



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 <small>[Charity of Richard Pateman]</small>	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 <small>[Charity of Richard Pakeman]</small>	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:

- (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