757	5,639	40	0	9,435	14,100
Total Receipts		78,349	11,343	222	113	90,026	107,653
Payments							
Parish Share and Clergy Expenses		70,177	0	0	0	70,177	68,959
Worship		4,374	0	0	0	4,374	8,940
Faith Development & Outreach	5g	5,350	158	0	0	5,508	4,194
Church Running Costs & Maintenance	5h	11,236	4,217	81	0	15,534	20,472
Administration		13,592	80	0	0	13,671	13,134
Governance and Stewardship		0	0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising		20	0	0	0	20	186
Total Payments		104,748	4,454	81	0	109,284	115,885
Excess of receipts over payments		(26,399)	6,889	141	113	(19,257)	(8,232)
Transfers between funds		2,750	(2,750)	0	0	0	0
		(23,649)	4,139	141	113	(19,257)	(8,232)
Cash at bank a 1st January		42,757	119,902	4,424	26,505	193,588	201,820
Cash at bank a 31st December		19,108	124,041	4,565	26,618	174,331	193,588

Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2020

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

		Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
Cash Funds							
Bank Current Account		9,863	28,245	2,692	0	40,800	37,305
Deposit Fund		9,244	95,795	1,873	26,618	133,530	156,283
		<u>19,108</u>	<u>124,041</u>	<u>4,565</u>	<u>26,618</u>	<u>174,331</u>	<u>193,588</u>
Other Monetary Assets							
Income Tax Recoverable		545	0	0	0	545	1,520
Land rental		0	270	0	0	270	0
		<u>545</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>815</u>	<u>1,520</u>
Investment Assets							
Investment Fund Shares at Market Value	5a	0	0	0	123,579	123,579	115,779
Land Holdings	5b	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>327,579</u>	<u>327,579</u>	<u>319,779</u>
Liabilities							
Utility Bills		483	0	0	0	483	992
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
		<u>483</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>992</u>

Notes

1. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011, using the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. **Unrestricted funds** are general funds available for the general objectives of the church (**General Fund**). **Designated funds** are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes (**Bell Fund**). **Restricted funds** can only be used for the purposes for which they have been given, within the objectives of the church. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against those specific funds (**Fabric, Church Hall, St Thomas' Charity and Mission legacy**).
3. Endowment funds are given to the Church with the specific instruction that only the income gained from investing the money can be spent (**Clifford Pugh** deposit account and also see note 5a).
4. The movements in designated and restricted funds during the year were:

	Balance B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfer	Balance C/fwd
Restricted					
Church Hall	19,218	3,039	2,968	0	19,289
Church Fabric	34,348	7,090	1,329	0	40,110
St Thomas Charity	2,711	945	158	0	3,498
Mission & Ministry Legacy	63,625	269	0	(2,750)	61,144
	<u>119,902</u>	<u>11,343</u>	<u>4,454</u>	<u>(2,750)</u>	<u>124,041</u>
Designated					
Bell Fund	4,424	222	81	0	4,565
	<u>4,424</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,565</u>

5. Further analysis of Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Endowment Funds (£)	Total 2020 (£)	Total 2019 (£)
a) Investment Funds						
Uppingham Church Lands [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	13,045	13,045	12,260
Uppingham Parish Lands and Stock Charity	0	0	0	507	507	477
J Pretty Charity	0	0	0	1,349	1,349	1,268
C E Thorpe Charity	0	0	0	18,768	18,768	17,640
Mrs M B Fowler for a Poor Woman	0	0	0	1,999	1,999	1,879
Uppingham St Peter and St Paul PCC [Charity of Richard Pateman]	0	0	0	44,539	44,539	41,674
Uppingham Church Rooms	0	0	0	43,372	43,372	40,581
	0	0	0	123,579	123,579	115,779
b) Land Holdings						
16 Acres at Hallaton	0	0	0	64,000	64,000	64,000
15.196 Acres	0	0	0	60,000	60,000	60,000
Landfill Site	0	0	0	80,000	80,000	80,000
	0	0	0	204,000	204,000	204,000
c) All other giving / voluntary receipts						
Donations	375	236	179	0	790	2,321
Wall Safe	1,342	0	0	0	1,342	1,867
Screen & Projector	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1,717	236	179	0	2,131	4,188
d) Activities for Generating Funds						
Church Fund Raising Events	595	0	0	0	595	6,431
Concerts	348	0	0	0	348	1,039
Magazine	495	0	0	0	495	1,390
	1,438	0	0	0	1,438	8,861
e) Investment Income						
Dividends on Investment Funds	0	3,489	0	0	3,489	3,397
Deposit Account Interest	79	409	3	113	604	1,141
Land Rental	0	1,570	0	0	1,570	2,983
	79	5,469	3	113	5,663	7,522
f) Income from Church Activities						
Fees (includes organ, choir)	3,507	3,850	40	0	7,397	8,797
Charity Fund Raising Events	250	0	0	0	250	1,348
Trading	0	0	0	0	0	0
Church Hall Lettings	0	1,789	0	0	1,789	3,955
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3,757	5,639	40	0	9,435	14,100
g) Donations Made (included within Faith Development and Outreach)						
Children's Society	0	0	0	0	0	634
Poppy Appeal / British Legion	0	0	0	0	0	437
St Luke's Hospital	20	0	0	0	20	20
Cottesmore Military Wives	0	0	0	0	0	250
Local Charities and Causes	0	158	0	0	158	3,000
	20	158	0	0	178	4,341
h) Church Running Expenses						
Utilities	6,021	58	0	0	6,080	5,980
Insurance	3,641	553	0	0	4,194	4,105
Maintenance	33	1,716	81	0	1,830	6,773
Organ repairs	0	480	0	0	480	480
Cleaning	1,540	1,410	0	0	2,950	3,134
	11,236	4,217	81	0	15,534	20,472

St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St. Peter & St. Paul with Ayston, Uppingham.

Independent Examiner's Report

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Independent examiner's statement

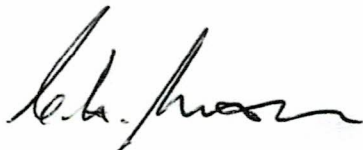
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Date: 5 May 2021